

Second Sunday in Lent

February 28, 2021

9:00 am

Communion



*278 Years Of
"Joyously proclaiming the good news of God's love"*

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

SPRING CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

Founded in 1743

THIS WEEK AT ZION

Sunday 2/28	8.00 am	Bell choir
	9:00 am	Worship
	9.00 am	Confirmation
Monday	7:30 pm	AA Meeting
Tuesday	5:00 pm	Tai Kwan Do
	7.30 pm	Executive Committee Meeting
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Lenten Bible study-(zoom)
Sunday 3/7	9:00 am	Worship

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Congregation of the Southeastern Pa. Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

The Reverend Tina Mackie

Confidential email: pastor@zionofspringcity.org

Caroline J, Office manager

Shawn Rogers, Sexton

Jack Florio, Financial Secretary

Daniel L. Bauman, Cemetery Superintendent & Maintenance Manager

Lori Hoshaw, Music Director

Shawn Rogers, Christian Education Director

Amy Kirk, Parish Post / Social Media Editor

Worship Service: 9:00 a.m.

Church Telephone: 610-948-3323

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Web site: www.zionofspringcity.org

Zion Lutheran Pre-School

Dawn Platchek, Director , Phone : 610-948-3440, e-mail: info@zionlutheranpreschool.com

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS (2/28)

This week	
Steven Moore	Assistant Minister
Amy Kirk	Lay Reader
Shawn Rogers	Greeter
Maggie Munz	Greeter
Amy Kirk	Altar Guild
Lou and Carol Mandik	Hymns

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS (3/7)

Next week	
Deb Batten	Assistant Minister
Anna Moore	Lay Reader
Shawn Rogers	Greeter
Maggie Munz	Greeter
Elaine Weinstein	Altar Guild
Michelle Favara	Hymns

We thank you for your service to the church.

We will be celebrating Communion today. Please keep bread and wine ready.

Sunday, February 28st, 2021

INTRODUCTION

The second covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the one made with Abraham and Sarah: God's promise to make them the ancestors of many, with whom God will remain in everlasting covenant. Paul says this promise comes to all who share Abraham's faith in the God who brings life into being where there was no life. We receive this baptismal promise of resurrection life in faith. Sarah and Abraham receive new names as a sign of the covenant, and we too get new identities in baptism, as we put on Christ.

PRELUDES

On Tannenberg- "Praise the Savior, Ye Who Know Him"- German Melody Arr. by Richard Unfreid
"Softly and Tenderly" by Will. L. Thompson, Arr. Rex Koury
"Morning" by William Stickles

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING

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

A: **And also with you.**

Hymn

O Father We Have Wandered #606 ELW Vs. 1 & 3



Text: Kevin Nichols, 1929-2006 Music: Hans Leo Hassler, 1564-1612; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685-1750

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

A: **Amen.**

Confession and Forgiveness

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

P: God of heaven and earth, you come in close and make us yours. Equip us by your Spirit to confess our sin, embrace your forgiveness, and seek the way you set before us in your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

A& P: Amen.

P: With honesty of heart, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,

A& P: you sent Jesus Christ to save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We fail in love, neglect justice, and ignore your truth. Have mercy on us and wash away our sin. Create in us clean hearts for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

P: Behold, now is the acceptable time; now is the day of salvation. Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen**

Please be seated

First Reading: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-17

As with Noah, God makes an everlasting covenant with Abraham and Sarah. God promises this old couple that they will be the ancestors of nations, though they have no child together. God will miraculously bring forth new life from Sarah's womb. The name changes emphasize the firmness of God's promise.

R: A reading from the book of Genesis:

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you."

God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her." Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed, and said to himself, "Can a child be born to a man who is a hundred years old? Can Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear a child?"

R: The Word of the Lord.

P & A: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 22:23-31

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord. (Ps. 22:27)

R: You who fear the Lord, give praise! All you of Jacob's line, give glory. Stand in awe of the Lord, all you offspring of Israel.

A & P: For the Lord does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the Lord's face hidden from them; but when they cry out, the Lord hears them.

R: From you comes my praise in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the Lord.

A & P: The poor shall eat and be satisfied, Let those who seek the Lord give praise! May your hearts live forever!

R: All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; all the families of nations shall bow before God.

A & P: For dominion belongs to the Lord, who rules over the nations.

R: Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the Lord.

A & P: You Their descendants shall serve the Lord, whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.

R: They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying to them, "The Lord has acted!"

Those able, please stand

ACCLAMATION "Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery"
Text: and Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

#334 ELW

Gospel: Mark 8:31-38

After Peter confesses his belief that Jesus is the Messiah, Jesus tells his disciples for the first time what is to come. Peter's response indicates that he does not yet understand the way of the cross that Jesus will travel.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark

A: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

A: Praise to you, O Christ

(Please be seated)

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

MESSAGE by Pastor Tina Mackie

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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 INTERCESSION

You can add names to the prayer list by contacting the church office. After three weeks names will be removed from the prayer of intercession unless resubmitted. These people will still be in our private prayers.

(Please stand)

A: On this second Sunday in Lent, let us pray for the church and for all people in need, responding to each petition with words from today's psalm, "hear us, we pray."

A: God of mercy and might, bless your church throughout the world. Uphold those believers who suffer for the sake of your gospel. Strengthen the faith of all the baptized, and make your presence felt by those unable to assemble for worship.

When we cry out, O faithful God,

P: hear us, we pray.

A: As this week we commemorate John and Charles Wesley, we ask you to bless the Methodist churches around the globe. Unite them in the promises of baptism, and in due time return us all to the joy of singing the hymns that Charles wrote.

When we cry out, O warm-hearted God,

P: hear us, we pray.

A: Bless the earth. Save the animals and their habitats from wild and uncontrolled weather. Teach humanity to live respectful of nature and to join you in tending to creation's well-being. We ask you to smile also on Mars.

When we cry out, O wondrous God,

P: hear us, we pray.

A: Bless the nations of the world. Raise up advocates for peace and justice within and between nations. Give life where hope seems dead; call into existence new realities we cannot even imagine. Lead all people around the world to receive the COVID-19 vaccine with gratitude to you. Grant to our Congress the wisdom and the will to improve the lives of all our residents.

When we cry out, O righteous God,

P: hear us, we pray.

A: Bless all who suffer in body, mind, and spirit. We beg that you bring an end to the pandemic. Restore medical systems, and comfort all who are sick or dying. Lead us out of the practices of discrimination. Bring vindication for victims of injustice and relief to oppressed minorities. Receive our prayers for **Fawn** Keenan and **Ralph** Finkbiner. Heal them with your loving might.

When we cry out, O benevolent God,

P: hear us, we pray.

A: Bless families: those in our community, those waiting at national borders, those whose struggles are known only to you. Keep children safe; sustain expectant parents and those facing infertility; protect women in childbirth. Accompany everyone who lives alone. Equip the ministries and services of church and state that attend to families in their needs.

When we cry out, O loving God,

P: hear us, we pray.

A: Fill each one of us with hope, and receive our personal prayers.

Others for whom you may wish to pray: (names submitted by our members): Moriah Finkbiner, Roxanne Robinson and Christine Roleski.

When we cry out, O gracious God,,

A: hear us, we pray.

P: Praises to you, O God, for centuries of saints whose faithfulness inspires our Lenten journey. Bless those who mourn the half million dead of the virus. Be our way, our truth, our life, and strengthen our faith in the gift of your final salvation.

When we cry out, O everlasting God,

A: hear us, we pray.

P: We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

A: Amen.

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

A: And also with you.

Let us share the peace with one another

OFFERING INVITATION

(Please be seated)

OFFERING with Special music

Christopher Kirk on Drums- "Awesome God" by Rich Mullins

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Faithful God, you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

P: Amen.

(Please stand)



SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION



Believing in the real presence of Christ, this church practices communion hospitality. All baptized persons are welcome to participate in the Lord's Supper. Parent(s)/Grandparent(s) will place their hands on untutored young people for a blessing given by the Pastor. The response when receiving the bread and wine could be: "Amen" or "I believe." (Grape juice and Gluten Free wafers are available)

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

A: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

A: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

A: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: 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. 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:

Hymn: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

P: In every age you sent prophets to make known your loving will for all humanity. The cry of the poor has become your own cry; our hunger and thirst for justice is your own desire. In the crowning act of love, you gave your only Son that whoever believes in him will have eternal life. For you sent Jesus not to condemn the world, but to save the world from sin. Through his death on the cross, we who were once far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

P: 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 in 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 in remembrance of me.

P: With this bread and cup, we remember Christ's life among us; his association with outcasts, his eating with sinners, his healing of the sick, his care for the poor. Send, we pray, your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and wine, that we who share this meal may become a holy communion, the body of Christ in the world.

A: Amen.

P: Lord, remember us in Your Kingdom and teach us to pray,

A: 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Jesus draws the whole world to himself. Come to this meal and be fed.

A: Amen.

SHARING IN COMMUNION

P: This is the Body of Christ given for you

A: I believe or Amen (Congregation will eat the wafer)

P: This is the Blood of Christ given for you

A: I believe or Amen (Congregation will drink the wine)

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in His grace.

A: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: God of steadfast love, at this table you gather your people into one body for the sake of the world.
Send us in the power of your Spirit, that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

P: Amen.

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy, the Lord
look upon you and give you peace.

A: Amen

THE SENDING HYMN **Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus #802 ELW Vs. 1 & 4**

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626-1681; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, alt. Music: Georg G. Boltze, 18th cent.

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Remember the poor.

P & A: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"More about Jesus Would I Know" by John R. Sweeney Arr. by Richard Unfreid

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BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Genesis 18:1-15; 21:1-6	The name Isaac means laughter
Isaiah 55:6-11	God's ways are not our ways
Mark 12:28-34	The greatest commandment
Isaiah 52:13-53:12	The Suffering Servant
Hebrews 1:1-13	Faith is the assurance of things hoped for
Psalms 86	Give me an undivided heart