**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, WOODLAND, MI**

**Transfiguration Sunday, February 11, 2024**

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



**ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRELUDE**

**Installation of the 2024 Congregational Council**

**Church Council:**

* President: Paul Meade, ‘23
* Vice Pres: Buffy Meyers, ‘23
* Secretary: Carlotta Willard, apt.’21,’22
* Treasurer: Karen Heise, Appointed
* Financial Sec: Jill Avery, ’17,’19, ’21,’23
* Elder: Dan Utterback, ’18,’20,’22

Jolene Griffin, ’20, ‘21

Buffy Meyer ‘23

* Trustee: Tom Krikke, ’24

Mike Johnson, ‘21

Martha Yoder, ‘23

Pastor:

The following people have been *elected*[by the congregation] to positions of leadership. We give thanks for their willingness to serve. In baptism we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God; we rejoice now that these *sisters and brothers*will lead us in our common life and our mutual mission as a congregation.

*The offices and names of those who are to be installed are read by a representative of the congregation.*

Pastor: *A reading from First Corinthians:* There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. *(1 Corinthians 12:4-7)*

You have been elected to positions of leadership and trust in this congregation. This entrusts you with rights and responsibilities that affect all of us and the ministry we hold dear. As leaders of this congregation, we ask for your commitment to the values and mission we share in Christ:

Do you promise to be faithful to the gospel of Jesus in the governance of this congregation?

Council: *We will, and we ask God to help us.*

Pastor: Will you notice and nurture the gifts, questions, and ideas of the people you serve in this role?

Council: *We will, and we ask God to help us.*

Pastor: Will you communicate with proactive and faithful transparency for the sake of our whole community?

Council: *We will, and we ask God to help us.*

Pastor: Will you acknowledge the unknown and unknowable about being God’s people together, practicing honesty, humility, and courage in times of change?

Council: *We will, and we ask God to help us.*

Pastor: Do you promise to prayerfully discern and strive to do what is right, even when it disrupts the status quo, and especially when it asks something difficult of us for the sake of our neighbors?

Council: *We will, and we ask God to help us.*

Pastor: People of God, do you promise to support our council leaders with your blessing and your prayers?

**All: We will, and we ask God to help us.**

Pastor: Let us pray: Equipping God, you give us new eyes to see as you see, new ears to hear what you speak, and new hearts to welcome the love you give us to share. As we lead and serve, help us to remember that our labor is not in vain. Bless each of these leaders with courage and kindness, patience and tenacity, good humor and great hope, so that together we may serve as instruments of your peace for the sake of the world. Amen.

I now declare you installed as *officers / council members*of this congregation. Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace, that you may be faithful servants of Christ.

**All: Amen.**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, creator of darkness and light,

word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God, our rock and refuge,

**we pour out our hearts before you.**

**We have known you but have not always loved you.**

**We have wounded one another and sinned against you.**

**We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit**

**dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant.**

**Renew your creation. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all. Amen.**

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters.

God has spoken: The time of grace is now.

In Jesus, the reign of God has come near.

By the authority of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

You are God’s beloved.

**Amen.**

**Gathering Song“Jesus We Are Gathered” HYMN # 529**

**Sung 3 times: First time soft. Second time, medium. Third time, full voices!**



### 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 God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### (Be seated)

**First Reading  2 King 2:1-12**

A reading from 2 Kings.

1Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. 2Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel.” But Elisha said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel. 3The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?” And he said, “Yes, I know; keep silent.”  
 4Elijah said to him, “Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho.” But he said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they came to Jericho. 5The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?” And he answered, “Yes, I know; be silent.”  
 6Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan.” But he said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So the two of them went on. 7Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. 8Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.  
 9When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.” Elisha said, “Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.” 10He responded, “You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.” 11As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. 12Elisha kept watching and crying out, “Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!” But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM Psalm 50:1-6

1The mighty one, God the **|** Lord, has spoken;  
  calling the earth from the rising of the sun **|** to its setting.  
 2**Out of Zion, perfect | in its beauty,**  
  **God shines | forth in glory.**  
 3Our God will come and will **|** not keep silence;  
  with a consuming flame before, and round about a **|** raging storm.  
 4**God calls the heavens and the earth | from above**  
  **to witness the judgment | of the people.**  
 5“Gather before me my **|** loyal followers,  
  those who have made a covenant with me and sealed **|** it with sacrifice.”  
 6**The heavens declare the rightness | of God’s cause,**  
  **for it is God | who is judge.**

**Second Reading 2 Corinthians 4:3-6**

A reading from 2 Corinthians.

3Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. 4In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. 5For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus’ sake. 6For it is the God who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**



**Gospel  Mark 9:2-9**

The holy gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

2Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, 3and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. 4And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. 5Then Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” 6He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. 7Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, “This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!” 8Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.  
  
 9As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHILDREN’S MOMENT**

**Sermon  Pastor Jim Morgan**

**Hymn of the Day“Beautiful Savior” HYMN # 838**



**CREED**

Joining with church in all times and places, let us affirm our faith.

**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

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God’s blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

We pray for the church, that the transformational power of God enters the hearts of all people. May its leaders serve as examples of your grace and healing across time and space. We pray especially for Victory Trinity Lutheran Church in Ludington and Rev. Ron Iris. God of grace,

**receive our prayer.**

We pray for the creation, that we will humbly observe the swirl of wind and the heat of the bright sun. Teach us to honor all you have made and to care for the animals, plants, air, and bodies of water of this planet. God of grace,

**receive our prayer.**

We pray for those charged with leadership, lawmaking, and governance of our towns, states, and countries, that they will strive for goodness and justice all the days of their lives and callings. God of grace,

**receive our prayer.**

We pray for any who are sick and suffering. We pray especially for all those affected by gun violence, Ukraine, Sudan, Turkey, Syria, and the Middle East. Guide us to offer hospitality, shelter, friendship, and care to any in need. God of grace,

**receive our prayer.**

We pray for this congregation and its ministry in the wider community. May we share the transforming beauty and love of God in ways that honor the dignity of all whom we encounter. God of grace,

**receive our prayer.**

Trusting that all the saints, prophets, and those who die in faith are held in your care, we remember in thanksgiving those who have died. Grant us your gift of salvation as we await your coming again in glory. God of grace,

**receive our prayer.**

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

### PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**Offering & 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**

Blessed are you, Holy One,

for all good things come from you.

In bread and cup you open heaven to us.

Meet us at this table,

that we receive what we seek

and follow your Son, Jesus,

in whose name we pray.

**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.**

**PREFACE** (*Pastor)*

**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**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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**

At Jesus’ table, heaven and earth are joined as one.

Come and see.

**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**

**“In the Singing” HYMN # 466**



**“Blessed Assurance” HYMN # 638**



**TABLE BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ

strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

**Amen.**

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Giver of every gift. Christ’s body is our food, and we are Christ’s body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**BLESSING**

God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you,

+bless you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

**SENDING SONG “Lift Every Voice and Sing” HYMN # 841**



**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. You are God’s beloved.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

**Presider: Pastor Jim Morgan Musician: Jayne Flanigan**

**Acolyte: Lexie Griffin Safety Person:**

**Elder: Buffy Meyers Trustee: Martha Yoder**

**Offering Counters: Paul Meade & Carlotta Willard**

**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, and especially **Victory Trinity Lutheran Church in Ludington and Rev. Ron Iris**

Prayers for our friends, for all who are sick or hospitalized and for all health care workers who care for them. We pray especially for all those affected by gun violence, Ukraine, Sudan, Turkey, Syria, and the Middle East. 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.

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**ONLINE GIVING**

Zion has received a QR code to facilitate online giving. If you are interested in donating online instead of bringing your donation to church, simply scan the QR code and it will direct you to the appropriate site. The code is on our website as well.

**This week at Zion:**

* “Soup” R Bowl Sunday is today
* Council Meeting, 6:30 PM Tuesday, February 13
* Men’s Coffee, 8 AM Wednesday, February 14

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

* **Valentine’s Day gift bags:** Valentine’s Day is fast approaching, and we are in need of donations for our yearly Valentine’s gift bags which are in the Fellowship Hall. There are 11 total. Volunteers are also needed to deliver the bags today. Please see Dawn Brodbeck with any questions.
* **“Soup” R Bowl Collection**: We will again hold a “Soup” R Bowl collection for Feed the Need for four Sundays, ending on Super Bowl Sunday, February 11th. This year we will collect cans of soup (no cream soups), canned pasta (like ravioli, spaghetti and meat balls, etc.), mac and cheese mixes and individual packages of snacks (crackers, pretzels, cookies). New this year is that several other area churches in the ministerial association will also be holding collections. The goal is to collect enough food to “feed the need” for the remainder of the school year. Feed the Need is currently serving 110 kids. That means our collective goal is to collect 770 of each item! When you go grocery shopping, please consider picking up a few items each week and help us Feed the Need of our local kids.
* **Door Locking Policy:** Our door locking policy relies on having a volunteer(s) each Sunday to serve as the Safety Person of the Day. On Sundays where no one has volunteered, if someone arrives at church and is willing to be the Safety Person of the Day, we will follow the door locking policy. If no one steps forward to serve as the Safety Person of the Day, the doors will not be locked as there will be no one to monitor the church cell phone and let late arrivals into the church. Please consider volunteering for this important duty
* **Church Musician Opening**: We have an opening for the position of church musician for two Sundays a month The musician would play liturgy and hymns for our Sunday worship services. If you are aware of anyone who may be interested in sharing their musical gifts with Zion, please contact Buffy Meyers. It is a paid position.
* **Call Committee Update:** The Call Committee continues to meet and research candidates from the synod. Please pray for wisdom and patience for the Call Committee and the congregation.