# Historic Zion Lutheran Church

#### DIVINE SERVICE FOR LAETARE, THE 4TH SUNDAY IN LENT

9:00 am ...... Sunday, March 14, 2021

#### RECEIVING OF THE LORD'S SUPPER AT ZION

As intended by Christ and as practiced by the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church throughout her history, "Closed Communion" is observed in this congregation, in which the Lord's Supper is distributed only to those:

- (a) who have been **baptized** in the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit;
- (b) who have been instructed in the truth of Holy Scripture as taught in the Lutheran Confessions, who have been confirmed in this Lutheran faith, and who now confess the same doctrines that are taught in this congregation, holding membership in a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod;
- (c) who believe that in this sacrament the real body and blood of Christ are truly distributed to them and orally received by them, bestowing on them the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation:
- (d) who **sincerely repent** of all their sins, and desire to receive God's forgiveness in this holy meal. Guests at our services, before receiving the sacrament, are requested to affirm these facts with one of our pastors. Thank you for honoring our practice. If you are looking for a church home, would like to be a member of Zion, or would like to learn more about the Christian Faith, please speak to one of our pastors about our membership classes.

of Zion, or would like to learn more about the Christian Faith, please speak to one of our pastors about our membership classes.
♣ = appropriate to make the baptismal sign of the cross  When "rise" or "kneel" is indicated, it is appropriate to sit if needed
Greeting And Announcements: The Lord be with you! And also with you!
[ Rise ] Invocation
In the name of the Father and of the 4 Son and of the Holy Spirit Amen
The Office of Confession of Sins and Absolution
Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
[ Kneel ]
Our help is in the name of the Lord
O almighty God, merciful Father,
Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ♣ Son and of the Holy Spirit. ▲ Amen

The Congregation rises, turns towards the entrance of the nave, and faces the Cross of Christ, the reminder of Christ's promise to come and dwell among His people as they are gathered in His name.





[Antiphon] The LORD is my light and my sal- | va-\_\_ tion; || whom | shall\_\_ I\_\_ | fear\_\_? || The LORD is the stronghold | of my life; || of whom | shall I be a- | fraid?

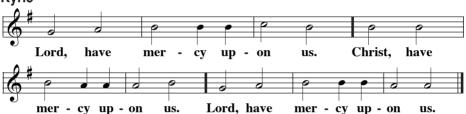
Verse 1: Though an army encamp against me, my heart | shall not fear; || though war arise against me, yet I | will be con- fi- | dent\_\_. || One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek | af-\_\_ ter: || that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the | days\_\_ of my | life.

Verse 2: For he will hide me in his | shel-\_\_ ter || in the | day\_\_ of\_\_ || trou- ble; || he will conceal me under the cover | of his tent; || he will lift me | high up- on a | rock.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son: || and | to the Ho-ly | Spir-it; || As it was in the be-| •ginning•, is now, || and will | be for-•ever•. A-| men!

[ Antiphon ] The LORD is my light and my sal- | va-\_\_ tion; || whom | shall\_\_ I\_\_ | fear\_\_? || The LORD is the stronghold | of my life; || of whom | shall I be a- | fraid?

#### **Kyrie**



#### **Salutation**

The Lord be with you.



**Collect for the Fourth Sunday in Lent:** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**Collect for Lent:** Merciful and everlasting God, who did not spare Your only Son, but delivered Him up for us all that He might bear our sins upon the cross, grant that our hearts may be so fixed with steadfast faith in Him that we may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



[ Be Seated ]

#### + The Office of the Word of God +

Epistle of the Day ...... Ephesians 2:1-10 [ After the reading ] This is the word of the Lord. ..... Thanks be to God.



[ Deacon] "For God so | loved the world, || that he | gave his on- ly | Son\_\_, || that whoever be- | lieves in him || should not perish but | have e- ter- nal | life."

All: O come, let us fix our | eyes on •Jesus•, || the founder and per- | fec- tor of our | faith\_\_. || who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despis- | ing the shame || and is seated at the right hand | of the throne of | God.



#### **Confession of Faith (The Nicene Creed)**

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven

[ Bow ] And was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, And was made man;

And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven, And sits at the right hand of the Father; And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; Whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe in one Holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, And I look for the resurrection of the dead, And the life  $\pm$  of the world to come. Amen!

[ Be Seated ] Hymn of the Day .... God Loved the World .. Burgundy Hymn 571 [ Rise for stanza 6. ]

[ Be Seated ] Sermon

#### [ Rise ] Prayer of the Church

#### [ Be Seated ] Offerings, Voluntary





#### + The Office of the Sacrament of the Altar +

#### **Preface**

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spir-it.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up un-to the Lord.

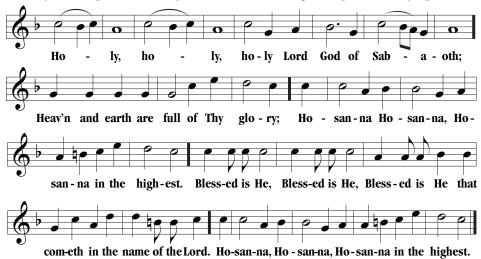
Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.



It is meet and right so to do.

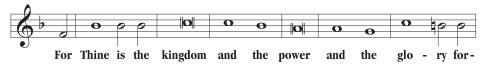
#### **Proper Preface for Lent, Sanctus**

It is truly meet, right and salutary . . . . . . ever more praising You and saying:



#### [ Kneel ] Lord's Prayer

[Pastor chants:] Our Father who art in heaven; ..... but deliver us from evil.





#### Words of Institution, Pax Domini

The peace of the Lord be with you always!







1-3. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world,



have mer-cy up - on us.

Grant us Thy Peace.

men!

[ Be Seated ]

Distribution Hymns ...... By Grace I'm Saved ...... Burgundy Hymn 566 O Love, How Deep ...... Burgundy Hymn 544

[ All sing stanzas 1 & 2; Women alone sing stanzas 3 & 5; Men alone sing stanzas 4 & 6; All sing stanza 7; Rise for stanza 7.

#### **Eucharistic Benediction**

The Body and Blood of your Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting! \ Depart in Peace! ...... Amen!

Post-Communion Canticle ..... ...... The Nunc Dimittis



- 1. Lord now— lettest Thou Thy
  - servant, de- part- in peace, ac- cord-ing to Thy Word.
- 2. For eyes have seen mine\_\_\_

Thy Salvation,

which Thou hast pre- pared\_ before the face of all\_\_ people.



3. a Light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the Glo-ry of Thy peo-ple Is - - - -



Globe to the

Father, and to\_\_ the Son, and to the Ho-ly Ghost.

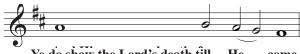


5. As was in the beginning, is

now, and e-ver shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

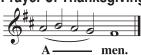
#### **Post Communion Rite**

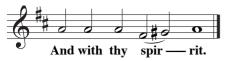
As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup:

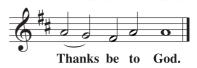


Ye do show the Lord's death till He come.

Prayer of Thanksgiving ... now and forever.







#### **Benediction**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and  $\Phi$  give you peace.



During the Recessional, the Congregation turns and faces the Processional Cross, the symbol of Christ's promise to remain with and lead His people as they now go and live in the world in His name.

Recessional Hymn ...... My Faith Looks Up ...... Burgundy Hymn 702

#### **Postlude**

# **Holy Week Schedule**

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Palm Sunday, March 28
Palm Sunday Divine Service, 9:00 a.m.

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The Triduum: The Three Day Vigil

**+++** 

Part I: Holy Thursday, April 1 Divine Service 7:00 p.m.

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Part II: Good Friday, April 2 Divine Service 7:00 p.m.

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Part III: Holy Saturday, April 3 The Great Vigil of Easter Divine Service 7:00 p.m.

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The Feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord Sunday, April 4 Easter Sunrise Matins 7:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast 7:45 a.m.

Festival Divine Service 9:00 a.m.

(No Sunday School and Adult Bible Class this Sunday)

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Psalm Tone for Introit and Tract: from The Anglican Chant Psalter, copyright © 1987 by The Church Hymnal Corporation; used by permission.

#### Readings for the Fourth Sunday in Lent

#### The Old Testament Reading is Numbers 21:4-9

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. And the people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food." Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. And the people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live." So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

#### The Epistle is Ephesians 2:1-10

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christby grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

#### The Gospel is John 3:14-21

[Jesus said,] "As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their deeds were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his deeds have been carried out in God."

#### Hymns for the Fourth Sunday in Lent

#### LSB571 God Loved the World So That He Gave

Heiliges Lippen und Hertzens-Opffer, Stettin

- 1. God loved the world so that He gave His only Son the lost to save, That all who would in Him believe Should everlasting life receive.
- Christ Jesus is the ground of faith,
   Who was made flesh and suffered death;
   All then who trust in Him alone
   Are built on this chief cornerstone.
- 3. God would not have the sinner die; His Son with saving grace is nigh; His Spirit in the Word declares How we in Christ are heaven's heirs
- 4. Be of good cheer, for God's own Son Forgives all sins which you have done; And, justified by Jesus' blood, Your Baptism grants the highest good.
- 5. If you are sick, if death is near,
  This truth your troubled heart can cheer:
  Christ Jesus saves your soul from death;
  That is the firmest ground of faith.
- △ 6. Glory to God the Father, Son, And Holy Spirit, Three in One! To Thee, O blessed Trinity, Be praise now and eternally!

#### LSB566 By Grace I'm Saved

**Christian Ludwig Scheidt** 

- By grace I'm saved, grace free and boundless; My soul, believe and doubt it not. Why stagger at this word of promise? Has Scripture ever falsehood taught? No! Then this word must true remain; By grace you too will life obtain.
- 2. By grace! None dare lay claim to merit; Our works and conduct have no worth.

God in His love sent our Redeemer, Christ Jesus, to this sinful earth; His death did for our sins atone, And we are saved by grace alone.

- 3. By grace God's Son, our only Savior,
  Came down to earth to bear our sin.
  Was it because of your own merit
  That Jesus died your soul to win?
  No, it was grace, and grace alone,
  That brought Him from His heav'nly throne.
- 4. By grace! This ground of faith is certain; So long as God is true, it stands. What saints have penned by inspiration, What in His Word our God commands, Our faith in what our God has done Depends on grace--grace through His Son.
- 5. By grace to timid hearts that tremble, In tribulation's furnace tried, By grace, in spite of fear and trouble, The Father's heart is open wide.

  Where could I help and strength secure If grace were not my anchor sure?
- 6. By grace! On this I'll rest when dying; In Jesus' promise I rejoice; For though I know my heart's condition, I also know my Savior's voice.

  My heart is glad, all grief has flown Since I am saved by grace alone.

#### LSB544 O Love, How Deep

Thomas à Kempis

- 1. O love, how deep, how broad, how high, Beyond all thought and fantasy, That God, the Son of God, should take Our mortal form for mortals' sake!
- 2. He sent no angel to our race, Of higher or of lower place, But wore the robe of human frame, And to this world Himself He came.
- W3. For us baptized, for us He bore His holy fast and hungered sore; For us temptation sharp He knew; For us the tempter overthrew.

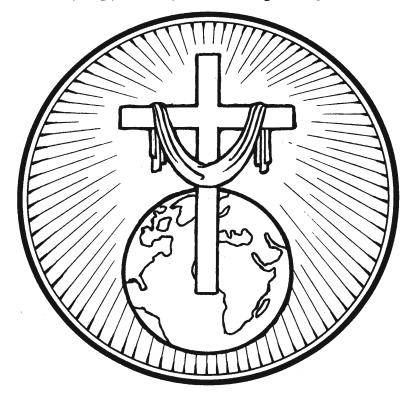
- M 4. For us He prayed; for us He taught; For us His daily works He wrought, By words and signs and actions thus Still seeking not Himself but us.
- W5. For us by wickedness betrayed, For us, in crown of thorns arrayed, He bore the shameful cross and death; For us He gave His dying breath.
- M 6. For us He rose from death again; For us He went on high to reign; For us He sent His Spirit here To guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.
- △ 7. All glory to our Lord and God For love so deep, so high, so broad; The Trinity whom we adore Forever and forevermore.

#### LSB702 My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Ray Palmer

- My faith looks up to Thee,
   Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine.
   Now hear me while I pray; Take all my guilt away;
   Oh, let me from this day Be wholly Thine!
- 2. May Thy rich grace impart
  Strength to my fainting heart; My zeal inspire!
  As Thou hast died for me, Oh, may my love to Thee
  Pure, warm, and changeless be, A living fire!
- 3. While life's dark maze I tread
  And griefs around me spread, Be Thou my guide;
  Bid darkness turn to day, Wipe sorrow's tears away,
  Nor let me ever stray From Thee aside.
- 4. When ends life's transient dream,
  When death's cold, sullen stream Shall o'er me roll,
  Blest Savior, then, in love, Fear and distrust remove;
  O bear me safe above, A ransomed soul!

# The Fourth Sunday in Lent



# Zion Kvangelical Lutheran Church

2313 Hanna Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46803260-744-1389

pastor@zionfw.org, church@zionfw.org | website: www.zionfw.org

The mission of Zion Lutheran Church is to be the body of Christ gathered at Hanna and Creighton in Fort Wayne, Indiana to:

- Receive Christ's gifts in baptism, preaching, teaching, and the Eucharist;
- Reach out to those who do not know the love of God in Christ;
- Reveal Christ's love for the world through acts of kindness and mercy toward all.

#### The Pastoral Ministry At Zion

Senior Pastor Rev. Douglas D. Punke, MDiv (341-5397)
Field Workers: Peter Wagner, Erik Saunders

#### The Teaching Staff At Lutheran South Unity

Sheila Nehrenz, Principal (744-0459)

Gene Koch, Yvonne Schwantz, Barry Chrzan,
Danielle Ramsey, Merideth Tourney, Dawn Gill
John Fink, Hannah Marseh, Cathie Wakeland, Natalie Reynolds

John Fink, Hannah Maresh, Cathie Wakeland, Natalie Reynolds

The Support Staff

Organist and Director of Parish Music: Church Office Manager:

Teachers:

Michael Hollman, MM Melvia Culpher

#### **PRAYERS FOR TODAY**

- + For the church and those experiencing persecution around the world
- + For those who serve our Lord at home and abroad, especially our fieldworkers, Peter and Erik
- + For our nation, under duress because of COVID-19, and racial and political strife; for our leaders, our military, and our health care workers
- + For our schools, especially Lutheran South Unity School, Concordia Lutheran High School, and Concordia Theological Seminary
- + For those who travel
- + For the aged and the homebound, including MaryLou Graham, Juanita Moore, Everett Beck, Helen Russell, Jackie Schieferstein, Cheryl Silvers, and Doris Yerger
- + For those who are near death
- + For the ill, distressed, and those suffering affliction, including Kristie Roberson, Jill Stokes, Art Litke, William Schweikert, Jeff Springer, Tracey Houser, Nikki Wideman, Gloria Gonzalez, Willie Manning, Lucille Brandt, Donna Scott, Willodean Bates, Connie Meyer, Dick Hollman, Maurice King, Ron Rastl, and Marlow Hogan
- + For God's blessing on all godly marriages
- + For the gift of life and for length of days
- + For the gift of rebirth by water and the Spirit
- + For those who mourn the death of loved ones, especially Connie Houser & the Doloris Beck family
- + In remembrance of the faithful departed, including Doloris Beck
- + For our communicants and for a fruitful use of the most Blessed Sacrament of our Lord's Body and Blood

#### IN THE SERVICE TODAY

Today is the Fourth Sunday in Lent. Flowers today are dedicated to those who are celebrating birthdays and anniversaries in March. Please complete an attendance/communion card, including the names of all children, and indicate if you are communing. Non-members, please read the back of the card.

#### CALENDAR March 14, 2021 thru March 20, 2021

SUN.	<b>9:00 AM</b> 10:30 AM	<b>Divine Service</b> Adult Bible Study	, Church Bauer Hall	
	10:30 AM	Junior Catechesis	Conference Room	
MON.				
TUES.	6:30 PM	Adult Catechesis	Zoom	
WED.	9:30 AM	Men of Zion Bible Study	Conference Room	
	5:45 PM	Lenten Supper	Bauer Hall	
	7:00 PM	Vespers Service	Church	
THURS	All Day	District Board of Directors	District Office	
	10:30 AM	Book of Concord Study	Bauer Hall	
FRI.		Pastor's day off — he will be unavailable this day		
SAT.	11:00 AM	Private Confession	Church	
March 21, 2021				
SUN.	9:00 AM	Divine Service	Church	
	10:30 AM	Adult Bible Study	Bauer Hall	
	10:30 AM	Junior Catechesis	Conference Room	
	4:00 PM	Kantorei Lenten Evening Prayer	Kramer Chapel	

or livestream

#### **ZION ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**EDUCATION HOUR**: Adult Bible Class with Dr. Voelz in Bauer Hall exploring the Gospel according to St. Mark. Come and learn.

**CHOICE DOLLARS:** Make an impact on the Zion's ministry through Thrivent Financial. Eligible Thrivent Financial memberships who have available Thrivent Choice Dollars® have until March 31, 2021 to direct them.

**PARENTS WITH LITTLE ONES**, there are booster seats available for you in the old narthex (entryway). Ask or pick one up for your toddler to help them sit and see.

**MEN OF ZION** are studying the prophet Zechariah. Join in on Wednesday mornings at 9:30 AM.

**LENTEN VESPERS:** This Wednesday (7 PM) Rev. Jeff Springer is preaching on Jesus' needful death: He died to gather His children. Lenten supper precedes the Vespers at 5:45 PM. Thanks to our meal preparers and servers.

**COVID PROTOCOLS** now invite you to shake hands after the Divine Service — no pressure, no judgment. A fist or forearm bump works if you're not ready to shake hands. Remember: transmission of COVID is not primarily by touch, but by breathing in respiratory droplets. We are still urging masks in the pews for he sake of the unvaccinated, and we are promoting good hand hygiene. Ushers are handing out bulletins again, too.

COVID-19 UPDATE AT ZION: There are more blue counties around the state, and Allen County is one of them with a metric of 0.5. That's what I expected last week. Cases per 100,000 are below 100; and positivity rate is below 5%. There has been a bit of an uptick in positive tests. We'll have to see if that raises us back up into yellow. For now District 3 COVID-19 hospital census due to COVID is as low as it has been since they've been keeping up with it, and ICU bed availability remains adequate. Allen County is nearing 60,000 having received at least one shot, and nearly 40,000 are fully vaccinated. You can do your part by being vaccinated, if you are able. *Hoosiers 50 and older are now eligible*. The CDC issued recommendations to fully vaccinated persons regarding their health (see <a href="www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html">www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html</a>). It did, however, warn, "the vast majority of people need to be fully vaccinated before COVID-19 precautions can be lifted broadly. Until then, it is important that everyone continues to adhere to public health mitigation measures to protect the large number of people who remain unvaccinated."

MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE How did you do on last week's challenge verse? This week's memory verses should challenge you. They speak of the goal of our faith: salvation, righteousness, resurrection — Philippians 3:8-11: "Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith—that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead." Last week's verse was Galatians 6:14.

**CAMP LUTHERHAVEN** Registration for summer camp at Camp Lutherhaven has begun! It may not seem like it, but summer is right around the corner. Have you made plans yet? Camp Lutherhaven has something for everyone: programs for k-12 grade and even fun for the whole family. Register today at <a href="https://www.lutherhaven.org">www.lutherhaven.org</a> or call for more information at 260-636-7101.

#### For the family of God's Priestly People at Zion

God calls His own people a "Royal Priesthood." God makes us kings and queens, princes and princesses who are bound together by the Holy Spirit in Baptism for the Christian benefit of each other. Priests PRAY -- They talk to God about their neighbor! Priests TEACH -- They talk to their neighbor about God! Priests OFFER SACRIFICES -- They offer to God the sacrifice of broken and contrite hearts; they offer their bodies and work as holy services to God for their neighbors. Join in this priestly work of prayer with your fellow members.

<b>Morning Prayer</b>	DAILY LECTIONARY	<b>Evening Prayer</b>
John 3:14-21	The Fourth Sunday in Lent	Numbers 21:4-9
Mark 12:1-12	Monday	Genesis 42:1-34, 38
Mark 12:13-27	Tuesday	Genesis 43:1-28
Mark 12:28-44	Wednesday	Genesis 44:1-18, 32-34
Mark 13:1-23	Thursday	Genesis 45:1-20, 24-28
Mark 13:24-37	Friday	Genesis 47:1-31
Mark 14:1-11	Saturday	Genesis 49:29–50:7, 14-26

#### THE DAILY PETITIONS OF THE CHURCH

[Daily] O Lord, have mercy upon us. O Christ, have mercy upon us. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Let us pray:

- [T] For the tempted; for the addicted and despairing; for the tortured and oppressed; for the lonely; for the sick, the hospitalized, and the needy; Lord, in Thy mercy, ....... hear our prayer. Amen!
- [W] For fathers, mothers, and families; for those adults who must rear their children alone; the teachers and students of Lutheran South Unity School and Concordia Lutheran High School; Lord, in Thy mercy, hear our prayer. Amen!
- [F] For the preaching of the Cross; for those persecuted for the sake of Gospel; the confession of the orthodox Lutheran faith in our community; Lord, in Thy mercy, hear our prayer. Amen!

[Sat] For faithfulness unto life's earthly end; for the revival of those who have withered in the faith or fallen away; for the dying; Lord, in Thy mercy, hear our prayer. Amen!

[Daily] The Our Father

#### TO PREPARE FOR NEXT SUNDAY

The Fifth Sunday in Lent



# What Doctor Luther Says:

About God's Judgment Seat and His Mercy Seat

[Christ] himself caused it to be preached and proclaimed through his apostles [Acts 10:43], that through his name every one who believes shall receive the forgiveness of sins. Again, "He who believes and is baptized will be saved" [Mark 16:16]. And he himself says in John 3 [:16], "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." Therefore God himself has established the mercy seat and is pointing us from the judgment seat to the mercy seat. Others, such as the proud holy ones, the despisers and persecutors of God's Word, we may leave before the judgment seat; there they shall hear their sentence. Let them remain in their vicious circle until they too humble themselves; we, however, will not remain in that circle, but step out of it as far as ever we can, into that free circle and place where stands the mercy seat. And we appeal to it with full right, because we did not invent it with our own brain. It is rather his own Word which declares it and threatens stern, terrible judgment upon them who come with their own holiness, as if they could stand before God with that, and pay no regard to the mercy seat of Christ. For the sentence has already been pronounced, that they must come before the judgment seat, as Christ says in John 3 [:18], "He who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God" but "he who believes in him is not condemned." That is, he will not come before the judgment seat but before the mercy seat, where there shall be no wrath, where rather he shall be called a beloved child and everything that is not pure within him shall be forgiven, yea, blotted out as a drop of water is consumed by the heat of the sun. For where the mercy seat reigns there is nothing else but utter forgiveness and remission of all sin.

Consequently, we must now learn to distinguish between the two parts which are called the law and the gospel, which is something that we are always teaching. *Luther's Works*, 51:278-9.

#### **LSUS NOTES**

### Praying for You!



#### Please pray for these students:

Kintergarten Enrollment Leshon Ackles J'Leiana Little Martin Herrera Kendall Stevenson Avari Cassell Aubrey Rencher Yaronna Anderson Makhi Williams Mrs. Maresh



## **Read Across America Week**

LSUS celebrated Read Across America Week with fun activities and dress options. These Kindergarteners are showing off their wacky tacky socks on Wednesday and the second graders on thilly Thursday dressed silly.



#### LSUS NOTES continued

#### **LUTHERAN SOUTH UNITY SCHOOL Book Fair**

5401 S CALHOUN ST , FORT WAYNE , IN 46807

Mar. 12 - Mar. 25

Our Book Fair is online! Support our school and help your child discover new books, favorite characters, complete series, and more! You'll love the fun new option to shop for Book Fair exclusives directly from the interactive booklist and enjoy free shipping on book-only purchases over \$25.

**LSUS SEEKS SECRETARY** Lutheran South Unity School is looking for a part time and full-time secretary for the front office. Interested candidates should apply by going to our website LSUSFW.org and filling out the application under 'employment opportunities' on the bottom of the front page.

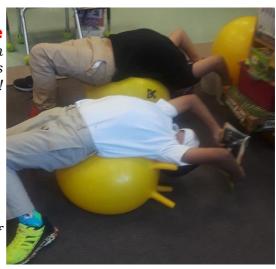
**LSUS Enrollment Time** We have a **virtual tour** and **Kindergarten video** on our website <u>www.LSUSFW.org</u> Kindergarteners must be 5 by August 1st 2021 to enroll. Please let you friends and family members know! Call to set up your pre-screening today! (260) 744-0459

#### **Third Grade**

Reading Up-side-down for Read Across America fun!

#### Scriptural Encouragement

Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. ~ James 1:12



# **Zion Stay-Safe Protocols**

- Indiana and Allen County metrics continue to get better. Vaccines are available for more and more. If you can, we encourage you to be vaccinated!
- We are starting to inch our way back to normal.
- If you are sick, GO/STAY HOME; go to the doctor.
- Those over 65 or immunocompromised are most vulnerable.
- Wear masks if you can, especially in the pews, because of
   prolonged exposure there;
  - respiratory droplets expelled while singing and speaking.
- Be aware of your surroundings; spread out in church; do the recommended distancing (six feet); use the transepts; go to the balcony as necessary. Of course, families who reside together may sit together.
- You are invited now to shake hands, if you're comfortable doing it. Otherwise, we can still bump fists or forearms. Still practice good hand hygiene by washing your hands and using hand sanitizer.
- Cough or sneeze into a tissue (then throw it away) or into your elbow.
- Limit your socializing after the service.
- Take your service bulletin home after service or deposit it in the blue recycling bins. Hymns are in the hymnals.
- No offering plates are being passed. Place your offerings and communion registrations in the baskets in the narthex. Don't forget your bank's automatic bill pay as a method of tithing.
- Holy Communion will continue with stations until the virus is contained. Individual cups are offered for the blood of Christ.



# SHADOW OF A PANDEMIC

JOHN T. PLESS | JACOB CORZINE

As Christians, we know how to address the tension between fear and hope. In the midst of our fears, Jesus Christ enters with hope and peace. Fear alone is paralyzing, but fear among the faithful may drive us to Christ. We are no longer paralyzed but rather freed and enabled to show love to our neighbors.