

# **Harrold Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church**

**Sunday, November 19, 2023 – 10:30 AM – Joyful Noise**

**Pentecost 25**

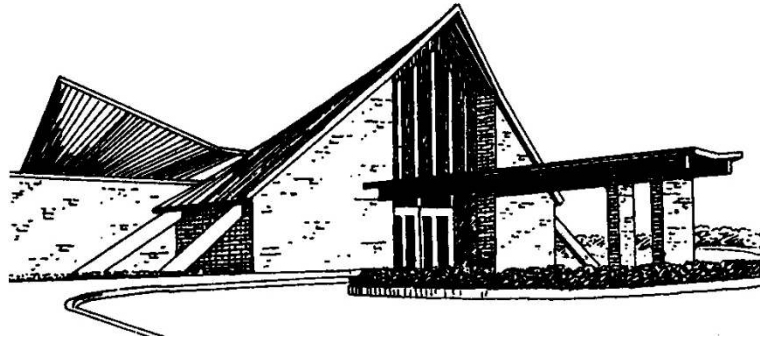


# Harrold Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

671 Baltzer Meyer Pike, Greensburg, PA

Office Phone: 724-837-7327

[harroldzion.org](http://harroldzion.org)



## WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP!

- **It is a joy to welcome our visitors!** Please sign the guest book in the Communication Center at the rear of the church, to the right as you exit, and take a Welcome Packet which is filled with information about Harrold Zion. Please introduce yourself to the pastor as you leave worship. We hope you return soon! Follow us on social media!
- **Children's bags** are available in the Narthex.
- **There is a prayer request book** on a podium in the Welcome Center. Please write name(s) in the book prior to the service to have names included in the prayers.
- **Large print bulletins** are available from any usher for those needing them.
- **Hearing devices** are available from any usher for those needing them.
- **An AED machine** can be found on the wall after the Ladies Room on the left.
- **Receiving Holy Communion** - We believe the body and blood of Christ to be present in the bread and wine. All who are baptized are invited to share in this meal. Please come forward at the usher's direction. Non-communing children may come forward for a blessing. If you desire communion in the pew, please inform one of the ushers so that you may receive communion there.

## Sunday, November 19, 2023 – 10:30 AM

**GATHERING** - *We are brought together to remember who and whose we are.*

### Welcome and Announcements – Joys and Concerns

Prelude            *We Have Come Into This House*

*Please bring your Noisy Offering forward during the Prelude.*

### Confession and Forgiveness

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**  
God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Please kneel or stand, as able.*

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*Please stand, as able.*

Gathering Hymn #674    *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

### Apostolic Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

## Hymn of Praise



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.  
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.  
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:  
Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;  
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.  
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.  
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

**WORD** – *We hear God's teachings to guide our path of serving.*

### Prayer of the Day

Let us pray together. **Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

First Reading: Judges 4:1-7

<sup>1</sup>The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, after Ehud died.

<sup>2</sup>So the LORD sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-hagoiim. <sup>3</sup>Then the Israelites cried out to the LORD for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron, and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years.

<sup>4</sup>At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel.

<sup>5</sup>She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. <sup>6</sup>She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, “The LORD, the God of Israel, commands you, ‘Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. <sup>7</sup>I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin’s army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.’” The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: 123

<sup>1</sup>To you I lift up my eyes, to you enthroned in the heavens.

<sup>2</sup>**As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to you, O LORD our God, until you show us your mercy.**

<sup>3</sup>Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy,  
for we have had more than enough of contempt,

<sup>4</sup>**too much of the scorn of the indolent rich,  
and of the derision of the proud.**

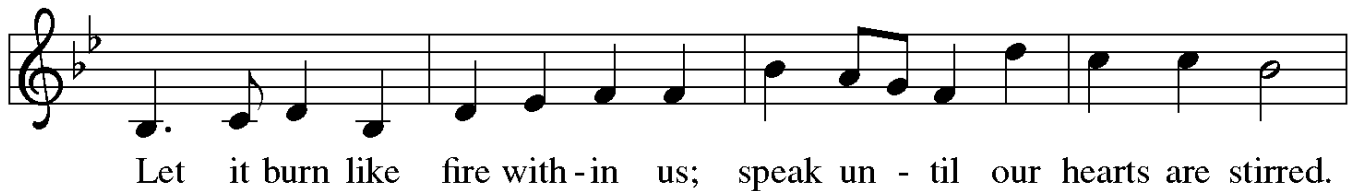
Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

<sup>1</sup>Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. <sup>2</sup>For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup>When they say, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! <sup>4</sup>But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; <sup>5</sup>for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. <sup>6</sup>So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; <sup>7</sup>for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. <sup>8</sup>But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the

breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. <sup>9</sup>For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup>who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. <sup>11</sup>Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand, as able.*

Verse



Holy Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>14</sup>“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; <sup>15</sup>to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. <sup>16</sup>The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. <sup>17</sup>In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. <sup>18</sup>But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. <sup>19</sup>After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup>Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ <sup>21</sup>His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ <sup>22</sup>And the one with the

two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' <sup>23</sup>His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' <sup>24</sup>Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; <sup>25</sup>so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' <sup>26</sup>But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? <sup>27</sup>Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. <sup>28</sup>So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. <sup>29</sup>For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. <sup>30</sup>As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'” The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

Children's Time

Sermon

*Please stand, as able.*

Hymn of the Day

*Build Your Kingdom Here*

*Please see next page.*





## Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**


**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

## Prayers of the Intercession

(petitions) ...Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

(prayer concludes) ...**Amen.**

## Prayer Response



1. God is so good, God is so good, God is so  
2. He saved my soul, He saved my soul, He saved my  
3. I'll praise His name, I'll praise His name, I'll praise His

6



good O so good to me.  
soul, God's so good to me.  
name, God's so good to me.

## Sharing of the Peace

**MEAL** – *We are built up and nourished to be the body of Christ in the world.*

## Offering

*This Train Is Bound for Glory*

## Offertory



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

## Offertory Prayer

Let us pray together. **God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant. Amen.**

## The Great Thanksgiving and Proper Preface

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

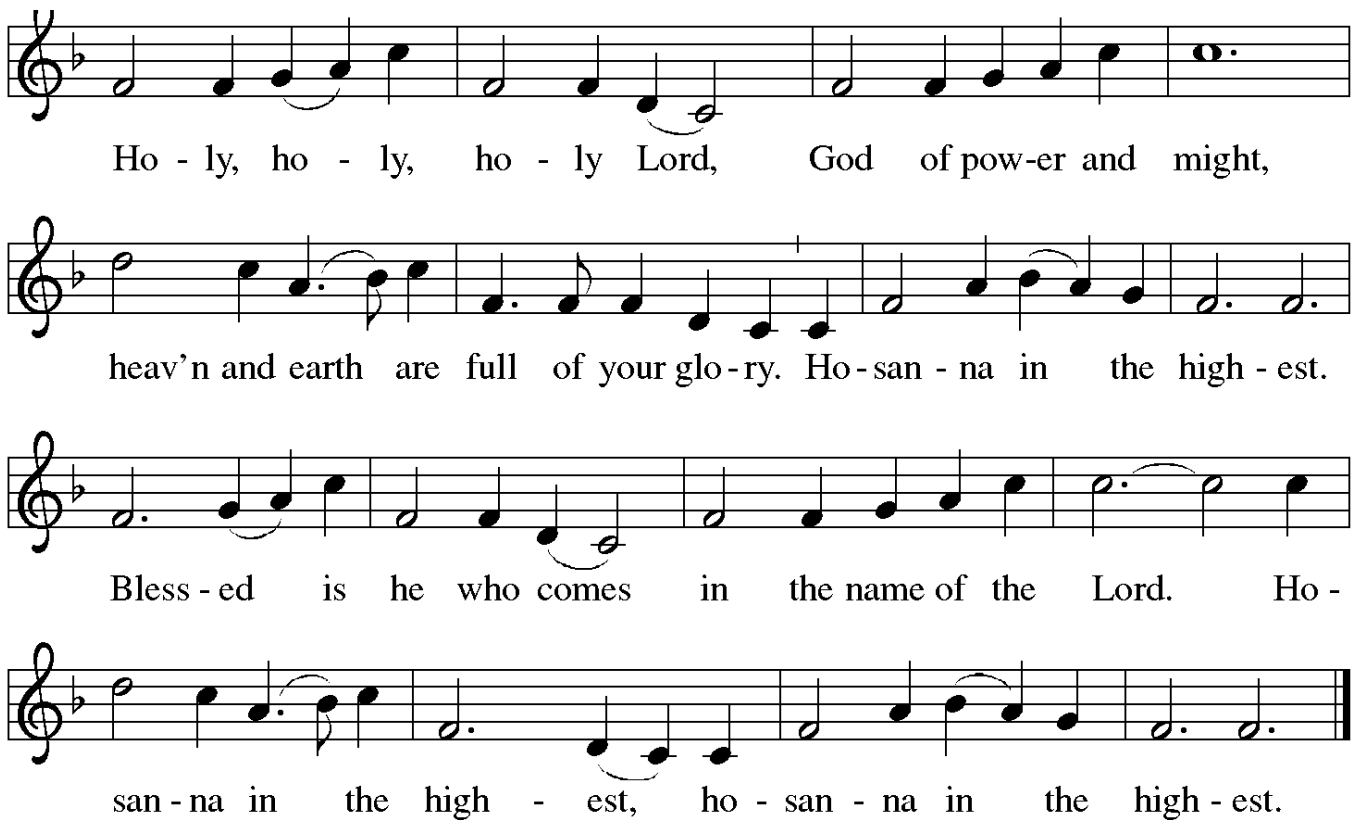
Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is indeed our duty and our joy... And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.  
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

### Eucharistic Prayer

Holy God,...with every breath.

**We praise you, O God.**

Generations bless...into the future.

**We bless you, O God.**

We give you thanks...with us now.

**We thank you, O God.**

In the night...the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

We pray...in your church without end. **Amen.**

### 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.**

### Breaking the Bread and Invitation to Communion

Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat, and live.

*Please be seated.*

## Lamb of God



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

*The proclamation is shared for those communing in their place with an all-in-one kit or home elements.*

*Sharing the elements:*

The Body of Christ given for you. The Blood of Christ shed for you.

*Each person may respond: **Amen.***

*The leaders share Holy Communion.*

*The assembly is invited to come forward by the direction of the ushers by the center aisle and receive Holy communion, then return via the side aisle. [For Sunday: You may receive the Sacrament around the altar or at the floor stations. (For more, see announcement about "combo" distribution details.)]*

Communion Hymns:      *Every Time I Feel the Spirit*  
   *#638 Blessed Assurance*

**SENDING** - *We are sent out to share hope and make disciples.*

Post-Communion Blessing      *The assembly is invited to stand.*

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray together. **Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way. Amen.**

## Blessing

May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Sovereign, ✝ Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn #439      *Soon and Very Soon*

## Quiet Meditation

## Dismissal

Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please be seated for the Congregational Meeting.*

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## **Celebrating Holy Communion**

You can receive by continuous stations on the floor or around the Altar.

One side of the sanctuary, the pulpit side first, will be invited by the direction of an usher to go forward via the center aisle. Then forming two columns of flow—one goes up to the altar rail by the center steps and the other to the floor continuous stations. A pastor will be in each area with a communion assistant. Please return to seats via the ramps and the side aisle, depositing used cups into the basket near the front pew.

After the whole pulpit side has communed, the floor station pastor and assistant will move over for the Baptismal Font side and signal the usher to begin. Then that side will then be invited in the same mirrored two columns and continue as described above.

## **WE THANK TODAY'S SERVICE PARTICIPANTS**

Lectors: 10:30 AM Kelly Perry

Acolytes: 10:30 AM Hailey Uhrinek

Communion Assistants: 10:30 AM Susan Yaksic, Kelly Perry

Ushers: 10:30 AM Cory Anderson, Cooper Anderson

Altar Guild: Nancy Basile, Diane Ihlenfeld

**THE CONGREGATION EXPRESSES OUR SYMPATHY TO** the Carol Wineman, Fred and Ann Wineman, and family on the death of Carol's husband and Fred's brother, Sam Wineman. May the hope of the resurrection give them peace.

**THIS WEEK....**

**OFFICE HOURS M-F 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM**

**SUNDAY**

Congregational Meeting  
10:30 AM Joyful Noise  
11:45 AM Evangelism Committee

**MONDAY**

9:30 AM Music Team Meeting

**TUESDAY**

7:00 PM Thanksgiving Worship and  
First Holy Communion

**WEDNESDAY**

*Give thanks!*

**THURSDAY**

Happy Thanksgiving!

**FRIDAY**

Office Closed

**SATURDAY – Christ the King**

8:00 AM Sanctuary Reserved

9:00 AM Social Hall Reserved

**SUNDAY – Christ the King**

8:00 & 10:30 AM Communion

Hannah's socks due

Poinsettia orders due

**JOIN US FOR OUR THANKSGIVING WORSHIP SERVICE** this Tuesday, at 7:00 PM. We will celebrate and give thanks with Holy Communion. Several youth will also receive their First Holy Communion.

**THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED** November 23 & 24 for the Thanksgiving Holiday. We will resume regular office hours Monday, November 27.

**OUR ANNUAL HARVEST HOME COLLECTION** for the month of November, will benefit Meals on Wheels. At present, HZ volunteers deliver meals to 32 homes, 5 days a week. Please make checks payable to Harrold Zion, mark "Meals on Wheels" on the memo line or envelope, and place in the offering plate, mail to the church, or drop off to Tammy in the church office. Thank you for your faithful donations to this important Harrold Zion outreach.

**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS** – Christmas Eve, the Altar area will be decorated with these poinsettias. A 6 ½" poinsettia is \$10, and you can choose red or white. Envelope order forms can be found in the Communication Center or you can order using the form found on page 26 of the November newsletter. Please place the completed envelope with payment (checks payable to Harrold Zion) in the offering plate. Orders are due no later than next Sunday, November 26.

**HANGING OF THE GREENS** – We will decorate the church for Christmas on Saturday, December 2, at 9:00 AM. Extra helping hands would be greatly appreciated.

**THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER and Messy Church** will be held on Sunday, December 3. The doors open at 4:00 PM with dinner served at 4:30. Dinner will be Ham loaf, provided by the Fellowship Committee, along with rolls and drinks. Everyone is asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share. ***Messy Church is:*** a form of church for children and adults that involves creativity, celebration and hospitality. It can be in-person, in-a-bag, or online! In person, it meets at a time (and sometimes in a place) that suits the community — but not usually on Sunday mornings. It typically includes a welcome, a creative time to explore the biblical theme with activities, games and crafts; a celebration time involving story, prayer, and songs; and a sit-down meal together at tables. All parts are for (and should include) people of all ages, adults and children. It's all-age. It's fun. It's a church for people at all stages of faith journey and of any age. It models and promotes good ways of growing as a family: a nuclear family, an extended family, and a global and local church family. Its aim is to introduce Jesus, to give an opportunity to encounter Christ and to grow in faith. This evening will be a “Messy Christmas” session with the story and activities centering on the Christmas story. Pastor Fitch and Sheri Anderson will be leading this session. The evening will also include a visit from Saint Nicholas. Please sign-up in the Communication Center if you plan on attending this event.

**YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED** to the third annual Sonshiner's Christmas Luncheon at Ferrante's Lakeview in Greensburg on Tuesday, December 12, beginning at 12:00 Noon. All members and their guests are welcome to attend. Please see the menu and registration information in the November newsletter or you can pick up a copy in the Communication Center. Your reservation, meal choice and money are due to Linda Boyer by December 3.

**CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS** – In the years past, our homebound members have been delighted to receive a stack of Christmas cards from their church family. If you would like to send cards to our homebound members this Christmas, please pick up a list of names in the Communication Center, sign your cards, and bring them to the church by Sunday, December 3. We will deliver them when we go caroling on December 10.



**CHRISTMAS EVE PARTICIPANTS NEEDED.** We are starting to prepare for Christmas in the church office. If you are willing and able to serve in anyway on Christmas Eve, please contact Tammy at 724-837-7327 or [tammyhzlc@gmail.com](mailto:tammyhzlc@gmail.com). We are in specific need of the following:  
Lectors and Acolytes for all three services (4:00, 7:00, & 10:00 PM)  
Communion Assistants for the 4:00 PM service.

*Thank you to all worship volunteers for your year-round ministry!*

**SPONSOR A CHILD FOR CHRISTMAS...** The school will soon be sending the names of children and their Christmas wish list. Each family or person that wishes to sponsor a child or children will receive the list of items the child(ren) would like for Christmas. If you wish to be a sponsor, please sign the sheet in the Communication Center, or you may contact Linda Boyer at 724-635-0339, or email her at [linda-boyer@comcast.net](mailto:linda-boyer@comcast.net). Once you have notified Linda of your desire to sponsor a child, you will receive instructions of what to purchase, how to wrap and tag the gifts, and when to return the wrapped and bagged gifts to the church. Last year, Harrold Zion sponsored 52 children. We look forward to continuing the sponsorship by Harrold Zion of needy children who benefit from this program through our local school district.

**THE OPERATION REINDEER TREE** is in the Narthex and decorated with gift tags. Each tag has an item to be purchased and returned to the church for delivery to the Westmoreland Mental Health Step Up facility in Latrobe. Gifts should be brand new and unwrapped. Place all donations in the Communication Center before December 11. Any questions, contact Mary Lou Millward.

### **LOOKING AHEAD:**

- Advent Retreat at Lutherlyn – December 1-3
- Christmas Caroling – December 10, 1:00 PM
- Baking VBS – January 13, 1:00 PM

### **ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR SPONSORSHIP:**

Altar Flowers – December 3, 10 (2 vases)

Bulletin – November 21, December 3, 10, 17, 24, 25, 31

Eternal candle – November 21, December 10, 17, 25, 31

*Reminder: Rose = \$5, Bulletin = \$10, Candle = \$5, Altar Flowers = \$25/vase*

***To sponsor items, please sign up in the Communication Center.***

***Please note: If the Altar Flowers are not sponsored, we will not have flowers on the Altar that weekend.***

## **Church Staff and Office Information**

Rev. Andrew Fitch, Senior Pastor - 570-768-8455, [pastorfitch@outlook.com](mailto:pastorfitch@outlook.com)

Rev. Caroline Clifford, PhD, Asst. Pastor – 814-769-5662

[pastorcarolinehzc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorcarolinehzc@gmail.com)

Tammy Hilland, Secretary - [tammyhzc@gmail.com](mailto:tammyhzc@gmail.com)

Sheri Anderson, Coordinator of Family Ministries - [hzclyouth@gmail.com](mailto:hzclyouth@gmail.com)

Laurie Racculia, Director of Music Ministries - [lracculia@yahoo.com](mailto:lracculia@yahoo.com)

Debby Schlegel, Custodian

Joanne Gebhardt, Sunday Organist

Melanie Altman, Saturday Organist

Office phone: 724-837-7327 – Website: [harroldzion.org](http://harroldzion.org) - Visit us on Facebook

### **HARROLD ZION'S 2023 FINANCIAL REPORT**

October operating income:	\$26,212.80
October operating expense:	<u>\$31,502.98</u>
	\$-5,290.18
YTD operating income:	\$285,407.03
YTD operating expense:	<u>\$324,914.62</u>
	\$-39,507.59

*Note in regard to the above financial report: The YTD expenses include \$8,200 in moving expenses from calling Pastor Andrew to Harrold Zion and more than \$2,000 in recent streaming and Wi-Fi repairs.*

## **HARROLD ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

*To Worship and Serve God,  
Grow Disciples and Love our Neighbors*