

March 20, 2022



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
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INTRODUCTION

The warnings are plentiful and blunt on the third Sunday in Lent. Cut it out or get cut down! The warnings are accompanied by God's invitation to attentiveness: "Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live." The landowner's ultimatum is forestalled by the gardener's readiness to till the ground one more year. That is good news for all of us. Thanks be to God!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

It is Well With My Soul

Arr. Hassell

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of God, who makes a way in the wilderness, walks with us, and guides us in our pilgrimage.

C: **Amen.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy One,

C: **we confess that we have wandered far from you: we have not trusted your promises, we have ignored your prophets in our own day, we have squandered our inheritance of grace, we have failed to recognize you in our midst.**

Have mercy on us! Forgive us and turn us again to you. Teach us to follow in your ways, assure us again of your love, and help us to love our neighbor. Amen.

P: Beloved in Christ, the Word draws near to you, and all who call out to God shall be saved. In Jesus, God comes to you again and again and gathers you under wings of love. In + Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven. God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love.

C: **Amen.**

HYMN Red hymnal #618

Guide Me Ever Great Redeemer

KYRIE Red hymnal page 138

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE Red hymnal page 139

Glory to God

P: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

C: Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

GREETING / PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The grace of Jesus Christ our Savior, the reconciling love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray . . .

C: Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CHANCEL CHOIR Director: Susie Gray
Composer: Mark Hayes

Celtic Communion

THE WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:1-9

P: ¹Ho, everyone who thirsts,
come to the waters;
and you that have no money,
come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.

²Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.

³Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.

⁴See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.

⁵See, you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.

⁶Seek the LORD while he may be found,
call upon him while he is near;

⁷let the wicked forsake their way,
and the unrighteous their thoughts;
let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.

⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

P: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

P: ¹I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ²and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. ⁵Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

⁶Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not

desire evil as they did. ⁷Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." ⁸We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. ¹⁰And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. ¹²So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. ¹³No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

P: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

C: **Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.**

HOLY GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel is **Luke 13:1-9**

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

P: ¹At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ²[Jesus] asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? ³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

⁶Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' ⁸He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON Pastor Dale Schaefer

HYMN Red hymnal #803 *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

APOSTLE'S CREED

P: Let us confess our faith.

C: **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 again 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 THE CHURCH (*Response after each petition*)

P: Lord in your mercy,

C: **Hear our prayer . . .**

OFFERING—Invitation—God's Work Continues

OFFERTORY SONG Red hymnal #186 *Create in Me a Clean Heart*

C: **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit
from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me
with your free Spirit.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER / WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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

P: You are children of God, anointed with the oil of gladness and strengthened for the journey.
Almighty God, motherly, majestic, and mighty, + bless you this day and always.

C: Amen.

HYMN Red hymnal #328

Restore in Us, O God

DISMISSAL

P: What is the mission of Zion Lutheran Church?

C: **The mission of Zion Lutheran Church is: "Serving Christ through serving others."**

P: Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling

Arr. Albrecht

In Helpful Service

Pastor

Dale Schaefer

Greeters

Covert & Maureen Holley

*The altar flowers are given to the honor and glory of God
by Bill Devenzio in memory of Barbara Devenzio on her birthday.*

*Prayer concerns for Zion's prayer chain may be submitted
using a 'Prayer Request' card from the pew rack.*

Total Attendance 3/12 & 3/13: 74

Unified Giving: \$4,592.00

Building Fund: \$ 200.00

Sunday School Attendance 3/13

Adult: 15

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MARCH MISSION OF THE MONTH: Eagles Wings has been offering equine assisted activities and therapies since 2006 on Washington Road, north of Troy. They have served over 500 children and adults with a variety of disabilities in Miami County.

NATIONAL QUILTERS DAY

Tues, March 22 from 10am-noon, the quilters at Zion are joining Lutheran World Relief to celebrate National Quilters Day (May19). Come to our Open House to see quilt making in action and enjoy a cup of coffee with us.

COMMUNION IN MARCH . . . Saturday, March 26

EASTER PLANTS

Orders for Easter plants can be placed today thru Thursday, March 31, 2022. The sooner we get the orders in the better chance we have to get what we order. There are currently supply chain issues we may have to deal with.

A MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICE will take place on Wednesday, March 23 at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. The theme will be "Walking Wet thru Lent".

SAVE THE DATE— April 9, 2022 - **"The joy of the Lord is your strength"**

The Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Northwest Conference of the Southern Ohio Synod present their 10th Annual Spring Gathering here at Zion Lutheran Church. Registration, Exhibits and Hospitality Brunch time from 8:30—10:00 a.m. Opening assembly in the sanctuary at 10 a.m. with presentation at 10:30 a.m. \$5 registration fee will help defray costs incurred. Gathering closes at approximately noon. Watch for more information to follow.

Staff

Dale Schaefer, Interim Pastor; Bill Jones & Susie Gray, *Choir Directors*;

Lori Sebastian, *Organist*; Jessica Dorn *Christian Education Director*

Linda Short, *Office Manager*; Sue Rambeau, *Treasurer*; Tina Putnam, *Sexton*