

December 1, 2024



In that day the root
of Jesse, who shall
stand as a signal for
the peoples--
of him shall the
nations inquire,
and his resting place
shall be glorious

Isaiah 11:10, ESV



MT. ZION

Evangelical Lutheran Church
Madison Heights, MI

Pastor Tom Naumann
(248) 677-7242

mtzionlutheran.info



1st Sunday in Advent

Pre-Service Personal Prayer: *O Lord Jesus Christ, as we celebrate Your advent on this first Sunday of the church year send Your Holy Spirit to open our hearts. Come with Your blessing upon our congregation, giving faithfulness to our pastor and success to his efforts, bestowing upon all our members brotherly love for one another and a zeal to spread the Gospel. Finally, come Lord Jesus! Amen.*

Today's Order of Service

Greeting and Prayer

Opening Hymn 331 *The Advent of Our King*

1 *The advent of our King Our prayers must now employ,
And we must hymns of welcome sing In strains of holy joy.*

2 *The everlasting Son Incarnate deigns to be,
Himself a servant's form puts on To set His servants free.*

3 *O Zion's daughter, rise To meet your lowly King,
Nor let your faithless heart despise The peace He comes to bring.*

4 *As judge, on clouds of light, He soon will come again
And His true members all unite With Him in heav'n to reign.*

5 *Before the dawning day Let sin's dark deeds be gone,
The sinful self be put away, The new self now put on.*

6 *All glory to the Son, Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever one Through all eternity.*

The Invocation

We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

The Confession and Absolution of Sins

We come before our Holy God admitting that we are sinful and need His forgiveness.

P Beloved of God: Let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our sins to God our Father, asking Him, in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to grant forgiveness:

C Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer: we confess that we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have not loved You above all things. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Have mercy on us, and for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us our sins.

P God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

Kyrie – Latin for “O Lord.” We approach our Lord with a cry for help in all the needs of our earthly life.

Lord, have mer-cy on us. Christ, have mer-cy
on us. Lord, have mer-cy on us.

Glory to God in the Highest *(Hymn 357:1-2 Oh Come, Oh Come, Emmanuel)*

Gloria in Excelsis – Latin for “Glory in the Highest (to God).” A hymn glorifying and praising our God.

1 O come, O come, Em-man-u-el, And ran-som cap-tive
2 O come, Thou Wis-dom from on high, Who or-d'rest all things
Is-ra-el, That mourns in lone-ly ex-ile here
might-i-ly; To us the path of knowl-edge show,
Refrain
Un-til the Son of God ap-pear. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
And teach us in her ways to go.
Em-man-u-el Shall come to thee, O Is-ra-el!

The Prayer for the Day

The main thoughts for the day are collected together in this prayer.

P Let us pray. . . through Christ Jesus, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Epistle Reading: *Colossians 1:12-23*

Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. ¹³ He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. ¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶ For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities--all things were created through him and for him. ¹⁷ And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross. ²¹ And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²² he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, ²³ if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

The Responsive Reading: *Psalms 24*

P The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein,

C For he has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.

P Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD? And who shall stand in his holy place?

C He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully.

P He will receive blessing from the LORD and righteousness from the God of his salvation.



C Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

P Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

C Who is this King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!

P Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

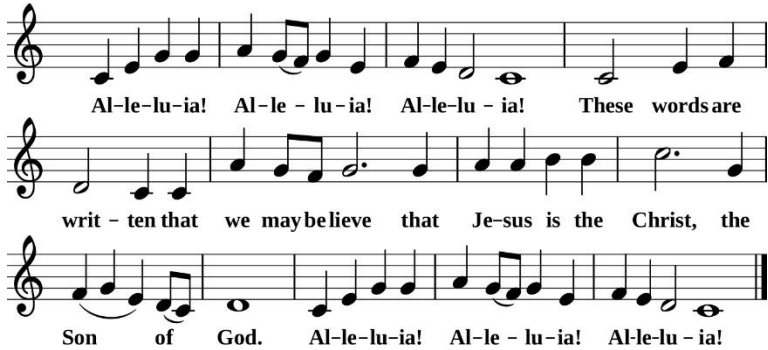
C Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory!

Gospel Reading: Luke 1:5-25

In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, of the division of Abijah. And he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. ⁶ And they were both righteous before God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and statutes of the Lord. ⁷ But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were advanced in years. ⁸ Now while he was serving as priest before God when his division was on duty, ⁹ according to the custom of the priesthood, he was chosen by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense. ¹⁰ And the whole multitude of the people were praying outside at the hour of incense. ¹¹ And there appeared to him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. ¹² And Zechariah was troubled when he saw him, and fear fell upon him. ¹³ But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. ¹⁴ And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, ¹⁵ for he will be great before the Lord. And he must not drink wine or strong drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb. ¹⁶ And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God, ¹⁷ and he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared." ¹⁸ And Zechariah said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years." ¹⁹ And the angel answered him, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I was sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. ²⁰ And behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day that these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time." ²¹ And the people were waiting for Zechariah, and they were wondering at his delay in the temple. ²² And when he came out, he was unable to speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the

temple. And he kept making signs to them and remained mute. ²³ And when his time of service was ended, he went to his home. ²⁴ After these days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she kept herself hidden, saying, ²⁵ "Thus the Lord has done for me in the days when he looked on me, to take away my reproach among people."

P Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.



Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le-lu - ia! These words are
writ - ten that we may believe that Je-sus is the Christ, the
Son of God. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le-lu - ia!

The Nicene Creed

We boldly confess what we believe.

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, The Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn 349 *Hark the Glad Sound*

**1 Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes, The Savior promised long;
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne And ev'ry voice a song.**

**2 He comes the pris'ners to release, In Satan's bondage held.
The gates of brass before Him burst, The iron fetters yield.**

**3 He comes the broken heart to bind, The bleeding soul to cure,
And with the treasures of His grace To enrich the humble poor.**

**4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace, Thy welcome shall proclaim,
And heav'n's eternal arches ring With Thy beloved name.**

The Sermon: *Isaiah 11:1-10*

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. ² And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. ³ And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, ⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. ⁶ The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. ⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. ⁹ They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰ In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples--of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

Theme: THE ROOT THAT REALLY DOES WORK MIRACLES

- I. The miracle of justice.
- II. The miracle of peace.

(Turn page for sermon worksheet)

Sermon Worksheet:

Who is Jesse? What happened to his family tree?

Who is the promised "The Root of Jesse"? (aka: Rod/Branch of Jesse)

Why does life sometimes feel especially "unjust" for Christians?

How will the Root of Jesse bring justice upon the wicked?

Who are the poor? How will the Root of Jesse bring them righteousness?

What kind of "peace" does the Root of Jesse bring?

What does this peace mean for your daily life?

What does this peace mean for your eternal life?

The Offertory

Having heard God's Word, we ask Him to spiritually heal us, giving us the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O
God. Re - new a right spir-it with - in me. Cast me
not a - way from Your pres-ence. Take not Your Ho - ly
Spir-it from me. Re - store to me the joy of Your sal-
va - tion. Up - hold me with Your free Spir - it.

Hymn *Behold, a Branch is Growing* (TLH 645)

**1 Behold, a Branch is growing Of loveliest form and grace,
As prophets sung, foreknowing; It springs from Jesse's race
And bears one little Flow'r In midst of coldest winter, At deepest midnight hour.**

**2 Isaiah hath foretold It In words of promise sure,
And Mary's arms enfold It, A virgin meek and pure.
Thro' God's eternal will This Child to her is given At midnight calm and still.**

**3 The shepherds heard the story, Proclaimed by angels bright,
How Christ, the Lord of Glory, Was born on earth this night.
To Bethlehem they sped And in the manger found Him, As angel heralds said.**

**4 This Flower whose fragrance tender With sweetness fills the air,
Dispels with glorious splendor The darkness everywhere.
True Man, yet very God; From sin and death He saves us And lightens every load.**

**5 O Savior, Child of Mary, Who felt our human woe;
O Savior, King of Glory. Who dost our weakness know,
Bring us at length, we pray. To the bright courts of heaven And to the endless day.**

The Offering of Thankful Hearts

In tangible evidence of our gratitude, we offer the Lord the gift of our money, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him. If you wish to give your church offering electronically, you can do so by using the CashApp on your mobile device. The church's \$cashtag is "Sclcmzion". While the usher brings the offering plate forward we sing the following hymn verse

(788:1): **Lord, You love the cheerful giver Who with open heart and hand
Blesses freely, as a river That refreshes all the land.**

**Grant us, then, the grace of giving With a spirit large and true
That our life and all our living We may consecrate to You.**

Prayer of the Church – The Lord's Prayer

☩ Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Service of the Sacrament

Now we approach the second high point of the liturgy, the Sacrament, in which the Lord comes to bless us with His very body and blood. We move toward the Sacrament with prayers of thanksgiving and songs of adoration.

☩ The Lord be with you.

☩ And also with you.

☩ Lift up your hearts.

☩ We lift them up to the Lord.

P It is right and beneficial that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life; Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, we magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying...

Holy, Holy, Holy

The Sanctus – Latin for “Holy.” We join our voices to the angels who sing, “Holy, Holy, Holy” around His throne.”

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho-
 san - na in the high-est, ho - san-na in the high est.
 Blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-
 san-nain the highest, ho - san-na in the highest

Words of Institution

The words spoken by Jesus the night He instituted the Lord's Supper by which our Lord assured to His Church the real presence of His sacramental body and blood for all time.

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread. And when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, “Take, eat. This is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

In the same way He took the cup, after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, “Drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

The peace of the Lord be with you always!

Lamb of God

The Agnus Dei – Latin for “Lamb of God.” As we approach the Table of Forgiveness, we want to be thinking about the Lamb of God who was sacrificed for us on Calvary’s cross.

Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy up - on us. Lamb of God, You
take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy up - on
us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world;
grant us peace.

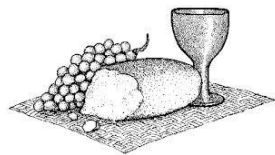
Distribution of the Sacrament

Communion Today is for Members Only Please

We don't judge anyone's faith, but we do stand up for our own. The Bible teaches what we call "Close Communion," that is, God wants you to commune only with those people with whom you are agreed in ALL the Bible's teachings. This belief is based upon the Bible passages listed below. Therefore, if you are a guest with us today, and BEFORE you come up to commune with us, you'll want to find out if our church teaches what the Bible does! The pastor would be happy to discuss this with you at your convenience!

1 Corinthians 1:10 "Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment."

1 Corinthians 11:26-30 "For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes. Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup. For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body."



Thanksgiving

We give thanks and praise the LORD for the forgiveness of sins received in the Sacrament.

Thank the Lord; sing His praise; tell ev'ry one what
He has done. Let all who seek the Lord re-joyce and
bear Christ's ho - ly name. Thank the Lord;
sing His praise; tell ev'-ry-one what He has done.
Send us with Your prom - is - es, Lord; lead Your peo - ple
forth in joy with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Thank the Lord;
sing His praise; tell ev'ry one what He has done. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The Benediction *The blessing given by God for His people (Numbers 6:24-26)*

Closing Hymn 357:4 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

***4 O come, Thou Branch of Jesse's tree, Free them from Satan's tyranny
That trust Thy mighty pow'r to save, And give them vict'ry o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to Thee, O Israel!***

LIVESTREAM on  **YouTube** @MtZionLutheranChurch

SERMON PODCAST on  **Spotify** @TheWordFromMtZion

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

If the LORD wills, we will do this or that. James 4:15

WELCOME EVERYONE! We pray that God’s Word and our worship today will help you grow in the grace and knowledge of our Savior Jesus. We ask our visitors to please sign our guest book. If you are looking for a church home, we hope you’ve found it with us. Ask Pastor about a free Bible study he offers to explain our beliefs and teachings. Where & when? Your convenience.

POTLUCK & CHURCH CHRISTMAS DECORATING TODAY: Join us for a potluck meal followed by our annual church Christmas decorating! All are welcome to the meal and to help beautify God’s house for the Advent season.

DECEMBER MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES: *Advent* means “coming.” Advent season is the time when we look forward to the celebration of when Christ *came* into the world to begin His mission of redemption. Beginning this Wednesday, December 4 at 7pm, Mt. Zion will be holding three midweek advent services. Our theme this year is “*Come, Lord Jesus.*”

Date	Sermon Text	Sermon Theme
December 4	1 John 4:7-12	<i>Come, Lord Jesus, With Your Love</i>
December 11	1 John 4:1-6	<i>Come, Lord Jesus, With Your Truth</i>
December 18	1 John 4:17-19	<i>Come, Lord Jesus, With Your Power</i>

MT. ZION UPCOMING CALENDAR

Today	11am	Church Potluck Meal
	12-2pm	Church Christmas Decorating
Wed. 12/4	7pm	1 st Midweek Advent Service
Thu. 12/5	10am	UM Ann Arbor Bible Study
Sun. 12/8	9am	Bible Class/Sunday School
	10am	Sunday Service (w/ Communion)
	4pm	Cleveland Area Worship Service
Tue. 12/10	7-9pm	Church Meetings (Elders/Council/Trustees/Outreach)
Fri. 12/13	5:30-8pm	Friday Night Bible School
Tue. 12/24	7pm	Christmas Eve Service (Children’s Program)
Wed. 12/25	10am	Christmas Day Service

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL

Last Sunday Attendance = 38; Bible Class/Sunday School = 22

General Fund Offerings Budgeted YTD: \$111,942.14	Weekly General Fund Offerings Budgeted: \$2,384.62
General Fund Offerings Received YTD: \$103,919.00	Last Week’s General Fund Offerings Received: \$1,832.00
Missions Offerings YTD (includes 10% of GB & individual offerings): \$10,392.00	
Maisie Wittorp Christian Education Memorial Fund: \$128,580.86	

SERVING US THIS MONTH:

Usher: Nathan Fobear Church Cleaning: Trojans

IN OUR PRAYERS <> ENCOURAGEMENT LIST

Be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. Ephesians 6:18

Jackie McGruder remains homebound as she continues to suffer from lupus. We continue to search for a **new building** for our church and future school. **CLC Pastors John Hein** and **Timothy Wheaton** are both receiving treatment for cancer.

CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION SYNODWIDE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity! Psalm 133:1

CLC CALL NEWS: Pastor Caleb Schaller of Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI has **returned** the call to St. Stephen Lutheran Church and School, Mountain View, CA. <> Pastor Drew Naumann of Trinity Lutheran Church, Spokane, WA has **received** the call to Faith Lutheran Church, St. Louis, MO.

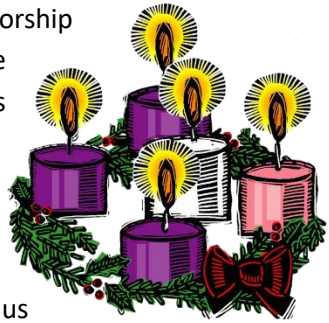
2025 CLC MISSION HELPER TRIP: Applications are now being accepted for the 2025 Mission Helper Trip to Nepal. Space is limited for this trip, so please apply early. Find more information at: <https://mht.lutheranmissions.org/>

MDF OPPORTUNITIES: The CLC Board of Missions has numerous opportunities to assist our brothers and sisters in Christ with Gospel outreach in several countries around the world. Offerings to the Mission Development Fund (MDF) are needed to support and complete projects such as a seminary classroom building in Nigeria, a multipurpose worship and Bible institute building in Bangladesh, and pastoral training seminars and conferences. The MDF also provides Bibles, catechisms, evangelist and pastor transportation, and support for domestic outreach projects here in the U.S. Additionally, per convention resolution, part of the funding for our Tanzania/East Africa Missionary comes from offerings to the MDF. Please prayerfully consider the needs of the MDF in the furtherance of the Great Commission.

FAMILY BIBLE CAMP: Are you still considering plans for a family vacation in 2025? If so, the voters of Zion Lutheran Church in Loganville, GA invite you to consider the possibility of joining us for our first annual Family Bible Camp. Currently, we are hoping to have enough expressed interest in this idea to reserve the group campsite at Cloudland Canyon State Park in northwest Georgia for early June. If this is something you would be interested in, please let us know by sending an email to pastorfrankgantt@gmail.com. At this time, we are not requesting an absolute decision from you but a simple "Yes, I'm interested." Also, please inform us of how many you would likely bring if you were to join us. Please respond by December 31.

The Advent Wreath

is rich in symbolism, and as such it aids our worship as it reinforces our hope in the ultimate coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The wreath is in the form of a circle, which has no beginning and no end. What better way to picture that our life with God is everlasting. The lighted candles are symbolic of the light of Christ and His Gospel, which alone can lift us



out of our sin and spiritual darkness. The 4 candles surrounding the center candle remind us of the 4000 years of waiting for Christ by the Old Testament world. Each of the candles has been assigned a special name with special significance.

The Prophecy Candle is lit the first week in Advent. It is symbolic of the years of waiting during which the prophets, inspired of God, kept alive the hope that the Son of God was coming to save His people from their sins.

The Bethlehem Candle is the 2nd candle lit. It symbolizes the preparations being made for the coming of the Christ-child. The prophecy in Micah 5:2 that foretold Jesus' birthplace at Bethlehem may seem to be a small thing, but it shows how God prepared every detail for the coming of Christ.

The Shepherds' Candle is the 3rd candle lit and reminds us of our responsibility to share the Savior and His promises. The shepherds left their task and went with haste to see the Christ-child, then they returned to tell others about the good news of the Savior.

The Angel's Candle is lit the 4th week of Advent. It reminds us of the activity of the angels before and after Jesus' birth, bearing messages, ministering, protecting, praising; they will be with Jesus at His final coming on Judgment Day, to gather the nations.

The Christ Candle is the center candle lit at the celebration of the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. Its white color symbolizes the perfect and holy life our Savior led on our behalf. With His death on the cross, the LORD now gives that white robe of Christ's righteousness to each of us. God's great gift – His Son Jesus!