

**MARCH 27 2022  
THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT  
ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**PRELUDE**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

In the name of God, who makes a way in the wilderness, walks with us, and guides us in our pilgrimage.

**Amen.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy One,

**we confess that we have wandered far from you: we have not trusted your promises, we have ignored your prophets in our own day, we have squandered our inheritance of grace, we have failed to recognize you in our midst. Have mercy on us! Forgive us and turn us again to you.**

**Teach us to follow in your ways, assure us again of your love, and help us to love our neighbor. Amen.**

Beloved in Christ, the Word draws near to you, and all who call out to God shall be saved. In Jesus, God comes to you again and again and gathers you under wings of love. In + Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven. God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love. **Amen.**

**GATHERING SONG *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* (ELW 807)**

1 Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,  
tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
call for songs of loudest praise.  
While the hope of endless glory  
fills my heart with joy and love,  
teach me ever to adore thee;

may I still thy goodness prove.

2 Here I raise my Ebenezer:  
"Hither by thy help I've come";  
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,  
safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
wand'ring from the fold of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger,  
interposed his precious blood.

3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor  
daily I'm constrained to be;  
let that grace now like a fetter  
bind my wand'ring heart to thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;  
prone to leave the God I love.  
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it;  
seal it for thy courts above.

## **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 p. 147) – (SPOKEN)**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of 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: Joshua 5:9-12**

A reading from Joshua.

<sup>9</sup>The Lord said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day. <sup>10</sup>While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. <sup>11</sup>On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. <sup>12</sup>The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM: Psalm 32**

<sup>1</sup>Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!

**<sup>2</sup>Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

<sup>3</sup>While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, because of my groaning all day long.

**<sup>4</sup>For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

<sup>5</sup>Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

**<sup>6</sup>Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.**

<sup>7</sup>You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

**<sup>8</sup>“I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; I will guide you with my eye.**

<sup>9</sup>Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you.”

**<sup>10</sup>Great are the tribulations of the wicked; but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.**

<sup>11</sup>Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord; shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

## **SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21**

A reading from 2 Corinthians.

<sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup>So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! <sup>18</sup>All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup>that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. <sup>20</sup>So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 151)**

**Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.**

## **GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.” <sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable: <sup>11b</sup>“There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup>A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there

he squandered his property in dissolute living. <sup>14</sup>When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup>He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup>But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! <sup>18</sup>I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; <sup>19</sup>I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands."' <sup>20</sup>So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup>Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' <sup>22</sup>But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup>And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; <sup>24</sup>for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate. <sup>25</sup>"Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup>He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. <sup>27</sup>He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' <sup>28</sup>Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. <sup>29</sup>But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup>But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' <sup>31</sup>Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup>But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **HYMN OF THE DAY *Our Father, We Have Wandered* (ELW 606)**

1 Our Father, we have wandered  
and hidden from your face;  
in foolishness have squandered

your legacy of grace.

But now, in exile dwelling,  
we rise with fear and shame,  
as, distant but compelling,  
we hear you call our name.

2 And now at length discerning  
the evil that we do,  
behold us, Lord, returning  
with hope and trust to you.  
In haste you come to meet us  
and home rejoicing bring,  
in gladness there to greet us  
with calf and robe and ring.

3 O Lord of all the living,  
both banished and restored,  
compassionate, forgiving,  
and ever-caring Lord,  
grant now that our transgressing,  
our faithlessness may cease.  
Stretch out your hand in blessing,  
in pardon, and in peace.

## **NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,\* who with the Father and the Son is**

**worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

We pray for the church around the world in all its forms: for pastors, deacons, bishops, chaplains, and mission developers; for church councils, committee chairs, and all lay ministry leaders; for congregations that contemplate difficult decisions about the future of their ministry. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

For the health of this planet and the well-being of its creatures: for lands impacted by droughts and at risk of wildfires; for fig trees and vineyards that produce fruit for our nourishment and delight; for animal habitats threatened by climate change. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

We pray for the nations of the world. Especially we pray for the people of the Ukraine as they try to prevent the Soviets from taking their land. Be with citizens of both the Ukraine and Russia as they live desiring peace and protection. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

We pray for those in need. Rescue those experiencing mental illness or contending with addiction. Ease the anxiety of those who live with dementia. Command your angels concerning all who are sick; especially, Geraldine, David, Judy, Florence, Jason, Marilyn, Richard & Marion, Rhonda, Heather, Vince, Aileen, Ruth, Kaitlyn, Dorian, Danita, those struggling with Covid, and others we name before you in hearts and minds. Restore to us the joy of your salvation. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

For the advocacy efforts of this congregation: for those whose faith leads them to speak difficult truths and engage in difficult conversations with policymakers; for those who promote mercy over vengeance or retaliation. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

For those whose earthly journeys have ended, we give thanks. With all the saints, we praise you for the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

## **OFFERING HYMN VERSE 1 AND 3 *We Place upon Your Table, Lord* (ELW 467)**

1 We place upon your table, Lord,  
where you by grace have bid us dine,  
these tokens of our daily work,  
the food of life, the bread and wine.

3 Accept them, Lord; they come from you;  
we take them humbly from your hand;  
put these your gifts to higher use:  
the holy meal that you command.

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Extravagant God, you have blessed us with the fullness of creation. Now we gather at your feast where you offer us the food that satisfies. Take and use what we offer here, come among us, and feed us with the body and blood of Christ, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.  
**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.**



## **Blessing**

You are children of God, anointed with the oil of gladness and strengthened for the journey. Almighty God, motherly, majestic, and mighty, + bless you this day and always. **Amen.**

## **SENDING SONG *If You But Trust in God to Guide You* (ELW 769)**

1 If you but trust in God to guide you  
with gentle hand through all your ways,  
you'll find that God is there beside you  
when crosses come, in trying days.  
Trust then in God's unchanging love;  
build on the rock that will not move.

2 What gain is there in anxious weeping,  
in helpless anger and distress?  
If you are in your Savior's keeping,  
in sorrow will he love you less?  
For Christ who took for you a cross  
will bring you safe through ev'ry loss.

3 The Lord our restless hearts is holding,  
in peace and quietness content.  
We rest in God's good will unfolding,  
what wisdom from on high has sent.  
God, who has chosen us by grace,  
knows very well the fears we face.

4 Sing, pray, and keep God's ways unswerving,  
offer your service faithfully.  
Trust heaven's word; though undeserving,  
you'll find this promise true to be.  
This is our confidence indeed:  
God never fails in time of need.

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

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### **Please Pray for Those Who are Ill, in Hospital, or Requested Special**

**Prayers:** Geraldine Belore, David Brumm, Judy Bucholtz-Valliant, Florence Felske, Jason Godin, Marilyn Kathen, Richard & Marion Hubert, Rhonda Mau, Heather Miller, Vince Rabishaw, Aileen Roesler, Ruth Thom, Kaitlyn Vaillancourt, Dorian Verch, Danita Wolfgram.

### **Please Pray For Those Who Mourn The Loss Of Loved Ones;**

especially, this day we pray for Richard & Marion Hubert as they mourn the loss of Richard's brother, Roy Hubert, that God would sustain during their time of grief.

## News & Announcements

<p><b>Worship Attendance</b> - Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup> – 80 - Wednesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> – Lenten Service - 42</p>
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**Lenten Midweek Services** - On Wednesday March 2<sup>nd</sup> we begun our journey through Lent. During these 40 days you are encouraged to take time to reflect on your life through prayer and on Wednesday evening of each week there will be a Midweek Service at 7pm. During the service our choirs will lead us as we worship using *Holden Evening Prayer*. We will reflect on some writings from Walter Wangerin Jr.'s *Reliving the Passion*. Please come to worship as part of your Lenten discipline.

## **A GUIDE TO WEARING MASKS AT ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH**

March 21 signified the beginning phases of re-opening the province of Ontario. You will no longer be required to wear masks in the church. We ask you to please consider wearing masks in densely populated areas of the church for the protection of yourself and others. Sunday mornings and other worship services are suggested dates. The worship leaders will continue to wear masks as they have close contact with people at Holy Communion.

## **HOLY WEEK & EASTER WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

Maundy Thursday – April 14<sup>th</sup> – 7pm/Good Friday – April 15<sup>th</sup> – 10am  
Easter Sunday – April 17<sup>th</sup> – 8am & 10am

**PICTORIAL DIRECTORY UPDATE** - We received word this week that due to unforeseen circumstances, Universal Portrait Studios will not be coming here in March to take congregational family portraits. They will be contacting everyone who has already booked an appointment to let them know. They have re-scheduled it for April 25<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **LIVING STONES WORSHIP**

Please join us for an alternative worship service on April 10 at 12:30pm. Plan to arrive early and enjoy a coffee hour BEFORE worship. We will have singing, story and active prayer. The service will take place in the gym. You are invited to bring a canned item to donate to the food bank as part of our worship service. This is also Palm Sunday. Do you have cedar or pine trees in your yard? Can you bring some boughs to share? We hope to use these branches along with palms as a part of the service. See you at church!

### **PRAISE GROUP**

Would you like to help lead worship at the Living Stones service? We are looking for musicians, singers and action leaders to help with the music portion of the service. We are also looking for those that can help by doing a reading or set up/take down and tech support. Do you or your family have gifts and talents in these areas? This is the time to let the Pulse team know! We will have a meeting of those who would like to help with music on Thursday, March 31<sup>st</sup> at 630pm in the LOUNGE by the elevator at church. Please bring your preferred instrument, a binder and a music stand if you have one. If you don't play an instrument but sing or have rhythm we need you too! If you are just curious and want to check things out, please come and find your place praising God. We will meet for approximately 1 hour and discuss our next meeting at that time. See you at church!



### ***PULSE MINISTRY***

A new ministry has started up again. The family and youth ministry. It also has a new name: ***PULSE MINISTRY***

***PULSE MINISTRY*** will have three different entities which will be called by their names and every

generation is invited to worship and to Messy Church: Messy Church, Youth Group, and worship. The worship Service will be called "Living Stones".



**Messy Church** is another alternative, in addition to Sunday School, that is held in the evening once a month. It Includes Food, Crafts, Games, Faith Talk, and Fun! It is for Sunday School age children. The next event is on **Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup> from 5:30pm to 7:30pm.**

**Youth Group** ages 12-16. If older kids show up we won't turn them away. We will be meeting once or twice a month. Our first meeting will be a **Movie and Pizza Night** on **Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm** until **9:00pm.**



The first "**Living Stones**" worship will be **Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 12:30pm.** It is an intergenerational service for people 1 to 110 and will be held in the gym and will be led by a praise band. If you have musical gifts you would like to share please contact Pastor Scott or Pastor Sue. Those that want to come to worship can come early for coffee.

### Today's Scheduled Worship Volunteers

**Worship Leaders:** Ellen Vandersleen/Wayne Kirk

**Sexton:** David Lehman

**Projector Operator:** Diane Hammel

**Video Recorder:** Alex Hammel

**Sound Operator:** Krista Hammel

**Counters:** Lisa Campitelli, Karen Gauthier, David Lehman

**Altar Care:** Kathy Godin

**Coffee Hour:** Denise & Barry Schizkoske

### This Week at Zion – March 28 – April 3

**Mon** Pastor Scott @ Bishop's Retreat Until March 31<sup>st</sup>

**Tues** 7pm Narcotics Anonymous

**Wed** 7pm Mid Week Lenten Service

7:45pm Men's Choir Practice

**Thurs** 6:30pm Praise Band Practice in Lounge

	<b>7pm</b>	Mixed Choir Practice	
	<b>7pm</b>	Music Healing Vets	
<b>Sunday</b> Council)	<b>10am</b>	Worship with Holy Communion	(Installation of Church