Third Sunday in Lent March 3, 2024



The third covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the central one of Israel's history: the gift of the law to those God freed from slavery. The commandments begin with the statement that because God alone has freed us from the powers that oppressed us, we are to let nothing else claim first place in our lives. When Jesus throws the merchants out of the temple, he is defending the worship of God alone and rejecting the ways commerce and profit-making can become our gods. The Ten Commandments are essential to our baptismal call: centered first in God's liberating love, we strive to live out justice and mercy in our communities and the world.



ZIONMinistries Under the Cross

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Welcome to Zion!

Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love... (Joel 2:13)

Welcome – whether this is your home congregation or your first visit, we're glad you're here!

We welcome all people in the name of Christ to experience God's goodness and grace in Word, water, and meal. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, there is a place for you to belong at Zion.

Get Connected at Zion

The best ways to stay connected are to visit our website, follow us on social media (@zionchurchdfb on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter), and subscribe to our weekly newsletter.

Children in Worship

Children are God's gift to our church! They are not the future of our church; they are the right now. The way we welcome children here directly affects the way they respond to the Church, to God, and to one another.

We welcome children and their families to sit near the Prayground at the front of the sanctuary. There are coloring activities, puzzles, books, and a toolbox to engage in our worship together.

Giving

We appreciate your stewardship of treasure, talent, and time at Zion. You may leave your offerings in the offering plates or give online via our website or this QR code.



Livestreaming

Zion livestreams all our services on Facebook and YouTube. Any person present gives consent to being filmed or photographed.



We Gather

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the \pm Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

"The Wonderful Cross"

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

KYRIE Hymn #157

Kyrie eleison is Greek for "Lord, have mercy."

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together...Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

We Hear & Respond to God's Word

The readings are found on the "Today's Readings" insert.

FIRST READING

Exodus 20:1-17

... The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 19

Using the psalm tone printed on the insert, the Cantor and the assembly will chant the Psalm responsively.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

... The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL John 2:13-22

Before the reading: The Holy Gospel according to John... Glory to you, O Lord.

After the reading: These are the words of our Lord. They are true

and can be trusted. Praise to you, O Christ!

GOD'S MESSAGE FOR ALL

"Canticle of the Turning"

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SHARING OF PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always! And also with you.

OFFERING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

We Feast at the Lord's Table

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

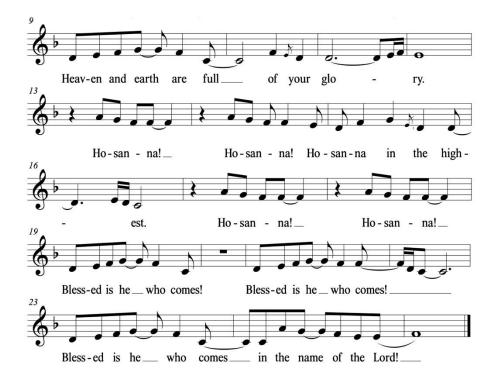
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

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





WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Music by Cantor Peter J. Rizzo

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:





SHARING THE MEAL

Here is bread for the journey, a feast for hungry hearts. Come to the table of mercy and grace.

During the season of Lent, our meal is shared in silence. You are encouraged to use this time for prayer and contemplation.

We Are Sent into the World

BLESSING FOR STRENGTH

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ comfort, strengthen, and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together...Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are

gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. Amen.

BLESSING

Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. May God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and \pm give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Hymn #325, Verse 1

"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"

DISMISSAL

The worship has ended. Now the service begins. Go in peace. Share your bread with the world. **Thanks be to God!**

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God's Blessings

We pray God's blessings on Hunter Joseph Bender Fromme, who has chosen to be baptized today, and his mother, Desiree, as they join God's family at Zion this morning!

Holy Communion at Zion

Christ's table is open to all! We offer grape juice for those who desire. If, for reasons of conscience or health, you are unable to receive either the bread or the wine, please know that the Church affirms the full presence of Christ in each element.

For Whom & For What Shall We Pray?

If you would like to submit a name(s) to include in our **Prayers of the People**, please use an index card from the Welcome Table and place

it in the prayer basket at the altar **before the Hymn of the Day**. In order to keep our prayer list current, all names must be resubmitted each week if you desire continued prayers.

Opportunities to "Just Show Up"

Wednesdays in Lent

March 6, 13, & 20 in Katie Luther Chapel



5:30 p.m. Dinner 6:00 p.m. Conversation 7:30 p.m. Evening Prayer

Thank you to everyone who attended, helped, and prayed together for our first two

Wednesdays in Lent. We look forward to welcoming even more neighbors in the weeks to come for our dinner and conversation. A reminder that Holden Evening Prayer is livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube.

Italian Night at Good Shepherd

Our siblings at Good Shepherd are hosting an Italian Night on Saturday, March 9th, beginning at 5:00 p.m. The cost is \$15 for all you care to eat. Good Shepherd is located at 6301 SW 18th Street, Boca Raton, FL 33433.

Opportunities to Serve Joyfully & Give Selflessly

We Filled the Soup Pot!

Thank you to everyone who gave spare change and cans of soup to fill the soup pot in February. We collected \$124.40 to go toward shelf-stable staple items for Nina's Place.

Lutheran Summer Music 2024: Young Musicians Partnership

One of our beloved, Shayne Clancy, has been accepted to participate in Lutheran Summer Music, the national Lutheran high school music camp, held from June 30 to July 28 at Valparaiso University in Indiana.

The cost of a student's participation in LSM is over \$6,500, more than half of which is subsidized by their generous donors. The remaining \$2,750 plus airfare and incidentals is Shayne's responsibility. We are asking, together with Shayne, for contributions toward a matching grant of \$500 from Zion's scholarship fund and \$500 from LSM. To contribute, mark an envelope "Shayne" or give to the Peth Scholarship Fund on Zion's online giving form.

Because of supporting Shayne in her LSM 2024 participation, Zion will be recognized nationally by Lutheran Summer Music as a **Young Musicians Partner** congregation.

Sign Up to Serve

Sunday Morning Worship Leadership (Greeters, Assisting Ministers, Readers, Coffee Fellowship)



Prayer Team at Nina's Place!

Nina's Place is always in need of volunteers! To get connected for our Thursday & Friday food deliveries, speak to Cantor Kurt Schmidt to be added to the What's App group. To sign up for a Saturday volunteer spot, visit www.ninasplacedfb.org.



Today's Readings

Third Sunday in Lent March 3, 2024

Prayer of the Day

Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading

Exodus 20:1-17

God spoke all these words:

²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your

work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

15 You shall not murder.

¹⁴You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵You shall not steal.

¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against

your neighbor.

¹⁷ You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Psalm

Psalm 19; tone 2



The heavens declare the glo-1 ry of God,

and the sky proclaims its I maker's handiwork.

²One day tells its tale | to another, and one night imparts knowledge | to another.

³Although they have no words or language,

and their voices are not heard,

4their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends | of the world, where God has pitched a tent | for the sun.

⁵It comes forth like a bridegroom out ¹ of his chamber;

it rejoices like a champion to 1 run its course.

⁶It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens

and runs about to the end of | it again; nothing is hidden from its | burning heat.

continued

Psalm, continued

⁷The teaching of the LORD is perfect and re- I vives the soul:

the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom I to the simple.

⁸The statutes of the LORD are just and re- | joice the heart;

the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.

⁹The fear of the LORD is clean and en- | dures forever:

the judgments of the LORD

are true and righteous laltogether.

More to be desired are they than gold,
more than much fine gold,

sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb. ¹¹By them also is your ser- ¹ vant enlightened, and in keeping them there is ¹ great reward.

12 Who can detect one's own offenses? Cleanse me from my secret faults.

¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion ¹ over me; then shall I be whole and sound,

and innocent of a l great offense.

14Let the words of my mouth
and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable l in your sight,

O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom,

God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Gospel

John 2:13-22

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was writ-

ten, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

TODAY'S READINGS March 3, 2024

Volume 55, Number 2

Next Sunday's Readings: Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22; Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21.

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