



# Zion Lutheran Church

## The Divine Service

Third Sunday in Lent

## Welcome

### Before Service Prayer

*God of undying life,  
by your mighty hand  
you raised up Jesus  
from the grave and  
appointed him  
judge of the living  
and the dead.  
Bestow upon those  
baptized into his  
death the power  
flowing from his  
resurrection, that we  
may proclaim near  
and far the pardon  
and peace you give  
us.*

**Roman Missal**

We have seen that the early Christians possessed a clear understanding of the good news they proclaimed. Their kerygma was no dull monochrome, but rather a many-splendored thing. [...] But one thing was constant: their message was Christocentric through and through. The content of their proclamation was none other than the person of Christ. They made use of all the cultural and intellectual pathways which would facilitate the reception of this message. Intensely sensitive to the felt needs of the listeners, the thought world in which they moved, the very language which would strike the clearest note in their minds, their aim nevertheless remained both simple and direct, to introduce others to Jesus Christ. [...] All [evangelists] are clear on the need for a decisive turning to Christ in repentance, faith and baptism; for continuing in the apostolic teaching through faithful study of and obedience to the Scriptures; and for joining in the apostolic fellowship through participation in the common life of the Church, by prayer, service, and regular reception of the Eucharist. Believing as they did in the finality of Christ they lived their lives accordingly; and in urging other people towards conversion they saw themselves participating in and forwarding God's purpose for His whole creation.

**Michael Green**, *Evangelism in the  
Early Church*, p. 276-277

March 12, 2023 ✠ 10:00 AM

## **We are very happy that you are here today!**

At Zion, the bulletin and Lutheran Service Book (LSB) are both used to lead us through our worship. To help guide you during the service, below are some helpful tips.

- For each section of the Divine Service, the page number in the hymnal is listed in the bulletin on the right side of the page, i.e., *LSB 184*, which is found towards the front of the hymnal. All responses are sung unless they are printed in the bulletin.
- **P** indicates sections spoken by the Pastor. **C** indicates responses by the Congregation and will be in **bold print**.
- All hymns are listed in the bulletin with the name of the hymn and page number, i.e., *Thy Strong Word LSB 578*. They are also shown on the Hymn board at the front of the church.
- The *bold, italic text* in both the bulletin and the hymnal shows when the congregation should stand or sit during the Divine Service. The Pastor may also provide direction.

## **A Special Welcome to Those with Young Children**

At Zion we want families with children to feel at home.

- First, please relax and enjoy your time here. Jesus knows that children tend to wiggle and squawk a bit, so please don't feel embarrassed by it. Your children are welcome at Zion.
- To make it a bit easier on your family, please dare to sit toward the front where your children can easily see the front of the Church, note the colors, watch the pastor, wonder about the stained-glass windows above the altar and embrace the action at the altar. What Jesus does here promises to engage them.
- As we go, softly explain the Liturgy to your children, encouraging them to chime in on their parts: Amen! Lord have mercy! And with thy Spirit! I believe! Our Father! All of that belongs to them too.
- Be sure to sing and say and pray your parts too as you stand and sit. Your children learn by following your lead.
- If you and your child must leave, please hurry back. We want you and your children here very much.
- If you need a little help, just ask. There are lots of folks here who will lend you a hand.
- Please know that while you are caring for your children, the rest of us will be rejoicing in Jesus' words, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these" (Luke 18:16).

We know that your children are a gift to the Church, so we will do our best to welcome, smile, encourage, help, and bless you all. Welcome to Zion!



*Divine Service, Setting One*

## The Preparation

Processional Hymn

*Father Welcomes*      *LSB 605*

*Stand*

Invocation

*LSB 151*

Baptismal Rite for **Kaelyn Renae Taylor**

## Service of the Word

Introit

*Psalm 25:1-2, 17-18, 20; antiphon: vv. 15-16*

- P** My eyes are ever | toward the LORD,\*  
for he will pluck my feet out | of the net.
- C** Turn to me and be gra- | cious to me,\*  
for I am lonely and af- | flicted.
- P** To you, | O LORD,\*  
I lift | up my soul.
- C** O my God, in you I trust; let me not be | put to shame;\*  
let not my enemies exult | over me.
- P** The troubles of my heart | are enlarged;\*  
bring me out of my dis- | tresses.
- C** Consider my affliction and my | trouble,\*  
and forgive | all my sins.
- P** Oh, guard my soul, and de- | liver me!\*  
Let me not be put to shame, for I take ref- | uge in you.
- C** Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;  
as it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
- P** My eyes are ever | toward the LORD,\*  
for he will pluck my feet out | of the net.
- C** Turn to me and be gra- | cious to me,\*  
for I am lonely and af- | flicted.

Kyrie

*LSB 152*

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And also with you.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** Amen.

Sit

### Old Testament Reading

*Jeremiah 26:1-15*

The Old Testament Reading for the Third Sunday in Lent is from Jeremiah, the twenty-sixth chapter.

In the beginning of the reign of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, this word came from the LORD: “Thus says the LORD: Stand in the court of the LORD’s house, and speak to all the cities of Judah that come to worship in the house of the LORD all the words that I command you to speak to them; do not hold back a word. It may be they will listen, and every one turn from his evil way, that I may relent of the disaster that I intend to do to them because of their evil deeds. You shall say to them, ‘Thus says the LORD: If you will not listen to me, to walk in my law that I have set before you, and to listen to the words of my servants the prophets whom I send to you urgently, though you have not listened, then I will make this house like Shiloh, and I will make this city a curse for all the nations of the earth.’”

The priests and the prophets and all the people heard Jeremiah speaking these words in the house of the LORD. And when Jeremiah had finished speaking all that the LORD had commanded him to speak to all the people, then the priests and the prophets and all the people laid hold of him, saying, “You shall die! Why have you prophesied in the name of the LORD, saying, ‘This house shall be like Shiloh, and this city shall be desolate, without inhabitant?’” And all the people gathered around Jeremiah in the house of the LORD.

When the officials of Judah heard these things, they came up from the king’s house to the house of the LORD and took their seat in the entry of the New Gate of the house of the LORD. Then the priests and the prophets said to the officials and to all the people, “This man deserves the sentence of death, because he has prophesied against this city, as you have heard with your own ears.”

Then Jeremiah spoke to all the officials and all the people, saying, “The LORD sent me to prophesy against this house and this city all the words you have heard. Now therefore mend your ways and your deeds, and obey the voice of the LORD your God, and the LORD will relent of the disaster that he has pronounced against you. But as for me, behold, I am in your hands. Do with me as seems good and right to you. Only know for certain that if you put me

to death, you will bring innocent blood upon yourselves and upon this city and its inhabitants, for in truth the LORD sent me to you to speak all these words in your ears.”

- P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual

*Psalm 9:19,3*

- P** Arise, O LORD! Let not man prevail;  
let the nations be judged before you!
- C** **When my enemies turn back,**  
**they stumble and perish before your presence.**

## Epistle Reading

*Ephesians 5:1-9*

The Epistle Reading is from Ephesians, the fifth chapter.

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore do not associate with them; for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true).

- P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

## *Stand*

## Return to the Lord (Lenten Verse)

*LSB 157*

## Holy Gospel

*Luke 11:14-28*

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the eleventh chapter.
- C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Now [Jesus] was casting out a demon that was mute. When the demon had gone out, the mute man spoke, and the people marveled. But some of them said, “He casts out demons by Beelzebul, the prince of demons,” while others, to test him, kept seeking from him a sign from heaven. But he, knowing their thoughts, said to them, “Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and a divided household falls. And if Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? For you say that I cast out demons by Beelzebul. And if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. But if it is by the finger of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has

come upon you. When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are safe; but when one stronger than he attacks him and overcomes him, he takes away his armor in which he trusted and divides his spoil. Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters.

“When the unclean spirit has gone out of a person, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, and finding none it says, ‘I will return to my house from which I came.’ And when it comes, it finds the house swept and put in order. Then it goes and brings seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they enter and dwell there. And the last state of that person is worse than the first.”

As he said these things, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to him, “Blessed is the womb that bore you, and the breasts at which you nursed!” But he said, “Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

*Sit*

Children’s Message

Hymn of the Day

*Lord of Our Life*     *LSB 659*

Sermon

*Confess Sins, and Confess God*

*Luke 11:14-28*

*Stand*

Nicene Creed

**C** 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  
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 worshiped 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  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.

#### Prayer of the Church

**P** Lord in Your Mercy,  
**C** Hear our Prayer



*You shall confess your offences in church, and shall not come forward to your prayer with a bad conscience. This is the way of life.*

The Didache

#### Blessing of the Offerings

#### Offertory

LSB 159

## Service of the Sacrament

#### Preface

LSB 160

#### Proper Preface

#### Sanctus

LSB 161

#### Prayer of Thanksgiving

#### The Words of Our Lord

LSB 162

#### Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

#### Pax Domini

LSB 163

#### Agnus Dei

LSB 163

#### Distribution

*We at Zion Lutheran Church of Augsburg believe and confess along with the Holy Scriptures, that this bread and wine in the Sacrament of Holy Communion are truly the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, instituted by Christ Himself, for us Christians to eat and drink. The gifts of His physical body and blood are given in, with, and under the elements of bread and wine at the altar. Those who are communicant members of a Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregation are welcome to commune*

at this altar with us. Other guests wishing to join our confession and receive this Holy Sacrament are invited to meet with the Pastor for Catechesis before communing. Anyone not communing may still come forward, crossing their arms at the rail, to receive a blessing from the Pastor.

The apostle Paul encourages everyone coming to the Sacrament to examine him/herself (1 Corinthians 11:28-29). Ask yourself the following questions: 1) Are you aware that you are a sinner; and, are you sorry for your sins? 2) Do you believe in Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord and in His words of promise in the Sacrament: "This is my body," "This is my blood"? 3) Also, do you intend with the help of the Holy Spirit to live as a forgiven, redeemed child of God, resisting the devil, saying no to sinful desires, and walking in the new life God provides?

Communion Hymn	<i>Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence</i>	<i>LSB 621</i>
Communion Hymn	<i>What Is This Bread</i>	<i>LSB 629</i>
Communion Hymn	<i>Jesus, Priceless Treasure</i>	<i>LSB 743</i>
Thank the Lord		<i>LSB 164</i>
Post-Communion Collect		<i>LSB 164</i>
Benediction		
Recessional Hymn	<i>Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray</i>	<i>LSB 663</i>



# ✠ Soli Deo Gloria ✠

## Serving in the Divine Service

### **PREACHER**

Rev. Joshua Ralston, Pastor

### **ORGANIST**

Susan Colles

### **ACOLYTE**

Alivia Waldo

### **USHERS**

Dave Boswell, Rusty Dorn,  
Robert Sims, Joe Grant

### **ALTAR GUILD**

Chyral Sims, Angela Waldo

### **ELDER**

Randy LaMar

### **TRUSTEE**

Robert Sims

# The Prayers of the Church

## Persecuted Christians in:

Egypt  
Uzbekistan  
Myanmar  
Laos  
Vietnam

## Partner Church

Evangelical Lutheran Free  
Church in Denmark

## Comfort, Health, and Recovery

Michael Ragsdale (*cousin of Angela Waldo*)  
Dewey Boxnick (*friend of the Waldo's*)  
Donna Ward (*sister-in-law of Pattie Ward*)  
Tracie Williamson (*friend of Phyllis Campbell*)  
Ricky McCurrie & family (*friends of Tanya Schroeder*)  
Rev. Andrew Johnson & family (*friends of Tanya Schroeder*)  
Alliene Turner (*cousin of Ron Hairston*)  
Marty Cook (*mother of Taylor Cox*)  
Lon & Jody Schlittenhart (*parents of Jeff Schlittenhart*)  
Jonathan Henshel (*friend of Katie Villalobos*)  
Tina Found (*friend of Katie Villalobos*)  
Frank Russenberger  
Suzan Steuber (*mother of Angela Waldo*)  
Kristen Brown (*friend of Earl Schrock*)  
Lucas Bachman (*student of Katie Villalobos*)

## For those who mourn

*Especially the family and friends of:*  
Gregory LaMar

## Continued Prayers

Landell Aday (*friend of Greg Kremers*)  
Josh Dodson (*brother of Tasha Schlittenhart*)  
Elizabeth Sharp, Tami Robinson, Debbie Keeling (*friends of Phyllis Campbell*)  
Tracy Boswell (*sister-in-law of Barbara Smith*)  
Alissa Wicker & Jace (*friends of Katie Villalobos*)  
Jesse Lea (*brother of Wanda Choate*)  
Keith Olson (*nephew of Linda Shott*)  
Tom Battaglia (*friend of Ron Hairston*)  
Korey Heath (*friend of Zoe Ward*)  
Mildred Greathouse (*grandmother of Tony Waldo*)  
Rick Shott

## Homebound

Dorothy Birkhahn  
Betty Bocksnick  
Gwen Hale  
Helen Riek  
Glenda Schrock

## Serving in the armed forces

Matthew Allen  
Brian Rutledge  
Trent Hale  
Josh Imme  
Dale Ozment  
Hunter Greenfield  
Abigail Manuel

*When hospitalized, sick, needing prayer or absolution,  
contact Pastor Ralston anytime at 501-454-0581.*

# ZION Life Together



## Third Week in Lent March 12, 2023

**The Fruits of Our Faith 03/05/2022**

Worship Attendance: 75

Adult Sunday School: 15

Children's Sunday School: 10

High School Class: 5

General Fund: \$ 6,645.00

Weekly Need: \$ 3,138.58

Carpet Fund: \$ 4,000.00

Food Pantry: \$ 620.00

Fall Fest: \$ 950.00

### **Altar Flowers**

The flowers adorning the altar today are given by Ray Roth in memory of Nancy Roth.

### **Potluck and Voters Meeting**

Today, after the Divine Service, please stay for a potluck meal! We will have the Voters Meeting afterwards.

### **Ringhardt League**

Don't forget - the Ringhardt League meets this afternoon at 4 PM. Bring your Bible and know your confirmation verse!

### **Elders Meeting**

The Board of Elders will meet Tuesday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM. Please let one of the elders know if you have anything they need to discuss.

### **Food Pantry Weekend**

Spend a few hours next weekend sharing the love of Christ! Folks are needed to pack boxes Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup> during the day. Folks are needed to distribute boxes on Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup> from 8 AM - 2PM. Please let Tanya Schroeder know if you can help!

### **Midweek Lenten Service**

Come feed your body and spirit this Wednesday, March 15<sup>th</sup>! Soup Supper begins at 6PM and Compliment Service begins at 7 PM. The sermon series for meditation this Lent will go over Luther's teaching from the Small Catechism concerning the Lord's Supper.

### **LWML Meeting**

The LWML meeting has been rescheduled for this coming Tuesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 PM. All ladies of Zion are invited to attend!

### **Camp Trinity Reminder**

It's time to register for Camp! If your child is planning to go this summer, please fill out a registration ASAP. Early-bird registration is April 1<sup>st</sup>! Please contact Diane Ragsdale for details concerning scholarships.

### **Easter Candy**

It's also time to buy Easter candy for the annual Easter Egg Hunt! A box is in the Narthex for your donations. Thanks in advance for your help!



# Zion Lutheran Church

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London, AR 72847  
PO Box 327  
Dover, AR 72837  
479-331-3277

**The Reverend Joshua Ralston**  
*Pastor*

**Andy Ward**  
*Congregational President*

**Jeff Schlittenhart**  
*Head Elder*

**Diane Ragsdale**  
*LWML President*

**John Kuretsch**  
*Treasurer*

**Phyllis Campbell**  
*Office Assistant*

**Email:** rev.jralston@gmail.com

**Website:** zionaugsburg.org

**Facebook:** facebook.com/  
AugsburgZionLutheranChurch

**If calling for a Pastoral Emergency,  
contact Pastor Ralston directly:**

*Cell.....501-454-0581*

*Church.....479-331-3277*

## **Restrooms**

Restrooms are located in the Narthex outside of the Sanctuary and in the basement Fellowship Hall. Please see an usher if you need assistance.

## **Nursery**

The Nursery is located in the Narthex outside of the Sanctuary.

## **Congregational Membership**

New members are received by Baptism, Confirmation, Transfer, or Profession of Faith (after receiving Pastoral instruction). Please speak with Pastor Ralston for more details.

## **Pastoral Consultation**

Pastoral Consultation based on the Holy Scriptures is available from the Pastor. Please speak with Pastor Ralston to make an appointment.

## **Sick and Homebound**

The sick and homebound are visited regularly by the Pastor with the Scriptures and Sacrament. Please contact Pastor Ralston if you know of any parishioner in need of pastoral visitation.

## **Pastor's Bible Study, Teen, and Children's Sunday School**

Sunday School begins at 9:00 a.m. Anyone from confirmation age on up is welcome to attend Bible Study. Teen and Children's Sunday School is held **every Sunday** in the basement Fellowship Hall/Family Center (Ages 0 and up).

## **Listen to Lutheran Radio**

**Listen:** Issues, Etc. is talk-radio for the thinking Christian. Listen 24/7 at [www.IssuesETC.org](http://www.IssuesETC.org) *The Lutheran Hour* is broadcast on KARV 610 AM/101.3 FM every Sunday at 7:30AM.