

Zion Lutheran

**Mission: Creating Community Through
God's Love and Guidance**



Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 10, 2024

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCESSIONAL HYMN #521 “O Day of Rest and Gladness”

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.

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.

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

O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, 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

Numbers 21:4-9

A reading from Numbers.

⁴From Mount Hor [the Israelites] set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. ⁵The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." ⁶Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." ⁹So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 107: 1-3, 17-22

sung to the hymn melody
“Come Ye Thankful People”

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He’s good; His love endures.
Let the Lord’s redeemed say this—those whose lives He has procured
from the hand of all their foes, gathered in from every land;
East and west, from south and north—those He gathered by His hand.
Some were fools with rebel ways; for their sins, in woe were left;
They abhorred all kinds of food; and drew near the gates of death.
Then they cried out to the Lord, in their trouble and distress;
He sent forth His word and healed, rescued them in faithfulness.
Let them give thanks to the Lord, for His steadfast, cov’nant love,
And His wondrous deeds for them, sent unailing from above.
Let them sacrifice with praise, and with thanks their off’rings make,
Tell of all His works always, sing with joy for His name’s sake.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 2:1-10

A reading from Ephesians.

¹You were dead through the trespasses and sins ²in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. ³All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. ⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—⁹not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.
Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.



Save us as you prom-ised; we will trust your word.



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.

GOSPEL READING

John 3:14-21

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] ¹⁴“Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Karen Jewell

HYMN OF THE DAY#660

“Lift High the Cross”

APOSTLES’ 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

CHOIR ANTHEM

“Lonesome Valley”
by Gilbert Martin

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

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

HOLY HOLY HOLY

Setting 8

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho-
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

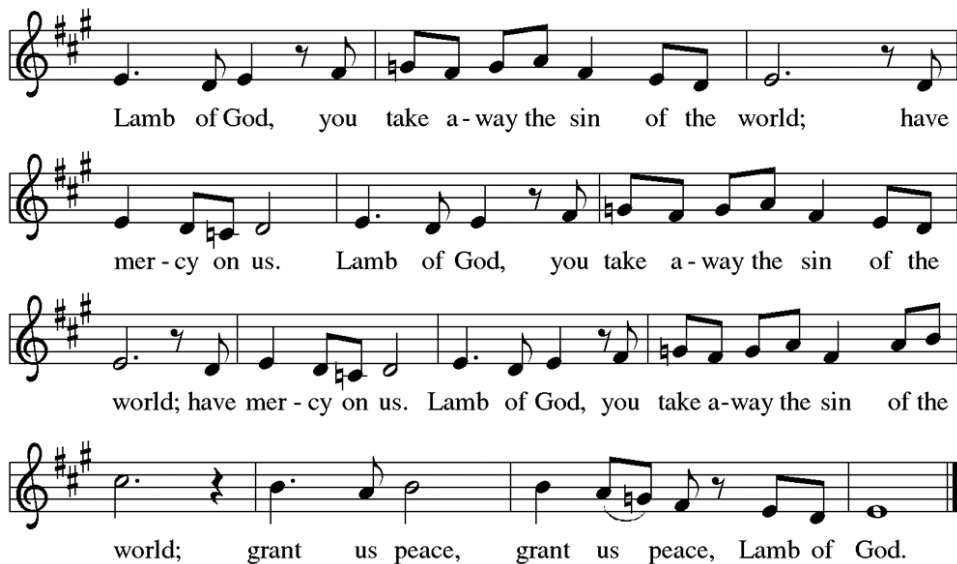
THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER

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.

LAMB OF GOD

Setting 8



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN#334

“Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery”

3 verses and Lent 4

TABLE BLESSING

Now may the body and blood of our Lord and Savior 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 HYMN #551

“The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve”

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share your bread.

**Creating Community through God's Love and Guidance —
thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

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Zion Lutheran

920-739-3104 • Monday- Thursday, 9:30 am - 2:00 pm
zion@zionappleton.org • www.zionappleton.org For Pastoral
Emergencies contact the office.

Welcome!

We invite visitors to complete the card in the pew and put it in
the collection basket. Thank You!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Altar flowers given in memory of Irene Klitzke on the anniversary of her death.

Lent services will be March 13 & March 20. The Lent Soup Suppers will be at 5:00pm in the fellowship hall. Please sign up to volunteer to setup, clean up or bring a dessert for one of the Lent soup suppers in the narthex. The service will be at 6:00pm.

On Sunday, March 24th we will be gathering after church for our second annual Palm Sunday Brunch. All are invited for this intergenerational family event. This event will be a potluck and so we ask that if you are able to please sign up to bring something to pass. Even if you aren't able to bring something, please let us know that you are coming by either signing up in the Narthex or by registering online at <http://tinyurl.com/ZionPalmSundayBrunch2024>. We hope to see you there!

We will be having a service on Maundy Thursday at 6:00pm. On Good Friday we will have an Ecumenical service at noon at Zion. Other churches will be joining us. There will also be a service at 6:00pm.

Order forms for Easter Lilies and assorted spring plants are at the back of the sanctuary & in the narthex. They are \$14 each. You can put your order in the collection plate or bring/send it to the office. The deadline for ordering is **March 17th**.

If you receive the messenger by mail your envelope with the March messenger is in the back of the sanctuary in alphabetical order. There are extra copies of the March messenger in the back of the sanctuary.

Easter is coming. Gift cards are a good idea for Easter baskets. There is a list in the narthex of all the places you can purchase gift cards from & Zion will benefit from your purchases. See the narthex for details.

The office staff is preparing the 2024 guidebook. Please fill out the form in the narthex if your contact information has changed so that our directory is accurate.

Scholarship Information: Are you a Senior in High School and an active member of Zion? Get a Scholarship application from the Church Office window ledge beginning February 11, 2024. The awards are based on accomplishments, grade point, need, and an essay on the impact of Jesus Christ and the Christian faith in the life of the applicant. Only Zion members are eligible. ALL PARTS of the application (including reference support letters) must be IN THE CHURCH OFFICE BY 11:00AM ON SUNDAY, March 17, 2024. Call the church with questions at 920-739-3104.

You are Invited! Visit Lay School

Come visit the ECSW Lay School of Ministry courses in the months of March and April! You are welcome to join us in-person at Saint Andrew in Wausau, Christ the King in Combined Locks OR virtually March 15-16 and April 12-13. Check out one course or several courses each month for FREE.

Courses include: Old Testament, Intro to Theology, Faith and Spirituality, Liturgy and Life, Faith in Action, Experiencing the Bible with Fresh Ears AND Bible Stories Jesus Knew.

For more information about the courses go to ecswlayschool.org. To register or if you have any questions, please email layschool@ecsw.org the Wednesday before classes.

ThedaCare At Home is seeking hospice volunteers in the Fox Valley and the surrounding communities to assist in caring for terminally ill patients and their families. Our volunteers are an integral part of our hospice team as they visit patients in their homes and at long-term care facilities. Volunteers help to meet the emotional, spiritual and family needs of those on hospice by providing companionship and respite. They really are the heart of hospice! Training is provided and helps build on a volunteer's experience and skills to learn about hospice philosophy, comfort care, and communication with patients and their families. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Shana Farrell via phone at 920-422-7583 or email at shana.farrell@thedacare.org to learn more about this opportunity and upcoming trainings.

The Fox Valley Lions Medical Equipment Locker provides access to medical equipment without charge to the residents of the Fox Valley communities. They are always in need of new or used medical equipment. If you have any unused or unwanted medical equipment that is in good condition, please consider donating it to them. Hearing aid batteries can be donated at the locker, and people can come in when the locker is open and request free hearing aid batteries. Currently, there are 13, 312 and some 675 batteries. They have a volunteer that is willing to drop off batteries at the church. For more information, please visit their website: <https://sites.google.com/view/fvlml/home>

THIS WEEK AT ZION

Sunday, March 10

Num 21:4-9, Ps 107:1-3, 17-22

Eph 2:1-10, John 3:14-21

Choir Rehearsal 8-8:45 am

Worship Service 9:00 am

Followed by

Coffee Hour

Sunday School & Confirmation

4th Sunday of Lent

Pastor Karen Jewell

Assisting Minister: Wendy Sachs

Acolyte: Alexa Rusch

Musician: William Surtees

Opens: Jim Schley

Closes: Tammy Mossholder

Tuesday, March 12

Zion Mutual Homes Meeting 10:00am

Wednesday, March 13

Lenten Service

Lenten Supper 5:00 pm

Worship Service 6:00 pm

Leader: Gwen Schwandt

Musician: Pam Keane

Opens and Closes: Gwen Schwandt

Tower RingerZ Rehearsal 4:15pm

Sunday, March 17

Jer 31:31-34, Ps 51:1-12

Heb 5:5-10, John 12:20-33

Choir Rehearsal 8-8:45 am

Worship Service 9:00 am

Followed by

Coffee Hour

Sunday School & Confirmation

5th Sunday of Lent

Pastor Kurt Hoffman

Assisting Minister: Gwen Schwandt

Acolyte: Charlee Weiland

Musician: Heather Watney

Opens: Gene Wiese

Closes: Tammy Mossholder

Orders Due for Easter Flowers