**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, WOODLAND, MI**

**Third Sunday in Lent, March 3, 2024**

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



**ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRELUDE**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who writes the law on our hearts,

who draws all people together through Jesus.

**Amen.**

Held in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection*.

Holy God,

**We confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free.**

**We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold.**

**We speak in ways that silence others.**

**We are silent when we should speak up.**

**We keep score in our hearts.**

**We let hurts grow into hatred.**

**For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord.**

**Amen**.

Here is a flood of grace:

Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin,

washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

**Gathering Song“My Lord of Light” HYMN # 832**



### 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*)

**Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only 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  Exodus 20:1-17**

A reading from Exodus.

1God spoke all these words:  
 2I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; 3you shall have no other gods before me.  
 4You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. 5You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, 6but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.  
 7You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.  
 8Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. 9Six days you shall labor and do all your work. 10But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. 11For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.  
 12Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.  
 13You shall not murder.  
 14You shall not commit adultery.  
 15You shall not steal.  
 16You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.  
 17You shall not covet your neighbor’s house; you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM Psalm 19

1The heavens declare the glo- **|** ry of God,  
  and the sky proclaims its **|** maker’s handiwork.  
 2**One day tells its tale | to another,**  
  **and one night imparts knowledge | to another.**  
 3Although they have no **|** words or language,  
  and their voices **|** are not heard,  
 4**their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends | of the world,**  
  **where God has pitched a tent | for the sun.**  
 5It comes forth like a bridegroom out **|** of his chamber;  
  it rejoices like a champion to **|** run its course.  
 6**It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of | it again;**  
  **nothing is hidden from its | burning heat.**   
 7The teaching of the Lord is perfect and re- **|** vives the soul;  
  the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to **|** the simple.  
 8**The statutes of the Lord are just and re- | joice the heart;**  
  **the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light | to the eyes.**  
 9The fear of the Lord is clean and en- **|** dures forever;  
  the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous **|** altogether.  
 10**More to be desired are they than gold, more than | much fine gold,**  
  **sweeter far than honey, than honey | in the comb.**   
 11By them also is your ser- **|** vant enlightened,  
  and in keeping them there is **|** great reward.  
 12**Who can detect one’s | own offenses?**  
  **Cleanse me from my | secret faults.**  
 13Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion **|** over me;  
  then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a **|** great offense.  
 14**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable | in your sight,**  
  **O Lord, my strength and | my redeemer.**

**Second Reading 1 Corinthians 1:18-25**

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

18The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. 19For it is written,   
 “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
  and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”  
20Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? 21For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. 22For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, 23but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, 24but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. 25For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Lenten Acclamation**





**Gospel  John 2:13-22**

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

13The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. 14In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. 15Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. 16He told those who were selling the doves, “Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father’s house a marketplace!” 17His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for your house will consume me.” 18The Jews then said to him, “What sign can you show us for doing this?” 19Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” 20The Jews then said, “This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?” 21But he was speaking of the temple of his body. 22After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHILDREN’S MOMENT**

**Sermon  Pastor Jim Morgan**

**Hymn of the Day“Canticle of the Turning” HYMN # 723**

**\*\*REFRAIN ON PAGE 7\*\***





**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

Trusting in God’s promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

*A brief silence.*

You alone are God. We thank you for the gift of sabbath rest. Awaken the church to the mystery of your presence and give us glad hearts as we receive the good news of your deliverance. We pray especially for All Saints Lutheran Church in Mason and Rev. Geral Ferguson. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You renew creation. Drive out those who would make the earth a marketplace. Protect rainforests, mountaintops, oceans, and wilderness areas from commercial exploitation. Unite nations, policymakers, and businesses in efforts to reduce carbon emissions. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You judge the nations. We pray for an end to war and strife in every land. Strengthen international efforts to negotiate peace and provide humanitarian aid to people fleeing from conflict. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You bring healing and hope. We give thanks for physicians, nurses, researchers, therapists, and public health workers who prevent and treat illness. We pray for any who are sick. We pray especially for all those affected by gun violence, Ukraine, Sudan, Turkey, Syria, and the Middle East. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You abide with your people. Sustain any in this community undergoing life transitions: marriage, divorce, childbirth, adoption, moving, graduation, employment change, or a death in the family. We pray for those preparing for baptism. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You bring life from death. We remember our loved ones who have died, confident that they have new life in you. May we trust that nothing can separate us from your love. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**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**

Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name.

**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**

Bread for the journey.

A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

**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**

**“How Great Thou Art” HYMN # 856**



**“We Come to You for Healing” HYMN # 617**



**TABLE BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ

strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

**Amen.**

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

**Amen**.

**BLESSING**

Beloved, we are God’s own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and give you peace.

**Amen.**

**SENDING SONG “God of Grace and God of Glory” HYMN # 705**



**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share your bread.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

**Presider: Pastor Jim Morgan Musician:**

**Acolyte: Lexie Griffin Safety Person:**

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

**Offering Counters: Diane Griffin & Carlotta**

**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 **All Saints Lutheran Church in Mason and Rev. Gerald Ferguson**

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:**

* Men’s Coffee, 8 AM Wednesday, March 6
* Gene Beyer Visitation Friday, March 8 at Koops 2-4 & 6-8 pm
* Gene Beyer Visitation Saturday, March 9 at Zion 11 am
* Spring Clocks forward Midnight, Sunday, March 10

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

* **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
* **Easter Egg Hunt**: Zion will host an Easter Egg Hunt following service on Easter morning. We're asking the congregation to consider donating small pieces of candy and coins for the eggs by March 24. Non-chocolate candy or gum are also a hit with the kids. Please provide small items that can fit into the eggs. A box will be in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring your kids, grandkids or any other kiddos to our Easter Egg Hunt!
* **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.