

Zion Lutheran Church
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Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 30, 2025

Jesus Christ Has Reconciled Us to the Father

God the Father has opened His heart to us in love. While we were “still a long way off,” He saw us and “felt compassion” (Luke 15:20). Therefore, He gave His only begotten Son for us, making “him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God” (2 Cor. 5:21). By the ministry of reconciliation, He runs to us, embraces us in mercy and clothes us with His glory as beloved sons in Christ Jesus. And so we give thanks unto the Lord our God, who has taken away our sins and turned His anger from us (Is. 12:1). Because He has become our salvation, our strength and our song, we “will trust, and will not be afraid” (Is. 12:2).

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, our Heavenly Father, your mercies are new every morning, and though we have in no way deserved you goodness, you still abundantly provide for all our wants of body and soul. Give us, we pray, your Holy Spirit that we may heartily acknowledge your merciful goodness toward us, give thanks for all your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience; 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 Four

HYMN OF INVOCATION: “Today Your Mercy Calls Us” LSB #915

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION: Page 203

INTROIT

Psalm 51:2–6; antiphon: v. 1

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;

according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,

and cleanse me from my sin!

For I know my transgressions,

and my sin is ever before me.

Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight,

so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment.

Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,

and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being,

and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

KYRIE: Page 204

SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY: Page 205

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; 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: Isaiah 12:1-6

EPISTLE READING: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

APOSTLES' CREED: Page 207

HYMN OF THE DAY: "God Loved the World So That He Gave" *LSB #571*

SERMON: "Lost and Found!" Luke 15

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

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT: Page 208

PREFACE: Page 208

SANCTUS: Page 208

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING: Page 209

THE LORDS' PRAYER: Page 209

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD: Page 209

PAX DOMINI: Page 209

AGNUS DEI: Page 210

DISTRIBUTION: "Lord, to You I Make Confession" *LSB #608*

"Just As I Am" *LSB #570*

"Christ, the Life of All the Living" *LSB #420*

NUNC DIMITTUS: Page 211

POST COMMUNION COLLECT: Page 212

BENEDICAMUS and BENEDICTION: Page 212

CLOSING: "Amazing Grace" *LSB #744*

Our Lord's Current Business

Welcome to worship. Like a loving father welcoming a prodigal child home and inviting the other to join the feast, God welcomes us all. Let us celebrate such amazing grace. As we continue through Lent — which means “spring” — prepare our heart-soil, dear Jesus, to sprout with new life and blossom in faith. Amen.

Heartfelt “Thank you” to Ruth and Duttie Kent for sponsorship of the bulletin this week in honor of their birthdays, Ruth April 11 and Duttie April 12. Happiest of birthdays to you both.

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.

If you are not going to be able to make it to the meeting, you can do an absentee ballot. Ballots and envelopes for privacy are available in Diane's office, up to time of meeting on March 30th.

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 12:30-3:00. Lunch will be provided! We look forward to seeing you there!

Birthday gathering for Mary Gehrke on April 12 from 1:00 -3:00 in the Fellowship Hall. Please come to celebrate this special lady with us. No gifts

Zion is looking for an individual to care for/mow the German Valley Cemetery. There is reimbursement for your time of caring for this area. Please contact one of the Trustees with any questions.

The Spring meeting of the West Central Chapter of Lutheran For Life will be April 6th at 2:30 p.m. at Zion Lutheran Church Mondovi. Any questions please call John Gehrke at 715-926-3790.

Easter Lilies – Sign-up sheet is in the Resource Center if you would like to donate an Easter Lily or any other type of spring flower to the Easter Garden on Easter Sunday. Please have the “flowers” here by Friday April 18th.

Confirmation Corner

This week our confirmands will be reviewing the Lord's Prayer and the different petitions. We will look at the blessing prayer is in our lives and review how we daily commend (entrust) our lives to God as His redeemed children in thoughts and words. We review the who, what, where, how, why and when of prayer as we conclude this study.

Sunday School - - Today (March 30) our students will be looking at Ezra and how he cried out to God. Ezra shared God's Word with the people and they were convicted and repented. They chose to obey God and separate themselves from things and people who were not of God.

Sunday Morning Adult Class - This week in our Hand of the Lord series we encounter the Hand of the Lord who raises the dead. We will see that when Jesus touches death, it can only mean life. Join us at 10:30 in the fellowship hall as we continue exploring God's love, grace and mercy through this Lenten series.

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.

Midweek of Lent 4

When Jesus reached out and touched the bier of the widow's dead son, the funeral procession was stopped dead in its tracks. Like the prophets Elijah and Elisha before Him, Jesus raised the only child of a woman in need. When Jesus touches death, it can only mean life. Above all, in Christ's cross, He destroyed death by His death (2 Timothy 1:10). Christ touched death, and death was overcome by His resurrection life. When our sin and its deadly consequences are touched by Jesus in Baptism, we are united to His death and resurrection. So we are now "dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus" (Romans 6:11).

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.

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.

Easter Breakfast - Our youth are planning to serve a delicious breakfast Easter morning following the 7:00 a.m. service. This is both a service project and a fundraiser. If you would like to help supply items for the breakfast, a sign-up sheet is in the resource area. We would ask that donations are at church by Saturday, April 19 by 9 a.m. If you are bringing an egg bake, that comes in Easter morning. If you have any questions, please contact Melissa Linse.

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:

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

For those mourning: Family of Ruth Larson.

For those seeking healing: Marvin Stay, Margaret G., Roger & Patti Koenig, 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: Jamie Winsand, Nicklaus Nowaskey, Allysa Corpuz, Sally McGee, Oliver Tremml.

Thanksgiving for those celebrating anniversaries: John & Susan Schultz.

**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 31-April 6, 2025

MON.	Monday Night Bible Study	7:00 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.	ALH Chapel	
	Choir Practice	6:30 p.m.
SUN.	Divine Service	9:00 a.m.
	Christian Education	10:30 a.m.
	Ruth & Duttie Kent Birthday	1:00 p.m.
	Lutheran's For Life	2:00 p.m.



SERVING THIS WEEK
March 26 & 30, 2025

Accom:	Mary Gehrke		
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:	Brenda McKissick & Mike Ashwell		
Altar Guild:	Susan Loomis, Diane Pfund & Mary Standaert		



A Stewardship Thought

Luke 15:12 – “And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them.” This prodigal son only sees the father as a source of wealth. “Give me my inheritance now!” he says, which is really to say, “You are better off dead in my eyes.” This is the sin at the heart of all greed: valuing things over people. This parable calls us to come to our senses as well, and to see God as the loving Giver of all good, the true Father to be valued above and beyond all the things of this world.



OUR WORSHIP LAST WEEK

	Attendance	
	Wednesday 76	Sunday 86
	Sunday School 7	
General Offering:	\$	3473.00
SHP	\$	20.00
TIM	\$	25.00
Organ Fund	\$	600.00
Offerings thru February 2025	\$	32,130.00
Expenses thru February 2025	\$	27,301.00



SERVING NEXT WEEK SCHEDULE
April 2 & 6, 2025

Accom:	Mary Gehrke		
Elder:	Dave Reineke	Weds.	11:00 a.m.
	Joe Osenga	Weds	7:00 p.m.
	Craig Loscheider	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
Usher:	Richard Brion	Weds.	11:00a.m.
	Louie Moyer	Weds.	7:00 p.m.
	Butch Waldbillig	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
Greeter	Bev Brion	Weds.	11:00 a.m.
	Nancy Jardine	Weds.	7:00 p.m.
	Brenda McKissick	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
Acolyte:	Izzy Winberg	Weds.	7:00 p.m.
	Brenna Vollmer	Weds.	7:00 p.m.
	Jacob Loscheider	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
	Ben Linse	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
Screen:	Linse Family	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
Counters:	Galen Aase & Jeff Glanzman		
Altar Guild:	Amanda Osenga & Elizabeth Leasum		