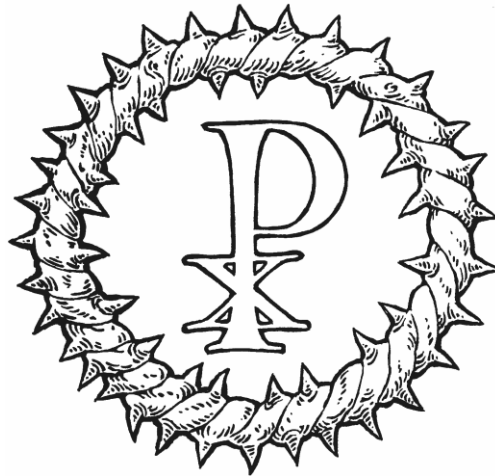


**Zion Lutheran Church**  
**Mascoutah, Illinois**  
**March 25, 2020**  
***4<sup>th</sup> Lent Midweek Service***



*In the Name of Christ Jesus our Lord, we bid you a warm welcome to this worship service. May your experience of worship and fellowship this evening be spiritually refreshing and ready you for the week ahead.*



**Pastor: Rev. Kirk Clayton**  
**Church Secretary: Robin Phillips**  
**Choir Director Team: Josh and Nancy Peterson**

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**Church Office Phone: 618-566-7345**  
**Pastor Clayton Cell: 618-447-1306**  
**Office Hours: 8:00 am to 12:00 pm**  
**Email: [ChurchOffice@ZionMascoutah.org](mailto:ChurchOffice@ZionMascoutah.org)**  
**Pastor Clayton email: [Pastor@ZionMascoutah.org](mailto:Pastor@ZionMascoutah.org)**  
**Web site: [www.ZionMascoutah.org](http://www.ZionMascoutah.org)**  
**Find us at [@ZionMascoutah](#) on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram**

# Vespers

Hymn

Jesus, Refuge of the Weary

LSB 423

- 1 Jesus, refuge of the weary,  
Blest Redeemer, whom we love,  
Fountain in life's desert dreary,  
Savior from the world above:  
Often have Your eyes, offended,  
Gazed upon the sinner's fall;  
Yet upon the cross extended,  
You have borne the pain of all.
- 2 Do we pass that cross unheeding,  
Breathing no repentant vow,  
Though we see You wounded, bleeding,  
See Your thorn-encircled brow?  
Yet Your sinless death has brought us  
Life eternal, peace, and rest;  
Only what Your grace has taught us  
Calms the sinner's deep distress.
- 3 Jesus, may our hearts be burning  
With more fervent love for You;  
May our eyes be ever turning  
To behold Your cross anew  
Till in glory, parted never  
From the blessed Savior's side,  
Graven in our hearts forever,  
Dwell the cross, the Crucified.

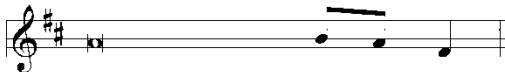
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Stand

## Opening Versicles *(Use Lent Response)*



**L** O Lord, o - pen my lips.



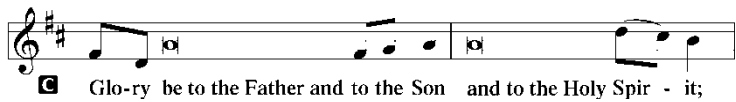
**R** and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



**L** Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



**R** make haste to help me, O Lord.



**C** Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.



*Common:* Praise to You, O Christ. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Advent:* Praise to You, O Christ, King who comes to save us.

*Lent:* Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our sal - va - tion.

### Responsive Reading:

*Psalm 46*

- P** God is our refuge and strength,  
**C** a very present help in trouble.  
**P** Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,  
**C** though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,  
**P** though its waters roar and foam,  
**C** though the mountains tremble at its swelling.  
**P** There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
**C** the holy habitation of the Most High.  
**P** God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;  
**C** God will help her when morning dawns.  
**P** The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;  
**C** He utters His voice, the earth melts.  
**P** The LORD of hosts is with us;  
**C** the God of Jacob is our fortress.  
**P** Come, behold the works of the LORD,  
**C** how He has brought desolations on the earth.  
**P** He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;  
**C** He breaks the bow and shatters the spear;  
**P** He burns the chariots with fire.  
**C** “Be still, and know that I am God.  
**P** I will be exalted among the nations,  
**C** I will be exalted in the earth!”  
**P** The LORD of hosts is with us;  
**C** the God of Jacob is our fortress.  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

*Sit*

### Scripture Reading

*Malachi*

The oracle of the word of the Lord to Israel by Malachi. ... “A son honors his father, and a servant his master. If then I am a father, where is My honor? And if I am a master, where is My fear? says the Lord of hosts to you, O priests, who despise My name. But you say, ‘How have we despised Your name?’ By offering polluted food upon My altar. But you say, ‘How have we polluted You?’ By saying that the Lord's table may be despised. When you offer blind animals in sacrifice, is that not evil? And when you offer those that are lame or sick, is

that not evil? Present that to your governor; will he accept you or show you favor? says the Lord of hosts. ... I will not accept an offering from your hand. ...

“O priests, ... My covenant with [Levi] was one of life and peace, and I gave them to him. It was a covenant of fear, and he feared Me. He stood in awe of My name. True instruction was in his mouth, and no wrong was found on his lips. He walked with Me in peace and uprightness, and he turned many from iniquity. For the lips of a priest should guard knowledge, and people should seek instruction from his mouth, for he is the messenger of the Lord of hosts. But you have turned aside from the way. You have caused many to stumble by your instruction. You have corrupted the covenant of Levi, says the Lord of hosts. ...

And this second thing you do. You cover the Lord's altar with tears, with weeping and groaning because He no longer regards the offering or accepts it with favor from your hand. But you say, “Why does He not?” Because the Lord was witness between you and the wife of your youth, to whom you have been faithless, though she is your companion and your wife by covenant. Did He not make them one, with a portion of the Spirit in their union? And what was the one God seeking? Godly offspring. So guard yourselves in your spirit, and let none of you be faithless to the wife of your youth. “For the man who does not love his wife but divorces her, says the Lord, the God of Israel, covers his garment with violence, says the Lord of hosts. So guard yourselves in your spirit, and do not be faithless.”

You have wearied the Lord with your words. But you say, “How have we wearied Him?” By saying, “Everyone who does evil is good in the sight of the Lord, and He delights in them.” Or by asking, “Where is the God of justice?”

“Behold, I send My messenger, and he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to His temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the Lord. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

“Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear Me, says the Lord of hosts.

“For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from My statutes and have not kept them. Return to Me, and I will return to you, says the Lord of hosts. But you say, ‘How shall we return?’ Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing Me. But you say, ‘How have we robbed You?’ In your tithes and contributions. You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing Me, the whole nation of you. Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house. And thereby put Me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need. I will rebuke the devourer for you, so that it will not destroy the fruits of your soil, and your vine in the field shall not fail to bear, says the Lord of hosts. Then all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a land of delight, says the Lord of hosts.

“Your words have been hard against Me, says the Lord. But you say, ‘How have we spoken against You?’ You have said, ‘It is vain to serve God. ... Evildoers not only prosper but they put God to the test and they escape.’”

Then those who feared the Lord spoke with one another. The Lord paid attention and heard them, and a book of remembrance was written before Him of those who feared the Lord and esteemed His name. “They shall be Mine, says the Lord of hosts, in the day when I make up My treasured possession, and I will spare them as a man spares his son who serves him. Then once more you shall see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve Him.

“For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who fear My name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the Lord of hosts.

“Remember the law of my servant Moses, the statutes and rules that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel.

“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the Lord comes. And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction.”

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Lent Responsory

LSB 231



- L** 1 Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are  
the God of my sal - va - tion.  
2 In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.  
3 Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are  
the God of my sal - va - tion.



- C** Rescue me from my en - e - mies, protect me  
from those who rise a - gainst me.

### Hymn

### Thine Forever, God of Love

LSB 687

- 1 Thine forever, God of love!  
Hear us from Thy throne above;  
Thine forever may we be  
Here and in eternity!
- 2 Thine forever! Oh, how blest  
They who find in Thee their rest!  
Savior, guardian, heav'nly friend,  
O defend us to the end!
- 3 Thine forever, Lord of Life!  
Shield us through our earthly strife.  
Thou, the life, the truth, the way,  
Guide us to the realms of day.
- 4 Thine forever! Shepherd, keep  
These Thy frail and trembling sheep;  
Safe alone beneath Thy care,  
Let us all Thy goodness share.
- 5 Thine forever! Thou our guide,  
All our wants by Thee supplied,  
All our sins by Thee forgiv'n;  
Lead us, Lord, from earth to heav'n.

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### Sermon

### Minor Prophet, Major Savior: Malachi

### Offering

*While we cannot be together in person to collect our joyful responses to God's blessings in the offering, we continue to be richly blessed, and the work of God's Church goes on. Please consider mailing your offering in to the church office (perhaps monthly rather than weekly, if that is more convenient for you) or consider setting*

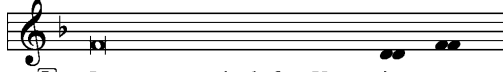
up an online payment option through your bank. THANK YOU for continuing to support our Lord's work even when we cannot be together in person.

Stand

# Canticle

## Antiphon (Common)

LSB 231



Let my prayer rise before You as in - cense,



and the lifting up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

## Magnificat

LSB 248



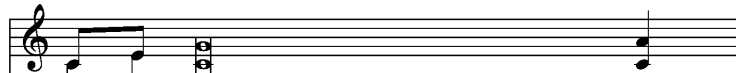
My soul mag - ni - fies the Lord, and my spir - it re -



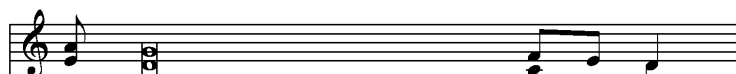
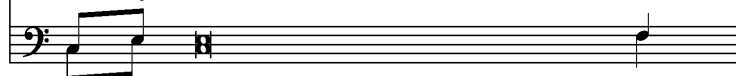
joic - es in God, my Sav - ior. My soul mag - ni - fies the



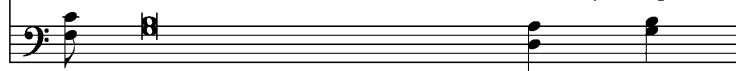
Lord, and my spir - it re - joic - es in God, my Sav - ior.



- 1 For — He has re — garded
- 2 For the Mighty One has done great things to . . . . . me,
- 3 He has shown strength with His . . . . . arm;
- 4 He has filled the hungry with good . . . . . things,
- 5 Glo - ry be to the Father and to the . . . . . Son



- 1 the lowliness of . . . . . His hand - maiden.
- 2 and holy . . . . . is His name;
- 3 He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
- 4 and the rich He has sent emp - ty a - way.
- 5 and to the . . . . . Ho - ly Spirit;



1 For be - hold, from this . . . . . day  
 2 and His mercy is on those who . . . . . fear Him  
 3 He has cast down the mighty from their . . . . . thrones  
 4 He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy  
 5 as it was in the be - - - - - ginning,

1 all generations will . . . . . call me blessed.  
 2 from generation to . . . . . gen - er - ation. *Refrain*  
 3 and has exalt - - - - - ed the lowly.  
 4 as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for - ever.  
 5 is now, and will be forever. . . . . A - men. *Refrain*

# Prayer

## Litany

LSB 249

**L** In peace let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

- 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** For our Synodical President, Pastor Matthew Harrison, for our District President, Pastor Tim Scharr, for all pastors in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- P** For our President, for all public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- P** For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:

**C Thanks be to God!**

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

*Silence for individual prayer may follow.*

**P** Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord:

**C To You, O Lord.**

### Collect For Peace

**P** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

### Collect For the Fourth Sunday of Lent

**P** 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.

**C Amen.**

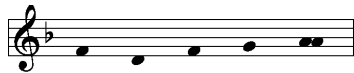
### Lord's Prayer

LSB 251

**P** Taught by our Lord and trusting in His promises, we are bold to pray:

**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.**

### Benedicamus



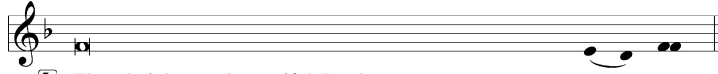
**L** Let us bless the Lord.



**C** Thanks be to God.

### Benediction





□ The almighty and merciful Lord,  
the Father, the <sup>†</sup> Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and pre - serve us.



■ A - men.

*Sit*

**Hymn**

**God Who Made the Earth and Heaven**

*LSB 877*

- 1 God, who made the earth and heaven,  
Darkness and light:  
You the day for work have given,  
For rest the night.  
May Your angel guards defend us,  
Slumber sweet Your mercy send us,  
Holy dreams and hopes attend us  
All through the night.
- 2 And when morn again shall call us  
To run life's way,  
May we still, whate'er befall us,  
Your will obey.  
From the pow'r of evil hide us,  
In the narrow pathway guide us,  
Never be Your smile denied us  
All through the day.
- 3 Guard us waking, guard us sleeping,  
And when we die,  
May we in Your mighty keeping  
All peaceful lie.  
When the last dread call shall wake us,  
Then, O Lord, do not forsake us,  
But to reign in glory take us  
With You on high.
- 4 Holy Father, throned in heaven,  
All-holy Son,  
Holy Spirit, freely given,  
Blest Three in One:  
Grant us grace, we now implore You,  
Till we lay our crowns before You  
And in worthier strains adore You  
While ages run.

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**Acknowledgments**

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## LIFE AND LIVING ITEMS AT ZION



### **LENTEN MEALS -- CANCELLED**

Lenten Meals are cancelled for the rest of the Lenten season.

### **VOTER'S ASSEMBLY MEETING**

*NOTE: Please keep watching the announcements in case the meeting needs to be rescheduled.*

Zion will hold our first Voter's Assembly of the year on Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 PM in the church basement fellowship hall. An agenda will be available the Sunday before the meeting. We hope you can attend! Thank you.

### **ZION'S ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT**

*The Easter egg hunt for April 4<sup>th</sup> is tentative. We are unsure that we can proceed with the event. We will keep church members posted.*

Zion's Annual Easter Egg Hunt is on Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, starting at 1PM. Sign up for the Easter Egg Hunt if you have children 4th grade and under. There will be a sign up in the Narthex. We also need volunteers from 5th grade and up to help run the different activities during the hunt. There will be the egg hunt, snacks, crafts, games, and stories. Please join us for a hoppin' good time as we rejoice in the glory of our Risen Savior.

### **PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR AND TEACHER NEEDED AT ZION**

Zion Lutheran Church in Mascoutah, IL is seeking both a preschool director and a teacher for the 2020-2021 school year. The positions are each part-time for the morning hours, Monday-Friday. If interested, please contact Robin, Zion's secretary, at 618-566-7345 for additional information.

### **MOTHER-DAUGHTER BANQUET**

*Please keep watching the announcements in case the banquet is cancelled or rescheduled.*

If you are a mother, daughter, grandmother, or granddaughter join us for the mother-daughter banquet on April 25, 2020! Zion's Men's Club will again be hosting a special night for the ladies of the congregation featuring a meal, some games, and a special guest speaker. The speaker this year will be Sarah Gulselth, a radio host from KFUD Radio, heard every weekday morning on The Coffee Hour, and weekly on the podcast called "Lutheran Ladies' Lounge." You will not want to miss this special evening of fellowship with your female relatives and friends. A sign-up sheet is now available, make plans to attend!

### **THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY**

Liturgist:	Rev. Kirk Clayton
Proclaimer:	Rev. John Lukomksi
Organist:	Johnathan Clayton
Sound Tech:	Matt Krausz

### **THOSE WHO SERVE NEXT WEEK, MARCH 29**

Proclaimer:	Rev. Kirk Clayton
Organist:	Johnathan Clayton
Sound Tech:	Mark Krausz

### **THINGS WE ARE DOING AT ZION**

Wed.	Fourth Lent Midweek Service on FaceBook Live	7:00 PM
Fri.	Senior Meal Delivery	10:30 AM

Sun.	Confirmation Class by Zoom	8:30 AM
	SS & Bible Class by Zoom	8:45 AM
	Worship DS IV w/communion on FaceBook Live	10:00 AM