Fourth Sunday in Lent Second Sunday Healing Service March 10, 2024



The fourth of the Old Testament promises providing a baptismal lens this Lent is the promise God makes to Moses: those who look on the bronze serpent will live. In today's gospel Jesus says he will be lifted up on the cross like the serpent, so that those who look to him in faith will live. When we receive the sign of the cross in baptism, that cross becomes the sign we can look to in faith for healing, for restored relationship to God, for hope when we are dying.



ZION Ministries Under the Cross

959 SE 6th Avenue • Deerfield Beach, FL 33441 (954) 421-3146 • www.zion-lutheran.org

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.



Zion is a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) community, and extends God's radical welcome to all people, because we're all created in God's image.

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

Hymn #660

Hymn #157

"Lift High the 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

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together...O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

We Hear & Respond to God's Word

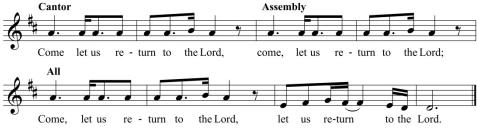
The readings are found on the "Today's Readings" insert.

FIRST READING

Numbers 21:4-9

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

John 3:14-21

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FOR HEALING

SHARING OF PEACE

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

OFFERING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

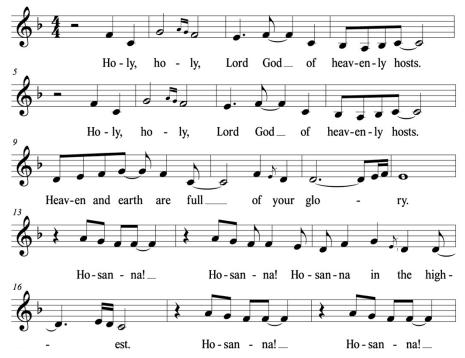
We Feast at the Lord's Table

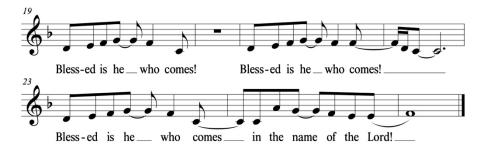
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

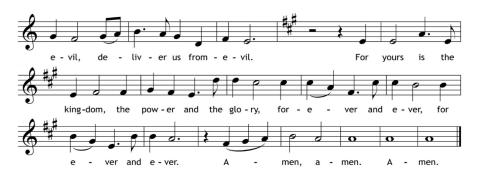
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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. Today, worshippers will be invited to receive the laying on of hands and anointing for healing. Those who are worshipping online are invited to make the sign of the cross on their own foreheads, or that of a family member, and say the following words:

Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, send your Holy Spirit upon your servant; drive away all sickness of body and spirit; make whole that which is broken; deliver me/her/him/them from the power of evil; and preserve me/her/him/them in true faith, to share in the power of Christ's resurrection and to serve you with all the saints now and evermore. Amen.

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 + 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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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 13 & 20 in Katie Luther Chapel

5:30 p.m. Dinner 6:00 p.m. Conversation

7:30 p.m. Evening Prayer

The food, fun, and learning continue as we welcome more neighbors for these conversations. A reminder that Holden Evening Prayer is livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube.

Holy Week & Easter



Palm Sunday Sunday, March 24th 11:00 a.m. at Zion

Maundy Thursday Thursday, March 28th 7:00 p.m. at Zion

Good Friday Friday, March 29th 7:00 p.m. at Good Shepherd

> Vigil of Easter Saturday, March 30th 7:30 p.m. at Zion

Easter Sunday Sunday, March 31st 11:00 a.m. at Zion

Opportunities to Serve Joyfully & Give Selflessly

Easter Lilies – \$15 (minimum)

If you are interested in contributing toward this year's Easter lilies, you can do so with a pew envelope or through our <u>online giving platform</u> at your convenience (choose "Easter Flowers" as the fund). If giving online, please <u>email Cantor Kurt Schmidt</u> with your dedication: in memory or in honor of a loved one and/or to the glory of God. *All Easter Lily contributions and dedications must be submitted by Sunday, March 17th.*

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. 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.

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 <u>www.ninasplacedfb.org</u>.

Fourth Sunday in Lent March 10, 2024

Prayer of the Day

O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**.

First Reading

From Mount Hor [the Israelites] set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. ⁵The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." ⁶Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died.

Numbers 21:4-9

⁷The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." ⁹So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Psalm

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22; tone 8

2	
Give thanks to the LORD,	¹⁷ Some were fools
for the LORD is good,	and took re- bellious paths;
for God's mercy en- ¹ dures	through their sins
forever.	they were afflicted.
² Let the redeemed of the	¹⁸ They loathed all man- I ner of food
LORD proclaim	and drew near to death's door.
that God redeemed them	¹⁹ Then in their trouble
from the hand of the foe,	they cried to the LORD
³ gathering them in ¹ from the lands;	and you delivered them
from the east and from the west,	from their distress.
from the north	²⁰ You sent forth your ¹ word
and ¹ from the south.	and healed them
	and rescued them
	from the grave.
	continued

Psalm, continued

²¹Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your ¹ steadfast love and your wonderful works ¹ for all people.

Second Reading

You were dead through the trespasses and sins ²in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. ³All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. ⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace

Gospel

[Jesus said:] "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Those who believe in him are not condemned; ²²Let them offer sacrifices
¹ of thanksgiving and tell of your deeds with ¹ shouts of joy.

Ephesians 2:1-10

you have been saved—⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— ⁹not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

John 3:14-21

but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

TODAY'S READINGS March 10, 2024

Volume 55, Number 2

Next Sunday's Readings: Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:1-12 or Psalm 119:9-16; Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33.

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