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Third Sunday in Lent
March 23, 2025

As the Son of God Is Merciful and Forgives Your Sins, You Also Be Merciful and Forgive

Your inheritance as a child of Adam is sin and death, but in Christ you are made alive through His resurrection from the dead (1 Cor. 15:21–22). As you have died with Him in Holy Baptism, so are you raised with Him to newness of life. Therefore, “do not go on sinning” (1 Cor. 15:34). Instead of serving your desires and harming your neighbors, live as “sons of the Most High,” and “be merciful, even as your Father is merciful” (Luke 6:35–36). Deal with others as you would have others deal with you (Luke 6:31, 37–38). As Christ loved you when you were at enmity with Him, as He blessed and prayed for those who abused Him, and as He did good to those who hated Him and hurt Him, so also “love your enemies, do good” (Luke 6:27–29, 35). For God sent His Son to bear the cross and suffer death, not to condemn the guilty, but “to preserve life.” So does He provide a place for you within His Church, where He is near and deals kindly with “you and your children and your children’s children” (Gen. 45:5–10).

The Lord’s Supper is offered today at Zion. Communicant members and members of our sister (LCMS) congregations are invited to commune at this altar. Please speak to our pastor if you have any questions about our communion practice. We would love to discuss the doctrine of the Lord’s Supper and joy of Christian fellowship. Please know the gifts of Jesus were given for you—but the proper spiritual preparation for communion is commanded by the Word of God (1 Cor 11:23-29). Those who do not yet commune here may come forward for a blessing (simply fold your arms over your heart to receive a Baptismal blessing) or you may remain in the pew during communion to join us in song and praise. There are no “offering” plates passed during the service. Rather, offering plates are set at the front pew. **You are invited to leave an offering of thanks to Christ on your way to communion** or any time during the first part of the service.

A PRAYER UPON ENTERING THE LORD’S HOUSE

Almighty God, because you know that we ourselves have no strength, keep us both outwardly and inwardly that we may be defended from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

DIVINE SERVICE Setting Three

HYMN OF INVOCATION: “Come to Calvary’s Holy Mountain” *LSB #435*

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION: Page 184

INTROIT Psalm 85:1-7

- ¹*Lord, you were favorable to your land;*
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
- ²*You forgave the iniquity of your people;*
you covered all their sin.
- ³*You withdrew all your wrath;*
you turned from your hot anger.
- ⁴*Restore us again, O God of our salvation,*
and put away your indignation toward us!
- ⁵*Will you be angry with us forever?*
Will you prolong your anger to all generations?
- ⁶*Will you not revive us again,*
that your people may rejoice in you?
- ⁷*Show us your steadfast love, O Lord,*
and grant us your salvation.

GLORIA PATRI: Page 186

KYRIE: Page 186

SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY: Page 189

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Ezekiel 33:7-20

EPISTLE READING: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 13:1-9

NICENE CREED: Page 191

HYMN OF THE DAY: “The Will of God is Always Best” *LSB #758*

SERMON: “Return to the Lord! He is Faithful!” Luke 13:1-9

OFFERTORY: Page 192

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH: (See Prayer List on Page 6 of Bulletin)

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT: Page 194

PREFACE: Page 194

PROPER PREFACE: Page 194

SANCTUS: Page 195

THE LORDS PRAYER: Page 196

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD: Page 197

PAX DOMINI: Page 197

AGNUS DEI: Page 198

DISTRIBUTION: “Your Table I Approach” *LSB #628*
“O God, My Faithful God” *LSB #696*
“When Peace, Like a River” *LSB #763*

NUNC DIMITTUS: Page 199

THANKSGIVING: Page 200

POST COMMUNION COLLECT: Page 201

SALUTATION and BENEDICAMUS: Page 201

BENEDICTION: Page 202

CLOSING: “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” *LSB #809*

Our Lord's Current Business

Welcome to worship. Isaiah announced God's invitation: "Is anyone thirsty? Come and drink ... it's all free!" (55:1, NLT). Are you thirsty for good news, peace, hope, love? Christ is the water of life.

Heartfelt "Thank you" to Margaret Sessions for sponsorship of the bulletin this week in loving memory of Terry Sessions.

There's a Congregational Call meeting on March 30th @ 11:30 in the fellowship hall. At this meeting we will share information and ask the congregation to vote to Call our next Pastor.

A letter detailing the candidates' views and experience has been mailed to every Zion household. *Those interested in learning more about each pastor may review the "Pastor's Information Form" and "Pastor's Self Evaluation Tool" in Diane's office. These documents cannot leave the building.* If you have any questions, please contact a member of the Call Committee: John Schultz, Dan Heike, Jane Reineke, Jeremy Anderson, Joel Lewiston, Matt Mohn, and Laura Nowaskey.

Maple Syrup fundraiser - are you looking for the perfect pancake topper? The Bechel's are working with the youth group to provide syrup for you and a fundraiser for the youth. There will be sheets in the Resource Room for you to pre-order local maple syrup. Please order by/on March 23. Thank you so much for your support! Watch for details about delivery.

Confirmation Corner

This week the confirmation class will be looking at the last part of the Lord's Prayer. As we look at the sixth petition "Lead us not into temptation." We will look at the things that tempt us away from the faith, and how God equips us to resist those temptations through His Word. As we look at the

seventh petition "But deliver us from evil" we will come to understand the hope of deliverance that is ours as God's redeemed children. In the conclusion we see that daily we can see that all things are in God's hands and that He is in control.

Sunday School - On March 23, 3K-middle school will look at the Biblical account of Esther. They will see how God used her to save His people. The often quoted verse, "Who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" (Esther4:14b) challenges us to look at what we are being called to do in our daily lives as we seek to follow Christ.

Sunday Morning Adult Class - This week in our Hand of the Lord series we see the healing hand of the Lord. In Jesus' ministry He regularly used His hands alongside His words. Jesus didn't need to use His physical hands to conduct miracles, but His use of His hands demonstrates His compassion and love for all people. Join us at 10:30 in the fellowship hall as we look at His loving hands.

Middle & Senior High Bible Class - Middle & Senior High Bible Class - We meet every Sunday at 10:30. The junior high group is currently walking through the Old Testament to discover the promises of God. The senior high group will use our Lenten series as a basis for their Sunday morning class.

Adult Choir - You are welcome to join us as we worship our Lord through song. We meet Thursday evenings from 6:30-7:30. We would love to have you join us.

Lenten Devotionals Available - We have available "The Hand of the Lord" Lenten daily devotionals to help you in your personal devotion time this Lent. Please take advantage of this free resource this Lenten season, available in the Resource Room.

Midweek of Lent 3

The outstretched hand of Jesus is willing to reach out to the lives of the untouchable. The leper asking if the Lord willed that he be clean is greeted not only with a yes but also with the hand that touches the unclean. No one is out of the reach of Jesus. In Jesus, the unclean become clean. In Christ's cross, He "took our illnesses and bore our diseases" (Matthew 8:17; see also Isaiah 53:4). He who did not know sin even became sin for us in order to make us righteous (2 Corinthians 5:21). In reaching out to us, touching the unclean, our Lord has taken our infirmities to the cross and given us His perfect forgiveness and life.

Lenten Services - Each Wednesday during Lent we offer two services using our Lenten theme. The first service is at 11:00 a.m. with a light meal following. The second service is at 7:00 p.m. with a meal served before. We encourage you to join us for this time of worship and fellowship.

Senior High Youth - Plan to join us on Sunday, March 30. We are planning some fun fellowship activities. We will meet at the Lueloff house from 12:00-3:00. Lunch will be provided! We look forward to seeing you there!

Thrivent Choice Dollar-Eligible Thrivent clients can recommend where Thrivent distributes some of its charitable grant funds. These funds are called Choice Dollars and are accessed by signing into your account or contacting your agent. Choice Dollars can be designated after February 1 and during the calendar year and up until March 31 of the following year.

**THESE THINGS TOOK PLACE AS
EXAMPLES FOR US, THAT WE MIGHT
NOT DESIRE EVIL AS THEY DID.**

1 Corinthians 10:6

Easter Breakfast - Easter is coming! Once again, the Youth are planning on providing an Easter morning breakfast for our congregation. This is a service project but also a fundraiser. Sign-up sheets will be out soon for helping with prep and serving, but also for donations. Watch this space for more information!

Our Lord's On-Going Business

Beautiful boxes & individual cards are on display in the Resource Center. Easter cards are also now available. We are offering cards at the usual 50 cents. Monies can be left with our AA Diane or put in the church "bank" on the card shelf or given to Brenda McKissick.

Spring Challenge: Somewhere in the midst of the puzzle shelves are Easter themed puzzles....just like hunting for Easter eggs, wouldn't you like to find them and enjoy them? There are also some beautiful spring scenery puzzles for a perfect fun activity. 🐰 *hippity hop!*

ZION'S PRAYER LIST:

For those mourning: The family of Romone (Moy) Rongholt-Rondeau.

The call process here at Zion for guidance on decisions being God's Will.

For those seeking healing: Margaret G., Roger & Patti Koenig, Ruth Larson, Lavina Johnson, Ruth Kent, Marvin Meier, Scott Anderson, Jeff Kacures, Mary Rolandt, Luther Larson, Susan Loomis, Ed Gunderson, Ron Laehn, Marge Linse, Peggy Waldbillig, Elsie Steinbach, Jackie, Shadie, Savannah Au, Donna Seltrecht, David Bloss, Jean Fleming,

Thanksgiving for those celebrating birthdays: Lorn Heck, Vivian Holstein, Alexis Loewenhagen, Heidi Hollister, John Unser, Dennis Ring, Peter Linse, Ann Slater.

**LaRae Grotzinger has volunteered to help coordinate our prayer chain. If you have any updates to this list, please contact her (.), the office, or Pastor. You may also utilize the prayer box found in the narthex.*



OUR WEEK'S WORK
March 24-30, 2025

MON.	Monday Night Bible Study	7:00 p.m.
TUES.	Rachel Circle	1:30 p.m.
WED.	Quilters	9:30 a.m.
	Lenten Service	11:00 a.m.
	Lenten Meal	11:45 a.m.
	Lenten Meal	5:15 p.m.
	Confirmation	5:30 p.m.
	Lenten Service	7:00 p.m.
THURS.	Choir Practice	6:30 p.m.
SUN.	Divine Service	9:00 a.m.
	Christian Education	10:30 a.m.
	Sr. High Youth Event	12:00 a.m.



A Stewardship Thought

Luke 13:3 – “No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.” The season of Lent is all about repentance: turning back to the Lord, away from our sins, in faith. We know that it is only in the Lord that we can find salvation. So, we do well in this season of repentance to examine ourselves, asking questions like, “What is trying to keep me away from Jesus?” “What is a temptation I face?” What is a sin I need to repent of and leave behind?” Then we turn to the Lord for the strength to leave these sins behind, and for the courage to follow Him in faith and faithful living.



OUR WORSHIP LAST WEEK

Attendance		
Wednesday	86	Sunday 86
Sunday School 7		
General Offering:	\$	6403.00
TIM	\$	225.00
Offerings thru February 2025	\$	32,130.00
Expenses thru February 2025	\$	27,301.00



SERVING THIS WEEK
March 19 & 23, 2025

Accom:	Mary Gehrke	Weds.	7:00 p.m.
	Bill Ickstadt	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
Elder:	Joe Osenga	Weds	7:00 p.m.
	Galen Aase	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
Usher:	Butch Waldbillig	Weds.	11:00 a.m.
	Dennis Ring	Weds.	7:00 p.m.
	Matt Mohn	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
Greeter	Brenda McKissick	Weds.	11:00 a.m.
	Cindy Ring	Weds.	7:00 p.m.
	Alli Hoffman	Weds,	7:00 p.m.
	Karn Mohn	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
Acolyte:	Aubrey Wittig	Weds.	7:00 p.m.
	Arabella Wittig	Weds.	7:00 p.m.
	Calvin Olson	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
	Ben Linse	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
Screen:	David Reineke	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
Counters: Dan Hill & Frank Standaert			
Altar Guild: Susan Loomis, Diane Pfund & Mary Standaert			



SERVING NEXT WEEK SCHEDULE
March 26 & 30, 2025

Accom:	Mary Gehrke	Weds	7:00 p.m.
Elder:	Joe Osenga	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
	Galen Aase	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
Usher:	Butch Waldbillig	Weds.	11:00 a.m.
	Dennis Ring	Weds.	7:00 p.m.
	Matt Mohn	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
Greeter	Brenda McKissick	Weds.	11:00 a.m.
	Cindy Ring	Weds.	7:00 p.m.
	Alli Hoffman	Weds,	7:00 p.m.
	Karn Mohn	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
Acolyte:	Aubrey Wittig	Weds.	7:00 p.m.
	Arabella Wittig	Weds.	7:00 p.m.
	Calvin Olson	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
	Ben Linse	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
Screen:	David Reineke	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
Counters: Brenda McKissick & Mike Ashwell			
Altar Guild: Susan Loomis, Diane Pfund & Mary Standaert			