

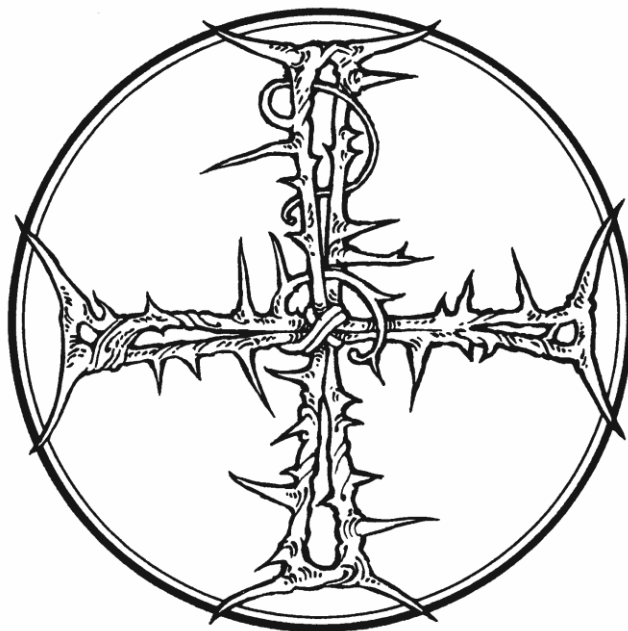
Zion Lutheran Church

Mascoutah, Illinois

March 20, 2022

Oculi

"My Eyes Are Ever Toward The Lord"



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 morning be spiritually refreshing and ready you for the week ahead.



Pastor: Rev. Kirk Clayton

Church Secretary: Robin Phillips

Director of Music/Head Organist/Choir Director Team: Josh and Nancy Peterson

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Find us at @ZionMascoutah on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram

Electronic Devices

Please TURN OFF all cell phones and electronic devices when entering the sanctuary for worship so those around you may focus on the Word of God without electronic distraction. Thank you.

A Prayer to Begin Worship

Jesus Christ, who suffered and died for us sinners, alert us to answer Your call to follow You, and keep us from using our sinfulness as an excuse when You lead us to service to our neighbor or to martyrdom; who with the Father and the Spirit are one God with dominion over us forever.

MATINS LSB p. 219

Prelude

God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It

arr. Blersch

A Note About the Service

This "Service of Lament, Service of Hope" may seem strange to modern Americans, who tend to lie to ourselves about pain and either ignore suffering or find ways to medicate ourselves to happiness despite sorrow. Instead, this service aims to hold in tension two seemingly competing realities: God has promised that He will be merciful and good, and yet His human creatures often suffer painfully. On the one hand, God is good and is the Creator of the heavens and the earth. He is in control of all things. Yet His creatures experience suffering, physical and mental pain, frustration, disappointment, anger, doubt, sadness, and disillusionment. We do not attempt to reconcile these realities, but we recognize and honor the reality of suffering and questions it brings.

This service does not aim to reconcile this breach in our lives or explain it away. Instead, we will marshal the resources of God's people to give voice to our pain, frustration, and sadness. This morning's liturgy thus follows a pattern of the Lament Psalms: we will acknowledge God's power and dominion over the whole earth and his rule of every person and situation; we will lay our laments before Him, begging, even demanding, salvation and deliverance; and we will end the service with a message of hope, clinging to God's promises in Christ.

Our goal is not that suffering will go away. Indeed, we invite all to recognize suffering in their lives and the lives of others without trying to resolve it. Instead, we desire to place our suffering in the hands of God—the God who suffered for and with us and has promised to redeem us. We eagerly, even impatiently, await that redemption. With that waiting comes suffering. It is the two-fold reality of suffering and promised redemption we recognize and honor.

This service will also allow us a time to consider the laments of our brothers and sisters in Christ, both throughout the history of faith and in our current situation today, and to see the pains of the whole world. While some of us may not have any present laments, many in our Christian family do. The whole world also suffers under the weight of sin and brokenness. The litany for today's service will pull together various laments from our community across time and locations. As we lament together, we invite you to hear those laments and recognize that we all live in a world of suffering, eagerly anticipating its redemption. Thus, these laments are not individual, but communal, and we pray that as the family of Christ, we encourage each other all the more as we see the day approaching in which all laments will be redeemed in the return of our Lord.

Hymn

God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It

LSB 594

- 1 God's own child, I gladly say it: I am baptized into Christ!
He, because I could not pay it, Gave my full redemption price.
Do I need earth's treasures many? I have one worth more than any
That brought me salvation free Lasting to eternity!**

Hymn continues on the next page.

- 2 Sin, disturb my soul no longer: I am baptized into Christ!
I have comfort even stronger: Jesus' cleansing sacrifice.
Should a guilty conscience seize me Since my Baptism did release me
In a dear forgiving flood, Sprinkling me with Jesus' blood?
- 3 Satan, hear this proclamation: I am baptized into Christ!
Drop your ugly accusation, I am not so soon enticed.
Now that to the font I've traveled, All your might has come unraveled,
And, against your tyranny, God, my Lord, unites with me!
- 4 Death, you cannot end my gladness: I am baptized into Christ!
When I die, I leave all sadness To inherit paradise!
Though I lie in dust and ashes Faith's assurance brightly flashes:
Baptism has the strength divine To make life immortal mine.
- 5 There is nothing worth comparing To this lifelong comfort sure!
Open-eyed my grave is staring: Even there I'll sleep secure.
Though my flesh awaits its raising, Still my soul continues praising:
I am baptized into Christ; I'm a child of paradise!

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Introduction to Lament

Stand

Versicles

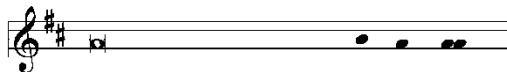
LSB 219



L O Lord, o - pen my lips,



C and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



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



C 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.

Psalmody

Antiphon (Common)

LSB 220



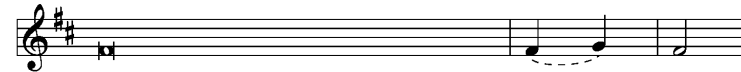
L Blessed be God, the Fa-ther, the Son, and the Ho-ly Spir-it.



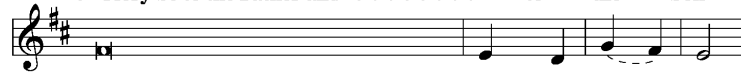
C O come, let us wor-ship Him.

Venite

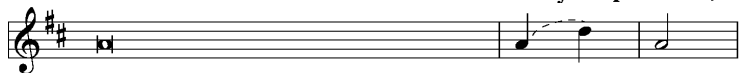
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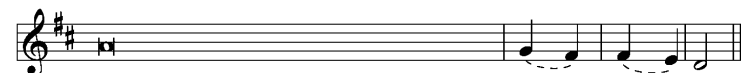
C 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord,
2 For the Lord is a great God
3 The sea is His, for He made it,
5 Glory be to the Father and to the Son



1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal-va-tion.
2 and a great king a-bove all gods.
3 and His hand formed the dry land.
5 and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;



1 Let us come into His presence with thanks-giv-ing,
2 The deep places of the earth are in His hand;
3 O come, let us worship and bow down,
4 For He is our God,
5 as it was in the be-gin-ning,



1 let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.
2 the strength of the hills is His al-so.
3 let us kneel before the Lord, our mak-er.
4 and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.
5 is now, and will be for - - ev-er. A-men.

Antiphon (Common)

LSB 221



L Blessed be God, the Fa-ther, the Son, and the Ho-ly Spir-it.



C O come, let us wor-ship Him.

Sit

Psalms of Lament

Psalm 42—Why Are You Cast Down, O My Soul?

L As a deer pants for flowing streams,

C so pants my soul for You, O God.

L My soul thirsts for God,

C for the living God.

L When shall I come and appear before God?
C My tears have been my food day and night,
L while they say to me continually,
C “Where is your God?”
L These things I remember,
C as I pour out my soul:
L how I would go with the throng
C and lead them in procession to the house of God
L with glad shouts and songs of praise,
C a multitude keeping festival.
L Why are you cast down, O my soul,
C and why are you in turmoil within me?
L Hope in God; for I shall again praise Him,
C my salvation and my God.
L My soul is cast down within me;
C therefore I remember You
L from the land of Jordan and of Hermon,
C from Mount Mizar.
L Deep calls to deep
C at the roar of Your waterfalls;
L all Your breakers and Your waves
C have gone over me.
L By day the LORD commands His steadfast love,
C and at night His song is with me,
L a prayer to the God of my life.
C I say to God, my rock:
L “Why have You forgotten me?
C Why do I go mourning
L because of the oppression of the enemy?”
C As with a deadly wound in my bones,
L my adversaries taunt me,
C while they say to me continually,
L “Where is your God?”
C Why are you cast down, O my soul,
L and why are you in turmoil within me?
C Hope in God; for I shall again praise Him, my salvation and my God.
 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.

Musical Reflection

As the Deer
(Beth and Lily Stein)

Martin Nystrom

Silence for Meditation and Lament

Psalm Prayer

P Lord God, never failing Fountain of Life, through the saving waters of Baptism You called us from the depth of sin to the depths of mercy. Do not forget the trials of our exile, but from the wellspring of the Word satisfy our thirst for You, so that we may come rejoicing to Your holy mountain, where You live and reign now and forever.

C Amen.

Psalm 43—Send Out Your Light and Your Truth

L Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause
C against an ungodly people,
L from the deceitful and unjust man
C deliver me!
L For You are the God in whom I take refuge;
C why have You rejected me?
L Why do I go about mourning
C because of the oppression of the enemy?
L Send out Your light and Your truth;
C let them lead me;
L let them bring me to Your holy hill
C and to Your dwelling!
L Then I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy,
L and I will praise You with the lyre,
C O God, my God.
L Why are you cast down, O my soul,
C and why are you in turmoil within me?
L Hope in God; for I shall again praise Him,
C my salvation and my God.
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.

Musical Reflection

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light
(Zion Senior Choir)

Thomerson

Silence for Meditation and Lament

Psalm Prayer

P Almighty Father, source of everlasting light, send forth Your truth into our hearts and pour over us the brightness of Your light to bring us, through our joyful participation at Your altar, to Your eternal dwelling on high, where You live and reign now and forever.
C Amen.

Psalm 137—How Shall We Sing the LORD's Song?

L By the waters of Babylon,
C there we sat down and wept,
L when we remembered Zion.
C On the willows there
L we hung up our lyres.
C For there our captors
L required of us songs,
C and our tormentors, mirth, saying,
L "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"
C How shall we sing the LORD's song in a foreign land?
L If I forget you, O Jerusalem,
C let my right hand forget its skill!
L Let my tongue stick to the roof of my mouth,
C if I do not remember you,

L if I do not set Jerusalem

C above my highest joy!

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.

Hymn of Reflection

Jerusalem, My Happy Home

LSB 673

- 1 Jerusalem, my happy home, When shall I come to thee?
When shall my sorrows have an end? Thy joys when shall I see?
- 2 O happy harbor of the saints, O sweet and pleasant soil!
In thee no sorrow may be found, No grief, no care, no toil.
- 3 Thy gardens and thy gallant walks Continually are green;
There grow such sweet and pleasant flow'rs As nowhere else are seen.
- 4 There trees forevermore bear fruit And evermore do spring;
There evermore the angels dwell And evermore do sing.
- 5 Apostles, martyrs, prophets, there Around my Savior stand;
And soon my friends in Christ below Will join the glorious band.
- 6 O Christ, do Thou my soul prepare For that bright home of love
That I may see Thee and adore With all Thy saints above.

Text: Public domain

Silence for Meditation and Lament

Psalm Prayer

P Heavenly Father, You willed to make us citizens of Your country and singers of Your mercy. Do not abandon us in the land of exile, but bring us to the Heavenly Jerusalem chanting Your praise, through Jesus Christ Our Lord.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

First Reading

Ezra 3:8-13

Now in the second year after their coming to the house of God at Jerusalem, in the second month, Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel and Jeshua the son of Jozadak made a beginning, together with the rest of their kinsmen, the priests and the Levites and all who had come to Jerusalem from the captivity. They appointed the Levites, from twenty years old and upward, to supervise the work of the house of the LORD. And Jeshua with his sons and his brothers, and Kadmiel and his sons, the sons of Judah, together supervised the workmen in the house of God, along with the sons of Henadad and the Levites, their sons and brothers. And when the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the LORD, the priests in their vestments came forward with trumpets, and the Levites, the sons of Asaph, with cymbals, to praise the LORD, according to the directions of David king of Israel. And they sang responsively, praising and giving thanks to the LORD, "For He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever toward Israel." And all the people shouted with a great shout when they praised the LORD, because the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid. But many of the priests and Levites and heads of fathers' houses, old men who had seen the first house, wept with a loud voice when they saw the foundation of this house being

laid, though many shouted aloud for joy, so that the people could not distinguish the sound of the joyful shout from the sound of the people's weeping, for the people shouted with a great shout, and the sound was heard far away.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Luke 11:14-28

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!"

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Responsory for Lent

LSB 222



- L** 1 We have an advocate with the Fa-ther; Jesus is the propitiation for our sins.
 2 Blessed is he whose transgression is for - giv - en and whose sin is put a - way.
 3 We have an advocate with the Fa-ther; Jesus is the propitiation for our sins.



- C** He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the peo-ple.

Sermon

A Word of Lament, a Word of Hope

Hymn of Response

Jesus Has Come and Brings Pleasure

LSB 533

- 1** Jesus has come and brings pleasure eternal,
 Alpha, Omega, Beginning and End;
 Godhead, humanity, union supernal,
 O great Redeemer, You come as our friend!
 Heaven and earth, now proclaim this great wonder:
 Jesus has come and brings pleasure eternal!

Hymn continues on the next page.

- 2 **Jesus has come! Now see bonds rent asunder!
Fetters of death now dissolve, disappear.
See Him burst through with a voice as of thunder!
He sets us free from our guilt and our fear,
Lifts us from shame to the place of His honor.
Jesus has come! Hear the roll of God's thunder!**
- 3 **Jesus has come as the mighty Redeemer.
See now the threatening strong one disarmed!
Jesus breaks down all the walls of death's fortress,
Brings forth the pris'ners triumphant, unharmed.
Satan, you wicked one, own now your master!
Jesus has come! He, the mighty Redeemer!**
- 4 **Jesus has come as the King of all glory!
Heaven and earth, O declare His great pow'r,
Capturing hearts with the heavenly story;
Welcome Him now in this fast-fleeting hour!
Ponder His love! Take the crown He has for you!
Jesus has come! He, the King of all glory!**

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Offering

OFFERING OPTIONS: While we are not passing the offering plate during the service at Zion, here are three ways to share your offering for the Lord's work: 1. Place your offering in the plates on the table in the narthex on your way in or out of church. 2. Mail your offering to the church office. 3. Use Zion's online giving program and make a donation through a PayPal account. Thank you for your ongoing generosity!

Stand

Prayer

A Litany of Lament

P O Lord,
C How long?
P O Christ,
C How long?
P O Lord,
C How long?

P O Christ,
C Hear us.
P God the Father, in heaven,
C Have mercy.
P God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
C Have mercy.
P God the Holy Spirit,
C Have mercy.

P Be gracious to us.
C Spare us, good Lord.
P Be gracious to us.

C Help us, good Lord.

P By the mystery of Your holy incarnation;
By Your holy nativity;
By Your baptism, fasting, and temptation;
By Your agony and bloody sweat;
By Your cross and Passion;
By Your precious death and burial;
By Your glorious resurrection and ascension;
And by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter:

C Help us, good Lord.

P In all time of our tribulation;
In all time of our prosperity;
In the hour of death;
And in the day of judgment:

C Help us, good Lord.

P We poor sinners implore You

C To hear us, O Lord.

P We lament the global pandemic:

Its death
Its despair
Its division
Its fear
Its isolation
Its alienation
Its confusion

C How long, Oh Lord?

P We lament those things the pandemic has taken:

Lost loved ones
Lost opportunities to mourn
Lost joys
Lost celebrations
Lost time together
Lost friendships
Lost trust
Lost faith

C How long, Oh Lord?

P We lament divided communities and peoples:

Divisions by politics
Divisions by race
Divisions by class
Divisions by wealth
Divisions by sex
Divisions by ability
Divisions by belief

C How long, Oh Lord?

P We lament evil in our community and nation:

Greed
Selfishness
Injustice
Violence
Wantonness with life
Arrogance
Cruelty
Attempts at self-definition

C How long, Oh Lord?

P We lament the persecution of our brothers and sisters:
The violence done against them because they bear Your name
The intimidation of their families
The restrictions on their practice of faith
The political pressure on their communities

C How long, Oh Lord?

P We lament for those who do not believe in Your name:

Mothers
Fathers
Brothers
Sisters
Sons
Daughters
Friends
Others near
And those far off

C How long, Oh Lord?

P We lament abuse:

Of children
Of women
Of our elders
Of the poor
Of the suffering
Of the weak
Of those with no voice
By those in positions of power
By those in positions of trust
By those who should do better

C How long, Oh Lord?

P We lament broken families:

Broken by death
Broken by selfishness
Broken anger
Broken by violence
Broken by distance

C How long, Oh Lord?

P We lament death:

By abortion
By miscarriage

By stillbirth
By accident
By malnourishment
By natural disasters
By disease
By murder
By war, particularly in Ukraine
By suicide

C How long, Oh Lord?

P We lament loneliness caused by Covid lockdowns:
Loneliness caused by isolation from our church family
Loneliness caused by separation from loved ones, not being able to hug them and care for them
Loneliness caused by the death of friends or family
Loneliness caused by exclusion from the activities of daily life
Loneliness caused by disillusionment and the loss of hope and meaning in life

C How long, Oh Lord?

P We lament our sin:
The sin we welcome
The sin that chases after us
The sins we commit again and again
The sins by which we hurt and harm our neighbor
The sins by which we hurt and harm ourselves
The lack of faith we often show

C How long, Oh Lord?

P We lament the persistent work of Satan in our midst:
His works
His ways
His exploitation of our weakness
His stoking of division
His attacking of our insecurities
His attacking of joy in ministry

C How long, Oh Lord?

P Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,

C We implore You to hear us.

P O Christ,

C Hear us.

P O Lord,

C How long?

P O Christ,

C How long?

P O Lord,

C How long?

P Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C Have mercy.

P Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C Have mercy.

P Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C Grant us Your peace.

WE GO TO THE LORD IN PRAYER FOR

† Jeff Fick, Marianne McDaniel, Lola Simon, Julie Benner, Dick Bogue, and Kyrielle Corey, as they celebrate their baptismal anniversaries this week.

† The Family of Norman Rowold, whose funeral was this past week.

† Peace in Ukraine.

† Members of Zion's Board of Trustees, Stewardship Committee, and Board of Finance.

† Faithfulness in support of world missions.

P Into your hands, Oh Lord, we place our laments, trusting you to answer them according to your mercy, and awaiting your final deliverance in the day of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P 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.

Collect for Grace

P O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; 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 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.

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.

Sit

Psalm of Hope

Psalm 30—You Have Turned My Mourning into Dancing

P I will extol You, O Lord, for You have drawn me up

C and have not let my foes rejoice over me.

P O Lord my God, I cried to You for help,
C and You have healed me.
P O Lord, You have brought up my soul from Sheol;
C You restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.
P Sing praises to the Lord, O you His saints,
C and give thanks to His holy name.
P For His anger is but for a moment,
C and His favor is for a lifetime.
P Weeping may tarry for the night,
C but joy comes with the morning.
P As for me, I said in my prosperity,
C “I shall never be moved.”
P By Your favor, O Lord,
C You made my mountain stand strong;
P You hid Your face;
C I was dismayed.
P To You, O Lord, I cry,
C and to the Lord I plead for mercy:
P “What profit is there in my death,
C if I go down to the pit?
P Will the dust praise You?
C Will it tell of Your faithfulness?
P Hear, O Lord, and be merciful to me!
C O Lord, be my helper!”
P You have turned for me my mourning into dancing;
C you have loosed my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness,
P that my glory may sing Your praise and not be silent.
C O Lord my God, I will give thanks to You forever!
 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.

Silence for Celebrating Personal and Joy

Psalm Prayer

P God our Father, glorious in giving life and even more glorious in restoring it: in His crucifixion Your Son knew anguish and deep sorrow, but at the Resurrection that sorrow was turned to eternal joy. Do not turn away from us in our times of sorrow and loss, but rather turn our dirges into dancing, transform our night of sorrow into a morning of joy, and raise us up with Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

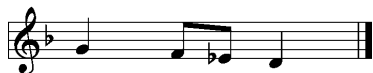
Stand

Benedicamus

LSB 228

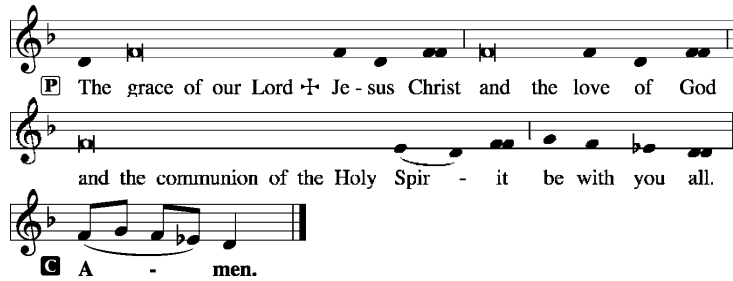


L Let us bless the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

Benediction



P The grace of our Lord † Je - sus Christ and the love of God
and the communion of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.
C A - men.

Remain Standing

Hymn

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

LSB 576

- 1 My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
No merit of my own I claim But wholly lean on Jesus' name. Refrain**
- ref On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.**
- 2 When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace;
In ev'ry high and stormy gale My anchor holds within the veil. Refrain**
- 3 His oath, His covenant and blood Support me in the raging flood;
When ev'ry earthly prop gives way, He then is all my hope and stay. Refrain**
- 4 When He shall come with trumpet sound, Oh, may I then in Him be found,
Clothed in His righteousness alone, Redeemed to stand before His throne! Refrain**

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Sit

Postlude

Glory Be to Jesus

arr. Charles Ore

Acknowledgments

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LIFE AND LIVING ITEMS AT ZION



TODAY IN SUNDAY SCHOOL – MARCH 20th

Today in Sunday School, the children will learn about how God saved the Hebrews by parting the waters in “Crossing the Red Sea.” Ask your children to tell you what they know about this story. *Talk about, “How does God fight for us and save us from sin, death, and the devil?” Discuss Baptism and how water combined with God’s Word washes you clean from sin and gives you eternal life.*

REFLECTIONS ON LIFE UNDER COVID - TODAY

Today, March 20, 2022, Zion is offering a "Service of Lament, Service of Hope" to observe the 2nd anniversary of the Covid lockdowns. We know that all have suffered much separation and loss due to these lockdowns, and we need time to grieve for what we have missed. However, we also recognize that the Lord is with us, and we trust that He will continue to provide for us and cause His will to be done among us, which gives us hope.

YOUTH GROUP MEETING, MEAL, & GAMES - AFTER CHURCH TODAY!

There will be a youth group meeting along with a meal and games following church today. Youth and youth families, please join us for some fun and fellowship!

SIGN UP FOR LENT SUPPERS

Lent is here, so it is time to sign up for Lenten Meals. Meals will be served before each Midweek Lenten Service on Wednesday evenings from 5:30 to 6:30. Choir rehearsal will begin at 6:00 on those evenings, and the evening worship service will begin at 7:00 PM. Here is a list of dates available, which will be updated as more people sign up.

March 23: Elders

March 30:

April 6: Men’s Club; Taco Bar

April 13: Holy Week, no Wednesday service, no meal.

LENT ROUND ROBIN PREACHING SCHEDULE

This year for Lent Midweek services, Zion will be participating in a "Round Robin" series with several other SID congregations. That means that we will have a different preacher each week, and Pastor Clayton will be preaching at other area congregations instead of being at Zion for several Midweek services. Here are the topics and preachers for the Lenten Midweek services this year, under the general theme of "Witnesses to Christ."

March 23—Peter—Pastor Sievers

March 30—Pontius Pilate—Pastor Keseman

April 6—Barrabbas—Pastor Clayton

April 14—(Maundy Thurs.)—Judas Iscariot—Sem. Moellenhoff

April 15—(Good Fri.)—John the Evangelist—Sem. Stein

CALLING ALL EASTER EGG FILLERS!!

The Board of Ed is asking for volunteers to fill our 3-5 and 6+ Easter Eggs for our upcoming Easter Egg Hunt at church on Saturday, April 9th from 9:00am-11:00am. We request all eggs be filled with **packaged** items. Please do not put loose candy in the eggs, like M&Ms or Skittles. Please place the filled bags of eggs back in the box in the Narthex. All eggs are needed back by Sunday, March 27th.

ZION EASTER EGG HUNT

The Board of Ed is excited to announce there will be fellowship together with an Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Story on Saturday, April 9th from 9:00am-11:00am. The egg hunt will be divided into three age groups, including 0-2, 3-5, 6+. In addition to hunting eggs, the Easter Story will be shared for all participants! We are requesting an RSVP, so we know we have enough eggs for all participants. All RSVPs will be made to Amanda Ganey at

(618)789-3157. There will be a sign-up in the Narthex for church members, and information will be sent home through Vikki Harms for our preschool families. The BOE will need help on Saturday, April 9th, so if you are interested, please call Amanda Ganey at (618) 789-3157. We look forward to celebrating the many blessings received through our Savior, Jesus!

ZION'S HELPING HANDS

Do you need a "Helping Hand"? Do you need someone to drive you to the grocery store or to a medical appointment? Do you need some light housekeeping done? Would you like some company for lunch? Do you need some simple handyman jobs done? Please let "Helping Hands" help. Call Lesley Eads at (618) 623-2360 or Linda Hoskins at (618) 210-6987.

UPDATE ON RECENT DONATIONS

As you know, the Ladies Aid is collecting at least 80 of specific items this year in celebration of the LWML's 80th anniversary. Due to the generosity of many of you, we collected 195 items during the January/February drive for children's gloves, hats, etc. Our March/April collection will be for baby items: foods, wipes, diapers, clothing etc. We will appreciate any donations toward this drive. These items will be donated to the Concordia Seminary food bank. Another big thanks to all who collected monies for the mosaic baby bottle campaign. We were able to donate \$825 to this important life-saving cause.

NEW BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITY

Starting on March 6, Zion's Adult Bible Class will be working through an overview of all of St. Paul's Epistles. Each class will begin with a 5-10 minute video illustrating the major themes of each Epistle, and then Sem. Stein and Sem. Moellenhoff will guide the class to explore and discuss the overarching themes of each book in a bit more detail. Most weeks will cover an entire book in one session. This series will run through May 2022. If you have not come to Adult Bible Class before, this series will be a great opportunity to learn about general themes covered in about half of the New Testament, written by St. Paul. Adult Bible Class meets in the fellowship room of the church basement from 8:45-9:45 on Sunday mornings.

HOW TO SUPPORT DISPLACED UKRAINIANS

As we pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ in Ukraine, many will also wonder how to provide support in more tangible means. The LCMS is currently accepting gifts to providing aid and assistance to persons displaced by the war in Ukraine. The LCMS will issue grants to/through our Lutheran partners in the region best positioned to provide compassionate care in Christ's name to those fleeing the conflict. The situation is constantly developing and changing, and the LCMS pledges to use every gift wisely to accomplish the greatest good possible in ways that deliver the Gospel as human needs are met. Financial contributions to assist the people of Ukraine, directed through the LCMS, can be sent in several ways. Donations can be sent by cellphone by texting LCMSUKRAINE to 41-444. To send a donation by phone, call LCMS Donor Care at 888-930-4438. To donate online, go to <https://www.lcms.org/givenow/displaced> and fill out the form available there. To donate by check, mail your contribution to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, P.O. Box 66861, St. Louis, MO 63166-6861. Please write "Help for Displaced Ukrainians" in the memo line of the check.

LIFE-AFFIRMING OPPORTUNITY

Join in a "Life-Affirming Prayer Vigil" on Saturday, March 26, 2022. This event, sponsored by SID Advocates for Life, will be held next to the Fairview Heights Planned Parenthood. (Parking is available at 331 Salem Place, Fairview Heights, IL 62208.) The St. Paul Lutheran School Choir of Hamel, IL will sing at 9:45, and the Prayer Vigil, led by LCMS pastors, will begin at 10:00 AM. Please join your brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus as we pray for the unborn, their mothers and fathers, abortion workers, government leaders, and those wounded by abortion.

For more information, please email Monica Shannon, the SID Life Coordinator, at sidlcmslife@gmail.com.

MASCOUTAH COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE - THURSDAY

Holy Childhood Church is hosting a blood drive on Thursday, March 24th from 2-7 PM at their Parish Center, 104 N. Independence St., Mascoutah. Please call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter HolyChildhood to schedule an appointment.

LAUDAMUS SPRING 2022 CONCERT TOUR

Laudamus, a select choir of seminarians from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, delights in proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ through music. Please join us on Sunday, April 3 at 4 PM at Hope Lutheran Church in St. Louis. For more info go to csl.edu/laudamus or call 614-505-7118.

IMMANUEL TO HOST WOMEN'S MINI-RETREAT – ALREADY WON!

The event will be held on Saturday, April 23rd from 9-11 AM. It will be held at the church, located at 522 S. Church Street in Waterloo, Illinois. This refreshing and renewing morning will include a delicious breakfast and beautiful music in addition to Lisa Clark's inspirational message. Please call 618-939-6480 or visit immanuelwaterloo.org/women for more information or to preregister. While preregistrations are appreciated, walk-ins are always welcome! Donations of non-perishable food items will be welcomed for the Bi-County Backpack Program and Christian Friends of New Americans.

LISTEN TO WORLDWIDE KFUE AM850

KFUE Radio, AM850 & kfue.org, a media ministry extension of LCMS congregations, shares Christ for you on AM850 & kfue.org via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. You can find programs on demand at kfue.org and wherever you get your podcasts! Find us on social: @KFUEradio on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#). CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUE AM850 & kfue.org: Study "Augsburg Confession Article XI: Confession" on Concord Matters (3/26 at 10:00 a.m.), hear Luke 18-19 on Sharper Iron's "The Beloved Physician's Orderly Account" (weekdays at 8:00 a.m.), and study Matthew 24-25 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m.). Find your favorite programs live and on demand at kfue.org or on the KFUE Radio app!

EQUIPPING THE PRIESTHOOD OF ALL BELIEVERS...

Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's subjects include: Responding to the Arguments for Atheism & Agnosticism; Humanism vs. Faith in the Holy Trinity; LGBTQ+ Ideology in Public Schools; The Post-Resurrected Jesus Appears in Galilee and more. You can tune in live weekdays from 3-5 p.m. on KFUE, 850 AM in St. Louis. You can also listen on-demand at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

THE FLOWERS ON THE LORD'S ALTAR

The flowers on the Lord's altar are given to the glory of God by the family of Norman Rowold.

THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY

Proclaimer: Rev. Kirk Clayton
Lectors: Sem. Don Stein & Sem. Kyle Moellenhoff
Organist: Nancy Peterson
Sound Tech: Nathaniel Clayton
Elder of the Month: Randy Schorfheide

THOSE WHO SERVE WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23

Proclaimer: Rev. Ken Sievers
Lector: Sem. Don Stein
Organist: Nancy Peterson
Sound Tech: Nathaniel Clayton
Elder of the Month: Randy Schorfheide

THOSE WHO SERVE NEXT WEEK, MARCH 27

Proclaimer: Rev. Kirk Clayton
Lectors: Sem. Don Stein & Sem. Kyle Moellenhoff
Organist: Nancy Peterson
Sound Tech: Nathaniel Clayton
Altar Guild: Lita Timmerman & Karen Eldridge
Elder of the Month: Randy Schorfheide

THINGS WE ARE DOING AT ZION

Sun.	Confirmation Class	8:30 AM
	Bible Class on Zoom & In-Person	8:45 AM
	Sunday School & Youth Bible Class	8:45 AM
	Worship Matins	10:00 AM
Mon.	LifeLight	7:00 PM
Wed.	Lenten Meal	5:30-6:30 PM
	Choir Rehearsal	6:00 PM
	Third Lent Midweek Service	7:00 PM
	Hand Chime Rehearsal	8:00 PM
Fri.	Senior Meal Delivery	10:30 AM
Sat.	Prayer Service at	
	Fairview Heights Planned Parenthood	10:00 AM
Sun.	Confirmation Class	8:30 AM
	Bible Class on Zoom & In-Person	8:45 AM
	Sunday School & Youth Bible Class	8:45 AM
	Worship DS I w/communion	10:00 AM

ATTENDANCE MARCH 13: Sunday: 163
Adult Bible Class: 21 High School: 4 Sunday School: 33

ATTENDANCE MARCH 16: Wednesday: 56