

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

INTROIT

† CALL TO WORSHIP

L: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
P: And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory.

L: Christ is born; give him glory! Christ has come down from heaven; receive him!
P: O you earth, sing to the Lord! O you nations, praise him in joy, for he has been glorified!

† HYMN *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing* UMH #240

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Eternal God, by the birth of Jesus Christ you gave yourself to the world. Grant that, being born in our hearts, he may save us from all our sins, and restore within us the image and likeness of our Creator, to whom be everlasting praise and glory, world without end. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 9:6-7, 11:1-8

⁶ For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders, and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ Great will be his authority, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this. ¹ A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. ² The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. ³ His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see or decide by what his ears hear, ⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth; 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 around his waist and faithfulness the belt around his loins. ⁶ The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the lion will feed 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 asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

CHILDREN'S TIME

SPECIAL MUSIC A Christmas Favorite? Zion Bell Choir

† HYMN *Away in a Manger* UMH #217

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 2:8-20

⁸ Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" ¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them, ¹⁹ and Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told them.

MESSAGE *"Who Do We Believe?"* Rev. David Magruder

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *A Modern Affirmation* UMH #885

† GLORIA PATRI UMH #70

† *Stand as you are able*

† BENEDICTION

A Special Gift from the Bell Choir

† Stand as you are able



Lectionary for August 2025

<u>August 3</u>	<u>August 10</u>	<u>August 17</u>	<u>August 24</u>
Hosea 11:1-11	Isaiah 1:-1, 10-20	Isaiah 5:1-7	Jeremiah 1:4-10
Psalms 107:1-9,43	Psalms 50:1-8, 22-23	Psalms 80:1-2, 8-19	Psalms 71:1-6
Colossians 3:1-11	Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16	Hebrews 11:29-12:2	Hebrews 12:18-29
Luke 12:13-21	Luke 12:32-40	Luke 12:49-56	Luke 13:10-17

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Zion’s Mission Statement: By following Jesus Christ, we live to bring glory to God as we use our gifts to grow, share, nurture, and serve.