



**March 10, 2024 - Fourth Sunday in Lent
Traditional Worship Service**



Zion
Evangelical
Lutheran
Church

*Zion matters to the
community by
showing the love of
Jesus Christ.*

**STAFFED CHILD
CARE**

Available during
worship service.
Infant thru
Kindergarten.

WIFI = Zion Guest
No password required

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Welcome from Presiding Minister (PM)

*Please stand as you are able
Turn to follow the cross as it processes through the worship space
Welcome Jesus into our presence*

What Wondrous Love Is This

1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2 When I was sink - ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, when
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and

won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this
I was sink - ing down, sink-ing down, when I was sink - ing down
God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,

that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my
be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my
who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing

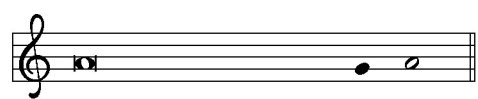
soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.
on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.
Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Paul J. Christiansen, 1914–1997, alt.
Arr. © 1955 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

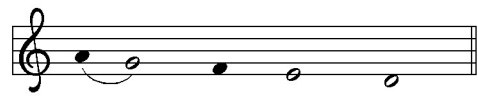
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Congregation responses are in bold print

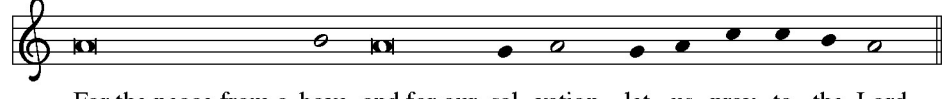
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.



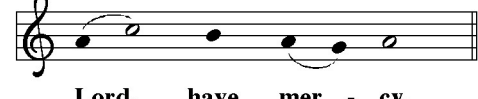
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



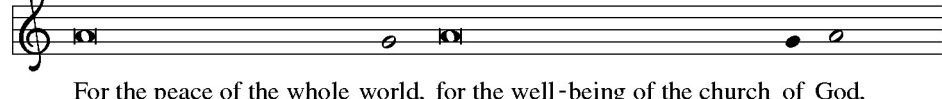
Lord, have mer - cy.



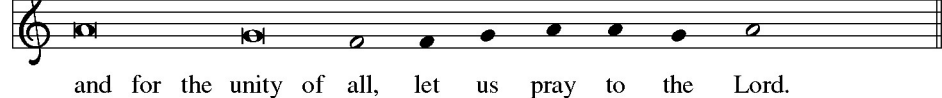
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.




Lord, have mer - cy.



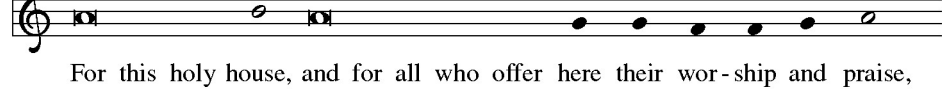
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



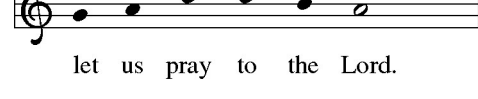
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



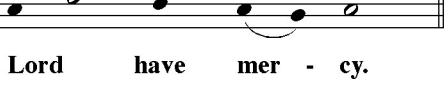
Lord, have mer - cy.



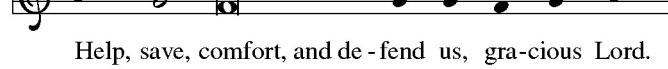
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



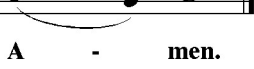
let us pray to the Lord.



Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord.



A - men.

Assisting minister

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

All

Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we

wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.

Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;

you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.

For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,

in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

PM: Let us pray.

O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect 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.

Please be seated

A reading from Numbers

(Numbers 21:4-9 Pew Bible,
Old Testament, page 109)

The reading concludes with:
Word of God, Word of Life
Thanks be to God

Psalm Paraphrase
(Read responsively
the indented lines)

God, you are the greatest;
your love is endless.
Let those who know God's love,
tell everyone about it.
God collected you,
from the four corners,
east, west, north, south.

We led foolish lives,
weighed down by our choices;
so sick we couldn't look at food,
close to death's door.
Then, no longer able to stand it,
we cried out to God –
and God saved us!
God spoke and we were healed;
delivered from despair.
So, let us thank our God;
for God's enduring love,
for joy and life given us.

Let us offer our thanks and praise,
telling everyone what God did for us.

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22
Paraphrased by Pastor William



A reading from Ephesians

(Ephesians 2:1-10 Pew Bible,
New Testament, page 148)

The reading concludes with:
Word of God, Word of Life
Thanks be to God

Please stand as you are able



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,



slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

The holy gospel according to St. John
Glory to you, O Lord

(John 3:14-21, Pew Bible,
New Testament, page 71)

The reading concludes with:
The gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

Please be seated

Children's Time with Pastor

Sermon

Please stand as you are able

Give to Our God Immortal Praise!

1 Give to our God im - mor - tal praise! Mer - cy and
 2 He sent his Son with pow'r to save from guilt and
 3 Give to the Lord of lords re - nown; the King of

truth are all his ways. Won - ders of grace to
 dark - ness and the grave. Won - ders of grace to
 kings with glo - ry crown. His mer - cies ev - er

God be - long; re - peat his mer - cies in your song.
 God be - long; re - peat his mer - cies in your song.
 shall en - dure when lords and kings are known no more!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748
Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

AM: Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

A brief silence for personal prayer

Gracious God, your love unites. Give vision to the global church and foster cooperation in mission. Increase inter-religious understanding and ecumenical dialog. Make your church a sanctuary for all fleeing persecution, disaster, and war. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Creating God, your love enlivens. Restore balance to the earth's fragile habitats. Preserve wilderness lands, rainforests, and wildlife. Cleanse oceans and rivers. Make us good stewards of the earth. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Righteous God, your love liberates. We give thanks for those who courageously witness to your liberating love. Free all people from the evils of racism, religious strife, and hatred. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Merciful God, your love heals. Care tenderly for all whose loved ones perished from pandemic disease in every nation. Strengthen health care workers, first responders, and caregivers. Relieve all who live with chronic illness and pain. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Incarnate God, your love enlightens. Open our hearts and minds to fresh understandings of our faith. Deepen our love for you and for one another. Teach us to pray for our enemies. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Thank you for the life of our birthday siblings,

Linda Weidenbach, Mel Whalen and Melvin Lindberg

You bring life from death. We remember our loved ones who have died, confident that they have new life in you. May we trust that nothing can separate us from your love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Abiding God, your love saves. Those who died in the faith are made alive in Christ. We give thanks for your promise that we also will be raised to newness of life. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

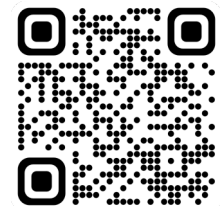
The Offering of our tithes, gifts and sacrifices is gathered for the mission of Christ's church, including the care of those in need.

ELECTRONIC GIVING

PC = <https://onrealm.org/ZionLutheranChurchNC/give/now>

Smartphone = <https://onrealm.org/ZionLutheranChurchNC/give/now>

OR Scan QR code for mobile giving



AM: Let us enthusiastically pray our prayer of stewardship, Holy Lord,
I gladly return, for your work, a portion of your abundant provision to me. All that I have is yours alone, entrusted Lord, to my care. Amen.

PM: The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.
We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.
We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.
We thank you, O God.

Words of Institution - Please look up, Pastor will be speaking these words

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

We pray for the gift of your Spirit:

**in our gathering;
within this meal;
among your people;
throughout the world.**

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

Amen.

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.

Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Please be seated

The Lord's Supper (Communion) at this congregation is practiced as an open table – all are welcome.
Jesus said this is his body and blood given and shed for you;
come receive the loving grace God provides for you.

Those who do not commune may come forward for a blessing, for all are loved by God.

Children who commune at their home congregation are encouraged to commune here today too.

Gluten free wafers available. Request at time of receiving communion.

Communion Music: *Chorale*

By: Flor Peeters

Please stand as you are able

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

Amen.

AM: Let us pray,

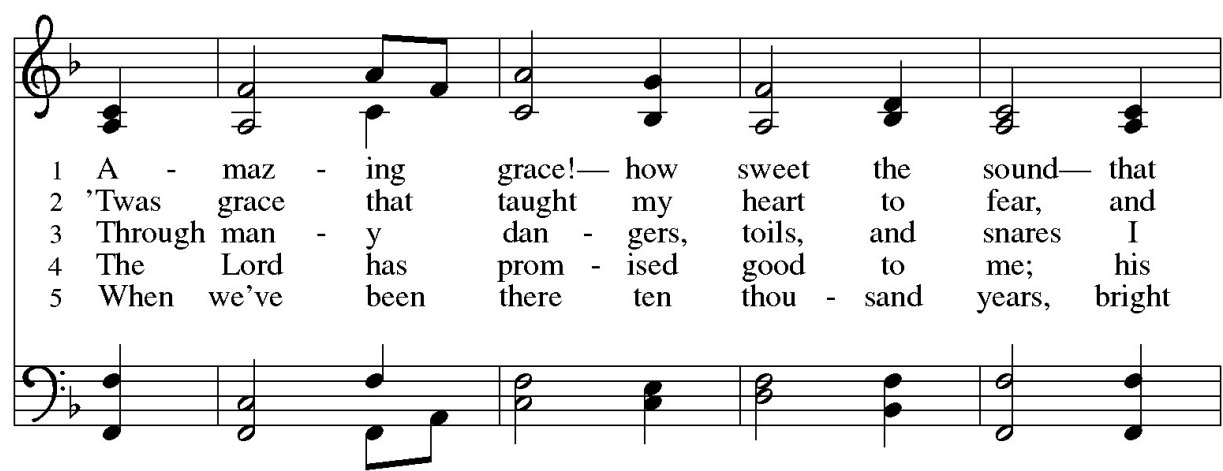
Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. Amen.

AM: Let us enthusiastically commit to our mission as we pray,
Lord, my hope and strength comes from you. Open my eyes and heart to become the person you want me to be; a person who cares for the widows and orphans, feeds the hungry, clothes the naked, frees the oppressed, and visits the sick and imprisoned. Give me and this congregation a vision to make a difference in our community. Enliven me to spread the good news of your Son. I pray this all for Jesus’s sake. Amen.

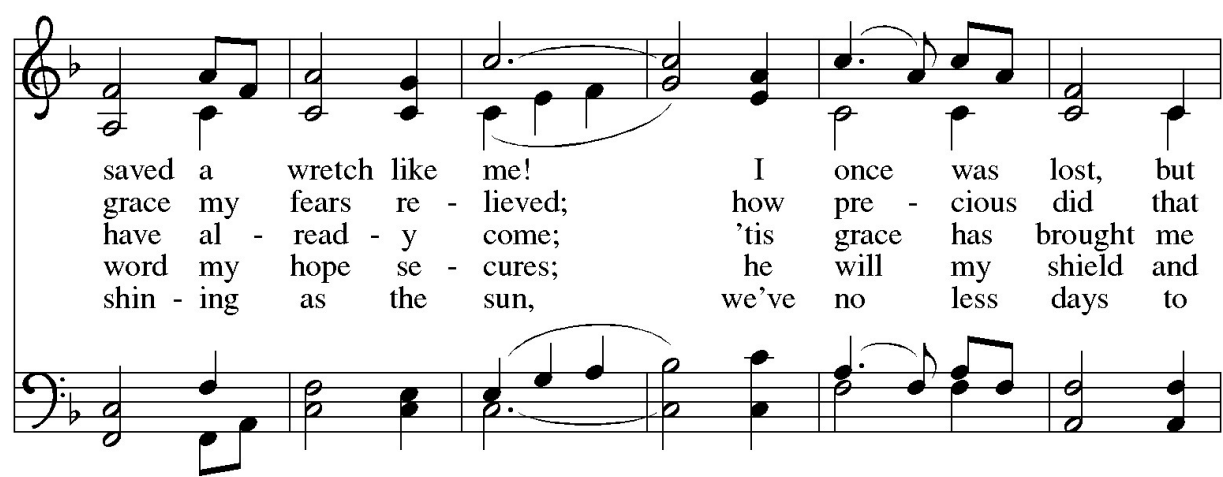
PM: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.
Amen

*Turn to follow the cross as it processes through the Worship Space.
Then follow it out to join in God’s work.*

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

Continued on next page



now am found; was blind, but now I see.
grace ap - pear the hour, I first be - lieved!
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5
Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1851–1921, alt.


AM: Go in peace. Share your bread.
We will, with God’s help.

Please join in the coffee and donut social immediately following the Worship Service

Postlude: *Intermezzo*By: Flor Peters

John 3:14-21

Stewardship Moment from Pastor William



*Dwelling in a world
created with love and
entrusted to our care*

Stewardship in the Gospel

Jesus says that God sent him, not to condemn the world, but to save the world. A nice quick and simple statement. The answer to how that is done is just as quick and simple; believe in him. God's grace and love is for the whole world. God saves the world because that's what God wants to do.

Stewardship in our Community

Our community is full of people of all sorts. Generally, that is a good thing. Unfortunately, there are too many people who don't believe in Jesus. And isn't that the one thing that is most important? Instead of hating, condemning, or trying to fix people, let's change our behavior first.

Stewardship in practice

How can we help people believe in Jesus? It starts with our behavior. We need to stop criticizing, chastising, condemning and trying to change others. Let us start loving, accepting and encouraging everyone. Let our belief in Jesus be our starting and ending point. Jesus wants to save the whole world. Do you? How many people do want to believe in Jesus? What are you doing about it?

Bible Readings for
March 17

~Jeremiah 31:31-34
~Hebrews 5:5-10
~John 12:20-33



Weekly News of Zion Lutheran Church

John 3:14-21
Gospel Message from Pr. William

Photo by mirandi at Pixabay.com



In our reading this week, Jesus says that God sent him to save the world. And how are they saved? Jesus has that answer too; believe in him. Jesus says nothing about people having to admit their faults, behave in a certain way, join a church, or any other things we church people often require. Believing in him is all Jesus requires. Our job, as a church, is to help people believe in Jesus. Let us act with grace, mercy and compassion toward all people, so that they can believe in Jesus too.



**Last Two Sunday
Lenten Worship Service
and Meals
March 10 & March 17**

**Supper—5:30pm
Worship-6:15pm**

Be a part of the journey!

**NEW BIBLE DISCUSSION
OPTIONS
EVERY THURSDAY**

**7AM - SAMANTHA'S 6326 MARKET AVE.
9AM - ZOOM BIBLE DISCUSSION
12PM - ZION CHURCH LIBRARY**

**If you need the Zoom link, please contact the
office to receive the weekly email.**

**The same material will be covered at each
weekly session. Everyone is welcome to attend.
Please invite your friends and family.**



**Equal Exchange Carrot wrapped
chocolate bar with adorable bunny
Only \$10.00**



**LENT
is a season that calls us...**

Today's Worship Leaders

Assisting Minister: George Miller
Acolyte: Ben Keith
Accompanist: Carol McKimm
Audio/Visual Technicians: Linda Weidenbach
Chris Thompson
Chancel Guild: Jayne Schrader and Beth Shaheen
Child Care Attendant: Amelia Milek
Presiding Minister: Rev. William C Weidenbach Jr.
Reader: Renee Keith
Trustees: Randy Elsass and Rob Frock
Flowers by: Paul & Cindy Bagocius in honor of
Scott Bagocius

March 17, 2024 Worship Leaders

Assisting Minister: Jim Fidler
Acolyte: LJ Brown
Accompanist: Steve Moore
Audio/Visual Technicians: Linda Weidenbach
John Rhodes
Chancel Guild: Jayne Schrader & Sally Bunyan
Child Care Attendant: Amelia Milek
Presiding Minister: Rev. William C.
Weidenbach Jr.
Reader: Mark Denman
Trustees: John Long and Brian Milek
Flowers by: Carol Rossbach in loving memory
of Gregg Evanoff