**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, WOODLAND, MI**

**Baptism of Our Lord, January 8, 2023**

**\*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“Shall We Gather at the River?” ELW 423**



**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.

**O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**First Reading  Isaiah 42:1-9**

A reading from Malachi.

1Here is my servant, whom I uphold,
  my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
 I have put my spirit upon him;
  he will bring forth justice to the nations.
 2He will not cry or lift up his voice,
  or make it heard in the street;
 3a bruised reed he will not break,
  and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;
  he will faithfully bring forth justice.
 4He will not grow faint or be crushed
  until he has established justice in the earth;
  and the coastlands wait for his teaching.
 5Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out,
  who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
 who gives breath to the people upon it
  and spirit to those who walk in it:
 6I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness,
  I have taken you by the hand and kept you;
 I have given you as a covenant to the people,
  a light to the nations,
  7to open the eyes that are blind,
 to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
  from the prison those who sit in darkness.
 8I am the Lord, that is my name;
  my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols.
 9See, the former things have come to pass,
  and new things I now declare;
 before they spring forth,
  I tell you of them.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm Psalm 29**

 1Ascribe to the **|** Lord, you gods,
  ascribe to the Lord glo- **|** ry and strength.
 2**Ascribe to the Lord the glory | due God’s name;**
  **worship the Lord in the beau- | ty of holiness.**
 3The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of **|** glory thunders;
  the Lord is upon the **|** mighty waters.
 4**The voice of the Lord is a pow- | erful voice;**
  **the voice of the Lord is a | voice of splendor.**
 5The voice of the Lord breaks the **|** cedar trees;
  the Lord breaks the ce- **|** dars of Lebanon;
 6**the Lord makes Lebanon skip | like a calf,**
  **and Mount Hermon like a | young wild ox.**
 7The voice **|** of the Lord
  bursts forth in **|** lightning flashes.
 8**The voice of the Lord| shakes the wilderness;**
  **the Lord shakes the wilder- | ness of Kadesh.**
 9The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe and strips the **|** forests bare.
  And in the temple of the Lord all are **|** crying, “Glory!”
 10**The Lord sits enthroned a- | bove the flood;**
  **the Lord sits enthroned as king for- | evermore.**
 11O Lord, give strength **|** to your people;
  give them, O Lord, the bless- **|** ings of peace.

**Second Reading Acts 10-34-43**

A reading from Acts.

34Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, 35but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. 36You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. 37That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: 38how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. 39We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; 40but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, 41not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. 42He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. 43All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**



**Gospel  Matthew 3:13-17**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

13Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. 14John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” 15But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. 16And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. 17And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHILDREN’S Sermon  Pastor Becky Ebb-Speese**

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**Hymn of the Day“Borning Cry” ELW 732**



**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 to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

Calling God, you speak with power to your church. Open our hearts and minds to the new things you are declaring. Strengthen bishops, pastors, deacons, lay leaders, and teachers of the faith. Equip the baptized for your reconciling and redeeming work. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Renewing God, you provide the waters of the earth and in Jesus’ baptism you reveal the waters of life. Cleanse and protect oceans, rivers, and watersheds. Bring relief to parched lands and to communities without access to safe water. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Righteous God, you never weary of establishing justice. Increase cooperation and constructive dialogue between nations. Guide local, national, and international authorities to govern with equity, vision, and integrity. We pray for those in military service, for peacemakers, and for our enemies. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Abiding God, your mercy is steadfast. Give sanctuary to people who flee from oppression, war, poverty, and famine. Sustain health care workers, caregivers, first responders, counselors, and all who help and heal. Comfort those who are grieving or experiencing crisis.

We pray especially for the people of Ukraine. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Blessing God, in Christ you gather the beloved community. Kindle the gifts of your Spirit in your people. Accompany the newly baptized, those recently ordained, and any beginning a new ministry. Inspire synodical leaders and congregational councils to serve with imagination and wisdom. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Promising God, your faithfulness endures throughout all generations. We give thanks for those who have died in Christ, trusting that we will be united with them and all the saints in Christ’s resurrection life. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.

**Amen.**

**Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**OFFERtory SONG**



**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.**

**Great Thanksgiving**

**Dialogue**

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 our thanks and praise.**

**Holy, Holy, Holy**



**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.**

**Invitation to Communion**

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

**communion**

\**continuous*

*\*People are welcome to kneel at the altar rail for a time of prayer after they receive their communion elements*

**SongS During Communion**

**“Children of the Heavenly Father” ELW 781**



**“Spirit of Gentleness” ELW 396**



**Prayer after Communion**

Let us pray. We thank you, O God, that you have strengthened our hearts through this feast of life and salvation. Shine the light of Christ on our path, that we may do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**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 “Songs of Thankfulness and Praise” ELW 310**



**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

**Presider: Pastor Beck Ebb-Speese**

**Musician: Jayne Flannigan**

**Elder: Jolene Griffen**

 **Trustee: Jerry Engle**

**Offering Counters: Diane Griffin & Carlotta Willard**

**Safety Person: Ken Heise**

**This week at Zion:**

* Council meeting, 6:30 PM Tuesday, January 10
* Men’s Coffee, 8 AM Wednesday, January 11
* Women’s Coffee Fellowship, 9 AM Thursday, January 12
* Annual Meeting , Next Sunday, January 15

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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* **Lay Reader Preachers needed**! If you are interested in presiding at services on February 26 or March 26, please talk to Pastor Becky.
* **Thankoffering:** The ZLCW will have their Thankoffering service on Sunday, January 22nd starting at 10:30 with the women and girls of Zion leading worship. It had to be postponed from our usual month of November because Zion canceled that day due to a snowstorm.  Special envelopes were given out in November, but more will be available in the Narthex.  The donations go to the Women of the ELCA to help with their many projects.  There will be a basket on the offering table for donations that day.  Please write checks out to ZLCW.
* **Cleaning list:** Please look on the table in the narthex for the 2023 Cleaning List.  If you need to make changes regarding a month or are not on the list and wished to help with this volunteer opportunity for Zion, please see Dawn or Buffy.  If you are able to help with any other months for cleaning, please add your name to that month's list.  Thank you for all of your help keeping the church clean and ready for worship.
* **5th Sunday Potluck:** January brings a new year and a 5th Sunday, which means a potluck! Please join us on Sunday, January 29th for food and fellowship. Please bring a dish to pass and card games or board games. Tableware and drinks will be provided.
* **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.
* **Annual Meeting:** Please plan to attend the Annual Meeting on January 15th.  This is an important meeting to elect officers and board members as well as other items requiring congregational approval.  One item for congregational consideration is approving an expenditure to upgrade and improve church signage.  There will be a potluck dinner following the meeting.  Mark your calendars and plan to be at Zion on January 15th.