

Zion Lutheran Church, Thief River Falls, MN

**EPIPHANY 4**

January 29, 2023 9:00 AM

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**PRELUDE**  
**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**      “Place in the Choir”      God’s Joy Choir

**SERVICE OF WORD & PRAYER**

**\*GATHERING SONG**      “Love Divine, All Love Excelling”      ELW # 631

**GREETING**

*The leader greets the congregation.*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. *(2 Corinthians 13:13)*

**And also with you.**

In the beginning was the Word,

**and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**

In the Word was life,

**and the life was the light of all people.**

The Word became flesh and lived among us,

**and we have seen his glory, full of grace and truth.**

*(John 1)*

**SCRIPTURE SONG**      “Dearest Jesus, at Your Word”      ELW # 520 v. 1&2

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Holy God, you confound the world’s wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly  
and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance  
in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your  
Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*\*Please stand as you are comfortable*

## FIRST READING: Micah 6:1-8

<sup>1</sup>Hear what the LORD says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains,  
and let the hills hear your voice.

<sup>2</sup>Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the LORD has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel.

<sup>3</sup>“O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

<sup>4</sup>For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.

<sup>5</sup>O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.”

<sup>6</sup>“With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high?  
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?

<sup>7</sup>Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil?  
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

<sup>8</sup>He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you  
but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

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

## PSALM: Psalm 15

<sup>1</sup>LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle?  
Who may abide upon your holy hill?

<sup>2</sup>**Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,  
who speak the truth from their heart;**

<sup>3</sup>they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends;  
they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

<sup>4</sup>**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the  
LORD. They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.**

<sup>5</sup>They do not give their money in hope of gain,  
nor do they take bribes against the innocent.

**Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.**

## SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

<sup>18</sup>The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup>For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

<sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

<sup>25</sup>For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than hu-

man strength.

<sup>26</sup>Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup>But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup>God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup>so that no one might boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup>He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, <sup>31</sup>in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."  
*The word of the Lord... Thanks be to God.*

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** "Dearest Jesus, at Your Word" ELW # 520  
vs. 3 & 4

**\*GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12**

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 5th chapter.

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

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup>Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup>"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup>"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup>"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup>"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup>"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

<sup>8</sup>"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup>"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup>"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup>"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**SERMON PASTOR KRISTIN OSTERCAMP**

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

**HYMN** "Blessed Assurance" ELW #638

**\*CREED & CONFESSION**

In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

**We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.**

*(Ephesians 1:13-14)* Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**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.**

Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;  
**pray in the Holy Spirit.**

*(Jude 20)*

Keep yourselves in the love of God;  
**look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

*(Jude 21)*

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

**Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new!**

*(2 Corinthians 5:17)*

God has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

*Silence for reflection and self examination.*

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins,  
known and unknown, things done and left undone.**

**Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life,  
to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen**

Almighty God has had mercy on you,

Your sins are forgiven in the name of Jesus Christ.

Be strengthened in faith by the assurance of God's love and mercy for you.

**Amen**

**\*PEACE**

Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace. *(2 Corinthians 13:11)*

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**OFFERING** *Ushers will bring the plates forward at this time.*

**OFFERTORY**      “For the Fruit of All Creation”      ELW # 679

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray. Merciful God,

**in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you embrace our lives with your great love for humanity. With joy and gladness we ask that these gifts may be for many a sign of that love, and that we may continue to share in your divine life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

**THE PRAYERS**

As God's people called to love one another, let us pray for the needs of the Church, the human family, and all the world.

Congregational response: **Hear us, O God.**

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, grant us, O God, for the sake of Christ who died and rose again, and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

**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.**

**\*BLESSING**

May the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ fill you with every spiritual blessing.

**Amen**

May the God of faithfulness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

**Amen**

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen**

*(Romans 15)*

**\*SENDING SONG**      “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”      ELW #858

**\*DISMISSAL**      Go in peace. Serve the Lord.      **Thanks be to God.**

**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 LEADERS/ASSISTANTS

Pastor: Kristin Ostercamp     Pianist: Laura Rude

Ushers: Chris & Nicky Ellison

Acolyte: Bria Scheef

Organist: Marie Longo

Greeters: Brianne Ellison, Brenna Alby

Reader: David Lee

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**OUR PRAYERS TO** Andy Hart hospitalized in Rochester.

**OUR SYMPATHY TO** family and friends of Ruby Moen. Ruby's funeral will be held at Zion on Monday, January 30th at 10 AM.

**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.

**BROADCASTS** today are sponsored in memory of Rick Ostby by Ron & Ruth Ostby, Lisa, Mike, Ella, & Lucy Heuer.

**ZION'S WEBSITE** for January is sponsored by Zion memorials

**LISTENING DEVICES & LARGE PRINT** bulletins are available from an usher.

**ZION'S ANNUAL MEETING** will be held following worship today, **January 29th.**

**APPRECIATION FOR PASTOR MARK** will be held today following the Annual Meeting. A Potluck meal will be held in the fellowship hall. Please join us!

**INSTALLATION SERVICE for Pastor Kristin Ostercamp** will be held next Sunday, February 5th during the 9AM worship. Bishop Bill Tesch will preside at the installation. Silver Creek is invited to attend this service.

**SUSTAINING RURAL MINISTRY FUND** - On Installation Sunday, February 5, you will be invited to participate in a special offering. Brochures with donation information are available on the table in the narthex. This is a fund established by the Synod to help new Pastors with their educational debt. Newly Called Pastors are eligible to apply for funds in the first 5 years of call. If you would like to donate to this fund, please pick up a brochure. Awareness of this fund is made known at Ordinations and Installations to bring awareness of this need. Seminarians have on average \$70,000. in educational debt at graduation.

**ENVELOPE BOXES FOR 2023** are available to pick up in the narthex. If you do not currently have envelopes and would like them contact the church office.

**VANCO ELECTRONIC GIVING** forms are on the table by the office. You can also set up contributions thru the link on Zion's website.

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

Jan 16-22 income: \$6,422.

Jan 1-22 income: \$28,618.

2023 Proposed Budget \$340,444. \$6,547. needed per week to meet budgeted expenses.

**OUTDOOR ELECTRONIC SIGN** Donations & Pledges: \$16,968. If you wish to contribute to this project you can drop off or mail to the church office. *Thank you for your continued donations!*

**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. **Thank you to all who directed dollars in 2022. \$2,518. was received.**

**LSS CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP** will meet on Thursday, February 9th 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

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

**PARISH NURSE NOTES** - If you're mentally beating yourself up because you've broken your resolutions just a few days into the new year, you're not alone. According to the US News and World Report the failure of New Years resolutions is 80% by mid-February.

Consider a Monday reset! Instead of looking at your resolutions as a sweeping year-long project, what if you concentrated on making healthy changes every Monday? It's called the Healthy Monday Reset and the idea is to send you into the week with a fresh mindset. You'll have 52 opportunities in a year!

Maybe your resolutions are too complicated. Three simple suggestions from the dieticians (just in case weight loss was one of them) are as follows and you have heard them over and over! Prioritizing hydration, many of us fail to drink enough water. Getting enough sleep, 7-8 hrs is best for most of us. Lastly, developing healthy eating strategies, emphasizing breakfast, healthy snacks, and added fruits and vegetables.

Get your kids involved-they need exercise too.

- 1). Be active with them. Be the example.
- 2). Evaluate their current activity and gradually increase in minutes per day over time.
- 3). Limit screen time and set boundaries for sedentary lifestyles.
- 4). Encourage them to try group activities to find something they enjoy.
- 5). Consider individualized activities like hiking, skiing, or running.

This Healthy Monday Reset is a GREAT idea!! Prayer for God's help is strongly suggested too. May the Lord be with us as we continue with the battle, whatever it may be!

*God's Blessing, Peace, and Perseverance.* **Parish Health**

**THE GROCERIES TO GO PROGRAM** is available through our church if you'd like to use that option. If you need this service or would like to be a volunteer for grocery delivery, call the church office at 218-681-3296 and we'll get back to you.

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## **SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK:**

### **Today, Sunday, Jan 29:**

9:00 Zion worship; Broadcast ch. 3; KTRF  
10:00 **Annual Meeting**  
10 Sunday School  
10:45 **Appreciation for Pastor Mark in Fellowship Hall with Potluck Meal**  
No Silver Creek worship  
12:00 Zion broadcast on cable ch. 37

### **Monday, Jan 30:**

9 SAIL Exercise

### **Tuesday, Jan. 31:**

9:30 Staff Meeting

### **Wednesday, Feb. 1:**

9:30 TRF Ministerial meeting  
5:15 Confirmation supper  
6 Confirmation classes  
6 God's Joy Choir  
7 Senior Choir

### **Thursday, Feb. 2:**

9 SAIL Exercise  
10 Prayer Shawl Ministry  
1 Quilting/ LWR Workshop

### **Friday, Feb. 3:**

9:30 Coffee with Staff - come join us and visit with Pastor Kristin

### **Next Sunday, Feb. 5: Installation of Pastor Kristin**

9:00 Zion Holy Communion worship;  
Broadcast ch. 3; KTRF  
10 Sunday School  
10 Coffee Fellowship  
10 Blood Pressure Screening in lounge  
No Silver Creek worship, invited to attend Installation at Zion  
12:00 Zion broadcast on cable ch. 37



**Sunday School 10:00-11:00 AM**

**January Noisy Offering will go to the Hart family**

**Parents are invited to stay for coffee fellowship in the basement following worship. All are welcome!**

**Muffin Makers:** Thank you for providing treats for Coffee Fellowship! (proceeds go to youth funds)  
**(Please bring 2 dozen baked goods to the fellowship hall on or before Sunday morning.)**

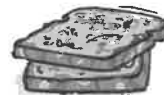
**Jan 29:** Jeremy Lian, Jerod & Tara Lunsetter, Jessica Hegland, Jill Anderson, Jim & Mandi Nelson, Joe & Heather Bregier

**Feb. 5:** Joel & Laura Rude, Jon & Erica Hruby, Josh & Amber Knott, Josh & Tina Haugen, Josh & Angie Jensen

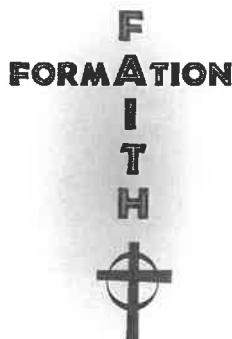
**Feb. 12:** Josh & Sallie Lawrence, Justin & Katie Kunz, Justin & Sarah Van de Streek, Kelsey DeFrang, Kelsey Dondelinger

**FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP –February 12th**

Come and enjoy a French toast breakfast! Free will donation will go to the Andy Hart family. Andy recently had a heart transplant.



**CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE -**



**Meal at 5:15, Classes at 6 PM**

Feb. 1 Spaghetti & breadsticks

Feb. 8 No Class

Feb. 15 Lasagna & Garlic toast

Feb 22 Ash Wednesday - No Class

**BUENA VISTA SKI TRIP**

**Grades 6-12**

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2023**



**Cost: \$38 Lift ticket only (if you have your own skis or snowboard)**

**\$64 Lift ticket & ski rental; \$70 Lift ticket & snowboard rental**

Zion is joining with Trinity youth again this year. Prices listed do not include transportation or food. You will need to bring money to purchase food at the lodge. More information to follow with departure and return times. Contact Kami Spears to sign up or for more information, message at 218-689-4266. or contact Lisa LeClaire at Trinity at [youth@trinitylutherantrf.org](mailto:youth@trinitylutherantrf.org)