

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

Thief River Falls, MN

Epiphany

February 20, 2022



PRELUDE ANNOUNCEMENTS

***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.**

***GATHERING SONG** “Christ, Be Our Light”

ELW #715

***GREETING**

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.

***KYRIE** (p. 203) *Have mercy on us, Lord, and hear our solemn prayer...*
(*Please stand as you are able.)

***CANTICLE OF PRAISE (p. 204)**

Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth...

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Genesis 45:3-11, 15

³Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.' " ¹⁵And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him. *The word of the Lord... Thanks be to God.*

PSALM: Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40

¹Do not be provoked by ¹evildoers;

do not be jealous of those ¹who do wrong.

²**For they shall soon wither ¹like the grass,**
and like the green grass ¹fade away.

³Put your trust in the LORD ¹and do good;
dwell in the land and ¹find safe pasture.

⁴**Take delight ¹in the LORD,**
who shall give you your ¹heart's desire.

⁵Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust ¹in the LORD,
and see what ¹God will do.

⁶**The LORD will make your vindication as clear ¹as the light**
and the justice of your case like the ¹noonday sun.

⁷Be still before the LORD and wait ¹patiently.

Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in ¹evil schemes.

⁸**Refrain from anger, leave ¹rage alone;**
do not be provoked; it leads on- ¹ly to evil.

⁹For evildoers shall ¹ be cut off,
 but those who hope in the LORD shall pos- ¹ sess the land.
¹⁰**In a little while the wicked shall ¹ be no more;**
even if you search out their place, they will ¹ not be there.
¹¹But the lowly shall pos- ¹ sess the land;
 they will delight in abun- ¹ dance of peace.
³⁹**But the deliverance of the righteous comes from ¹ you, O LORD;**
you are their stronghold in ¹ time of trouble.
⁴⁰You, O LORD, will help them and ¹ rescue them;
 you will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because in you ¹ they seek refuge.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

³⁵But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?"
³⁶Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.
⁴²So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. ⁴⁴It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

⁵⁰What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

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

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (p. 205)**

Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word...

***GOSPEL: Luke 6:27-38**

Jesus continues to address a crowd of his disciples. He invites his followers to shower radical love, blessing, forgiveness, generosity, and trust even on enemies and outsiders. Living in harmony with God's intent brings the reward of overflowing blessing.

P: The holy Gospel...

C: Glory to you O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ²⁷"But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³²"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even

sinners do the same. ³⁴If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

P: The Gospel of our Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON “Unconditional Love” PASTOR MARK HELGELAND

HYMN OF THE DAY “Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love” ELW #708

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Congregational response: **Hear our prayer**

***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.

OFFERING & OFFERTORY *Offering plates are available in the narthex. Ushers will bring the plates forward at this time.*

***OFFERING CANTICLE** “Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful” # 182

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing...

***OFFERING PRAYER**

A Let us pray.

C Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. **Amen.**

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

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 *(Ushers will guide you forward at this time)*

***SONG AFTER COMMUNION** “Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise” # 204

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION** Response: **Amen.**

SENDING SONG “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee” ELW # 836

***BLESSING** Response: **Amen.**

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Announcements

OUR THANKS TO TODAY'S WORSHIP ASSISTANTS *Reader:* Denny Minks
Pianist: Laura Rude *Acolytes:* Ella Gust, Tiera Bugge
Ushers: Ray Wagner, Ken Wagner
Greeters: Gaylord & Sonja Peterson, Lydia Walseth, Jerlyn Lunsetter
Communion assistants: Dick Haugen, Patty Schob, Jace Erickson, Keaton Hoverson

Vanco Electronic Giving is available - forms are on the table by the office. You can also set up contributions thru Zion's website.

ENVELOPE BOXES are available in the narthex. Those who receive boxed envelopes should note that they have been renumbered for 2022. If you currently do not have boxed envelopes and would like them, please call the church office.

OUTDOOR ELECTRONIC SIGN Current donations & Pledges: \$10,260.

Direct Thrivent Choice Dollars® Eligible Thrivent Financial members: Show your appreciation for Zion Lutheran Church by directing Choice Dollars. The individual recommendations you make through Choice Dollars directions can make a profound impact.

LSS RESPITE CARE - Thursdays, **NEW TIME** - 12Noon to 4:00 PM in the Lounge. For more info and to sign up please contact Julie Praska Moser at 218-686-6229

LSS CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP will meet on Thursday, March 10th from 10-11:00 AM at Zion. All caregivers are welcome, you do not need to register. Please spread the word to those who can benefit from this group. More info Julie Praska Moser 218-686-6228

BEREAVED PARENTS/GRANDPARENTS SUPPORT GROUP: Are you a parent or grandparent of a child or grandchild of any age who has died? Would you be interested in support in dealing with your loss (doesn't have to be recent)? You are welcome to join us this group to offer you some support. Our next meeting will be **Tuesday, March 15th, at 10:30 am** in the Lounge at Zion. Pastor Mark will be leading us. If you have questions, please call Marcia S. @ 681-6242.

Ministers: Every Member of the Congregation
Mark Helgeland, *Interim Pastor*
Tiffany Sterry, David Lee 686-0733, *Custodians*

Office Phone: 681-3296 *Fax:* 681-3048
Linda Hamrick, *Office Manager* ziontrf@mncable.net;

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK:

Today - Sunday, Feb 20: Newsletter deadline

9:00 Zion Holy Communion Worship/Broadcast
ch. 3; KTRF;

10:00 Sunday School

10:00 Listening to God intro in Patio room

10:00 Food & Fellowship

10:30 Silver Creek Holy communion worship

12:00 Zion broadcast on cable ch. 37

3:00 Cub Scouts

Monday, Feb.21:

9 SAIL

6 Cub Scouts

7 Troop 59

Tuesday, Feb 22:

12 noon Pastors text study

Wednesday, Feb 23:

5:15 Confirmation supper

6 Confirmation classes

6 God's Joy

7 Senior Choir

Thursday, Feb 24:

9 SAIL

12-4 LSS Respite Care in lounge

Friday, Feb. 25:

7 Men's Breakfast at Biff's

Next Sunday, Feb 27:

9:00 Zion Holy Communion Worship/Broadcast
ch. 3; KTRF;

10:00 Sunday School

10:00 Listening to God intro in Patio room

10:00 Food & Fellowship

10:30 Silver Creek Holy communion worship

12:00 Zion broadcast on cable ch. 37

3:00 Cub Scouts



YOUTH NEWS

Sunday school students will be singing in church March 6th

5th Grade First Communion classes will be held March 27 & April 3.

More information will be mailed out soon.

NOISY OFFERING will be collected on the 2nd, 4th, and 5th Sundays of each month.

Thank you to our student families who are providing treats for coffee fellowship!

PATHWAYS BIBLE CAMP information is now available on their website pathwaysbiblecamp.org. Printed brochure copies and camp schedules available on the youth bulletin board. Camp schedules are also available on the bulletin table in the narthex.

FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP - February 20th (formerly Flapjacks for Faith) in the Fellowship Hall. Food and Fellowship will happen the 3rd Sunday of each month. Donations will go towards new furniture for our Sunday school classrooms.



8-10TH GRADE WEDNESDAY CONFIRMATION

A meal is served at 5:15 followed by classes at 6PM.

Confirmation Class – February 23, 2022

Menu: Tater Tot Hotdish \$4.00 Pop .50

Lent Service Meal Clean-Up Help

Every year we ask students to help with the clean-up after the Lenten meals. Here is the schedule with the corresponding grades for each night. All students are asked to help.

Please be at church by 5:30 on your clean-up night.

*Parental help is needed for elementary nights

- March 2, 2021 **9th** Grade
- March 9, 2021 **7th** and **8th** Grade
- March 16, 2021 **10th** Grade
- March 23, 2021 **5th** and **6th** Grade
- March 30, 2021 **3th-4th** Grade and **11th** Grade
- April 6, 2021 **K-2nd** and **12th** Grade