

# Fifth Sunday after Epiphany Founder's Day

February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024

9:00 am



*281 Years of  
Joyously proclaiming the good news of God's love!*

**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
SPRING CITY, PENNSYLVANIA  
Founded in 1743

Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – service led by Zion Congregation

## INTRODUCTION

In Isaiah the one God who sits above the earth and numbers the stars also strengthens the powerless. So in Jesus' healing work we see the hand of the creator God, lifting up the sick woman to health and service (*diakonia*). Like Simon's mother-in-law, we are lifted up and healed to serve. Following Jesus, we strengthen the powerless; like Jesus, we seek to renew our own strength in quiet times of prayer.

## PRELUDES

9:00 am

**On Tannenberg: "Hail, Jesu, Fount of Goodness"**

J.S. Bach

**On Piano: "French Suite No. 2 in C Minor- Allemande"**

J.S. Bach, BWV 813

**On Allen Organ: "Faith of our Fathers"**

Henri F. Hemy – Arr. by Richard Unfried

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

It's Founder's Day – Happy 281<sup>st</sup> Birthday to Zion Lutheran Church!

We're recognizing two members with the Richard G. Nelson Award today!

## GREETING

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

C: And also with you.

# HYMN

# "God Whose Almighty Word" – ELW #673, All Verses

1 God, whose al - might - y word cha - os and dark - ness heard  
2 Christ, who once came to bring, on your re - deem - ing wing,  
3 Spir - it of truth and love, life - giv - ing, ho - ly dove,  
4 Ho - ly and bless - ed three, glo - ri - ous Trin - i - ty,

and took their flight: hear us, we hum - bly pray, and where the  
heal - ing and sight; health to the trou - bled mind, sight where il -  
speed forth your flight; move on the wa - ter's face bear - ing the  
Wis - dom, Love, Might: bound - less as o - cean's tide, roll - ing in

gos - pel day sheds not its glo - rious ray, let there be light.  
lu - sions blind; oh, now to hu - man-kind let there be light.  
lamp of grace, and in earth's dark - est place let there be light.  
full - est pride, through the earth, far and wide, let there be light.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

A: Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

A: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,  
the Word made flesh,  
our life and our salvation.

C: Amen.

A: Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior,  
let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

A: God of life,  
C: you promise good news of great joy for all people,  
and call us to be messengers of your peace.  
We confess that too often we hoard our joy,  
our resources, and our security.  
We nurture conflict and build barriers.  
We neglect the needs of our neighbors  
and ignore the groaning of creation.  
Have mercy on us.  
Where we are self-centered, open our hearts.  
Where we are reluctant, give us courage.  
Where we are cynical, restore our trust.  
Renew us with your grace  
and give us again the hope of eternal life in you.  
Amen.

A: Hear the good news:  
We are children of God and heirs of God's promises  
through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.  
In † Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed.  
Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth  
shall know the salvation of God.  
C: Amen.

## HYMN OF PRAISE "Glory to You God"

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Glory to You God". It consists of six staves of music in a single system, all written in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The music is a simple, melodic line with a steady rhythm. The lyrics are: "I Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth; yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth. Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame; ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name. Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done; yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone."

## FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:21-31

*The Judeans in exile have a good reason to be hopeful: the one who will bring them to freedom is the God who created the world, the God who subdues the rulers of the earth and gives strength to those who are weary.*

<sup>21</sup>Have you not known? Have you not heard?

Has it not been told you from the beginning?

Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

<sup>22</sup>It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,

and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;

who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,

and spreads them like a tent to live in;

<sup>23</sup>who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

<sup>24</sup>Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,

scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,

when he blows upon them, and they wither,

and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

<sup>25</sup>To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

<sup>26</sup>Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these?

He who brings out their host and numbers them,

calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.

<sup>27</sup>Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"?

<sup>28</sup>Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.

<sup>29</sup>He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.

<sup>30</sup>Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted;

<sup>31</sup>but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,

they shall mount up with wings like eagles,

they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

## PSALM 147:1-11, 20c

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God!

How pleasant it is to honor God with praise!

<sup>2</sup>The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem, and gathers the exiles of Israel.

<sup>3</sup>The LORD heals the brokenhearted  
and binds up their wounds.

<sup>4</sup>The LORD counts the number of the stars  
and calls them all by their names.

<sup>5</sup>Great is our LORD and mighty in power;  
there is no limit to God's wisdom.

<sup>6</sup>The LORD lifts up the lowly,  
but casts the wicked to the ground.

<sup>7</sup>Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;  
make music upon the harp to our God,

<sup>8</sup>who covers the heavens with clouds  
and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow upon the mountains.

<sup>9</sup>God provides food for the cattle  
and for the young ravens when they cry.

<sup>10</sup>God is not impressed by the might of a horse,  
and has no pleasure in the speed of a runner,

<sup>11</sup>but finds pleasure in those who fear the LORD,  
in those who await God's steadfast love.

<sup>20c</sup> Hallelujah!

## ACCLAMATION

## "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah" – ELW #172

The musical score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of staves. The lyrics are: Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-jah. Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-jah. Hal-le-lu-jah. Hal-le-lu-jah. Hal-le-lu-jah. Hal-le-lu-jah. Hal-le-lu-jah. Hal-le-lu-jah.

## GOSPEL:

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark,

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

### Mark 1:29-39

*Everywhere Jesus goes, many people expect him to set them free from oppression. Everywhere he goes, he heals people and sets them free. Disease, devils, and death are running for their lives. The forces that diminish human life are rendered powerless by Jesus.*

<sup>29</sup>As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. <sup>30</sup>Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. <sup>31</sup>He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

<sup>32</sup>That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. <sup>33</sup>And the whole city was gathered around the door. <sup>34</sup>And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

<sup>35</sup>In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. <sup>36</sup>And Simon and his companions hunted for him. <sup>37</sup>When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." <sup>38</sup>He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." <sup>39</sup>And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

## VIDEO SERMON

## HYMN

### "Be Still, My Soul" - Glory to God, # 819, All Verses

1 Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side. Bear pa-tient-ly the cross of grief or pain. Leave to thy God to fu-ture sure-ly as the past. Thy hope, thy con-fi-be for-ev-er with the Lord; when dis-ap-point-ment, or-der and pro-vide, who through all chang-es faith-ful will re-dence let noth-ing shake; all now mys-te-rious shall be bright at grief, and fear are gone, sor-row for-got, love's pur-est joys re-main. Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heaven-ly Friend last. Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know stored. Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past through thorn-y ways leads to a joy-ful end. his voice who ruled them while he dwelt be-low. all safe and bless-ed we shall meet at last.

### 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

A: As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

A: Everlasting God, you bring your healing power to the church. Give your church a spirit of unity and prayer, that we discern your way for us in the world. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.



A: Creator of the ends of the earth, you make the grass grow and send rain for the soil. Bring your creation into harmony and balance. Give animals their food and provide healthy shelter for your people. Inspire us to honor the miraculous beauty of all you have made. God of grace,  
**C: receive our prayer.**

A: God without equal, your steadfast love endures forever. Bring the leaders, elected officials, and peacekeepers of our towns and countries into understanding and unity. Guide them to serve with compassion and understanding. God of grace,  
**C: receive our prayer.**

A: God who strengthens, you lift up with your hand any who are suffering. Heal those who are brokenhearted and strengthen the weak and all in need *especially* **Barbara Winter, Dave Grubb, Brian Mickiewicz, Kurt Angstadt, David Tyson, Eric Harter, Rick Munz, Greg Wicker, Don Walt, Colleen Elliot, Cindy Batten, Joan Emswiler, Hilary Cohen, Valerie Bazzley, Roger Batten and Cristin Lorman.** God of grace,  
**C: receive our prayer.**

A: God who gives power to the faint, challenge us to share the faith stories of what God has done in our lives. Open us to receive the unique ways God is at work in your people, especially those whose perspectives challenge our own. God of grace,  
**C: receive our prayer.**

A: God who calls each star by name, we remember all who have died. Shelter all who mourn with your mercy and care, and give us hope in your promised salvation. God of grace,  
**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.  
**C: Amen.**

## THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

A: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*Let us share the peace with one another*

## SPECIAL MUSIC

### "How Lovely Are the Messengers"

Felix Mendelssohn, From St. Paul - Arr. by Hal H. Hopson

**Zion Choir**

*Please stand*

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

C: 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

A: God who names you, Christ who claims you,

and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, ✠ bless you and remain with you always.

C: Amen

## SENDING HYMN "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" – ELW #858, All Verses



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!  
2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won - drous - ly reign - ing  
3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de - fend you;  
4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a - dore him!



O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal - va - tion!  
and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus - tain - ing.  
sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall dai - ly at - tend you.  
All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore him!



Let all who hear now to his tem - ple draw near,  
Have you not seen all that is need - ful has been  
Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do  
Let the a - men sound from his peo - ple a - gain.



join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!  
sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?  
if with his love he be - friend you.  
Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

## DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

C: Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

### "Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice"

Nun Freut Euch, Setting Nancy Raabe

## Bible Readings for the Week

Monday	2 Kings 4:8-17, 32-37	Elijah raises the Shunamite child
Tuesday	2 Kings 8:1-6	The Shunamite widow's land restored
Wednesday	Mark 3:7-12	Jesus heals many people
Thursday	Job 6:1-13	Job's lament at misfortune
Friday	1 Corinthians 9:1-16	An apostle's life
Saturday	Psalms 102:12-28	Prayer for healing

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## Zion Lutheran Pre-School

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