

Zion & Silver Creek Lutheran Churches

Second Sunday in Lent

February 28, 2021

Temple Talk

Chris Andreasen—Pathways Bible Camp

Welcome

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

“This is My Song”

ELW #887

Prayer of the Day

O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, 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 17:1-7, 15-16

God blesses Abraham and Sarah

¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, “I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.” ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴“As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I

will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.”

¹⁵God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

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

PSALM: Psalm 22:23-31 *All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD.*

²³You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob’s | line, give glory.

Stand in awe of the LORD, all you off- | spring of Israel.

²⁴**For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD’s face hidden from them; but when they cry out, | the LORD hears them.**

²⁵From you comes my praise in the | great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who | fear the LORD.

²⁶**The poor shall eat | and be satisfied,**

Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts | live forever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD;

all the families of nations shall bow | before God.

²⁸**For dominion belongs | to the LORD,**

who rules over the nations.

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow | down in worship;

all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel be- | fore the LORD.

³⁰**Their descendants shall | serve the LORD,**

whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.

³¹They shall proclaim God’s deliverance to a people | yet unborn,

saying to them, “The | LORD has acted!”

SECOND READING: Romans 4:13-25 *The promise to those who share Abraham’s faith*

¹³The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.” ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concern-

ing the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.” ²³Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification. *The word of the Lord...Thanks be to God.*

Children’s Sermon

Chris Andreasen

GOSPEL: Mark 8:31-38

The passion prediction

³¹[Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

Sermon

Pastor Ale Tulu

Hymn of the Day

“In Christ there is No East or West”

ELW #650

Apostle’s 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 into hell. 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 *response: Your mercy is great.*

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.

Hymn

“O Zion, Haste”

ELW #668

Benediction

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: Amber Meier

Acolyte:

Worship assistant: Millie Reierson

Tech assist: Keaton Hoverson

OUR SYMPATHY TO Mitch & Judy Hams on the death of his mother, Eunice Hams.

OUR PRAYERS TO Katie Mumm who is hospitalized in Duluth

BROADCASTS today are sponsored in memory of Rick Ostby by Family & Friends

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.

LENTEN SERVICES are streamed live through Zion's Facebook page at 6:30 PM Wednesdays.

FROM THE PARISH NURSE Spring is coming and we are seeing more activity all over, which is good. Parish Nursing is being accomplished by appointment. If you have a need or if you know of someone that does, please give me a call, or the church office to refer to me. I will gladly continue to visit by phone or in the office by appointment until further notice. Now, we are close to the finish line after a year of this Covid fighting journey, so we cannot give up on the compliance measures that got us this far. It is so exciting to see the increased activity in the church and to see how well it is being done. We need to maintain and grow that activity! May God be with us all, giving us Love, patience, kindness, and understanding as we work together for the future health of Zion Church. We are truly blessed, so continue to communicate with God's Love to all!

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

Feb 15-21 income: \$6,871.

Feb 1-21 income: \$21,243.

Year to Date income Jan 1– Feb 21: \$46,932.

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 March 7 and March 21. Home communion cups may be picked up at Zion.

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

A PATHWAYS VIDEO about summer bible camps will be shared at a later time.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE:

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

Monday, March 1: Parish Nurse available by appointment

Tuesday, March 2: 9:30 Staff meeting,

Pastors Text Study

BOARD MEETINGS

Wednesday, March 3: Confirmation classes participate with worship

6:30 Lenten Worship at Zion

7:15 Senior Choir

Sunday, March 7 :

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

9:30 Online Sunday School posted

10:00 Silver Creek Worship

Ministers: Every Member of the Congregation

Office Phone: 681-3296 *Fax:* 681-3048

Alemayehu Tulu, *Associate Pastor* 681-1866 alezion@mncable.net

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Madison Crane, *Youth & Family Ministries* rzyouthfam@gmail.com; Sandy Knutson, *Parish Nurse*

This Is My Song

- 1 This is my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for lands afar and mine.
This is my home, the country where my heart
is;
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy
shrine;
but other hearts in other lands are beating
with hopes and dreams as true and high as
mine.
- 2 My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine.
But other lands have sunlight too, and clover,
and skies are ev'rywhere as blue as mine.
So hear my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for their land and for mine.
- 3 This is my prayer, O God of all earth's
kingdoms,
your kingdom come; on earth your will be
done.
O God, be lifted up till all shall serve you,
and hearts united learn to live as one.
So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations;
myself I give you; let your will be done.

Text: Lloyd Stone, 1912-1993, sts. 1-2; Georgia Harkness, 1891-1974, st. 3
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In Christ There Is No East or West

- 1 In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but one community of love
throughout the whole wide earth.
- 2 In Christ shall true hearts ev'rywhere
their high communion find;
his service is the golden cord
close binding humankind.

- 3 Join hands, disciples of the faith,
whate'er your race may be.
All children of the living God
are surely kin to me.
- 4 In Christ now meet both east and west,
in him meet south and north;
all Christly souls are one in him
throughout the whole wide earth.

Text: John Oxenham, 1852-1941, alt. Public Domain

O Zion, Haste

- 1 O Zion, haste, your mission high
fulfilling,
to tell to all the world that God is light;
that he who made all nations is not
willing
one soul should perish, lost in shades of
night.

Refrain

Publish glad tidings, tidings of peace,
tidings of Jesus, redemption, and release.

- 2 Publish to ev'ry people, tongue, and
nation
that God, in whom they live and move, is
love;
tell how he stooped to save his lost
creation
and died on earth that we might live
above. *Refrain*
- 3 He comes again! O Zion, ere you meet
him,
make known to ev'ry heart his saving
grace;
let none whom he has ransomed fail to
greet him,
through your neglect, unfit to see his
face. *Refrain*

Text: Mary A. Thomson, 1834-1923 Public Domain

GOSPEL MESSAGE

February 28, 2021

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

A Love That Lets Go

Sometimes we are just not to be trusted with the task of loving. When we really, really love someone or something, our fingers can grasp too tightly, and our fists clench a little too firmly. For fear of losing what we love, we can squeeze the life out of what we were trying to protect.

Today, Jesus announces the trajectory of his mission: he is going to be put to death after great suffering and rejection, and he is going to be raised from the dead on the third day. This announcement sends Peter's hands reaching out to hold onto Jesus with fierce firmness. Peter doesn't want to lose the one he loves, and he goes so far as to shame and criticize Jesus for his words.

Have you ever acted like Peter, letting fear of losing someone you love thwart your ability to actually love them?

When Jesus says that those who try to save their lives are going to lose their lives, he is talking about our instinct to hold on too tightly to the things that we love. Somewhere in this move, our love actually becomes control. In the moment when the instinct to control takes hold, love and life are lost.

Jesus' words invite us to back up. We acknowledge our tight grip on God, on each other, on our own hearts. We let a little air in to those places where our tight grip has been suffocating life. We gather to worship a God who loves this world so deeply that God would rather die at our hands than coerce us into reciprocating that love. Today, we come to know God's love, which never seeks to control or pin us down, but which breathes life into the world.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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