



March 5, 2025
Ash Wednesday
6:00pm Service

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
Pastor Sara Stall-Ryan
9:00 a.m. Worship
P.O. Box 202
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YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!

*Regular font: Worship Leader; **Bold font: Congregation***

Time for meditation in preparation for worship.

GATHERING

CALL TO WORSHIP

Please stand

GATHERING HYMN “Our Father We Have Wandered” **ELW 606**

GREETING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, you hate nothing you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and honest hearts, so that, truly repenting of our sins, we may receive from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness 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.**

WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 58:1-12

¹ Shout out, do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion,
to the house of Jacob their sins.

² Yet day after day they seek me

and delight to know my ways,

as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;

they ask of me righteous judgments,

they delight to draw near to God.

³ “Why do we fast, but you do not see?

Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”

Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day,
and oppress all your workers.

⁴ Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight
and to strike with a wicked fist.

Such fasting as you do today
will not make your voice heard on high.

⁵ Is such the fast that I choose,
a day to humble oneself?

Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?

Will you call this a fast,
a day acceptable to the LORD?

⁶ Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the thongs of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?

⁷ Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them,
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

⁸ Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you,
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

⁹ Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

¹⁰ if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.

¹¹ The LORD will guide you continually,
and satisfy your needs in parched places,
and make your bones strong;

and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water,
whose waters never fail.

¹² Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;

you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.

Word of God. Word of Life.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 51:1-17 (Sung to Tone 9)

Women to sing Regular font; Men to sing Bold font



¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your ¹ steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out ¹ my offenses.

²**Wash me through and through ¹ from my wickedness,
and cleanse me ¹ from my sin.**

³For I know ¹ my offenses,
and my sin is ev- ¹ er before me.

⁴**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil ¹ in your
sight;**

**so you are justified when you speak and right ¹ in your
judgment.**

⁵Indeed, I was born ¹ steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my ¹ mother's womb.

⁶**Indeed, you delight in truth ¹ deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom ¹ deep within.**

⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I ¹ shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be pur- ¹ er than snow.

⁸**Let me hear ¹ joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken ¹ may rejoice.**

⁹Hide your face ¹ from my sins,
and blot out ¹ all my wickedness.

¹⁰**Create in me a clean ¹ heart, O God,
and renew a right spir- ¹ it within me.**

¹¹Cast me not away ¹ from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spir- ¹ it from me.

¹²**Restore to me the joy of ¹ your salvation
and sustain me with your boun- ¹ tiful Spirit.**

¹³Let me teach your ways ¹ to offenders,
and sinners shall be re- ¹ stored to you.

¹⁴**Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of ¹ my salvation,**

and my tongue shall sing¹ of your righteousness.

¹⁵O Lord, o-¹pen my lips,
and my mouth shall pro-¹claim your praise.

¹⁶**For you take no delight in sacrifice, or¹ I would give it.
You are not pleased¹ with burnt offering.**

¹⁷The sacrifice of God is a¹ troubled spirit;
a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will¹ not despise.

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10

^{20b}We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

^{6:1}As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. ²For he says,

“At an acceptable time I have listened to you,
and on a day of salvation I have helped you.”

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! ³We are putting no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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GOSPEL READING

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

The gospel according to Matthew, the 6th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹‘Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

²‘So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may

be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ³But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁵ ‘And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ⁶But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁶ ‘And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁹ ‘Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ

HYMN

Please be seated

PASTORAL MESSAGE

Pastor Sara Stall-Ryan

One minute of silence is kept for reflection.

Please stand

HYMN OF THE DAY “Be Thou my Vision” ELW 793

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

The assembly kneels or sits. Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

Most holy and merciful God,
we confess to you and to one another,

**and before the whole company of heaven,
that we have sinned by our fault,
by our own fault,
by our own most grievous fault,
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, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

Have mercy on us, O God.

We have shut our ears to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy that have infected our lives, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the faith that is in us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

People may come forward to receive ashes. The minister marks a cross of ashes on the forehead of each person, with the words, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return," the words a reminder that we are mortals, created, not Creator. In the ancient world, placing ashes on one's head was a sign of mourning and repentance. We continue this tradition today with these ashes. Once you have received ashes, you are invited to return to your seats to kneel or sit, to remain in silent prayer and meditation.

Hymn during the imposition of ashes:

"Abide with Me"

ELW 629

Once all who desire to have received ashes:

Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,
that we may show forth your glory in the world.

By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,
bring us with all your saints to the joy of us resurrection.

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

Amen.

MEAL

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

God of our journeys, we pray for the church as the season of Lent begins. Guide your people in spiritual practices and preparation for baptism. Strengthen communities of faith in discipleship and witness for the sake of the gospel. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God of creation, we pray for the earth. As you once brought forth life from the dust, breathe healing and renewal into all places where ecosystems are stretched and strained. Nurture organic cycles of life, death, and rebirth. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God of the nations, we pray for an end to wars and occupations that

reduce communities to ash. Turn leaders away from fearful decision-making, and lead all people into the justice and compassion of your reign. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God of the suffering, we pray for all who live with any pain (especially). Comfort people living with chronic or terminal illnesses, addictions, or anxiety. Grant that all who dwell in the dust of grief may know your presence there. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God of community, we pray for those who accompany the dying: for first responders, health care and hospice workers, chaplains, and those who facilitate burials of the dead. Sustain them as they serve their neighbors in life and death with dignity and care. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of the cross, we give thanks for those who have completed their lives on earth and have returned to you. Strengthen us with the promise that within the ashes of death are the seeds of resurrection life. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

Amen.

OFFERING

Offertory Hymn “On My Heart Imprint Your Image” **ELW 811**

OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD’S PRAYER (*spoken*)

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All who are hungry, come!
The feast of grace is spread.

Please come forward to receive communion.

LAMB OF GOD

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COMMUNION HYMN “Just as I Am”

ELW 592

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Generous Host,
you have shared your feast with us and made us new.
Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities,
that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom,
in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

God our tender parent,
God the crucified one,
God the reconciling Spirit,
+ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

HYMN “Once We Sang and Danced” **ELW 701**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.
Thanks be to God.

Prayer List

For Health:	Allen H	Milluzzo and	For Safety:
Clara W	Matthew A	Neri families	Andrew C
Joyce G	Bud J	Joan A	Todd S
Bill B	Marjorie F	Shirley C	Michael C
Cathy L	Jessica A	Diane E	Tyler G
Marion B	Charlotte D	Dick C	Erik B
Lily V	Jonathan A	Karen R	Justin Earl B
Holly N	Pauline N	Stacey T	Evan G
Dylan G	Curt R	Nancy G	David P
Lisa A	Matthew S	Family of	
Aiden J	Phil O	Mark D	
Helen A	Peter W		

SERVING TODAY

Sandra Chiasson - Lector
Sandra Chiasson - Worship Assistant
Volunteers - Ushers/Greeters
Pauline Neumann - Altar Guild
Sarah Dzialo - Organist

Lenten Calendar

On **Wednesdays during Lent** we begin The Soup and Substance program together with Bethlehem Lutheran Church in East Hampton at **6:00 p.m.**



Dates are:

February 21 at Bethlehem
February 28 at Zion
March 6 at Bethlehem
March 13 at Zion
March 20 at Bethlehem



Lent Activity Bags will be available for families on March 9th. Each bag contains items to spark conversation, to dig into scripture, and to create a Lenten devotional practice for children.



**Food
Pantry
Needs**

Grace Guild will be collecting donations of **Groceries and Personal items** for the Food



Life Line Screening will be here at Zion on **Tuesday, April 9th** from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. If you would like to register for an appointment call 1-800-640-6307 or visit LLSA.SOCIAL/HC

MISSION STATEMENT

As members of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, we exist to honor and proclaim the life of Jesus Christ through our words, actions and deeds.

VISION STATEMENT

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church shall be a prominent magnet in the community to draw people to a new life in Jesus Christ.

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