

**Sunday, March 27, 2022**



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church  
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## INTRODUCTION

*The psalm sets the tone this day: "Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!" Happy are those who have "become the righteousness of God" in the merits of Christ Jesus. Happy are those for whom the forgiveness of God has "rolled away . . . the disgrace" of former times. Happy is the father at the return of his prodigal son. Happy are we that our sins are forgiven for Jesus' sake. Rejoice!*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRELUDE**            *Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy*            Arr. Medema

## 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 #807**            *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

## **KYRIE Red hymnal page 138**

**P:**     In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**C:**     **Lord, have mercy.**

**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.

**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: God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, 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: Bill Jones *Gracious Spirit Dwell With Me*  
Arranged by Lee Scott

### **THE WORD**

#### **FIRST READING: Joshua 5:9-12**

R: <sup>9</sup>The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day. <sup>0</sup>While

the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. <sup>11</sup>On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. <sup>12</sup>The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

R:: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### **SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21**

R: <sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup>So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! <sup>18</sup>All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup>that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. <sup>20</sup>So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

R: 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 Gospel according to **Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32**

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

P: Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

<sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable: <sup>11b</sup>"There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup>A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant " country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. <sup>14</sup>When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup>He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup>But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! <sup>18</sup>I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; <sup>19</sup>I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." ' <sup>20</sup>So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup>Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' <sup>22</sup>But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup>And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; <sup>24</sup>for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup>Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup>He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. <sup>27</sup>He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' <sup>28</sup>Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. <sup>29</sup>But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup>But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' <sup>31</sup>Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup>But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'

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

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**SERMON** Pastor Dale Schaefer

**HYMN** Red hymnal #608

*Softly and Tenderly*

### **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 . . .

#### **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.

#### **OFFERING—INVITATION—God's Work Continues**

## OFFERTORY SONG

*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.

## 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 #666

*What Wondrous Love is This*

## 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. Share the good news.  
**C:** Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

*Where Charity and Love Prevail*

Arr. Hobby

*The altar flowers are given to the honor and glory of God by Kervyn & Janice Mach in celebration of their birthdays.*

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

## In Helpful Service

Pastor  
Greeters  
Reader

Dale Schaefer  
Jack & Sharon Byrd  
Jeff Slyman

**Total Attendance 3/19 & 3/20: 104**

Unified Giving: \$3,236.50

Building Fund: \$150.00

**Sunday School Attendance:** Youth: 2 Children: 8

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY:** Today we are blessing prayer shawls and baby blankets for our Prayer Shawl Ministry. These items are created with love and prayers for individuals who are grieving, who are having surgery or have a serious illness, or who just need a reminder of God's love. Blankets are delivered to new babies. Since the Prayer Shawl Ministry began in July 2019, we have delivered 20 women's shawls, 9 men's shawls, and 9 baby blankets. Recipients do not need to be a member of Zion. If you know someone who could use a shawl or baby blanket, please contact Debbie Rudisill or the church office.

### **CALL FOR MINISTRY SITE PROFILE VOLUNTEERS**

In order to proceed with the call process, we need to create a set of documents called the Ministry Site Profile and have it approved by Synod. The MSP is a description of, really an advertisement for, our congregation and community. It shows a prospective pastor why he or she would want to come to Zion. Once we submit it on line and Synod approves, it is available nationwide through the ELCA. We want to involve the congregation as much as possible in the completion of the MSP, so we've made samples available for everyone who wants to contribute, ideally, a good cross section of the congregation. There are three forms. Please take a set, answer the questions you can, and return them by Easter Sunday. You don't have to include your name. We will compile the results, post them on our web site, and submit the final MSP. Kervyn Mach

**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.

**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.



**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.

**COMMUNION IN APRIL:** Sunday: April 3 & 17      Saturday: April 23

**HOLY WEEK SERVICES**

**April 9**      Saturday Evening worship 5 PM  
**April 10**      Palm Sunday 10 AM  
**April 14**      Maundy Thursday 7 PM worship  
**April 15**      Good Friday 7 PM worship  
**April 16**      Sat. Easter Vigil 5 PM worship  
**April 17**      Sun. Easter 8 AM & 10 AM worship

**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*