

# ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

Thief River Falls, MN

Season of Lent April 3, 2022

Holy Communion

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## PRELUDE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CALL TO WORSHIP** Andraya Bakken

## \*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 the Life of All the Living" ELW # 339

## \*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.

Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through 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: Isaiah 43:16-21**

<sup>16</sup>Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters,

<sup>17</sup>who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down,  
they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:

<sup>18</sup>Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old.

<sup>19</sup>I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?  
I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

<sup>20</sup>The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches;  
for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert,  
to give drink to my chosen people, <sup>21</sup>the people whom I formed for myself  
so that they might declare my praise. *The word of the Lord...* **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 126**

<sup>1</sup>When the LORD restored the for- | tunes of Zion,  
then were we like | those who dream.

<sup>2</sup>Then was our mouth filled with laughter,  
and our tongue with | shouts of joy. Then they said among the nations,  
“The LORD has done great | things for them.”

<sup>3</sup>The LORD has done great | things for us,  
and we are | glad indeed.

<sup>4</sup>Restore our fortunes, O LORD,  
like the watercourses | of the Negeb.

<sup>5</sup>Those who | sowed with tears  
will reap with | songs of joy.

<sup>6</sup>Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,  
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

**SECOND READING: Philippians 3:4b-14**

[Paul writes:] <sup>4b</sup>If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more:  
<sup>5</sup>circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup>as to zeal, a persecutor of the

church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

<sup>7</sup>Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. <sup>8</sup>More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup>and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. <sup>10</sup>I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup>if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

<sup>12</sup>Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. <sup>13</sup>Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION FOR LENT (p. 142)**

Return to the Lord , your God, for he is gracious and merciful,  
Slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,  
And abounding in steadfast love.

**\*GOSPEL: John 12:1-8**

*Judas willfully misinterprets as waste Mary's extravagant act of anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume. Jesus recognizes that her lavish gift is both an expression of love and an anticipation of his burial.*

**P:** The holy Gospel...

**C:** Glory to you O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. <sup>2</sup>There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. <sup>3</sup>Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. <sup>4</sup>But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, <sup>5</sup>"Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" <sup>6</sup>(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) <sup>7</sup>Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. <sup>8</sup>You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

**P:** The Gospel of our Lord

**C:** Praise to you, O Christ.

**SERMON "SURPASSING VALUE" PASTOR MARK HELGELAND**

**HYMN OF THE DAY "Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross" ELW # 335**

## **SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM** ELW page 227

Baptism of Eaden Eve Beito, daughter of Jacob & Brittany Beito

Sponsors are Kristin & Stu Sommers

### **\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Congregational response: **Receive our prayer.**

**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** “Beneath the Cross of Jesus” ELW # 338

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

**OUR THANKS** TO TODAY'S WORSHIP ASSISTANTS     *Reader:* Denny Minks  
*Pianist:* Laura Rude     *Acolytes:* Layla Forsberg, Tiera Bugge  
*Ushers:* Kevin & Tanya Ek     *Greeters:* Don & Irene Dosser, Mya Bregier  
*Communion assistants:* Mike Spears, Shawna Spears

Eaden Eve Beito, daughter of Brittany & Jacob Beito  
Her sponsors are Kristin & Stu Sommers

**ZION WORSHIP SERVICE ONLINE** Sunday mornings you can listen to the 9:00AM service online. Go to: [www.ziontrf.org](http://www.ziontrf.org). in the black banner click Listen Online, Click on the RED link to KTRF.

**ZION'S WEBSITE** for April is sponsored by Zion memorials.

**REMINDER to those hospitalized** If you wish Pastor Mark to call, please let the office know.

**LWR QUILTING** the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Thursdays of the month 1- 4pm. Questions? call Sharon Berger-son 681-5445, or Renee Henney 964-5816

**THANK YOU** to all who helped celebrate my 90th birthday last Sunday. It was very much appreciated, Marie Engen

**FROM PARISH HEALTH:** Good news! Covid cases in our area are finally heading in the right direction. We need to be aware that it is not at the level of positivity in our area where we can relax completely, according to Intercounty Nursing. We need to use proper precautions appropriately, staying home when we are sick, washing hands frequently, covering your cough, and maintaining space/wearing masks when appropriate or required. This is such good progress and we want to continue this moving forward to keep our schools and businesses open, and our healthcare facilities at a capacity to be able to meet the needs of our community. Stay safe wrapped in Gods Love!

**BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING** Sunday, April 3rd at 10 AM in the lounge  
**HEARING DEVICES** are available on the table in back

REMINDER—MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP is for EVERYONE. 7:30 PM, April 14th

**EASTER FLOWERS** - If you wish to share flowers for Easter worship in honor or in memory of someone, please get information to the church office by April 10th.

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

March 21-27 income: \$2,192.

March 1-27 income: \$20,175.

Jan 1– Mar 28 income: \$69,854.

2022 Budget \$324,553./ \$6,241. needed per week to meet budgeted expenses.

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

**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.

### **HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE**

MAUNDY THURSDAY, April 14—Worship at 7:30 PM Worship is for EVERYONE

SEDER MEAL at 6 PM for 5th Grade Students & families

FIRST COMMUNION will be held for 5th grade students

GOOD FRIDAY, April 15—Worship at 6:30 PM

PRAYER VIGIL will begin at 12 noon

EASTER DAY—April 17—Sunrise Worship, youth led, at 6:30 AM

Easter Breakfast served by youth at 7:30 AM

Easter Worship with Holy Communion at 9:00 AM

Easter Worship at Silver Creek with Holy Communion 10:30 AM

### **SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK:**

#### **Today - Sunday, April 3:**

9:00 Zion Holy Communion Worship/Baptism/

Broadcast ch. 3; KTRF;

10:00 Sunday School

10 Coffee fellowship

10:00 Book discussion in Patio room

10 Blood Pressure screening in lounge

10:30 Silver Creek worship

12:00 Zion broadcast on cable ch. 37

#### **Monday, April 4:**

9 SAIL

6 Cub Scouts

7 Troop 59

#### **Tuesday, April 5:**

12 noon Pastors text study

4 Parish Health

Board Meetings

No Worship board

6 Christian Ed

#### **Wednesday, April 6:**

5:30 Lenten supper served by Council

6:30 Lenten Worship

7:15 Senior Choir

#### **Thursday, April 7:**

9 SAIL

12-4 LSS Respite Care in lounge

1 Quilting

Silver Creek Spring Cleaning/ Potluck

#### **Friday, April 8:**

7 Men's Breakfast at Biff's

#### **Saturday, April 9:**

11-1 Shower in fellowship hall

#### **Next Sunday, April 10:**

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

10:00 Sunday School

10 Coffee fellowship

10:00 Book discussion in Patio room

10:30 Silver Creek worship/ Baptisms

12:00 Zion broadcast on cable ch. 37

2:00 **Easter Art** in fellowship hall

7:00 **Witnesses** Event with Jonathan Swenson



## YOUTH NEWS

5th Grade First Communion classes will be held March 27 & April 3 during Sunday School. A parent or adult is required to attend with the student. Shawna Spears and Denny Minks will lead the classes.

**NOISY OFFERING** will be collected on the 2nd, 4th, and 5th Sundays of each month. March Noisy offering is for Pathways.

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

**EASTER BREAKFAST**— Zion youth will be serving Easter Breakfast at 7:30 AM following the Sunrise Service led by Zion youth beginning at 6:30 AM on April 17th. All are welcome!

### 8-10TH GRADE WEDNESDAY CONFIRMATION

Confirmation Classes resume following Lent

Attendance is required at Wednesday Lenten Services.



**Lutheran Doctrine Class**—Wednesday April 20th and Wednesday April 27th. On the 20th: we will meet at 5:30 starting with a potluck supper followed by the class. The class is for all the Confirmands and their parents as well as all Zion members and those wanting to join the church.

### 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

April 6                      **K-2nd and 12th Grade**

**\*\*April 14th- Seder Meal- 8th grade\*\***

**PARENT HELP** is needed for the Seder Meal April 14th. Please contact Kami if you would like to help.

## WITNESSES

### One Actor \* Eight Characters \* A Fresh Look at Jesus

A stingy Innkeeper with a Bronx accent, an Italian Lazarus who likes pasta, and a joyful Simon Peter on Easter Morning... all these characters and more come to life Sunday, April 10, 2022 at 7:00 pm at Zion Lutheran Church in Thief River Falls, MN with the dramatic presentation, *Witnesses*. Written by Curt Cloninger, this one-man, multiple character performance will feature Christian actor and speaker, Rev. Jonathan Swenson.

In this innovative and inspiring re-telling of the Gospel, Swenson portrays eight different characters as each responds to Jesus. Through these eye-witness accounts, both comedic and serious, the audience is encouraged to see Jesus from fresh perspectives; not cold and distant, but as one who was intimately involved in the “nitty-gritty” of life.

Swenson is a graduate of Gustavus Adolphus College (B.A. in Psychology, Theater and Music, 1988) and Luther Seminary (Master's of Divinity, 1994). He has served as an ordained minister for over 15 years, and is currently the Founding Director of Paraphrase Theater as well as the Director of Programming for Mount Carmel Ministries in Alexandria. MN.

Swenson, a trained actor, travels throughout the country sharing a unique blend of drama, teaching, music and story-telling. His regional theater credits include such leading musical roles as Tevye, Daddy Warbucks, Harold Hill and Nathan Detroit. Dramatic roles include Gratiano in *The Merchant of Venice* and Roland in *Taking Steps*. Swenson has also performed as guest soloist with Orchestra Iowa in Cedar Rapids, IA. Most recently, Jonathan can be seen in the feature film, “Miles Between Us” produced by ii Films, and heard on the soundtrack of Rich Melheim's Martin Luther Rock Opera.

A \$5 donation is requested and will be taken as a free-will offering.

For more information on Jonathan Swenson, visit [www.paraphrasetheatre.com](http://www.paraphrasetheatre.com). For more information about this presentation of *Witnesses* call Pastor Kristin Ostercamp at 218-684-1155.