



Zion Lutheran Church and Christian School

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Newsletter

December 2025 / January 2026

Keeping you informed and
staying connected



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Be ready, for the Son of Man is coming
(Matthew 24:44)
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1. "Be ready, for the Son of Man is coming"

Matthew 24:36-44 & Romans 13:11-14

"Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect." (Matthew 24:44, ESV)

My friends,

I enjoy relief printing, where you carve lines and shapes into a flat material. After rolling ink across the surface, you press paper onto it and peel it away to reveal a picture. (Essentially, it's like making an oversized stamp.) No ink goes onto the places you carved away—and so they become the white areas of the picture—bringing beauty out of the darkness.

As Advent begins, Jesus cuts through our darkness with the bright promise of His coming. Like a relief print where carved lines reveal light, His Word carves through fear, weariness, and uncertainty to reveal hope. In Matthew 24, Jesus calls us to watchfulness—not in panic, but in faith. The "*Son of Man*" who once came in humility will return in glory. His reign is certain, His kingdom everlasting, and His promise sure: *He is coming for you*.

To "*stay awake*" and "*be ready*" is to live in our Baptism—daily repentance, daily forgiveness, daily clinging to Christ. We cast off the works of darkness not by our strength, but because Christ has already taken our sin to the cross and clothed us in His righteousness. He stamps His bright Word on your heart. So we watch with hope, trusting the One who rules all things for our good.

Come, Lord Jesus!

--Pastor Kyle Eddy

2. Services and Events:

Note:

All Sunday Services are livestreamed at:

<https://www.youtube.com/@zion-vanderhoof-lutheran/streams>

Wednesday, December 3rd, 2025

- **4:00 p.m.**

First Advent Midweek Service – Far From Home

Isaiah prophesied only one way home to our God: through the arrival of the God-man, Jesus. Jesus Christ is our shelter in the storm, our warmth in the waiting, and our welcome in the wandering. Our exile finally ends through Jesus, for He is our Home.

Soup and Bun Dinner after the service.

Sunday, December 7th, 2025

- **9:30 a.m.**

Bible Study: Journey Through God’s Word – Book of Revelation

This week: **The Final Trumpets – Part Two**

What truth does Revelation reveal about the future? What do all those symbols represent? Find comfort in its words and discover answers to many questions. Everybody is welcome to join us!

- **10:30 a.m.**

Second Sunday in Advent Worship Service, Holy Communion.

Jesus rises as a signal for all people, bringing hope, peace, and safety.

Wednesday, December 10th, 2025

- **4:00 p.m.**

Second Advent Midweek Service – No Place Like Home

Isaiah prophesied only one way home to our God: through the arrival of the God-man, Jesus. Jesus Christ is our shelter in the storm, our warmth in the waiting, and our welcome in the wandering. Our exile finally ends through Jesus, for He is our Home.

Soup and Bun Dinner after the service.

Sunday, December 14th, 2025

- **9:30 a.m.**

Bible Study: Journey Through God's Word – Book of Revelation

This week: **A Woman and a Dragon – Part One**

What truth does Revelation reveal about the future? What do all those symbols represent? Find comfort in its words and discover answers to many questions.

Everybody is welcome to join us!

- **10:30 a.m.**

Third Sunday in Advent Worship Service.

The desert blooms as God opens the way for exiles to joyfully return to Zion.

Wednesday, December 17th, 2025

- **4:00 p.m.**

Third Advent Midweek Service – Home Unbroken

Isaiah prophesied only one way home to our God: through the arrival of the God-man, Jesus. Jesus Christ is our shelter in the storm, our warmth in the waiting, and our welcome in the wandering. Our exile finally ends through Jesus, for He is our Home.

Soup and Bun Dinner after the service.

Sunday, December 21st, 2025

- **9:30 a.m.**

Bible Study: Journey Through God's Word – Book of Revelation

This week: **A Woman and a Dragon – Part Two**

What truth does Revelation reveal about the future? What do all those symbols represent? Find comfort in its words and discover answers to many questions.

Everybody is welcome to join us!

- **10:30 a.m.**

Third Sunday in Advent Worship Service, Holy Communion.

The fourth Sunday in Advent points us to the birth of Jesus, the promised Immanuel – “God with us”. In the virgin Mary’s miraculous conception, God fulfills His ancient promise to David’s House by sending His Son in the flesh to save His people from their sins. Like Joseph, we receive this gift in faith and live by the Gospel’s hope.

Tuesday, December 23rd, 2025

• 5:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve Worship Service at our Sister Congregation in Vanderhoof.

Wednesday, December 24th, 2025

• 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Worship Service.

Thursday, December 25th, 2025

• 10:30 a.m.

Christmas Day Worship Service, Holy Communion.

Sunday, December 28th, 2025

• 9:30 a.m.

Bible Study: Journey Through God's Word – Book of Revelation

This week: **The 144,000 – Part One**

What truth does Revelation reveal about the future? What do all those symbols represent? Find comfort in its words and discover answers to many questions.

Everybody is welcome to join us!

• 10:30 a.m.

The Holy Innocents Worship Service.



Source: Lutheran Church-Canada,
Created by Julia Flor
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The Holy Innocents

December 28

Time Period 1st century AD

Who were they?

The infants of Bethlehem martyred by order of King Herod the Great.

Did you know?

- When Magi from the East looked for the newborn King of the Jews in Jerusalem, Herod was alarmed and sought to kill the child.
- Eluded by the Magi, Herod ordered his soldiers to kill every male child in Bethlehem under the age of two.
- The holy family fled to Egypt after Joseph was warned in a dream.
- The Holy Innocents were martyrs of Christ not in will, but in deed.

Sunday, January 4th, 2026

- 9:30 a.m.

Bible Study: Journey Through God's Word – Book of Revelation

This week: **The 144,000 – Part Two**

What truth does Revelation reveal about the future? What do all those symbols represent? Find comfort in its words and discover answers to many questions.

Everybody is welcome to join us!

- 10:30 a.m.

Second Sunday after Christmas Worship Service, Holy Communion.

Jesus grows in wisdom and favour, learning the Scriptures and seeking His Father's house, where He is found in the midst of God's Word. He still comes to us in His Church through the Gospel, by which we are adopted, redeemed, and sealed by the Spirit. In Him we receive true wisdom for our callings and gather before His presence, especially in the Holy Communion of His body and blood.

Friday, January 9th, 2026

- 7:00 p.m.

Youth Group for Teenagers Grade 8 to 12

Games, Bible Study, and Fellowship

Sunday, January 11th, 2026

- 9:30 a.m.

Bible Study: Journey Through God's Word – Book of Revelation

This week: **The Seven Bowls and the Prostitute – Part One**

What truth does Revelation reveal about the future? What do all those symbols represent? Find comfort in its words and discover answers to many questions.

Everybody is welcome to join us!

- 10:30 a.m.

Baptism of our Lord Sunday Worship Service.

At His Baptism, Jesus reveals the Triune God as the Father speaks, the Spirit descends, and the Son stands with sinners in the Jordan.

He takes our sin upon Himself to fulfill all righteousness and to redeem us through His death and resurrection.

In our Baptism, we are united with Him, given His Spirit, and named the beloved children of the Father.



Sunday, January 18th, 2026

- **9:30 a.m.**

Bible Study: Journey Through God's Word – Book of Revelation

This week: **The Seven Bowls and the Prostitute – Part Two**

What truth does Revelation reveal about the future? What do all those symbols represent? Find comfort in its words and discover answers to many questions. Everybody is welcome to join us!

- **10:30 a.m.**

Second Sunday after the Epiphany Worship Service, Holy Communion.

God reveals Jesus as the Savior promised from the womb, the light for all nations whose glory is shown in His sacrificial cross. John points to Him as the Lamb of God who takes away the world's sin, anointed by the Spirit at His Baptism. Through our own Baptism, we share this same Spirit, His fellowship, and the sure hope that He will sustain us guiltless to the end.

Sunday, January 25th, 2026

- **9:30 a.m.**

Bible Study: Journey Through God's Word – Book of Revelation

This week: **The Fall of Babylon and the Triumph of the Lamb – Part One**

What truth does Revelation reveal about the future? What do all those symbols represent? Find comfort in its words and discover answers to many questions. Everybody is welcome to join us!

- **10:30 a.m.**

Third Sunday after the Epiphany Worship Service, Holy Communion.

Jesus brings light to those in darkness through His preaching, miracles, and the calling of His first disciples. He sends them to proclaim the Gospel and to draw people into the joy of His kingdom as “fishers of men.” Through this preaching of Christ's cross—the power and wisdom of God—the Church is united in one mind and faith.

3. Notices:

- * **Details of events can change on short notice.**

Please check the Upcoming Events page on our website for Updates.

<https://zionpg.lutheranchurchcanada.ca/>

- * **Please join Zion LWMLC in:**

~ **Donating non-perishable food and staples from Nov. 16th to Dec. 7th.**

Items will be divided and delivered the week of Dec. 14th

~ **Filling the hat, socks and mitten tree from Nov. 16th to Dec. 14th**

Items received will be taken to St. Vincent's for distribution to their clients

~ LWMLC members and guests will be having a **Ladies Only Christmas Potluck on Dec. 7th at the home of Shirley Smith**, following worship service.

Each guest is requested to bring 2 dozen cookies or squares and a dish to share.

The cookies and squares will be packaged on Dec. 13th, meeting at the church at 1 pm and distributed to the shut in members of our congregation.

Please let Penny know by email or contact the church at zion@zlcs.com if you would like to join in the potluck and/or making and delivering cookies.

Thank you to everyone for your continued support!

- * **Bible Study Theme: Journeys Through God's Word – Revelation, Sundays at 9:30 a.m., Everybody is welcome!**

Join us on our Journey Through God's Word as we delve into the Book of Revelation. Find comfort in its words and discover answers to many questions.

- * **Enjoy good food in good company at our Fellowship Potlucks**

Every last Sunday of the month after the worship service, unless otherwise announced.

Please bring a dish to share if you can.

- * Find us on **You-Tube:** <https://www.youtube.com/@zion-vanderhoof-lutheran> if you are unable to attend in person and want to watch our **live-streamed worship services**, or if you want to rewatch a previously recorded service.

- * You can now find **Written Sermons on our Website under the Resources tab.** <https://zionpg.lutheranchurchcanada.ca/>

4. Prayer Requests and Praise Reports

Gracious Lord, You have promised never to leave us nor forsake us. Be with those who are lonely or live by themselves. Give them comfort in Your Word and joy in Your presence. Teach them to find peace in Your love and joy in loving their neighbours.

Have mercy on those in our church family who struggle with sickness, financial burdens, or other troubles. Provide for their daily needs, strengthen their faith, and give them hope in Your promises.

Grant them peace through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Please continue to your brothers and sisters in Christ in your prayers.

If you have prayer requests you would like to share with the congregation, please call the office at 250-562-2777 or send an email to zion@zlcs.com .

The **Prayer Chain** is a line of communication among Christians who are willing to be 'On Call' and will pray for any specific need for anyone who requests their prayers.

The members of the prayer chain will keep your prayer requests **strictly confidential** unless you explicitly allow us to share them with the congregation!

If you would like to participate in the prayer chain, or want to know more about it, please contact Penny Bobier at penbob@shaw.ca.

If you are in need of prayer, please don't hesitate to call the office at 250-562-2777 or Shirley at 250-964-3411.

We don't want anyone to be in need or suffering, so, please let us know if we can help in any way.

5. Did you know? - The Advent Wreath



Beloved in Christ, as we enter this holy season of Advent, there are many traditions. One of these traditions is the Advent wreath, which now sits in the chancel. This wreath serves as a teaching tool— an aid to remind us of God's promises as we watch for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The **circular shape** of the wreath, without beginning or end, points us to the eternal faithfulness of God, who keeps His promises from generation to generation. The **evergreen branches** confess that the life Christ brings is everlasting life that triumphs over death. Upon the wreath are **four candles**, which we light week by week as the days grow darker, confessing that Christ is our true Light who breaks into the darkness of this world.

The names traditionally given to these candles—**Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love**— help rehearse the promises of God fulfilled in Jesus Christ:

1. **The Candle of Hope** recalls the prophets who proclaimed the coming Messiah and the sure hope that rests in God's Word alone.
2. **The Candle of Peace** reminds us that Christ comes to reconcile sinners to the Father and bring peace that the world cannot give.
3. **The Candle of Joy** points us to the joy that breaks forth when God draws near—joy fulfilled at Christ's birth and made complete in His saving work.
4. **The Candle of Love** confesses that God so loved the world that He sent His only Son, whose self-giving love is revealed most fully in the cross.

As we light these candles from week to week, we do so to confess Christ, the Light of the world, who has come, who comes to us now in Word and Sacrament, and who will come again in glory.

6. Did you know? - It's My Very Own - Bags of Love

"It's My Very Own - Bags of Love" is a project started in the United States by Barbara Neher. It is a program that works with communities and local Child & Family Services offices. The Bags of Love are distributed through the Ministry of Children and Family Development.

The local chapter of Bags of Love is a faith-based non-profit organization. Ralph Sommerville started the program in Prince George in 2008, meeting the immediate needs of displaced children in Northern B.C., local organizer today is Irene Lipovszky.

When a child must be removed from their home for their own safety, these bags are designed to help ease that transition. Often, a child must leave their home immediately and cannot take anything with them, such as toys, clothes, or personal items. Bags of Love provides them something to call their very own.

Prince George, Quesnel, Vanderhoof, McBride, Mackenzie, Fort St. James, and Burns Lake have been equipped with bags and a few have even gone into Smithers and Terrace, according to Irene Lipovszky.

All the Bags of Love are age appropriate, divided between boys and girls in five different age categories from infants to 17 years old.

At the top of every bag is a large stuffie, and at the bottom is a quilted blanket.

Donations of all kinds are needed and accepted including volunteers willing to help, cash, fabric to make the bags and quilts, grooming items like shampoo, toothbrushes, and toothpaste, and other things like activity kits, toy trucks and cars, journals for the older children, and even diapers for the wee ones.

For more information, e-mail irenal@shawcable.com or call 250-564-8967.

Did you know that some ladies of our congregation come together once a week to make quilts for this worthy cause?



If you would like to join the quilting group, or want to help out in any other way, please talk to Shirley or contact the church office.



7. Zion Lutheran Church and Christian School Contact Information:

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, except statutory holidays.

School Hours: 8:40 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. on school days (Office closes at 12:30 p.m.!)

Address: ZLCS, 180 Tabor Blvd., Prince George, BC, V2M 5T4

Phone: 250-562-2777

Email: zion@zlcs.com

Church Website: <https://zionpg.lutheranchurchcanada.ca/>

School Website: <http://zlcs.com/wp/>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@zion-vanderhoof-lutheran/streams>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/people/Zion-Lutheran-Church-and-Christian-School/100064320926931/>