

Zion & Silver Creek Lutheran Churches

First Sunday in Lent

Holy Communion ~ February 21, 2021



Welcome

Call to Worship “Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us” Senior Choir

Invocation

Brief Order of Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Hymn

“Softly and Tenderly”

ELW #608

Prayer of the Day

Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, 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: Genesis 9:8-17

The rainbow, sign of God’s covenant

⁸God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹“As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, ¹⁰and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of

the ark. ¹¹I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” ¹²God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” ¹⁷God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.” *The word of the Lord... Thanks be to God.*

PSALM: Psalm 25:1-10

Your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness.

¹To | you, O LORD,
I lift | up my soul.

²**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be | put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph | over me.**

³Let none who look to you be | put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous.

⁴**Show me your | ways, O LORD,
and teach | me your paths.**

⁵Lead me in your | truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all | the day long.

⁶**Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,
for they are from | everlasting.**

⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O

LORD.

⁸**You are gracious and upright, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners | in your way.**

⁹You lead the lowly in justice
and teach the lowly your way.

¹⁰All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast | love and faithfulness
to those who keep your covenant and your | testimonies.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3:18-22

Saved through water

¹⁸Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey,

when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water.²¹ And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

The word of the Lord...Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Mark 1:9-15

The temptation of Jesus in the wilderness for forty days

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.
¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.” ¹²And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. ¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God,¹⁵ and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

Sermon

Pastor Ale Tulu

Hymn of the Day

“Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

ELW #807

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession *response: Your mercy is great.*

Words of Institution

The Song (Zion)

Congregation: We share this food together, rememb'ring Christ;
we share a common treasure and know the price;
we share it without measure, a gift of love;
we share our life forever, with God above.

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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.

Communion Distribution

Prayer after Communion Response: Amen.

Hymn

"Day By Day"

ELW #790

Benediction

Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

- 1 Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,
calling for you and for me.
See, on the portals he's waiting and
watching,
watching for you and for me.

Refrain

- "Come home, (Come home,
come home! (come home!)
You who are weary, come home."
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,
calling, "O sinner, come home!"
- 2 Why should we tarry when Jesus is
pleading,
pleading for you and for me?
Why should we linger and heed not his
mercies,
mercies for you and for me? *Refrain*
 - 3 Oh, for the wonderful love he has
promised,
promised for you and for me!
Though we have sinned, he has mercy and
pardon,
pardon for you and for me. *Refrain*

Text: Will L. Thompson, 1847-1909

Public Domain

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

- 1 Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory
fills my heart with joy and love,
teach me ever to adore thee;
may I still thy goodness prove.
- 2 Here I raise my Ebenezer:
"Hither by thy help I've come";
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wand'ring from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.
- 3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be;
let that grace now like a fetter
bind my wand'ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;
prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it;
seal it for thy courts above.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735-1790, alt. Public Domain

Day by Day

- 1 Day by day, your mercies, Lord, attend
me,
bringing comfort to my anxious soul.
Day by day, the blessings, Lord, you
send me
draw me nearer to my heav'nly goal.
Love divine, beyond all mortal measure,
brings to naught the burdens of my quest;
Savior, lead me to the home I treasure,
where at last I'll find eternal rest.

- 2 Day by day, I know you will provide me
strength to serve and wisdom to obey;
I will seek your loving will to guide me
o'er the paths I struggle day by day.
I will fear no evil of the morrow,
I will trust in your enduring grace.
Savior, help me bear life's pain and
sorrow
till in glory I behold your face.

- 3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near
me
when my burdens grow too great to bear;
oh, what joy to know that you will hear
me
when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer.
Day by day, no matter what betide me,
you will hold me ever in your hand.
Savior, with your presence here to guide
me,
I will reach at last the promised land.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903; tr. Robert Leaf, 1936-2005
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WELCOME! ZION'S LAY MINISTRY/EVANGELISM BOARD SAYS A SPECIAL WELCOME TO YOU THIS MORNING AND MAY YOU BE FED SPIRITUALLY DURING THIS TIME OF WORSHIP.

OUR THANKS TO TODAY'S WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Musician: Laura Rude

Reader: Robert Fay

Acolyte: Olivia Tougas

Worship assistant: Millie Reiersen

Tech assist:

OUR SYMPATHY TO Sandy Lubitz and family on the death of John Lubitz.

OUR PRAYERS TO Della Burstad who is hospitalized at Sanford, TRF

BROADCASTS today are sponsored by Lorraine Mathieu & family, in memory of Bill Mathieu.

ZION'S WEBSITE Sponsor for February is Zion memorials

REMINDER to those hospitalized to please notify Zion as the hospital does not inform us.

ZION WORSHIP SERVICE ONLINE Sunday mornings you can listen to the 8:30AM service online. Go to: www.ziontrf.org. in the black banner click Listen Online, Click on the RED link to KTRF.

STEWARDSHIP (Envelopes/Vanco Electronic Giving/Silver Creek included in all totals)

Feb 8-14 income: \$9,437.

Feb 1-14 income: \$14,373.

Year to Date income Jan 1– Feb 14: \$40,061.

2021 proposed budget of \$350,940. / \$6,748 is needed per week to meet budgeted expenses.

ZION ANNUAL MEETING is rescheduled for March 14th at 9:30 AM.

HOLY COMMUNION will be celebrated February 21. Home communion may be picked up at Zion during office hours. Next month communion dates are March 7 and March 21.

CONFIRMATION STUDENTS may sign-up to Acolyte, Read, or Tech Crew for Sunday & Lent worship. Sign-up sheets on Madison's office door

WEEKLY SCHEDULE:

Sunday, Feb 21: 8:30 Zion HC worship/ Broadcasts Cable 3, KTRF radio;

9:30 Online Sunday School posted

10:00 Silver Creek HC Worship/ Council following

Monday, Feb 22: Parish Nurse available by appointment

5-7 PM Visitation at Johnson funeral home for John Lubitz; 6pm Prayer Service

Tuesday, Feb 23: 10:30 AM John Lubitz Funeral at Zion, visitation 1 hour prior

2:00 Staff meeting

Wednesday, Feb 24: Confirmation classes participate with worship

6:30 Lenten Worship at Zion

7:15 Senior Choir

Sunday, Feb 28: Pathways Camp Sunday at Zion

8:30 Zion worship/ Broadcasts Cable 3, KTRF radio;

9:30 Online Sunday School posted

10:00 Silver Creek Worship

- A Pathways Video about summer camps will be shared at a later time.
- Round Robin Pulpit exchange for Feb. 28 has been postponed.
- Youth & Families of Churches Together Planning Event has been postponed to a later date.

GOSPEL MESSAGE

February 21, 2021

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

Secure Even When It's Not Safe

The world is unsafe in countless ways. It contains wilderness after wilderness, places where temptation and danger seem to reign. Struggle, pain, fear, violence, hate, death, and suffering are all part of the uncertain world that we wake to each day.

Today, the Gospel of Mark discusses Jesus' own encounter with the wilderness. After he was baptized by John the Baptist, Jesus was driven into the desert wilderness, where he was tempted by Satan for forty days. What's more, when Jesus left the wilderness to re-enter society, he encountered another kind of dangerous wilderness, a world where John the Baptist had just been arrested for confronting Herod Antipas and his wife Herodias with some hard-hitting truth.

After forty days of temptation, Jesus was met by yet another temptation: to play it safe in a world that had just silenced his friend for doing exactly the kind of thing that Jesus came to do. Despite the risk posed by worldly power players like Herod, Jesus proceeded to teach, heal, and spread the good news of God's kingdom. Despite the danger, Jesus trusted in the promise that God's love was bigger than the wilderness of human wiles.

The world is not safe, and believing in Jesus does not change this fact. However, we are secure in an unsafe world because of the promises made by God in baptism. Think of children who are secure in the love of their parents. They may go to school and face bullies—a painful experience, for sure—but they are less likely to trust the lies of the bullies because they know a deeper truth about themselves, a truth instilled by the love of their parents. So it is with us. There is danger and wilderness all around, but we are secure in the truth of our baptism: we are God's beloved children, with whom God is well pleased. Grounded in this secure love, we derive courage to set out into the wild.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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