**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, WOODLAND, MI**

**Second Sunday in Lent, March 13, 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.

**GREETING**

The love of God poured into our hearts, the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and the abundant life of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**OPENING PRAYER**

O God, rich in mercy, full of kindness, out of your great love, you raise us up from sin and death and make us alive together with Christ. Write your word upon our hearts and restore in us the image of your love that, by your Spirit, our way of life may become the way of Christ, through whom we pray.

**Amen.**

**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. To you, O God,

**all hearts are open, to you all desires known. We come to you, confessing our sins. Forgive us in your mercy, and remember us in your love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior.**

**Amen.**

By water and the Holy Spirit God gives you a new birth, and through the death and resurrection of ☩ Jesus Christ, God forgives you all your sins. The God of mercy and might strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life.

**Amen.**

**Gathering Song“Christ, the Life of All the Living” ELW 339**



**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.

**God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**First Reading**    **Genesis 15:1-2, 17-18**

A reading from Genesis.

1After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” 2But Abram said, “O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” 3And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” 4But the word of the Lord came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” 5He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” 6And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.
  7Then he said to him, “I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.” 8But he said, “O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?” 9He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” 10He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. 11And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.
  12As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.
  17When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. 18On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm Psalm 27**

 1The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then **|** shall I fear?
  The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I **|** be afraid?
 2**When evildoers close in against me to de- | vour my flesh,**
  **they, my foes and my enemies, will stum- | ble and fall.**
 3Though an army encamp against me, my heart **|** will not fear.
  Though war rise up against me, my trust will **|** not be shaken.
 4**One thing I ask of the Lord; one | thing I seek;**
  **that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek God | in the temple.**
 5For in the day of trouble God will **|** give me shelter,
  hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high up- **|** on a rock.
 6**Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies | who surround me.**
  **Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music | to the Lord.**
 7Hear my voice, O Lord, **|** when I call;
  have mercy on me and **|** answer me.
 8**My heart speaks your message— | “Seek my face.”**
  **Your face, O Lord, | I will seek.** R
 9Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your ser- **|** vant in anger.
  Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of **|** my salvation.
 10**Though my father and my moth- | er forsake me,**
  **the Lord will | take me in.**
 11Teach me your **|** way, O Lord;
  lead me on a level path, because of **|** my oppressors.
 12**Subject me not to the will | of my foes,**
  **for they rise up against me, false witnesses | breathing violence.**
 13This I believe—that I will see the goodness **|** of the Lord
  in the land **|** of the living!
 14**Wait for the Lord| and be strong.**
  **Take heart and wait | for the Lord!**

**Second Reading**   **Philippians 3:17--4:1**

A reading from Philiippians.

17Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. 18For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. 19Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. 20But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

 21He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. 4:1Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.

Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.

Save us as you promised; we will trust your word,

we will trust your word.

**Gospel** **Luke 13:31-35**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

31At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” 32He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. 33Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ 34Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! 35See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’ ”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON Pastor Becky Ebb-Speese**

**Hymn of the Day “Thy Holy Wings” ELW 613**



**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**

Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

You gather the church into a community of mercy and grace. Unify Christians around the globe in efforts to proclaim good news even in the face of opposition and to protect those whose lives are imperiled by the gospel. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

You create the entire universe and call it good. Hinder those who would cause further destruction to our planet’s fragile ecosystems, and augment the calls of those who advocate for thoughtful stewardship of the earth’s resources. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

You raise up leaders committed to love and justice. Nurture in those who govern patience to receive criticism, openness to new ideas, and courage to change course when needed for the sake of the common good. We pray for the people of Ukraine and for a coming of peace. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

You hear us when we cry to you. Attend to those expecting a child, and console those who have experienced miscarriage. Comfort veterans enduring post-traumatic stress. Shield those endangered by domestic violence. Uphold those who are ill or grieving.

Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

You kindle faith that moves us into action. Guide children and adults preparing for baptism or confirmation. Empower Sunday school teachers, confirmation leaders, and parents who share their faith with younger generations. Give us all a renewed sense of vocation. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

You welcome us into your heavenly realm. We give thanks for those whose labors on earth are ended and who now rest with you. On the final day, gather all of us, with them, in your loving arms. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

**Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**Offering & Offering song “Create in Me a Clean Heart” ELW 186**



**Offering Prayer**

Let us pray. Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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**

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.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

O God, in this holy communion you have welcomed us into your presence, nourished us with words of mercy, and fed us at your table. Amid the cares of this life, strengthen us to love you with all our heart, serve our neighbors with a willing spirit, and honor the earth you have made; through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**Blessing**

Christ Jesus dwell in our hearts through faith, as we are being rooted and grounded in love, strengthened by the Spirit, and filled with all the fullness of God.

**Amen.**

**Sending SonG “This Is My Song” ELW 887**



**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: Dan Utterback**

 **Trustee: Mike Johnson**

**Offering Counters: Mary Makley & Diane Griffin**

**Safety Person: Ken Heise**

**PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL**

With thanks for all God’s blessings and his love for all people. Our Bishops, Craig Satterlee Elizabeth Eaton, and the congregations of the North/West Lower Michigan Synod. **All Saints Lutheran Church in Mason and Rev. Erick Johnson**

Prayers for our friends, especially Kathy Swan, the family of Pete Fetzer, Erik Anderson, Janine Kaufman, Brian Smith, Cort Zylstra, Vi Aho, Chris and Charles Farlee..

Hear us All those members of Zion’s family traveling; all those homebound or in frail health; all those suffering with quiet, unknown needs or worries.

For those who serve on our behalf: public safety, utility workers, medical personnel, military personnel. For those who might be forgotten.

**This week at Zion:**

* Confirmation class, 11:30 today, March 13
* ZLCW Circle, 1 PM, Tuesday, March 15
* Men’s Coffee, 8 AM Wednesday, March 16
* Lent Service 7PM Wednesday, March 16

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

* **Hearing Devices:** We have hearing devises that are now working! They are in the narthex. Ask the usher to get one for you!
* **Table Shower:** There is a table shower in the Fellowship Hall to welcome Nick and Samantha Bite's newest child: Logan Dale Bite. The shower will run through April..
* **Fellowship Fun!** On the 4th Sundays of the month, the fellowship committee would like to encourage members to bring their board games or card games to play and teach other members. There will be also coffee fellowship these days.
* **Fellowship Meeting:** We will meet Sunday, March 27th after worship to discuss more fellowship opportunities for our congregation. Please join us to plan out the rest of the year.
* **Lutheran World Relief challenge:** Lutheran World Relief is already at work in helping the people of Ukraine. Any offerings designated to this agency through your offerings (there is a place to designate to LWR on your offering envelopes) will be matched up to $258,000. We will be designating those offerings to go specifically to Ukraine from March through May. Watch the thermometer in the narthex to see our progress in donations!
* **Visioning Process:** There is a sign up sheet in the narthex  if you would like to be a part of our new visioning process. As this group is visioning what we would like to see as Zion moves into the future, voices of all ages and those old and new in the congregation are very important. There will be a meeting with Assistant to the Bishop, Pastor David Sprang on Sunday, April 3 following worship. Please sign up if you are planning to attend. You may contact Paul Meade, Pastor Becky or any council member for questions or more information.
* **Easter Egg Hunt:** Zion will host an Easter Egg Hunt following service on Easter morning, Sunday, April 17. We're asking the congregation to consider donating individually wrapped candy and coins for the eggs by April 3rd. Non-chocolate candy or gum are also requested. Please bring your kids, grandkids or any other kiddos to our Easter Egg Hunt!

**Lenten Focus**

Each week throughout lent, our Wednesday services will have a different focus. We will highlight each week’s theme and verse here as we continue through the Lenten season. This week’s focus is Open My Hands.

In Mark 6:1-5, Jesus’ hands are used for healing.

1He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. 2On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! 3Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. 4Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." 5And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them.

We use our hands to pick up a child, to serve a meal, to play an instrument, to wipe away a tear. Jesus used his hands for healing and for deeds of great power, and the psalmist reminds us that we are always held fast in God’s hands. In Deuteronomy, Moses encourages us to open our hands in service to others.