**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, WOODLAND, MI**

**Fourth Sunday after Epiphany, January 30, 2022**

**\*If you are listening in your car, please tune your radio to FM 87.7\***



**ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRELUDE**

**Gathering**

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

**Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who looks upon us in compassion,

forgives our sin, and heals our lives.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Have mercy, O God,

**against you, you alone, we have sinned.**

**In your compassion, cleanse us from our sin and take away our guilt.**

**Create in us a new heart and give us a steadfast spirit.** **Do not cast us away, but fill us with your Holy Spirit and restore your joy within us. Amen.**

As tender as parent to child, so deep is God’s compassion for you.

As high as heaven is above earth, so vast is God’s love for you.

As far as east is from west, so far God removes your sin from you, renewing your life through Jesus Christ. Blessed be God who crowns us with mercy and love.

**Blessed be God forever.**

**Gathering Song“O Zion, Haste” ELW 668**

 

**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.

**Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and love; and that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**First Reading**    **Jeremiah 1:4-10**

A reading from Jeremiah.

4Now the word of the Lord came to me saying,
 5“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
 and before you were born I consecrated you;
 I appointed you a prophet to the nations.”
6Then I said, “Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.” 7But the Lord said to me,
 “Do not say, ‘I am only a boy’;
 for you shall go to all to whom I send you,
 and you shall speak whatever I command you.
 8Do not be afraid of them,
 for I am with you to deliver you,
 says the Lord.”
9Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the Lord said to me,
 “Now I have put my words in your mouth.
 10See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms,
 to pluck up and to pull down,
 to destroy and to overthrow,
 to build and to plant.”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm Psalm 71:1-6**

 1In you, O Lord, have I **|** taken refuge;
  let me never be **|** put to shame.
 2**In your righteousness, deliver me and | set me free;**
  **incline your ear to | me and save me.**
 3Be my strong rock, a castle to **|** keep me safe;
  you are my crag **|** and my stronghold.
 4**Deliver me, my God, from the hand | of the wicked,**
  **from the clutches of the evildoer and | the oppressor.**

 5For you are my hope, **|** O Lord God,
  my confidence since **|** I was young.
 6**I have been sustained by you ever since I was born; from my mother’s womb you have | been my strength;**
  **my praise shall be al- | ways of you.**

**Second Reading**   **1 Corinthians 13:1-13**

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

1If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. 2And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. 3If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.
  4Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant 5or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; 6it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. 7It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.
  8Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. 9For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; 10but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. 11When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. 12For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. 13And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

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

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

**Gospel** **Luke 4:21-30**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

21Then [Jesus] began to say to [all in the synagogue in Nazareth,] “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” 22All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, “Is not this Joseph’s son?” 23He said to them, “Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, ‘Doctor, cure yourself!’ And you will say, ‘Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.’ ” 24And he said, “Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet’s hometown. 25But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; 26yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. 27There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.” 28When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. 29They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. 30But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON Pastor Becky Ebb Speese**

**Hymn of the Day “Love Divine, All Love Excelling” ELW 631**



**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**

The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

*A brief silence.*

Guide your church in the ways of faith, hope, and love. Cultivate ministries and communities of compassion that bear witness to your enduring presence among us. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Teach us to live in humility on the earth. Curb arrogance that leads to destruction of natural resources and disregard for future generations. Inspire the work of scientists who urge us to live in harmony with your creation. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

You are the refuge of all who seek hope and freedom. Accompany immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers who cross borders to find safety and opportunity. Embolden leaders to draft compassionate policies on behalf of migrants and those who assist them. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Love bears, believes, hopes, and endures all things. Comfort with your love all who are lonely, fearful, or brokenhearted. Sustain the hope of all those who suffer in body or spirit. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Your grace falls upon young and old alike. Bless the gifts of children in this congregation and in this community. Give us humble hearts to follow their leadership. Inspire us with their laughter, their insight, and their curiosity. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

We praise you for those who have gone before us and now see you face to face. Abide with us in this mortal life until we rest in the arms of your neverending love. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

**Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**Offering & Offering song**



**Offering Prayer**

Let us pray. God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is sure. Word and water, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Receive the gifts we bring, and nourish us to proclaim your abiding love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song.

**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**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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**

Taste and see that the Lord is good. You may receive your communion elements.

**BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ bless you and keep you in His grace.

**Sending**

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

**Blessing**

God, the Source of glory, God, the Word of life, God, the Spirit of truth

☩ bless you all, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Sending SonG “Go, My Children, with My Blessing” ELW 543**



**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

**Presider: Pastor Becky Ebb Speese**

**Musician: Martha Yoder**

**Elder: Jolene Griffin**

 **Trustee: Dan Zylstra**

**Offering Counters: Doug Mackenzie & Mike Johnson**

**Safety Person: Jerry Engle**

**This week at Zion:**

* Hot Chocolate and cookies after church
* Confirmation class today at 11:30 AM

**Save the Date:**

* Confirmation class, Sunday, February 6 at 11:30 AM

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

* **Hot Chocolate and Cookies!**  January 31st is National Hot Chocolate day so let’s have some!  On January 30th, on your way out of church pick up a cup of hot chocolate and bag of cookies to go!  Enjoy a hot sweet treat on a cold January day!
* **Soup R Bowl Sunday Collection**:  Zion is kicking off a soup and cracker collection to coincide with Super Bowl Sunday. The collection will benefit “Feed the Need” a Woodland organization that provides weekend food bags to children and youth who may not have access to enough food over the weekend.  Feed the Need currently provides weekend food bags to 82 children in the Lakewood School District.  Zion’s goal is to sponsor one weekend bag by collecting at least 82-10-1/2 ounce cans of soup and 82 individual serving size packages of crackers.  Please consider donating to this important need. Donations can be brought to the Fellowship Hall. You may also designate an offering gift to purchase these items. A soup fellowship is planned for February 13th following worship if it is safe to do so. Watch for more details. If you have questions, please see Jolene or Martha. Thank you!
* **Officer Installation Sunday** will be February 6.
* **Board of Education Meeting:** The board of education will meet Sunday, February 13 following worship. We will discuss spring & summer plans for our youth. If you are interested in helping or want to share ideas, please join us for the meeting!
* **Facebook Closed Captioning**: Facebook has a new feature that has been implemented site wide with a new closed captioning feature. If you do not wish to use it, make sure your device is not muted. If you’re on the Zion page, simply click the box at the bottom with the cc and you can remove the closed captions there.
* **Annual Meeting update:**  The Annual Meeting was held January 16. While we did not have a quorum present, we did receive enough ballots back to pass the election of officers and board members and to approve the purchase of a new camera system for the sanctuary. The annual meeting packets provide very good summary information for 2021. Copies were put in the mailboxes of those not present at the meeting for your information. If you have questions on any of the annual meeting information, please see Martha Yoder, Paul Meade or any Council member.
* **Men’s Breakfast:** Men’s Breakfast will not be meeting until further notice.