

# Zion Lutheran Church

Mascoutah, Illinois

February 22, 2023

*Ash Wednesday*



*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**

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**Choir Director Team: Josh and Nancy Peterson**

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

*The mood of the Ash Wednesday service is one of penitence and reflection. For this reason, worshippers enter in silence. There is no pre-service music, greeting, or opening hymn. All are invited to ponder their sins silently until the service begins.*

*Stand*

## Litany for Ash Wednesday

**P** Dear brothers and sisters of our Lord Jesus Christ, on this day the Church begins a holy season of prayerful and penitential reflection. Our attention is especially directed to the holy sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ.

From ancient times the season of Lent has been kept as a time of special devotion, self-denial, and humble repentance born of a faithful heart that dwells confidently on His Word and draws from it life and hope.

Let us pray that our dear Father in heaven, for the sake of His beloved Son and in the power of His Holy Spirit, might richly bless this Lententide for us that we may come to Easter with glad hearts and keep the feast in sincerity and truth.

*Silence for reflection*

**P** O Lord,  
**C** **Have mercy.**  
**P** O Christ,  
**C** **Have mercy.**  
**P** O Lord,  
**C** **Have mercy.**  
**P** O Christ,  
**C** **Hear us.**  
**P** God the Father in heaven,  
**C** **Have mercy.**  
**P** O 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** To prosper the preaching of Your Word;  
To bless our prayer and meditation;

To strengthen and preserve us in the true faith;  
To give heart to our sorrow and strength to our repentance:

**C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

**P** To draw all to Yourself;

To bless those who are instructed in the faith;

To watch over and console the poor, the sick, the distressed, the lonely, the forsaken, the abandoned,  
and all who stand in need of our prayers;

To give abundant blessing to all works of mercy;

And to have mercy on us all:

**C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

**P** To turn our hearts to You;

To turn the hearts of our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers; and graciously to hear our prayers:

**C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

**P** Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,

**C We implore You to hear us.**

**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.**

**P** O Christ,

**C Hear us.**

**P** O Lord,

**C Have mercy.**

**P** O Christ,

**C Have mercy.**

**P** O Lord,

**C Have mercy. Amen.**

**P** Let us pray. O God, You desire not the death of sinners, but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live. We implore You to have compassion on the frailty of our mortal nature, for we acknowledge that we are dust and to dust we shall return. Mercifully pardon our sins that we may obtain the promises You have laid up for those who are repentant; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## Confession and Absolution

### Exhortation

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C who made heaven and earth.**

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

### Confession with Absolution

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

**P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus

Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## Service of the Word

### Responsive Reading

*Psalm 51:1-19*

**P** Have mercy on me, O God,  
**C** according to Your steadfast love;  
**P** according to Your abundant mercy  
**C** blot out my transgressions.  
**P** Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,  
**C** and cleanse me from my sin!  
**P** For I know my transgressions,  
**C** and my sin is ever before me.  
**P** Against You, You only, have I sinned  
**C** and done what is evil in Your sight,  
**P** so that You may be justified in Your words  
**C** and blameless in Your judgment.  
**P** Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,  
**C** and in sin did my mother conceive me.  
**P** Behold, You delight in truth in the inward being,  
**C** and You teach me wisdom in the secret heart.  
**P** Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;  
**C** wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.  
**P** Let me hear joy and gladness;  
**C** let the bones that You have broken rejoice.  
**P** Hide Your face from my sins,  
**C** and blot out all my iniquities.  
**P** Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
**C** and renew a right spirit within me.  
**P** Cast me not away from Your presence,  
**C** and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.  
**P** Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,  
**C** and uphold me with a willing spirit.  
**P** Then I will teach transgressors Your ways,  
**C** and sinners will return to You.  
**P** Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God,  
**C** O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of Your righteousness.  
**P** O Lord, open my lips,  
**C** and my mouth will declare Your praise.  
**P** For You will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it;  
**C** You will not be pleased with a burnt offering.  
**P** The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;  
**C** a broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.  
**P** Do good to Zion in Your good pleasure;  
**C** build up the walls of Jerusalem; then will You delight in right sacrifices,  
**P** in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings;  
**C** then bulls will be offered on Your altar.  
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.

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are

penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

*Sit*

### Old Testament Reading

*Joel 2:12-19*

“Yet even now,” declares the LORD,  
“return to Me with all your heart,  
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;  
and rend your hearts and not your garments.”

Return to the LORD, your God,  
for He is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love;  
and He relents over disaster.

Who knows whether He will not turn and relent,  
and leave a blessing behind Him,  
a grain offering and a drink offering  
for the LORD your God?

Blow the trumpet in Zion;  
consecrate a fast;  
call a solemn assembly;  
gather the people.

Consecrate the congregation;  
assemble the elders;  
gather the children,  
even nursing infants.

Let the bridegroom leave his room,  
and the bride her chamber.

Between the vestibule and the altar  
let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep  
and say, “Spare Your people, O LORD,  
and make not Your heritage a reproach,  
a byword among the nations.

Why should they say among the peoples,  
“Where is their God?”

Then the LORD became jealous for His land  
and had pity on His people.

The LORD answered and said to His people,  
“Behold, I am sending to you  
grain, wine, and oil,  
and you will be satisfied;  
and I will no more make you  
a reproach among the nations.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

Choir

Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God

Carl Mueller

### Epistle Reading

*2 Peter 1:2-11*

May grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us to His own glory and excellence, by which He has granted to us His precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire. For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, and godliness with

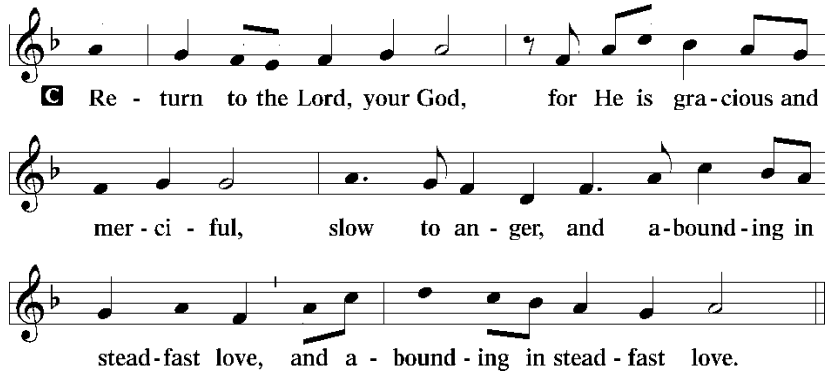
brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins. Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to make your calling and election sure, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall. For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

### Verse for Lent



**C** 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, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

### Holy Gospel

*Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 6<sup>th</sup> Chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] "Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven. "Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. "And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. "And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

### Creed

**C** I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*Sit*

Hymn

O Lord, throughout These Forty Days

LSB 418

- 1 O Lord, throughout these forty days You prayed and kept the fast;  
Inspire repentance for our sin, And free us from our past.
- 2 You strove with Satan, and You won; Your faithfulness endured;  
Lend us Your nerve, Your skill and trust In God's eternal Word.
- 3 Though parched and hungry, yet You prayed And fixed Your mind above;  
So teach us to deny ourselves, Since we have known God's love.
- 4 Be with us through this season, Lord, And all our earthly days,  
That when the final Easter dawns, We join in heaven's praise.

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Sermon

Are Outward Actions Hypocritical?

*Stand*

### Prayer of the Church

- P** O God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ and also our dear Father,  
**C** We thank You for permitting us to begin another Lenten Season.
- P** We are again privileged to meditate upon the cross of Christ and its meaning for us.  
**C** You have graciously granted us another opportunity for our relationship to be strengthened with Him who died to save us from our sins.
- P** For Your gracious love, which prompted You to punish Your Son for our sins,  
**C** We give You humble and hearty thanks.
- P** We appear before You in sackcloth and ashes.  
**C** Send us Your Holy Spirit that He may help us to be genuinely sorry for our sins.
- P** Help us to withstand the temptations of permitting the pleasures of this life, the worries of the day, and the activities of our daily routine to interfere with our Lenten worship and observance.  
**C** Draw us to Your wounded side and bring healing to our souls.
- P** By Your grace help us to crucify our sinful desires, affections, and lusts.  
**C** Help us to be conquerors over every temptation that confronts us.
- P** Grant to Your Church an awareness of its responsibility to bring the Good News to everyone in the community.  
**C** Graciously bestow on us Your Holy Spirit so we may bear witness to You as our Savior.
- P** To this end bless our Lenten services.  
**C** Grant us faithful attendance at all services this Lenten season, and open our eyes to the opportunities for bringing others.
- P** Add Your blessing to the Lenten messages, and through them strengthen our faith in Jesus Christ as our Savior.  
**C** This we ask in Jesus' Name. Amen.

*Sit*

## Offering

[Please fill out a sheet in the attendance book. Visitors, please include your address. If you have a prayer request for the church prayer chain, please write it at the top of the sheet.]

## Service of the Sacrament

*Stand*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus

*LSB p. 208*



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

**P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

At Your command, Abraham prepared to offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice on the mountain; yet, in mercy You provided a ram as a substitute. We give You thanks that on Calvary You spared not Your only Son but sent Him to offer His life as a ransom for many. As we eat and drink His body and blood, grant us, like Abraham our father, to trust in Your promise now fulfilled in Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. Hear us as we pray in His Name and as He has taught us:

## 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.

## The Words of Our Lord and Pax Domini

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\cdot\ddagger$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."



- P** In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{†}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”
- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C** Amen.

### Agnus Dei

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,  
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

*Sit*

### Distribution

*During the Distribution, the camera will be focused on the cross at the front of Zion to allow for privacy for those who commune.*

*Zion Lutheran practices the policy of close communion, communing only those who share our common Biblical view of the Lord's Supper. If you are not a confirmed LCMS Lutheran, please confer with the pastor before communing.*

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.  
**Amen.**

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.  
**Amen.**

### Hymn

### From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee

LSB 607

- 1 From depths of woe I cry to Thee, In trial and tribulation;  
Bend down Thy gracious ear to me, Lord, hear my supplication.  
If Thou rememb' rest ev'ry sin, Who then could heaven ever win Or stand before Thy presence?**
- 2 Thy love and grace alone avail To blot out my transgression;  
The best and holiest deeds must fail To break sin's dread oppression.  
Before Thee none can boasting stand, But all must fear Thy strict demand And live alone by mercy.**
- 3 Therefore my hope is in the Lord And not in mine own merit;  
It rests upon His faithful Word To them of contrite spirit  
That He is merciful and just; This is my comfort and my trust. His help I wait with patience.**
- 4 And though it tarry through the night And till the morning waken,  
My heart shall never doubt His might Nor count itself forsaken.  
O Israel, trust in God your Lord. Born of the Spirit and the Word, Now wait for His appearing.**

*Hymn continues on the next page.*

- 5 **Though great our sins, yet greater still Is God's abundant favor;  
His hand of mercy never will Abandon us, nor waver.  
Our shepherd good and true is He, Who will at last His Israel free From all their sin and sorrow.**

Text: Public domain

Hymn

Lord Jesus, Think on Me

LSB 610

- 1 **Lord Jesus, think on me And purge away my sin;  
From worldly passions set me free And make me pure within.**
- 2 **Lord Jesus, think on me, By anxious thoughts oppressed;  
Let me Your loving servant be And taste Your promised rest.**
- 3 **Lord Jesus, think on me Amid the battle's strife;  
In all my pain and misery, O be my health and life!**
- 4 **Lord Jesus, think on me Nor let me go astray;  
Through darkness and perplexity Point out Your chosen way.**
- 5 **Lord Jesus, think on me That, when this life is past,  
I may the\_ternal brightness see And share Your joy at last.**

Text: Public domain

Stand

*In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:*

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting.  
Depart ✠ in peace.
- C** Amen.

Nunc Dimittis

LSB p. 211

**C** 1 O Lord, now let Your ser- vant De-  
2 All glo- ry to the Fa- ther, All  
part in heav'n- ly peace, For I have seen the  
glo- ry to the Son, All glo- ry to the  
glo- ry Of Your re- deem- ing grace:  
Spir- it, For- ev- er Three- in- One;  
A light to lead the Gen- tiles Un-  
For as in the be- gin- ning, Is  
to Your ho- ly hill, The glo- ry of Your  
now, shall ev- er be, God's tri- une name re-  
peo- ple, Your cho- sen Is- ra- el.  
sound- ing Through all e- ter- ni- ty.

## Post-Communion Collect

**P** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Benedicamus

LSB 212

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

## Hymn

### Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing

LSB 421

- 1 **Jesus, grant that balm and healing In Your holy wounds I find,  
Ev'ry hour that I am feeling Pains of body and of mind.  
Should some evil thought within Tempt my treach'rous heart to sin,  
Show the peril, and from sinning Keep me from its first beginning.**
- 2 **Should some lust or sharp temptation Fascinate my sinful mind,  
Draw me to Your cross and passion, And new courage I shall find.  
Or should Satan press me hard, Let me then be on my guard,  
Saying, "Christ for me was wounded," That the tempter flee confounded.**
- 3 **If the world my heart entices With the broad and easy road,  
With seductive, sinful vices, Let me weigh the awful load  
You were willing to endure. Help me flee all thoughts impure  
And to master each temptation, Calm in prayer and meditation.**
- 4 **Ev'ry wound that pains or grieves me By Your wounds, Lord, is made whole;  
When I'm faint, Your cross revives me, Granting new life to my soul.  
Yes, Your comfort renders sweet Ev'ry bitter cup I meet;  
For Your all-atoning passion Has procured my soul's salvation.**
- 5 **O my God, my rock and tower, Grant that in Your death I trust,  
Knowing death has lost its power Since You crushed it in the dust.  
Savior, let Your agony Ever help and comfort me;  
When I die be my protection, Light and life and resurrection.**

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#### Acknowledgments

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## **LIFE AND LIVING ITEMS AT ZION**



### **SHORTENED IMPOSITION OF ASHES SCHEDULE FOR ASH WEDNESDAY**

This year the timeframe for receiving the imposition of ashes will be significantly shortened from previous years. Ashes will only be available from 5-7 PM on February 22. Ashes will not be available throughout the morning and afternoon as in past years. Ashes will be offered in the Church Office.

### **LENT DEVOTIONS – NOW AVAILABLE**

Lent devotions are now available on the table in the narthex.

### **LENT MIDWEEK SERVICE PREACHING ROTATION**

This year, Zion will participate in a “Round Robin” preaching rotation with Pastor Keseman and Pastor Lukomski joining Pastor Clayton to share God’s Word at the evening Lenten Midweek Services. This year we will focus on the Seven Last Words of Jesus from the Cross. Here is a schedule of all the Lenten evening services.

February 22, Ash Wednesday: “Are Outward Actions Hypocritical?” (Pastor Clayton to preach)

March 1, 1st Lent Midweek: “Father Forgive Them” (Pastor Lukomski to preach)

March 8, 2nd Lent Midweek: “Mother, Behold Your Son” (Pastor Keseman to preach)

March 15, 3rd Lent Midweek: “Today You Will Be with Me” (Pastor Lukomski to preach)

March 22, 4th Lent Midweek: “My God, My God, Why Have You Forsaken Me” (Pastor Clayton to preach)

March 29, 5th Lent Midweek: “It Is Finished” (Pastor Keseman to preach)

April 6, Maundy Thursday: “I Thirst” (Pastor Lukomski to preach)

April 7, Good Friday: “Into Your Hands I Commend My Spirit” (Pastor Clayton to preach)

The services will start at 7:00 PM, and a Lenten Supper will be served each week from 5:30 to 6:30. Come enjoy time with your church family for supper and stay to be strengthened in God’s Word at the service at 7:00 PM.

### **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.

Feb 22: Ladies Aid: Meatloaf & Baked Potatoes

March 1: Men’s Club: Tacos

March 8:

March 15: Timmermans

March 22: Youth Group

March 29: Elders

April 5: Holy Week, no Wednesday service, no meal.

### **ZION PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION**

Priority Registration for the 2023-2024 school year has started. Priority registration is open to all current and past Zion Preschool families as well as all Zion Church families. Open registration for the public will begin on Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>. If you have a preschooler, you can contact me at [zionpreschooldirector2020@gmail.com](mailto:zionpreschooldirector2020@gmail.com) for more questions or check out our Facebook page!

### **HOLY LAND JOURNEY INFORMATIONAL MEETING**

Visit the Holy Land and walk where Jesus walked in January/February of 2024! Anyone who is interested in taking a journey to Israel in 2024 is welcome to attend an informational meeting at 3:00 PM on Sunday, February 26 at Zion, Mascoutah. The trip to Israel next year will leave from St. Louis on Monday, January 22, 2024, and will return to St. Louis on Thursday, February 1, 2024. (There is an optional extension to Egypt from February 1-4, 2024.) The tour is being organized by Pastor Clayton and is open to all who would like to deepen their faith together by experiencing the Holy Land and following in the footsteps of Jesus. If you are interested in this trip, you are invited to attend the informational meeting at Zion Lutheran Church, 101 S. Railway, Mascoutah, IL on Sunday, February 26, 2023, at 3:00 PM. Snacks and lots of information will be provided at the meeting! For more information, go to <https://purposefuljourneys.org/journeys/a-miraculous-journey/> or contact Pastor Clayton at [kmcljcuac@yahoo.com](mailto:kmcljcuac@yahoo.com).

### **LCMS PRESIDENT HARRISON TO SPEAK AT ST. PAUL'S HAMEL ON SAT. FEB. 25<sup>th</sup>**

Southern Illinois District Circuits 3 & 4 invite you to join them on Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am for their joint circuit forum at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Hamel, IL. President Matthew Harrison will report on the state of the Synod and offer encouragement for our future in Christ. Q and A will follow the presentation. The morning will begin with Matins at 9:00am with President Harrison preaching, followed immediately by his presentation. St. Paul's physical address is 6969 W. Frontage Rd. Worden, IL. Pastors, commissioned ministers, and laypeople are all encouraged to attend.

### **CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY IRVINE CONCERT AT GOOD SHEPHERD COLLINSVILLE**

Mark your calendars to see the Concordia University Irvine Symphony Orchestra at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church 1300 Beltline Road Collinsville, IL 62234 on Saturday, February 25th, 2023, at 3:00 PM. The concert will feature major orchestral works which are also family friendly. The Irvine Orchestra features at least 3 instrumentalists who grew up in the Southern Illinois District! This group travels to St. Louis from Irvine, CA (Los Angeles) once in a decade if that, so don't miss this free chance to hear them! The Irvine Orchestra recorded and presented a PBS Christmas special in 2021 which aired on PBS in 70% of the United States-this is a nationally renowned University Ensemble. The concert will appeal to all, especially the youth who are involved in music. The concert will open with a beginning string ensemble and advanced string ensemble involving children to adults from SID congregations. Please contact Zach Stegman at [zstegman@gsllcs.org](mailto:zstegman@gsllcs.org) if you would like to participate in the beginning or advanced string ensembles, for further info about the concert, or if you would like printed fliers or a narthex poster. Please publicize in your congregation and to friends and neighbors!

### **CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO ORCHESTRA CONCERT**

The Chamber Orchestra from Concordia University, Chicago will be giving a concert at Zion Lutheran, Mascoutah on Sunday, March 26, 2023, at 4:00 PM. As the host congregation, we have several requests. First, there is a financial need, and we are looking for significant donors who will help sponsor this concert in advance. Any gift will help, but we are asking for several donations in the \$200 plus range. Thanks in advance! Also, we will need to provide host families for the group, about 25 people. That means we will need 10-12 host families for Sunday evening, March 26, please. The jars are set out by the doors to receive donations, and a sign-up sheet for host families is on the table in the narthex. Thanks for your advance support of this event!

### **THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY**

Proclaimer: Rev. Kirk Clayton  
Organist: Nancy Peterson  
Sound Tech: Nathaniel Clayton  
Altar Guild: Lita Timmerman  
Elder of the Month: Tom Sax

### **THOSE WHO SERVE SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26**

Proclaimer: Rev. Kirk Clayton  
Organist: Nancy Peterson  
Sound Tech: Nathaniel Clayton  
Acolytes: Isaiah Clayton & Chloe Pannier  
Altar Guild: Sharon Weier  
Elder of the Month: Tom Sax

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

Wed.	<i>Ash Wednesday</i>	
	Imposition of Ashes	5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
	Lenten Meal	5:30-6:30 PM
	Choir Rehearsal	6:00 PM
	Ash Wednesday Service	7:00 PM
	Hand Chime Rehearsal	8:00 PM
Thurs.	Elders Meeting	7:00 PM
Fri.	Zion Preschool Parent's Morning Out	9:00 – 11:30 AM
	Senior Meal Delivery	10:30 AM
Sun.	Confirmation Class	8:30 AM
	Bible Class	8:45 AM
	Sunday School & Youth Bible Class	8:45 AM
	Worship DS III w/communion	10:00 AM