

# Second Sunday in Lent

## March 16, 2025



*Though we sometimes doubt and often resist God's desire to protect and save us, our God persists. In holy baptism, God's people have been called and gathered into a God-initiated relationship that will endure. Lent provides the church with a time and a tradition in which to seek God's face again. Lent provides another occasion to behold the God of our salvation in the face of the Blessed One who "comes in the name of the Lord."*



**ZION**  
Ministries Under the Cross

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# Welcome to Zion!

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*“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

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

## Children in Worship

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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

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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

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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.

# We Gather

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## CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love. *[Silence for self-reflection.]* Compassionate One, **you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.**

Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In † Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever. **Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN

ACS Hymn #987

"Guide My Feet"

## 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

ELW Hymn #157

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

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together...**God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, 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

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## FIRST READING

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

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

## SECOND READING

Philippians 3:17—4:1

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

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The musical notation is written on two staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff is for the Cantor and the second for the Assembly. Both parts use a treble clef and a common time signature. The lyrics are: "Come let us re - turn to the Lord, come, let us re - turn to the Lord;" for the Cantor and "Come, let us re - turn to the Lord, let us re-turn to the Lord." for the Assembly. The melody is simple and repetitive, using quarter and eighth notes.

## GOSPEL

Luke 13:31-35

*Before the reading:* The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*After the reading:* The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ!**

## GOD'S MESSAGE FOR ALL

## HYMN OF THE DAY

"Whom Shall I Fear"

## APOSTLES' CREED

Together with all Christians of every time, place, and space, let us confess our faith, using the words of the Apostles' Creed:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the**

communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## 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

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## 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:

5 Ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God\_ of heav-en - ly hosts.

9 Ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God\_ of heav-en - ly hosts.

13 Heav-en and earth are full\_ of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na!\_ Ho - san - na! Ho - san - na in the high -

16

- est. Ho - san - na! Ho - san - na!

19

Bless-ed is he who comes! Bless-ed is he who comes!

23

Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth, 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. We give you thanks for the priceless grace you have bestowed upon us through Jesus Christ, who died upon the tree of Calvary and rose again to make us living branches, drawing our life from him and bearing fruit in all the world. Send your Holy Spirit, the Spirit of truth and power, to renew our faith as we receive our crucified and risen Lord who comes to us in his body and blood.

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

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

Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal-low-ed be your

name, hal-low-ed be your name. Your king-dom come, your  
will be done, on earth as it is in hea-ven, on earth as it is in hea-ven.  
Give us to-day our dai - ly bread and for - give us all our  
sins as we for-give those who sin a - gainst us, as we for-give those who sin a -  
gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al and de - li - ver us from  
e - vil, de - liv - er us from - e - vil. For yours is the  
king-dom, the pow - er and the glo - ry, for - e - ver and e - ver, for  
e - ver and e - ver. A - men, a - men. A - men.

## SHARING THE MEAL

All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

*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 Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## BLESSING

Beloved in the Lord, God has shown you what is good. What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

ELW Hymn #325, Verse 1

“I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”

## DISMISSAL

The worship has ended. Now the service begins. Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you. **Thanks be to God!**

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# Today's Readings

Second Sunday in Lent

March 16, 2025

## Prayer of the Day

God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## First Reading

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." <sup>2</sup>But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" <sup>3</sup>And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." <sup>4</sup>But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." <sup>5</sup>He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." <sup>6</sup>And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

<sup>7</sup>Then he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans,

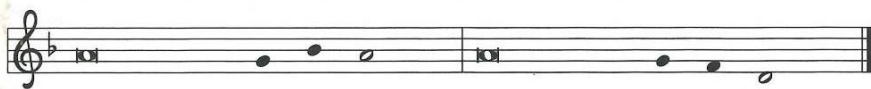
to give you this land to possess." <sup>8</sup>But he said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" <sup>9</sup>He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." <sup>10</sup>He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. <sup>11</sup>And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

<sup>12</sup>As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

<sup>17</sup>When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. <sup>18</sup>On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

## Psalms

Psalm 27; tone 9



The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then <sup>1</sup> shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I <sup>1</sup> be afraid?

<sup>2</sup>When evildoers close in against me to de- <sup>1</sup> vour my flesh, they, my foes and my enemies, will stum- <sup>1</sup> ble and fall.

<sup>3</sup>Though an army encamp against me, my heart <sup>1</sup> will not fear.

Though war rise up against me, my trust will <sup>1</sup> not be shaken.

<sup>4</sup>**One thing I ask of the LORD; one <sup>1</sup> thing I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God <sup>1</sup> in the temple.**

<sup>5</sup>For in the day of trouble God will <sup>1</sup> give me shelter,

*continued*

hide me in the hidden places  
of the sanctuary,  
and raise me high up-<sup>1</sup> on a rock.

<sup>6</sup>Even now my head is lifted up  
above my enemies<sup>1</sup> who surround me.

Therefore I will offer sacrifice  
in the sanctuary,  
sacrifices of rejoicing;  
I will sing and make music  
<sup>1</sup> to the LORD.

<sup>7</sup>Hear my voice, O LORD,<sup>1</sup> when I call;  
have mercy on me and <sup>1</sup> answer me.

<sup>8</sup>My heart speaks your message—  
<sup>1</sup> “Seek my face.”

Your face, O LORD,<sup>1</sup> I will seek.

<sup>9</sup>Hide not your face from me,  
turn not away from your ser-<sup>1</sup> vant  
in anger.

Cast me not away—  
you have been my helper;  
forsake me not,  
O God of<sup>1</sup> my salvation.

<sup>10</sup>Though my father and my moth-<sup>1</sup> er  
forsake me,

the LORD will <sup>1</sup> take me in.

<sup>11</sup>Teach me your <sup>1</sup> way, O LORD;  
lead me on a level path,  
because of<sup>1</sup> my oppressors.

<sup>12</sup>Subject me not to the will<sup>1</sup> of my foes,  
for they rise up against me,  
false witnesses<sup>1</sup> breathing violence.

<sup>13</sup>This I believe—that I will see  
the goodness<sup>1</sup> of the LORD  
in the land<sup>1</sup> of the living!

<sup>14</sup>Wait for the LORD<sup>1</sup> and be strong.  
Take heart and wait<sup>1</sup> for the LORD!

## Second Reading

## Philippians 3:17—4:1

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. <sup>18</sup>For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. <sup>19</sup>Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. <sup>20</sup>But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are

expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>21</sup>He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself.

<sup>4:1</sup>Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

## Gospel

## Luke 13:31-35

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus], “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” <sup>32</sup>He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. <sup>33</sup>Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of

Jerusalem.’ <sup>34</sup>Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! <sup>35</sup>See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

TODAY'S READINGS March 16, 2025

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Next Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 55:1-9; Psalm 63:1-8; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9.

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4 of 15

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