

Zion Lutheran Church, 9:00 AM
Thief River Falls, MN
Fourth Sunday in Lent — Holy Communion
March 19, 2023



PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP Laura Fay

***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** "The King of Love, My Shepherd Is" ELW #502

Liturgy setting 10; page 203

***GREETING** (p. 203)

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.

**Please stand as you are comfortable*

***KYRIE** (p. 203)

Congregation: Have mercy on us, Lord, and hear our solemn prayer.
We come to hear your living word; it saves us from despair.
Have mercy on us, Christ, and wash away our sin.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may begin.
Have mercy on us, Lord, make sin and shame depart.
Renew us with your saving pow'r; create in us new hearts!

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

PSALM: Psalm 23 (in unison)

¹The LORD is my shepherd;

I shall not be in want.

**²The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

**³You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.**

**⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

**⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.**

**⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

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

Congregation: We are turning, Lord to you; you are merciful and kind-
Slow to anger, rich in blessing, and with love to us inclined.

GOSPEL: John 9:1-41

Jesus heals a man born blind, provoking a hostile reaction that he regards as spiritual blindness to the things of God. What begins as a simple questions gives way to a promise from Jesus reminding us God's vision for the world is very different from our own. You are invited to participate in the Gospel reading as the voice of those questioning Jesus.

P: The holy Gospel...

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

Narrator: ¹As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him,

People: **“Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”**

Narrator: ³Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶When he had said this, he spat on the ground and

made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, ⁷saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask,

People: "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him."

Narrator: He kept saying, "I am the man." ¹⁰But they kept asking him,

People: "Then how were your eyes opened?"

Narrator: ¹¹He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." ¹²They said to him,

People: "Where is he?"

Narrator: He said, "I do not know." ¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said,

People: "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?"

Narrator: And they were divided. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man,

People: "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened."

Narrator: He said, "He is a prophet." ¹⁸The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹and asked them,

People: "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?"

Narrator: ²⁰His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." ²²His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him,

People: "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner."

Narrator: ²⁵He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." ²⁶They said to him,

People: “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?”

Narrator: ²⁷He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” ²⁸Then they reviled him, saying,

People: “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.”

Narrator: ³⁰The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” ³⁴They answered him,

People: “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?”

Narrator: And they drove him out. ³⁵Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” ³⁷Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” ³⁸He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.” ⁴⁰Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him,

People: “Surely we are not blind, are we?”

Narrator: ⁴¹Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

P: The Gospel of our Lord...

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON “CALLED TO SEE” PASTOR KRISTIN OSTERCAMP

HYMN OF THE DAY “Healer of Our Every Ill” ELW #612

***APOSTLES’ 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 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.

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Congregational response: receive our prayer.

***SHARING OF PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

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

OFFERTORY ELW #184 *“Let the vineyards be fruitful Lord...”*

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

Gather the harvest from the seeds that were sown,

That we may be fed with the bread of life.

Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer,

Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

***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

***POST COMMUNION BLESSING & BENEDICTION**

***SENDING SONG** “Lord Dismiss Us With Your Blessing” ELW #545

***DISMISSAL**

Go forth into the world knowing Christ and making him known.

Thanks be to God.

Announcements - March 19, 2023

Fourth Sunday in Lent

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

Organist: Marie Longo

Greeters: Jessica Hegland

Reader: Kaylynn Wold

Ushers: Paul & Becky Peterson family

Usher/Greeters: Dawson Colden, Ava Niebuhr

Acolytes: Gabe Nelson

Communion Assistants:

OUR PRAYERS TO Andy Hart recovering in Rochester.

OUR SYMPATHY TO the family of David Forsberg on the death of his mother Arlyne Forsberg.

PRAYERS to keep all who are preparing for their First Communion in prayer.

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

BROADCASTS today are sponsored by Marcia Sandahl in memory of Jill Sandahl Garceau.

ZION'S WEBSITE for March is sponsored by Dick & Jan Haugen in memory of family & friends.

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

LENTEN SUPPERS are served at 5:30 PM Wednesdays. March 22: Spaghetti Alfredo

LENTEN WORSHIP begins at 6:30 Wednesdays. The theme is Amazing Grace.

THE CROSS AND CHAINS near the lectern is a reminder of the weight of our sin. We are spending some time pondering the gift of God that we are saved by grace through faith. During our Wednesday worship services through the season of Lent you are invited to place your burdens on Jesus, to lay down the weight of sin and regret you carry. You are also welcome to spend some quiet time in the sanctuary during weekly business hours in meditation and prayer. Take a slip of paper, pray and we will add it to our chain. We lay our confessions on this cross as a reminder of some of the burden Jesus shouldered as he was crucified for our iniquities.

MEN'S BREAKFAST has resumed on Fridays at 8:00 AM at Biff's

HOTDISH COOKOFF Next Sunday, March 26th at 4:00 PM. All funds raised will go towards updating our Youth Room. \$5 per person to sample all hotdishes, jello, breadstick, milk, lemonade. Tickets to vote are \$1 for 1 vote, \$5 for 6 votes, \$10 for 15 votes. Sign up to bring hotdish by March 22nd by the youth office.

APRIL SHARING SERVANT MEETING will meet today Sunday, March 19th in the lounge

WELCA Meets Tuesday. All women are invited to attend the WELCA meeting on Tues., March 21, 10:00 a.m. for refreshments, fellowship and Bible study. Anna Circle are the hostesses. Board meets at 9:00 a.m.

SARAH CIRCLE will meet on Wednesday, March 22nd at 1:30 PM in the lounge.

LWR QUILTING the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Thursdays of the month 1- 4pm. All are welcome!

LWR PERSONAL CARE KITS — During Lent, WELCA is collecting items for the Personal Care Kits. Items needed for the kits are: *bath towels (may be used, but clean and in good condition), nail clippers, adult-size toothbrushes, sturdy combs, and two 4 oz. bath-size bars of soap.* Also, we use flannel sheets to make diapers for the Baby Care Kits. We also make diapers from large size cotton t-shirts either white or colored. Hand towels & soap are also needed for this kit. A container will be available for you to deposit your items. The confirmands assist with assembling these kits and then the kits are sent to Lutheran World Relief in early May along with the quilts the ladies are making. For more info, call Sharon Wagner at 681-2473 or Sharon Jorde at 681-4739. Thank you for your donations! A box for donations is beside the narthex steps.

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

March 6-12 income: \$1,131.

March 1-12 income: \$8,275.

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

VANCO ELECTRONIC GIVING forms are in the wall rack by the office door. You can also set up contributions thru the link on Zion's website, or contact the church office.

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 have directed dollars,*

OUTDOOR ELECTRONIC SIGN Donations & Pledges: \$17,008. If you wish to contribute to this project you can drop off or mail to the church office. ***Thank you for your continued donations!***
The physical sign was installed February 27th, it is waiting for electric installation.

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.

VITALANT BLOOD SERVICES Blood Drive Monday, March 20th and Tuesday, March 21st 8AM-2PM at the Eagles in Thief River Falls. Call 1-877-258-4825 to register.

PARISH HEALTH NOTE - Tis the season for allergies, uhhh! Tanya Elliot, an Allergist at NYU and a group called Climate Control have shared new information about seasonal allergies. Climate changes are making the allergy season earlier and longer due to mild winters and no benefit from the frost, above average rainfall and warmer weather.

Allergy symptoms are itchy eyes, runny nose, congestion, and facial pressure. These are also included in cold symptoms but allergies will never cause a fever or swollen lymph nodes and the timing and duration of the symptoms are key. A cold typically lasts 7-10 days while allergies can be 2-4 weeks.

Figure out what you are allergic to and avoid it. You may need an allergist for testing and possibly other treatment.

Spring time allergies are related to tree pollens and summer or early fall are grass, weed, and ragweed pollens. Suggestions for managing these outdoor allergies are.....

Keep windows closed, air conditioning on and also when in your car

Keep a laundry basket by the door and change clothes ASAP

Keep air clean. Wear hats and sunglasses. Avoid hairspray, pollens stick to the hair easier.

We are not in the clear until the first frost!

Flowers are beautiful but they too can trigger an allergy response that for some can cause significant respiratory distress. When flowers are donated, consider an arrangement with hypoallergenic flowers and ask your florist for advice. These flowers have less pollen or sticky pollen that doesn't fly off easily into the air. If the plant is hybridized, it is less likely to trigger allergies. Many flowers have been and maybe for that reason. For 100% allergy proof alternative for these symptoms, artificial flowers are the product of choice. And.....they don't die! "No winter lasts forever, no spring skips it's turn." Hal Borland, writer
HAPPY SPRING! *God's Blessing and Peace, Parish Health*

Pastor Kristin Ostercamp, pastorkristin@mncable.net

Office Phone: 681-3296 Fax: 681-3048

Linda Hamrick, Office Manager ziontrf@mncable.net

Darlene Wiseth, Faith Community Nurse zionph@mncable.net

David Lee / Tiffany Sterry, Custodial

Sunday School 10:00-11:00 AM

March Noisy Offering: Prowler Pantry



FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES are being held Wednesdays at 5pm.

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.)

March 26: Michelle Benitt, Mike & Jodi Flaagan, Nick & Ashley Beito

April 2: Nick & Ashley Beito, Nick & Cassie Wilson, Nick & Danielle Harris, Nick Opdahl

March 19 Coffee assistants: Syver Bertilrud, Mikkel Bertilrud

**PATHWAYS BIBLE
CAMP SUNDAY -
MARCH 26TH**



FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP – March 19th following worship today!

CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE - Lenten Worship at 6:30 PM Wednesdays

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 22, 2023 **3th-4th Grade and 11th Grade**
- March 29, 2023 **9th Grade**

**Maundy Thursday- April 6, 2023- First Communion Dinner-
8th grade service project**



SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK:

Today, Sunday, March 19:

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

10 Sunday School

10 Food & Fellowship

10 April Sharing Servants in lounge

11:00 Silver Creek Holy Communion
worship

12:00 Zion broadcast on cable ch. 37

Next Sunday, March 26:

9:00 Zion Worship

Broadcast ch. 3; KTRF

10 Sunday School

11:00 Silver Creek worship

12:00 Zion broadcast on cable ch. 37

4 PM Hotdish Cookoff

Monday, March 20:

Newsletter Deadline

9 SAIL Exercise

6:30 Pack 59

Tuesday, March 21:

9-1 Faith Community Nurse Office hours

9 WELCA Ex. Board

10 WELCA Meeting

Noon - Pastor's text study

5:30 Zion Council meeting

Wednesday, March 22:

1:30 Sarah Circle in lounge

5:30 Lent Supper/Sr Choir serving

6:30 Lent Worship

7:15 Senior Choir

Thursday, March 23:

9 SAIL Exercise

12:30-4:30 Respite Care in Lounge

Friday, March 24:

8:00 Men's Breakfast at Biff's

9:30 Coffee with Staff