

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 21, 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 3/21	8.00 am	Bell choir
	9:00 am	Worship
Monday	7:30 pm	AA Meeting
Tuesday	5:00 pm	Tai Kwan Do
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Lenten Bible study-(zoom)
Thursday	7:00 pm	Preschool School Board Meeting
Palm Sunday 3/28	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

e-mail: church@zionofspringcity.org

Facebook: ZionofSpringCity

Web site: www.zionofspringcity.org

Zion Lutheran Pre-School

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

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS (3/21)

This week	
Diane Sakal	Assistant Minister
Michelle Favara	Lay Reader
Shawn Rogers	Greeter
Maggie Munz	Greeter
Amy Kirk	Altar Guild
Barbara Grubb	Hymns

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS (3/28)

Next week	
Dan Bauman	Assistant Minister
Paul Condrack	Lay Reader
Shawn Rogers	Greeter
Maggie Munz	Greeter
Beverly Tyson	Altar Guild
Barbara Grubb	Hymns

We thank you for your service to the church.

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

Sunday, March 21st, 2021

INTRODUCTION

God promises Ezekiel that a “new covenant” will be made in the future: a covenant that will allow all the people to know God by heart. The church sees this promise fulfilled in Christ, who draws all people to himself when he is lifted up on the cross. Our baptismal covenant draws us to God’s heart through Christ and draws God’s love and truth into our hearts. We join together in worship, sharing in word, song, and meal, and leave strengthened to share God’s love with all the world.

PRELUDES

On Tannenberg- "I am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus" by Ethelbert W. Bullinger, Arr. by Richard Unfreid

"Arietta" by William Stickles

"Melody in G" 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

"Now the Green Blade Raises"

ELW #379 vs. 1 & 4



- 1 Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,
wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
love lives again, that with the dead has been;
love is come again like wheat arising green.

- 4 When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
your touch can call us back to life again,
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;
love is come again like wheat arising green.

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872–1958 Music: French carol

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in 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: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer.

A& P: **Amen.**

P: God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Fountain of living water,

A& P: pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free. Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love. Amen.

P: Beloved, God's word never fails. The promise rests on grace: by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God, your sins are † forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Journey in the way of Jesus. **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise

"As the Deer"

W & P #9

As the deer pants for water, so my sou; longs after you.
You alone are my heart's desire and long toward you.
You alone are my strength, my sheild, to you alone may my spirit yeild;
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.

Text & Music: Martin J. Nystrum

Please be seated

First Reading: Ezekiel 36:24-28

R: A reading from the book of Ezekiel:

²⁴I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the countries, and bring you into your own land. ²⁵I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. ²⁶A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷I will put my spirit within you, and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances. ²⁸Then you shall live in the land that I gave to your ancestors; and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

R: The Word of the Lord.

P & A: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 51

¹⁰*Create in me a clean heart, O God and put a new and right spirit within me. (Ps. 51:10)*

R: ¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

A&P: ²Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

R: ³For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

A&P: ⁴Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.

R: ⁵Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me. ⁶You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

A&P: ⁷Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. ⁸Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.

R: ⁹Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

A&P: ¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, O God and put a new and right spirit within me. ¹¹Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.

R: ¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit. ¹³Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.

A&P: ¹⁴Deliver me from bloodshed, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance. ¹⁵O LORD, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.

R: ¹⁶For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased. ¹⁷The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

A&P: ¹⁸Do good to Zion in your good pleasure; rebuild the walls of Jerusalem, ¹⁹then you will delight in right sacrifices, in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings; then bulls will be offered on your altar.

Those able, please stand

ACCLAMATION

"Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery"

#334 ELW

1. Tree of Life and awesome myst'ry,
in your death we are reborn;
though you die in all of hist'ry,
still you rise with ev'ry mron, still you rise with ev'ry morn.

Lent 5

God of all our fear and sorrow,
God who lives beyond our death,
hold us close through each tomorrow,
love as near as ev'ry breath.

Text: and Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Gospel: John 12:20-33

P: The Holy Gospel according to John

A: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

²⁷Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say — 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." ³⁰Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

A: Praise to you, O Christ

(Please be seated)

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

MESSAGE by Pastor Tina Mackie

(Please stand)

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.

A: On this fifth Sunday in Lent, let us offer both our laments and our petitions to God, responding to each petition with words from today's psalm, "have mercy on us."

A: O God, we lament that over the past months many Christians have not be able to assemble in person for worship. Many believers have languished alone. And we pray: Strengthen all Christians in every church around the globe in the covenant of their baptism. Equip children and teachers in Sunday school, confirmation, and service projects, whether online or in person.

O faithful God, in your steadfast love,

P: have mercy on us.

A: We lament that by indulging our own desires, we have misused your creation and have worsened the poverty of others. And we pray: Continue your care for the earth you have made.

Protect animals and their habitats. Grant weather that prepares the soil for seeds, and shelter all lands from violent storms, flooding, and wildfires.

O almighty God, in your steadfast love,

P: have mercy on us.

A: We lament that as a nation we have not insured justice for all and equal access to freedoms and to the necessities of life. We lament ongoing prejudices and violence on our streets and in our homes. And we pray: Bring an end to warfare and terrorism. Imbue our courts with truth and wisdom. Guide citizens throughout the world to shape communities that reflect your mercy, justice, and peace, and give them creativity to work for the welfare of all.

O righteous God, in your steadfast love,

P: have mercy on us.

A: We lament the sufferings of people the world over. We lament the sorrows of the pandemic. We lament hunger, homelessness, and loneliness. And we pray: End this pandemic. Provide vaccinations to all persons around the earth. Guide us in healing the sick, welcoming the migrant, feeding the hungry, and living with others in harmony. We pray especially for **Fawn** Keenan and **Ralph** Finkbiner. Heal them with your loving might.

O benevolent God, in your steadfast love,

A: have mercy on us.

P: We lament our secret sorrows known only to you, and we ask you to receive the prayers of our hearts.

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

O mothering God, in your steadfast love,

A: have mercy on us.

P: We lament the countless who have died of COVID and the diminishment of life that so many have endured. We praise you for those who have given us words for our lament and our praise, especially today Thomas Cranmer. At the end, bring us with all who have died in Christ into your everlasting presence.

O everlasting God, in your steadfast love,

A: have mercy on us.

P: We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, Father of glory, in your bountiful Spirit, and in the name of Christ, our great high priest, now and forever.

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

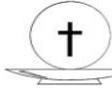
Jeffrey Shalome on Keyboard- "Nothing but the Blood of Jesus" by Robert Lowery

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

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heav'n and earth and full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

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 your with grace and mercy, the Lord look upon you and give you peace.

A: Amen

THE SENDING HYMN

I am the Bread of Life #485 ELW Vs. 1&5



1 "I am the Bread of life.
You who come to me shall not hunger,
and who believe in me shall not thirst.
No one can come to me unless the Father beckons."

Refrain

"And I will raise you up,
and I will raise you up,
and I will raise you up on the last day."
5 Yes, Lord, I believe

that you are the Christ,
the Son of God,
who have come into the world. *Refrain*

Text: Suzanne Toolan, rsm, b. 1927 Music: Suzanne Toolan, RSM

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Remember the poor.

P & A: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" by John Zundel, Arr. by Richard Unfreid

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BULLETINS:

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Numbers 16:41-50	Moses intercedes for God's people
Isaiah 43:16-21	The Lord is about to do something new
John 12:1-8	Mary anoints Jesus for his burial
Habakkuk 3:2-15	God will save the anointed
I John 2:7-14	A new commandment
Psalms 20	The Anointed One and us