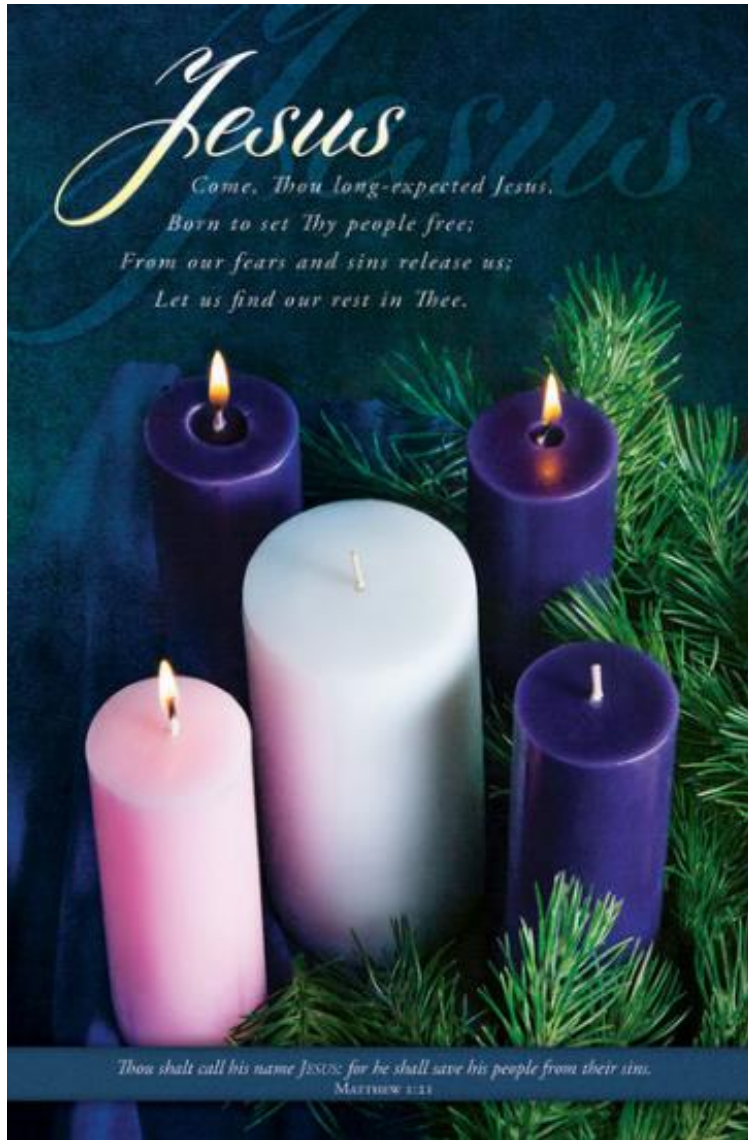


Sermon Series: *What are you waiting for?*



GATHERING & PRAISE

Preservice Music

Gathering Song/Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Come, thou long-expected Jesus HWB 178

Welcome & Call to Worship

One: Oh God, my God, I cry out to you.

A ***ALL: Asking, when will I start rejoicing that you are coming?
Will I trust your faithfulness to your creation?***

One: Can I be patient enough to trust in your time, instead of my own?

ALL: God, what am I waiting for?

Prayer

Congregational Singing

My soul cries out STS 124

Comfort, comfort, O my people HWB 176

Helpless and Hungry / What Child is this STS 26 / HWB 215

CONFESSION

One: God of eternity, when the voices of prophets are silent

And the faith of your people low;

When darkness has obscured light and indifference has

displaced zeal;

You see that the time is right, and prepare to send your Son.

***All: Set us free from fear and faithlessness that we may welcome
him Who comes as Savior and Lord. AMEN***

Congregational Song: *O long-awaited*

Hymn Rack

PROCLAMATION

Psalm: Psalm 146:5-10

OT Scripture: Isaiah 35:1-10

Children's Lesson

NT Scripture: James 5:7-10

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

Sermon: "Kept Waiting by Fear"

RESPONDING

Song of Response: *Healer of our every ill*

HWB 377

Congregational Life Sharing and Prayer

One: O Lord in your mercy/goodness,

All: Hear our prayer.

Announcements

Offering

SENDING

Sending Song: *Peace Before Us*

STS 16

Benediction

MINISTRY LEADERS TODAY

Greeters: Grant & Susan Stoltzfus

Usher: Jeremy Beach

Worship Leader: Becky Brenneman

Preacher: Clyde Kratz

Foyer: Grant Stoltzfus

Sound Operator: Craig Zook

Music Leader: Jackson Maust

Musician: Laurie Weaver

Children's Lesson: Patty Baer

Worship Arts: Erin Beeker

Nursery: Lynae M. & Sadie G.

Scripture Readers: Steve, Eli & Zach Halteman

Advent wreath candle lighting: Jeremy & Diann Beach family

Scripture for 2019: 2 Corinthians 5:17-18 (NRSV)-¹⁷ So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation;

•Please make sure all drinks in the sanctuary are in a closed container.

•Please see an usher if you need a hearing assistance device.

STATISTICS FOR DECEMBER 8, 2019

Halteman Support Fund: \$500

Offering: \$4,754

Building Fund: \$800

Offering YTD: \$233,922

Attendance: 105

Needed by end of year: \$40,828

Much gratitude for your generous giving to ZMC!

FINANCIAL MATTERS

For those needing reimbursement for church-related purchases, please have all receipts turned in by Tuesday, 12/31/19. Receipts may be placed in the Treasurer's mailbox at church or scanned and emailed to the treasurer at ajshenk@gmail.com.

This year the last Sunday is December 29. If you will not be here that Sunday and would like to include your offering in December, you can mail a check directly to the treasurer postmarked in 2019.

Alternatively, if you have an account at Park View Credit Union, you can make an online transfer directly to the church account. Contact Audrey Shenk for the church's account number.

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH

- Pray for Laurie & Neal Weaver as Laurie cares for her Dad as he prepares for surgery on Dec. 19.
- Pray for Steve Halteman's toe surgery on Dec. 23 that he will receive relief from the pain he has experienced and for God to provide a quick recovery.
- Pray for loving congregational responses of care to the Halteman family as Sara receives treatment for her recurrence of cancer.
- Pray for Ervin Stutzman (preacher), Sarah Piper (worship leader), and Heidi King (music leader) as they prepare for the worship service next week.

GOD'S MISSION AND THE WIDER CHURCH - Pray that the Church would be revived for God's mission.

PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY & COUNTRY - Pray that the Church would exemplify God's love in our communities & country.

PRAYERS FOR THE WORLD - Pray for the people of Portugal, a country of 10.7 million bordered by Spain to the east. A colonial power in the 15-16th century, its influence spread throughout the globe most notably to Brazil. Pray for Christian brothers and sisters influenced by Portugal around the world.



As part of the search for a long-term pastor, the CLT is inviting responses from the congregation in two areas: 1) to nominate persons to serve on the Pastoral Search Committee, and 2) to engage in an Appreciative Inquiry process which will provide a unique portrait of the congregation for potential pastoral candidates. We hope to paint a complimentary three-dimensional picture of the congregation that is both wide and deep. Thus, we invite every congregational member/participant to engage in the Appreciative Inquiry process in the months of January and February. We will seek your participation via commissions, Sunday school classes, and/or small groups, and a congregational meeting following the fellowship meal on January 19, 2020. Look for more specific instructions in the weeks ahead.

UPCOMING MINISTRY ASSIGNMENTS:

	<u>December 22, 2019</u>	<u>December 29, 2019</u>
<u>Greeters:</u>	Joel & Darlene Lehman	Joel & Darlene Lehman
<u>Worship Leader:</u>	Sarah Piper	Bonnie Stutzman
<u>Preacher:</u>	Ervin Stutzman	Songs & Scriptures
<u>Music Leaders:</u>	Heidi King	Dave K./Welby S./Clay S.
<u>Sound Operator:</u>	David Rohrer	Jackson Maust
<u>Nursery:</u>	Monica & Rebekah C.	Lynae M. & Kate P.
<u>Foyer Monitor:</u>	Doug & Kathy Alderfer	Karla Souder
<u>Usher:</u>	Daryl Bert	Jeremy Beach
<u>Worship Arts:</u>	Erin Beeker	Erin Beeker

CONGREGATIONAL INFORMATION

INTERIM CO-PASTORS:

Ervin Stutzman • 540-560-5061 • Ervin_Stutzman@comcast.net

Bonnie Stutzman • 540-282-1743 • stutzeb@comcast.net

ASSOCIATE PASTOR-CHILDREN AND FAMILIES:

Sarah Piper • 540-560-1686 • sarahpiper7@gmail.com

CLT: Daryl Myers (Chair), Hannah Leaman (Vice Chair), Dave King (Elder),
Katie Maust, Grant Stoltzfus, Elwood Yoder

ELDERS: Dave King (Chair), Clay Showalter, Monica Compagnari

COMMISSIONS: •Care: Mary Leaman •Worship: Susan Stoltzfus

•Faith Formation: Paul Leaman & Amy Rush •Stewardship: Brian Rhodes

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Dec. 15-3:00 pm: Shenandoah Valley Choral Society's Christmas concert at Bridgewater Church of the Brethren. Audrey Shenk & Welby Showalter sing with the choir. singshenandoah.org

Dec. 15: Girls Club-VMRC Caroling, 3 pm.
MYF Christmas party at Blosser's, 7 pm.

Dec. 18: Everyone is invited to Zion's Annual Christmas Program & Tea. The celebration will be on Wednesday, at 6:30 pm. The program will consist of special music from the children's department and adult ensembles, skits, readings, and singing Christmas carols. A time of refreshments and fellowship will follow the program. Please bring a snack to share.

Dec. 22: Zion's Christmas Caroling is next Sunday at 6 pm. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the foyer. Contact Jim Rush if you would be willing to prepare hot chocolate/tea for the carolers that evening, either at Zion or in your home.

Dec. 24: Northern District Christmas Eve Service at Lindale, 6:30 pm.

Dec. 29: Christmas Breakfast, 9:30 am. Join us for a Christmas breakfast during the Sunday School hour. Please bring finger foods, casseroles, pastries, or whatever you are inspired to share. Hospitality will provide coffee and juice. A worship service of scripture & songs will follow the breakfast with prelude music beginning at 10:35 am.

A class is forming for those considering baptism. The class will meet once a month during S.S. beginning in January. Please talk with a pastor if you are interested or have any questions.

Harrisonburg Gift and Thrift Board of Directors is seeking several new members. In addition to generalists, we could use one new board member with experience in finance. The 3-year board term begins in April, 2020. To learn more or submit your name for consideration, contact Tim Godshall at timgodshall@gmail.com or 540-908-8194.

Thank God for the birthdays & anniversaries this week:

Marlin Maust, Kevin Zook, Wilmer Hertzler, Isaac Deavers,
Dewey Brenneman, Joe & Lori Friesen, Jamey & Gen Moyer-Groff

*At Zion Mennonite Church we follow Jesus as we worship God,
nurture faith, minister love, and share hope with neighbors near and far.*