**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, WOODLAND, MI**

**Fifth Sunday after Epiphany, February 5, 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“God, Whose Almighty Word” ELW 673**



**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.

**Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**First Reading  Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12]**

A reading from Isaiah.

1Shout out, do not hold back!  
  Lift up your voice like a trumpet!  
 Announce to my people their rebellion,  
  to the house of Jacob their sins.  
 2Yet day after day they seek me  
  and delight to know my ways,  
 as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness  
  and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;  
 they ask of me righteous judgments,  
  they delight to draw near to God.  
 3“Why do we fast, but you do not see?  
  Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”  
 Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day,  
  and oppress all your workers.  
 4Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight  
  and to strike with a wicked fist.  
 Such fasting as you do today  
  will not make your voice heard on high.  
 5Is such the fast that I choose,  
  a day to humble oneself?  
 Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,  
  and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?  
 Will you call this a fast,  
  a day acceptable to the Lord?  
  
 6Is not this the fast that I choose:  
  to loose the bonds of injustice,  
  to undo the thongs of the yoke,  
 to let the oppressed go free,  
  and to break every yoke?  
 7Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,  
  and bring the homeless poor into your house;  
 when you see the naked, to cover them,  
  and not to hide yourself from your own kin?  
 8Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,  
  and your healing shall spring up quickly;  
 your vindicator shall go before you,  
  the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.  
 9aThen you shall call, and the Lord will answer;  
  you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.  
[ 9bIf you remove the yoke from among you,  
  the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,  
 10if you offer your food to the hungry  
  and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,  
 then your light shall rise in the darkness  
  and your gloom be like the noonday.  
 11The Lord will guide you continually,  
  and satisfy your needs in parched places,  
  and make your bones strong;  
 and you shall be like a watered garden,  
  like a spring of water,  
  whose waters never fail.  
 12Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;  
  you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;  
 you shall be called the repairer of the breach,  
  the restorer of streets to live in.]

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm Psalm 112:1-9**

1Hallelujah! Happy are they who **|** fear the Lord  
  and have great delight in **|** God’s commandments!  
 2**Their descendants will be mighty | in the land;**  
  **the generation of the upright | will be blessed.**  
 3Wealth and riches will be **|** in their house,  
  and their righteousness will **|** last forever.  
 4**Light shines in the darkness | for the upright;**  
  **the righteous are merciful and full | of compassion.**  
 5It is good for them to be gener- **|** ous in lending  
  and to manage their af- **|** fairs with justice.  
 6**For they will nev- | er be shaken;**  
  **the righteous will be kept in everlast- | ing remembrance.**  
 7They will not be afraid of any **|** evil rumors;  
  their heart is steadfast, trusting **|** in the Lord.  
 8**Their heart is established and | will not shrink,**  
  **until they see their desire up- | on their enemies.**  
 9They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands **|** fast forever;  
   they will hold up their **|** head with honor.

**Second Reading 1 Corinthians 2:1-12**

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

1When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. 2For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. 3And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. 4My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, 5so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.  
 6Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. 7But we speak God’s wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. 8None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. 9But, as it is written,   
 “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,  
  nor the human heart conceived,  
 what God has prepared for those who love him”—  
10these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. 11For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God’s except the Spirit of God. 12Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

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**Gospel  Matthew 5:13-20**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] 13“You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.  
 14“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. 15No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. 16In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.  
 17“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. 18For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. 19Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. 20For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

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“This Little Light of Mine” ELW 677**



**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.*

Call your people to seek your wisdom in difficult conversations and action. Give the church everywhere courage to repent for the ways we have tolerated and practiced injustice. We pray especially for Immanuel Lutheran Church in Allegan and Rev. Christopher Laughlin. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Inspire our wonder at creation, from the light of dawn to the beauty of the dark night. Sustain the unseen depths of the ocean to the plants and animals we know well. Bring healing to lands and communities experiencing natural disasters. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Instruct the powerful in your ways. Provide upright leadership in business and industry, that workers are not oppressed. Throughout the world, inspire voters and raise up politicians to heed your call for nations to practice righteousness. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Loosen the bonds of injustice in our midst. Grant peace to endless quarrels, put an end to hunger, and break every yoke of oppression. Shelter all who flee abuse in their homes or violence in their communities. Satisfy those afflicted in any way, especially with illness or grief. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Shape our congregation to be salt for the earth. Give us delight in your commandments, that we are generous with those in need. Make us steadfast in our trust in you, ready with tangible mercy and compassion for our neighbors. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

The cross and resurrection bring redemption from sin and death. We praise you for all whose unshaken faith in Christ shines forth in their witness. Keep them in our remembrance and bring us with them into the kingdom of heaven. 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**

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**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**

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



**“Arise, Your Light Has Come!” ELW 314**

A picture containing table

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**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 “We Are Marching in the Light: Siyahamba” ELW 866**



**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: Cindy June**

**Acolyte: Kole Hokanson**

**Elder: Dan Utterback**

**Trustee: Mike Johnson**

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

**Safety Person: Ken Heise**

**This week at Zion:**

* Double birthday party today after church! February 5
* Men’s Coffee, 8 AM Wednesday, February 8
* Women’s Coffee Fellowship, 9 AM, C&R’s Café Thursday, February 9

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

* **“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!  Today after church will be a special birthday brunch fellowship 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.