

# Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church's Online or At Home Worship!

To attend our weekly Sunday service via Zoom, please use the following link each week:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84354840714?pwd=TDJGTkwvSTBER2lNblolQzd6WGxDdz09>, Meeting ID: 843 5484 0714, Password: 022654. Or by PHONE, +16465588656, 84354840714#, 1#, 022654#.

Our service is also available for viewing on Zion's YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWzOtbCe2z7bIPvxp621A>

## Announcements:

**Booklets and devotionals for Lent:** Please help yourself to the *Lenten materials* on the table in the narthex!

**Pastor Rick:** If you have not been attending in-person worship services or attending on Zoom and have not been able to speak with or meet with Pastor Rick yet and would like to, please call Sara and she will gladly schedule a time for you to receive a phone call from him.

**Zion's wish list for Advent 2022:** Some packs of ornament hangers, and six battery operated candles, all the same size. If you can donate any of these items, please let the church office know.

**Sunday, March 27, 2022, 12:00 noon:** Faith, Sexism and Justice, A Call to Action. Women from the three area Lutheran congregations will gather in person at Zion for a brown bag lunch and program around the ELCA social statement, Faith, Sexism and Justice, A Call to Action, adopted at the 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly. Rev. Anita Mohr will facilitate our discussion on this social statement that relies on the Gospel promise of abundance, justice, and new creation in Christ to name the ways the sins of patriarchy and sexism harm all people, particularly women and girls, whatever their age or racial or gender identify.

### **World Hunger: HOLY COW—THE “UDDER” JOY OF GIVING TO ELCA WORLD HUNGER**

As we anticipate gathering for Synod assembly, our Synodical Hunger Team - with gratitude for your generosity in the past - is once again encouraging your congregation's support for World Hunger by meeting a challenge goal of \$500 between now and June to purchase a **HOLY COW**. We want you to experience the **“UDDER” JOY OF GIVING**. Your gifts help sustain the livelihood of farmers across the globe, where your ELCA World Hunger dollars are at work in more than 60 countries including the U.S. and right here in the Upstate NY Synod. One dairy cow can produce a few gallons of milk each day. Milk provides a calcium-packed source of nutrition for growing children, and a family can generate income by selling extra milk, cheese, yogurt, butter and more. With food, funds and fertilizer, the gift of a cow has got it all. Please consider making the goal of \$500 or more a priority of your congregation's stewardship between now and the assembly (June 5-7) when you can add your gift to those of other congregations.

#### **Ideas for HOLY COW fundraising in your congregation:**

*Coordinate a bottle drive and donate money received to HOLY COW.*

*Ask members of your congregation to donate the price of a gallon of milk.*

*Display a cutout of a cow and attach a jug or milking pail to receive donations.*

*Coordinate an ice cream social after Easter or Mother's Day (use a Thrivent grant).*

*Sell ice cream cups*

*Distribute God's Global Barnyard Coloring Banks- available free at:*

<https://www.elca.org/resources/elca-world-hunger#General>

Zion Lutheran Church  
1 Lent



March 6, 2022

WELCOME TO ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH'S AT HOME OR ONLINE SERVICE!

PRELUDE: *Come Unto Me*, by Lily Strickland -Kelli Watson

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of God, who makes a way in the wilderness, walks with us, and guides us in our pilgrimage. **Amen.** Holy One, we confess that we have wandered far from you: we have not trusted your promises, we have ignored your prophets in our own day, we have squandered our inheritance of grace, we have failed to recognize you in our midst. Have mercy on us! Forgive us and turn us again to you. Teach us to follow in your ways, assure us again of your love, and help us to love our neighbor. **Amen.**

Beloved in Christ, the Word draws near to you, and all who call out to God shall be saved. In Jesus, God comes to you again and again and gathers you under wings of love. In Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven. God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love. **Amen.**

**Opening Hymn:** *Bless Now, O God, the Journey*, vs. 1 & 3 Hymn #326 -Kelli Watson

**Vs. 1** Bless now, O God, the journey that all your people make, the path through noise and silence, the way of give and take. The trail is found in desert and winds the mountain round, then leads beside still waters, the road where faith is found.

**Vs. 3** Divine eternal lover, you meet us on the road. We wait for lands of promise where milk and honey flow, but waiting not for places, you meet us all around. Our covenant is written on roads, as faith is found.

**Greeting and Prayer of the Day**

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.**

O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**THE WORD**

**First Reading:** *Deuteronomy 26:1-11* Bible Pg. 311

**Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16** (read responsively)

You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty  
you will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my stronghold, my God in whom I put my trust."

Because you have made the LORD your refuge, and the Most High your habitation,  
**no evil will befall you, nor shall affliction come near your dwelling.**

For God will give the angels charge over you, to guard you in all your ways.

**Upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.**

You will tread upon the lion cub and viper; you will trample down the lion and the serpent.

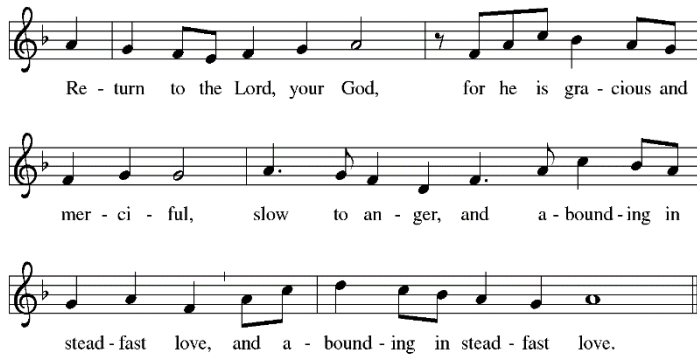
**I will deliver those who cling to me; I will uphold them, because they know my name.**

They will call me, and I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them.

**With long life will I satisfy them, and show them my salvation.**

**Second Reading: Romans 10:8-13 Bible Pg. 1760**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

**Gospel: Luke 4:1-13 Bible Pg. 1595**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon: -Pastor Rick Klafehn**

Every first Sunday in Lent we hear the story of Jesus' temptation. We know from the story of Adam in the garden – Adam the Hebrew word for human – that temptation is a universal human experience. Jesus was tempted because he is human and not only divine.

He experienced all we go through, even temptation, so he can save us who are human.

Jesus was tempted in the wilderness right after he was baptized. For us also, baptism does not immunize from temptation. Therefore, Jesus teaches his disciples to pray, "Save us from the time of trial" or in the older English translation, "Lead us not into temptation." The Greek word in the Lord's Prayer means temptation, test, or trial. Every temptation tests our faith and values. Every temptation puts us and our faith on trial, whether we are children of God. God allows us to be tested, but as James 1:13 teaches, God is never the tempter. We cannot trust and love God, if God might tempt and lead us into sin and its evil and deadly consequences.

If this were a Bible class, I'd ask what you think each temptation of Jesus is all about – no right or wrong answers. The temptations of Jesus are, I think, a kind of Rorschach test to help us uncover the temptations to which we are most prone. How we interpret the temptations to Jesus says, I think, as much about us, as him. What do you find in them?

Satan first tempted Jesus to turn stones into bread to satisfy his physical hunger. We might find here: the temptation to gratify our own personal desires and immediate needs: physical, emotional, or social; the temptation of greed or to hoard; the temptation to put our own survival ahead of anyone or anything else; the temptation in the middle of anxiety and fear to be impatient and to react and to succumb to our perceptions in the immediate moment; the temptation to distrust God to care for us and protect us, to give us what we need when we really need it; the temptation to trust only ourselves and take matters into our own hands, no matter the consequences or cost to others; the temptation to confuse what we want with what we need, the temporal with the eternal.

The devil then tempted Jesus with earthly power and might. We might find here: the temptation to be in charge, to control peoples and resources – even for purposes we believe just and good; to seize power to get one's way and any way you can, even illegally, by lies and deceit, by threat and intimidation, by violence, by manipulation of due process, by disrespect for the rights of others, by ignoring or breaking ethical and national boundaries, by compulsion and force, rather than by kindness, respect, and love.

The devil finally tempted Jesus foolishly to jump off the top of the temple believing God would save his life. We might find here: the addictive temptations of thrill-seeking, popularity, and fame, the temptation to take inappropriate and unreasonable risks, to pursue whatever excites our senses and causes our adrenalin to flow, be it speed, drugs, getting away with something; the temptation to test God's promise of protection; to seek impossible, unrealistic, magical and fantasy solutions to our problems; to live blindly in a nostalgic past or naïve future, rather than to recognize and face the challenges in the present.

Often the voice of evil uses words that sound good. Take care of yourself. God wants you to have daily bread. God wants you to make a difference and help save the world. Trust God. Prove your faith by how you live.

These spiritual axioms are not the whole story. Yes, take care of yourself and, yes, God wants you to have daily bread, but not at the expense of others, not at the cost of distrusting God's care. Yes, God wants us to make a difference, and help bring of God's reign of mercy, justice, and love. Yes, God wants our trust, and our faith put into action, not just empty words or a feeling, but not by trying and making ourselves out to be our own savior or the savior of others, not when acting out of desperation or for show is really living out our lack of faith in God or promoting ourselves and feeding our own selfish egos.

Satan used even the words of Scripture to tempt Jesus. Religious leaders can do so still today, as sadly and regrettably slavery was justified in many white churches in this country for too many years. There is a right and a wrong way to use Scripture. Satan uses Scripture to mislead, to exclude, to isolate, to divide, to judge, and to condemn.

Jesus uses Scripture to live as a child of God with faith in God's love, God's reign, and God's promise: to reconcile, to unite, to include, to stretch the boundaries of God's love, to forgive, and to save; to invite trust in God's mercy and love. Jesus uses Scripture as a means of God's mercy and grace.

Luke traces Jesus' genealogy back to Adam, and calls Adam, son of God. (3.28) Adam, the first son of God, in the garden succumbed to temptation. Jesus, the new son of God, in the wilderness resists. His resistance is the beginning of God's new reign, God's new creation. His victory over Satan in the wilderness was like young David's over Goliath. Both had been anointed as God's chosen one – Jesus with water his baptism, David with oil by Samuel – signs of God's greater reign to come.

Jesus would be tempted again in the Garden of Gethsemane at prayer, before he was betrayed into the hands of his enemies and arrested. Jesus knows what temptation is like for us. He shows us the way to resist, and he loves us, even though we fall.

God supplies angels we cannot see to guard us in all our ways. More than that, the Holy Spirit gives us one another: to be a twelve-step support group for us who are addicted to sin; to be strong for each other when we are weak; to help each other recognize and resist temptation; to remind each other of God's word in Scripture and God's living word in Jesus; to help each other trust God's saving love, even when the way ahead is not clear and we are anxious and afraid; to forgive each other when we fail. The church, a flesh and blood, living, breathing, congregation of ordinary people, is God's gift to you: a people of love and faith, through whom the Holy Spirit daily guides and forgives.

In the face of temptation turn to God in prayer. Paul writes in Romans, "*The same Lord is Lord of all and generous to all who call on him. Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved*". God promises in Psalm 91, "*I will deliver those who cling to me; I will uphold them, because they know my name. They will call me, and I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them. With long life will I | satisfy them, and show them my salvation*

Thanks be to God in Christ Jesus. Amen.

*ANTHEM: I Love to Tell the Story, by William G. Fischer -Kelli Watson*

## 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

Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

We pray for the church. Sharpen its proclamation of the word so that your people learn to reject voices of deception and distraction. Strengthen all who are tempted to believe lies about themselves or others. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for those in need. Rescue those experiencing mental illness or contending with addiction. Ease the anxiety of those who live with dementia. Command your angels concerning all who are sick. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for this assembly. Bless those who bake bread and prepare the table for our communion celebration. Accompany those who share the bounty of this meal with those who are homebound or hospitalized. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Listen to the cries of your people waiting patiently for your healing hand and comforting Spirit, especially those who suffer with chronic pain and all cancer patients, Pr. Mary Etta, Lisa P., Sara, Mike, the people of Ukraine, Christina, and Theresa, that the light of Christ may shine upon them with hope. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Accept the prayers we bring, Oh God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## THE 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

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy.... and join their unending hymn:

### HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are 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 in the high - est.

## **Thanksgiving at the Table**

Blessed are you, O God, creator of heaven and earth. You rescued your covenant people, led them on all their journeys, and taught them by the prophets. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

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.

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit in this meal, and make us one in this community of faith and with your people throughout the world.

Glory and praise to you, O God, Author of life, Word made flesh, Power of the Most High, now and forever. **Amen.**

## **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.**

## **MEAL**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Here is food and drink for the journey. Take and be filled.

### **COMMUNION**

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Blessed Jesus, in this rich meal of grace, you have fed us with your body, the bread of life. Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope to a world in need. **Amen.**

## **SENDING**

### **Blessing**

You are children of God, anointed with the oil of gladness and strengthened for the journey. Almighty God, motherly, majestic, and mighty, bless you this day and always. **Amen.**

**Sending Song:** *A Mighty Fortress is Our God, vs. 1 & 4* Hymn #504 -Kelli Watson

**Vs. 1** A mighty fortress is our God, a sword and shield victorious; he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod and wins salvation glorious. The old satanic foe has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dreadful might he arms himself to fight. On earth he has no equal.

**Vs. 4** God's Word for ever shall abide, no thanks to foes, who fear it; for God himself fights by our side with weapons of the Spirit. Were they to take our house, goods, honor, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched away, they cannot win the day. The kingdom's ours forever!

### **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way. **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude:** *Exaltation*, By Robert J. Hughes -Kelli Watson

*If you were unable to make it to our **Ash Wednesday Service** and would like the bulletin & a packet of ashes mailed to you, please call/email Sara at 315-732-4110, [office@zionluth.com](mailto:office@zionluth.com). Please leave a message if she is away from the desk.*