**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, WOODLAND, MI**

**Fifth Sunday after Epiphany, February 7, 2021**

**\*If you are listening in your car, please tune your radio to 1620 AM\***

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRELUDE**

**Gathering**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

**Confession and Forgiveness**

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. Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.** **Amen.**

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.**

**Gathering Song“Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” ELW 886**



**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.**

**Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray together.

**Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord**. **Amen.**

**INSTALLATION OF LEADERS IN THE CONGREGATION**

**P:** The following people have been *elected* by the congregation to positions of leadership. We give thanks for their willingness to serve. In baptism we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God; we rejoice now that *these sisters and brothers* will lead us in our common life and our mutual mission as a congregation.

***P:*** *A reading from First Corinthians:* There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good*. (1 Corinthians 12:4-7)*

**P:** You have been *elected* to positions of leadership and trust in this congregation.

You are to see that the words and deeds of this household of faith bear witness to God, who gathers us into one together with the whole church.

You are to seek to involve all members of this congregation in worship, learning, witness, service, and support, so that the mission of Christ is carried out in this congregation, in the wider church, in this community, and in the whole world.

You are to be faithful in your specific area of serving, that the Spirit who empowers you may be glorified.

You are to be examples of faith active in love, fostering peace, harmony, and mutual understanding in this congregation.

*The presiding minister addresses those being installed.*

**P:** On behalf of your sisters and brothers in Christ, I ask you:

Will you accept and faithfully carry out the duties of the offices to which you have been *elected?*

**Response:**I will, and I ask God to help me.

*The presiding minister addresses the assembly.*

**P:** People of God, I ask you:

Will you support these, your *elected* leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

**Congregation: We will, and we ask God to help us.**

*The presiding minister addresses those being installed.*

**P:** I now declare you installed as *officers and council members* of this congregation. Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace, that you may be faithful servants of Christ.

**Congregation: Amen**

**First Reading**    **Isaiah 40:21-31**

A reading from Isaiah.

21Have you not known? Have you not heard?  
  Has it not been told you from the beginning?  
  Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?  
 22It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,  
  and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;  
 who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,  
  and spreads them like a tent to live in;  
 23who brings princes to naught,  
  and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.  
  
 24Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,  
  scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,  
 when he blows upon them, and they wither,  
  and the tempest carries them off like stubble.  
  
 25To whom then will you compare me,  
  or who is my equal? says the Holy One.  
 26Lift up your eyes on high and see:  
  Who created these?  
 He who brings out their host and numbers them,  
  calling them all by name;  
 because he is great in strength,  
  mighty in power,  
  not one is missing.  
  
 27Why do you say, O Jacob,  
  and speak, O Israel,  
 “My way is hidden from the Lord,  
  and my right is disregarded by my God”?  
 28Have you not known? Have you not heard?  
 The Lord is the everlasting God,  
  the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;  
  his understanding is unsearchable.  
 29He gives power to the faint,  
  and strengthens the powerless.  
 30Even youths will faint and be weary,  
  and the young will fall exhausted;  
 31but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,  
  they shall mount up with wings like eagles,  
 they shall run and not be weary,  
  they shall walk and not faint.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm  Psalm 147:1-11, 20c**

1Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises | to our God!  
  How pleasant it is to honor | God with praise!  
 2**The Lord re- | builds Jerusalem,**  
  **and gathers the ex- | iles of Israel.**  
 3The Lord heals the | brokenhearted  
  and binds | up their wounds.  
 4**The Lord counts the number | of the stars**  
  **and calls them all | by their names.**   
 5Great is our Lord and might- | y in power;  
  there is no limit | to God’s wisdom.  
 6**The Lord lifts | up the lowly,**  
  **but casts the wicked | to the ground.**  
 7Sing to the Lord| with thanksgiving;  
  make music upon the harp | to our God,  
 8**who covers the heav- | ens with clouds**  
  **and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow up- | on the mountains.**   
 9God provides food | for the cattle  
  and for the young ravens | when they cry.  
 10**God is not impressed by the might | of a horse,**  
  **and has no pleasure in the speed | of a runner,**  
 11but finds pleasure in those who | fear the Lord,  
  in those who await God’s steadfast love. 20c| Hallelujah!

**Second Reading**  **1 Corinthians 9:16-23**

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

16If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! 17For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. 18What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

19For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. 20To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. 21To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God’s law but am under Christ’s law) so that I might win those outside the law. 22To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. 23I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**Alleluia. You have the words of eternal life.**

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Gospel** **Mark 1:29-39**

The holy gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

29As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. 30Now Simon’s mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. 31He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.  
  32That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. 33And the whole city was gathered around the door. 34And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.  
  35In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. 36And Simon and his companions hunted for him. 37When they found him, they said to him, “Everyone is searching for you.” 38He answered, “Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.” 39And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON Pastor Becky Ebb Speese**

**Hymn of the Day “On Eagle’s Wings” ELW 787**





**cREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,**

**creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, died, and was buried;**

**he descended to the dead.\***

**On the third day he rose again;**

**he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

**and he will come 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.**

\*Or, “he descended into hell,” another translation of this text in widespread use.

**Prayers of Intercession**

Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

*A brief silence.*

For the church: for ministries of healing and wholeness, for hospital, hospice, and military chaplains, for those serving in prison ministry, for all who proclaim freedom and release in the name of Christ. We pray especially for St. Paul Lutheran Church and Rev. Max Miller, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For creation: for insects in the grass, clouds on the mountaintops, for cattle and the rainwater they drink, for the humility to take our place among all creatures of the earth, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For the nations: for all who lead in cities and towns, states and countries; for community organizers, school officials, and CEOs; for international health organizations, that in times of trial, fear, or hopelessness, they find freedom in service to those most in need, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For all wearied by life’s burdens: for those who are poor, for those lacking supportive relationships, for those crushed by debt, for those struggling with chronic pain or other sickness, for those exhausted from overwork or stress, and for all who cry out to you, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For this congregation: for outreach and social ministries centered here; for parish nurses and visitors; for ministries of companionship and support, for the young people in this place who open us to new understandings, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

In thanksgiving for the faithful departed, who were called by name and now rest from their labors, that their lives serve as witnesses to the goodness of God, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

**Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**Offering & Offering Prayer**

Let us pray. God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**Thanksgiving at the Table**

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

**Lord’s Prayer**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

**COMMUNION**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ is given and shed for you. You may receive your communion elements.

**Sending**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

**Blessing**

The God of steadfastness and encouragement

grant you to live in harmony with one another,

in accordance with Christ Jesus.

**Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,

so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The God of all grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**Sending SonG “Spread, Oh Spread, Almighty Word” ELW 663**



**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

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**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO SERVED TODAY:**

**Presider: Rebecca Ebb-Speese**

**Musician: Martha Yoder**

**Elder: Jolene Griffin**

**Trustee: Dan Zylstra**

**Offering Counters: Mary Makley and Martha Yoder**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

* + Zion is starting a tech team to do the live stream for our services. Paul Meade will be glad to train people. Please let Pastor Becky or Paul know if you would like to serve in this way.
  + Council has voted to suspend in-person services until the positivity rate drops to 3%. People may continue to listen to the service in the parking and the service will be streamed.