

**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, WOODLAND, MI**

**Women’s Thankoffering Sunday**

**January 22, 2023**

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRELUDE**

**Gathering**

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**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.**

**Have mercy on us. We confess that we turned from 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 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.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of +Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God, strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**Amen.**

**Gathering Song“Gather Us In” ELW 532**

Diagram, schematic

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**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:

**O God, with our whole hearts, we give you thanks.**

**For your loving kindness and tender mercies, we give you thanks.**

**For the bounty of the harvest, we give you thanks..**

**In the name of the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, we give you thanks.**

**First Reading**    **Ezra 3:8-13**

A reading from Ezra.

8In the second year after their arrival at the house of God at Jerusalem, in the second month, Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel and Jeshua son of Jozadak made a beginning, together with the rest of their people, the priests and the Levites and all who had come to Jerusalem from the captivity. They appointed the Levites, from twenty years old and upward, to have the oversight of the work on the house of the LORD. 9And Jeshua with his sons and his kin, and Kadmiel and his sons, Binnui and Hodaviah along with the sons of Henadad, the Levites, their sons and kin, together took charge of the workers in the house of God.  
10When the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the LORD, the priests in their vestments were stationed to praise the LORD with trumpets, and the Levites, the sons of Asaph, with cymbals, according to the directions of King David of Israel; 11and they sang responsively, praising and giving thanks to the LORD,  
 "For he is good,  
 for his steadfast love endures forever toward Israel."  
And all the people responded with a great shout when they praised the LORD, because the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid. 12But many of the priests and Levites and heads of families, old people who had seen the first house on its foundations, wept with a loud voice when they saw this house, though many shouted aloud for joy, 13so that the people could not distinguish the sound of the joyful shout from the sound of the people's weeping, for the people shouted so loudly that the sound was heard far away.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm Psalm 111**

1Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the Lord with **|** my whole heart,  
  in the assembly of the upright, in the **|** congregation.  
**2Great are your | works, O Lord,  
  pondered by all who de- | light in them.**  
 3Majesty and splendor **|** mark your deeds,  
  and your righteousness en- **|** dures forever.  
 **4You cause your wonders to | be remembered;  
  you are gracious and full | of compassion.** 5You give food to **|** those who fear you,  
  remembering forev- **|** er your covenant.  
**6You have shown your people the power | of your works  
  in giving them the lands | of the nations.** 7The works of your hands are faithful- **|** ness and justice;  
  all of your pre- **|** cepts are sure.  
 **8They stand fast forev- | er and ever,  
  because they are done in | truth and equity.** 9You sent redemption to your people and commanded your cove- **|** nant forever;  
  holy and awesome **|** is your name.  
 **10The fear of the Lord is the begin- | ning of wisdom;  
  all who practice this have a good understanding. God's praise en- | dures forever.**

**Second Reading**  **1 Thessalonians 5:12-24**

A reading from 1 Thessalonians

12But we appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to respect those who labor among you, and have charge of you in the Lord and admonish you; 13esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. 14And we urge you, beloved, to admonish the idlers, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with all of them. 15See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all. 16Rejoice always, 17pray without ceasing, 18give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 19Do not quench the Spirit. 20Do not despise the words of prophets, 21but test everything; hold fast to what is good; 22abstain from every form of evil.  
23May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 24The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

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**Gospel** **John 6:25-35**

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

25When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" 26Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. 27Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal." 28Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" 29Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." 30So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? 31Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" 32Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. 33For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." 34They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always."  
35Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SPEAKER ON MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES**

**Hymn of the Day “Bind Us Together Lord”**

A sheet of music

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**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**

Called together as the body of Christ, we pray for the church, those in need, and for all of God’s Creation.

For the church universal, and the whole body of Christ, called, gathered, and sent in your holy name**.** We pray especially for Sudanese Lutheran Church in Wyoming and Rev. Julie Winklepleck**.**

**We pray, with thanksgiving in our hearts.**

For the beauty of creation, from the largest blue whale to the smallest bacteria and all that lives or breathes between.

**We pray, with thanksgiving in our hearts.**

For peace in the all the world, for leaders and activists who labor for justice, for the beloved community that pursues love at all costs.

**We pray, with thanksgiving in our hearts.**

For the opportunity to follow the way of Jesus, as we compassionately hear the cries of our siblings who are poor or oppressed in any way, give us courage to share the abundance of your earth, with all.

**We pray with thanksgiving, in our hearts.**

For the ELCA, its synods, and local congregations that all members may be the hands, feet, and smile of Jesus in a world that so desperately needs him.

**We pray, with thanksgiving in our hearts.**

For the ministry of the Women of the ELCA, the bold women who aspire to the organization’s Purpose Statement every day, and the varied ministries carried out by participants across the church.

**We pray, with thanksgiving in our hearts.**

For the faithful departed who now rest from their labors in eternal communion with you, especially those women who were active in Women of the ELCA and have died in this past year. We also pray for those who are ill or suffering, especially for the people of Ukraine.

**We pray, with thanksgiving in our hearts**.

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

**Lord’s Prayer**

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

**Our Father in heaven,**

**hallowed be your name,**

**your kingdom come,**

**your will be done,**

**on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins**

**as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial**

**and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,**

**and the glory are yours,**

**now and forever. Amen.**

**Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**Let us share a sign of this peace, with one another.**

**Offering/Thankoffering**

**Offering song**

The joy of the Lord is my strength,

The joy of the Lord is my strength,

The joy of the Lord is my strength,

The joy of the Lord is my strength.

**Offering Prayer**

God of grace, you have showered us with gifts of grace and abundance, entrusting to us the ministries of Women of the ELCA. Help us to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world.

Accept these gifts and our prayer that, nurtured by your Word, filled with your Spirit, and fed at your table, we may share with gladness all that you have shared with us, until all creation is satisfied.

Amen.

**Sending**

We give thanks to God with our hearts. **Hallelujah**!

Great are the works of our God. **Hallelujah!**

Gracious and merciful id God. **Hallelujah!**

God sent redemption to the people; holy and awesome is God’s name..

**Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

Holy Trinity + One God, bless you now and forever.

### Amen.

**Sending SonG**

**Hallelujah! We sing your praises ELW 535**

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**Dismissal**

Go now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace.

**Amen. We go in the name of Christ.**

**Thank you to all who served in worship today!**

**Speaker:**

**Musician: Martha Yoder**

**Acolyte: Levi Griffin**

**Elder: Paul Meade**

**Trustee: Dan Zylstra**

**Offering Counters: Carlotta Willard & Substitute**

**This week at Zion:**

* Men’s Coffee, 8 AM Wednesday, November 23
* **Newsletter deadline, 8 PM Wednesday, November 25**

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**Lay Preachers Needed!! Please see Pastor Becky if you are interested in leading the service on February 26 or March 26.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

* **Installation of all officers and board members** (both newly elected and current) will be Sunday, Jan. 29.
* **“Soup R Bowl”**:  Our “Soup R Bowl” collection begins today!  This year we are collecting to help two good causes.  We will again collect for Feed the Need.  Feed the Need is currently serving about 95 children so to sponsor one weekend, we will need to collect 95 cans of soup and 95 individual serving packets of crackers.  We will also collect for the Hastings PTA.  This is the organization that helps kids at the school our Griffin children attend.  The PTA serves 59 kids and is asking for individual serving packs of fruit snacks, Rice Krispie Treats, crackers or similar items.  We will keep track by quarter (each Sunday is a quarter) and end on Super Bowl Sunday, February 12th.  Thank you for your generosity!  If you have questions, please talk with Martha or Jolene.  This collection is sponsored by the Board of Evangelism and the ZLCW.
* **Two Special Birthdays –** One Fun Sunday!  Mark your calendar for February 5th to attend a special birthday brunch fellowship after church to celebrate two of our members, Alice Morrow and Caroline Brecheisen.  Caroline will turn 95 on February 5th and Alice will be 99 on February 9th.  Feel free to bring cards for the ladies, but no gifts please.  Let’s help these two wonderful ladies have a memorable birthday!
* **Valentine’s collection:** The ZLCW is placing bags for Valentine surprises for our shut-in members on a table in the Fellowship Hall.  You may place cards or small goodies for these people.  There are approximately 9 bags. They will be there until Sunday, February 5th, so they can be delivered by the 14th.  We will need volunteers to deliver the bags**.**
* **Community Dinner Workers Needed:** Zion’s next week to host the Community Dinner at Central UMC in Lake Odessa is Thursday, February 16th.  We need a crew of about 6-8 people to set up, service, clean-up and provide fellowship to those attending the dinner.  Two workers start at 3:00, the remaining arrive about 3:45 to begin serving at 4 pm.  The dinner is served until 6 pm and then clean-up takes about another half hour or so.  Please see Martha is you are able to help with this mission.  Thank you,
* **Reminder**: During the heating season, please leave the Sunday School classroom doors open when not in use otherwise the opening area will be very cold.  Please close the doors to the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall when they are not in use.  Thank you.