

The Fifth Sunday of Lent

Saturday March 25, 2023 – 5:30p.m.

Sunday March 26, 2023 – 8:00a.m.

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Receiving Communion – 10:30a.m.

In preparation, examine yourself by asking these questions:

Am I truly sorry for my sins?

Do I believe I am forgiven because of Jesus' suffering and death?

Do I believe in the Real Presence of Christ's Body and Blood in the Sacrament?

Do I desire to be strengthened to live a God-pleasing life, and to forgive others?

This is the faith expressed by the LCMS and those in fellowship with us. Members of LCMS congregations may commune with us. If it is your first time with us, please speak to the pastor before communing.

Prayers

For Healing: Blake Wargo, John VanKempen, Betty Zumwalt, Reini Morgan, Melanie Pence, Steve Steelman, Jeff Lutz, JoAnn Fuchs, Florence Collmann, Heath Beccue, Arlene Gerdes, Sara Ballinger, Lydia Cook

Zion Lutheran School

Government Officials and Nation

Military and all First Responders

EASTER FLOWER sign-ups are in the Narthex and in the church mailbox hallway. Flower choices are Hyacinths, Tulips and Lilies. The price is \$14.00. Please fill the envelope out completely returning with your payment. Payments can be placed in the basket above the church mailboxes, or given to the church office. Checks can be made payable to Zion Ladies Aid.

ALTAR FLOWERS Giving by Virginia Wernsing in memory of Alicia Grosenheider's birthday.

BULLETINS Giving by Rex & Cindy Nail in celebration of Lily Shank's birthday

HOLY WEEK/EASTER SCHEDULE

Senior Communion Service	Saturday April 1 st 11:00 a.m.
Palm/Passion Sunday	Saturday April 1 st 5:30 p.m. Sunday April 2 nd 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Maundy Thursday	Thursday April 6 th 7:00 p.m.
Good Friday	Friday April 7 th 7:00 p.m.
Easter Vigil	Saturday April 8 th 5:30 p.m.
Easter Sunrise Service	Sunday April 9 th 6:00 a.m.

WELCOME

HYMN OF INVOCATION LSB 433 "Glory Be to Jesus"

- 1 Glory be to Jesus, Who in bitter pains
 Poured for me the lifeblood From His sacred veins!

- 2 Grace and life eternal In that blood I find;
 Blest be His compassion, Infinitely kind!

- 3 Blest through endless ages Be the precious stream
 Which from endless torment Did the world redeem!

- 4 Abel's blood for vengeance Pleaded to the skies;
 But the blood of Jesus For our pardon cries.

- 5 Oft as earth exulting Wafts its praise on high,
 Angel hosts rejoicing Make their glad reply.

- 6 Lift we, then, our voices, Swell the mighty flood;
 Louder still and louder Praise the precious blood!

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ORDER OF SERVICE – Divine Service Setting One, Page 151

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.**

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**



INTROIT

Precious in the sight | of the LORD*
is the death | of his saints.

**I love the LORD, because | he has heard*
my voice and my pleas for | mercy.**

Because he inclined his | ear to me,*
therefore I will call on him as long | as I live.

The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid | hold on me;*
I suffered distress and | anguish.

Then I called on the name | of the LORD:*
"O LORD, I pray, deliv- | er my soul!"

**For you have delivered my | soul from death,*
my eyes from tears, my feet from | stumbling.**

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;**

**as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

Precious in the sight | of the LORD*
is the death | of his saints.

KYRIE Page 152

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

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

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: 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.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

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

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

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

C: **Amen.**

SALUTATION & COLLECT Page 156

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray...

C: **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT Ezekiel 37:1–14

¹The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. ²And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. ³And he said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” And I answered, “O Lord GOD, you know.” ⁴Then he said to me, “Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD.” ⁷So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.” ¹⁰So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army. ¹¹Then he said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are clean cut off.’ ¹²Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD.”

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE Romans 8:1–11

¹There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God’s law; indeed, it cannot. ⁸Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in

you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

LENTEN & VERSE Page 157

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

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eleventh chapter.

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

GOSPEL John 11:17-27, 38-53

¹⁷Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, ¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. ²⁰So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. ²¹Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." ²³Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world." ³⁸Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. ³⁹Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" ⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me." ⁴³When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out." ⁴⁴The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." ⁴⁵Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him, ⁴⁶but some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. ⁴⁷So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the Council and said, "What are we to do? For this man performs many signs. ⁴⁸If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our

place and our nation.”⁴⁹ But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, “You know nothing at all.⁵⁰ Nor do you understand that it is better for you that one man should die for the people, not that the whole nation should perish.”⁵¹ He did not say this of his own accord, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation,⁵² and not for the nation only, but also to gather into one the children of God who are scattered abroad.⁵³ So from that day on they made plans to put him to death.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY LSB 486 “If Christ Had Not Been Raised from Death”

- 1 If Christ had not been raised from death Our faith would be in vain,
Our preaching but a waste of breath, Our sin and guilt remain.
But now the Lord is ris’n indeed; He rules in earth and heav’n:
His Gospel meets a world of need— In Christ we are forgiv’n.
- 2 If Christ still lay within the tomb Then death would be the end,
And we should face our final doom With neither guide nor friend.
But now the Savior is raised up, So when a Christian dies
We mourn, yet look to God in hope— In Christ the saints arise!
- 3 If Christ had not been truly raised His Church would live a lie;
His name should nevermore be praised, His words deserve to die.
But now our great Redeemer lives; Through Him we are restored;
His Word endures, His Church revives In Christ, our risen Lord.

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SERMON “*Dry Bones- LIVE!*” (Ezekiel 37:9)

HYMN OF RESPONSE LSB 548 “Thanks to Thee, O Christ, Victorious”

- 1 Thanks to Thee, O Christ, victorious! Thanks to Thee, O Lord of Life!
Death hath now no power o’er us, Thou hast conquered in the strife.
Thanks because Thou didst arise And hast opened paradise!
None can fully sing the glory Of the resurrection story.
- 2 Thou hast died for my transgression, All my sins on Thee were laid;
Thou hast won for me salvation, On the cross my debt was paid.
From the grave I shall arise And shall meet Thee in the skies.
Death itself is transitory; I shall lift my head in glory.
- 3 For the joy Thine advent gave me, For Thy holy, precious Word;
For Thy Baptism, which doth save me, For Thy blest Communion board;
For Thy death, the bitter scorn, For Thy resurrection morn,
Lord, I thank Thee and extol Thee, And in heav’n I shall behold Thee.

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I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

OFFERING

OFFERTORY Page 159

What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?

I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.

I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people, in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

LORD'S PRAYER Page 162

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.

BENEDICTION Page 166

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.

HYMN OF DEPARTURE LSB 685 "Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"

- 1 Let us ever walk with Jesus, Follow His example pure,
Through a world that would deceive us And to sin our spirits lure.
Onward in His footsteps treading, Pilgrims here, our home above,
Full of faith and hope and love,
Let us do the Father's bidding. Faithful Lord, with me abide;
I shall follow where You guide.
- 2 Let us suffer here with Jesus And with patience bear our cross.
Joy will follow all our sadness; Where He is, there is no loss.
Though today we sow no laughter, We shall reap celestial joy;
All discomforts that annoy
Shall give way to mirth hereafter. Jesus, here I share Your woe;
Help me there Your joy to know.

- 3 Let us gladly die with Jesus. Since by death He conquered death,
He will free us from destruction, Give to us immortal breath.
Let us mortify all passion That would lead us into sin;
And the grave that shuts us in
Shall but prove the gate to heaven. Jesus, here with You I die,
There to live with You on high.
- 4 Let us also live with Jesus. He has risen from the dead
That to life we may awaken. Jesus, You are now our head.
We are Your own living members; Where You live, there we shall be
In Your presence constantly,
Living there with You forever. Jesus, let me faithful be,
Life eternal grant to me.

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SERVING US THIS WEEKEND

Pastor - Rev. Fred Kraemer

Organist - Keith Marburger

Elders - 5:30 - Doug Martin 8:00 - Kyle Frerichs
10:30 - Bud Helgen & David Brakenbush

Last Week's Attendance - 5:30 p.m. - 37 8:00 a.m. - 62 10:30 a.m. - 38

Midweek's Attendance - 45

Plate Offering - \$5,257.00

E-Giving - \$1,132.28

Upcoming Events:

Sunday, March 26 -	<i>Sausage Dinner</i> – noon-6:00p.m.
Tuesday, March 28 –	<i>Sewing Circle</i> – 9:00 a.m.
Wednesday, March 29 –	<i>School Chapel</i> – 8:30 a.m.
	<i>Festival Bells</i> – 5:45 p.m.
	<i>Meal</i> – 5:30 p.m.
	<i>Confirmation</i> – 6:00 p.m.
	<i>Midweek Lent Service</i> – 7:00p.m.
Thursday, March 30 –	<i>Berean Bible Class</i> – 9:15 a.m.
Saturday, April 1-	<i>PTL Egg Hunt</i> – 9:00a.m.
	<i>Senior Comm Easter Service</i> – 11:00a.m.
	<i>Worship – Traditional (comm)</i> – 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, April 2 -	<i>Worship – Traditional (comm)</i> – 8:00 a.m.
	<i>Bible Study</i> – 9:15 a.m.
	<i>Worship – Traditional(comm)</i> - 10:30 a.m.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS: If you have Thrivent products, please check to see if you have \$\$ to allocate. This needs to be done by 3/31, or Thrivent will choose an organization for you. It does not affect your savings in any way. Every penny matters! Thanks for sharing yours! If you need help, please contact Sharon Cordani at 217-246-2429.

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE

Romans 8:1 – “There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.” This is the joy of the Gospel! There is no condemnation for us before the throne of God because in His love He has provided salvation for us in Christ. We have been set free. We are His children once again, and coheirs with Christ of all the blessings of heaven. If this does not make us thankful, nothing will!

PORTAL OF PRAYERS are in church mailboxes and on the tables in the Narthex and by church mailboxes.

EASTER BREAKFAST: There will be a continental breakfast served in the parish hall between the Sunrise service and the 8:00 service. Enjoy fellowship, a pastry, fruit, juice, and/or coffee. Hope to see you there!

CARD SHOWER for Ray Mansholt’s 94th birthday on March 28th. His address is 628 S. Illinois Ave. Litchfield, 62056

