

# Zion Lutheran Church

Fredericksburg, Texas

**Fifth Sunday in Lent**

**March 21, 2021**

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P=Presider **R=Responses**

## **BELLS**

### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*(Please prepare your heart and mind for worship)*

### **PRE-WORSHIP MUSIC**

*"I'd Rather Have Jesus"*

by Rhea F. Miller & George Beverly Shea; arr. Dino Kartsonakis

*(Please stand, kneel or remain seated)*

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**R Amen**

P God hears us when we confess our sins. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P O God,

**R 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 As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**R Amen**

**SENDING HYMN**    *“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”*

**HYMN NO. 324**

**In the cross of Christ I glory,  
tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.  
All the light of sacred story  
gathers round its head sublime.**

**When the woes of life o'ertake me,  
hopes deceive, and fears annoy,  
never shall the cross forsake me;  
lo, it glows with peace and joy.**

**When the sun of bliss is beaming  
light and love upon my way,  
from the cross the radiance streaming  
adds more luster to the day.**

**Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,  
by the cross are sanctified;  
peace is there that knows no measure,  
joys that through all time abide.**

Text: John Bowring, 1792-1872

**DISMISSAL**

**A**    Jesus invites us to walk with him to Pilate's judgment hall, a place of great suffering and a place of great love.

**R**    **Let us ever walk with Jesus!**

*“I Am Thine, O Lord”* by William H. Doane & Fanny J. Crosby

**GATHERING**

*(Please stand as you are able)*

**HYMN**    *“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”* **HYMN NO. 338**

**Beneath the cross of Jesus  
I long to take my stand;  
the shadow of a mighty rock  
within a weary land,  
a home within a wilderness,  
a rest upon the way,  
from the burning of the noontide heat  
and burdens of the day.**

**Upon the cross of Jesus,  
my eye at times can see  
the very dying form of one  
who suffered there for me.  
And from my contrite heart, with tears,  
two wonders I confess:  
the wonder of his glorious love  
and my unworthiness.**

**I take, O cross, your shadow  
for my abiding place;  
I ask no other sunshine than  
the sunshine of his face;  
content to let the world go by,  
to know no gain nor loss,  
my sinful self my only shame,  
my glory all, the cross.**

Text: Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1830-1869

**GREETING**

*(Please stand as you are able)*

## **DIALOGUE**

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

**R And also with you.**

**A** Let us ever walk with Jesus.

**R To see the depths of his love.**

**A** To behold the gift of his forgiveness.

**R To gaze upon the heights of his grace.**

**A** To marvel at the magnitude of his mercy.

**R We walk with Jesus to Pilate's judgment hall.**

**A** To hear about Jewish leaders, a prisoner named Barabbas and even Pilate's wife.

**R It all boils down to three words—innocent, guilty and free.**

**A** Faithful Lord, with me abide.

**R I shall follow where you guide!**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**R And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray. Lord God, heavenly Father, you set Israel free from the chains of Egyptian bondage and you set Barabbas free from Roman execution; so, set us free from every prison that binds us; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, one God, now and forever.

**R Amen**

## **PEACE**

**P** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**R And also with you.**

## **RESPONSE**

*(Please be seated)*

## **OFFERING**

*How to make a financial offering:*

- Mail your offering envelope to the church office
- Check out Zion's website for online donation option via [Tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly)  
OR you can go directly to this link  
<https://tithe.ly/give?c=1367077>
- Set up direct bill pay at your personal bank

*And always remember, there are many ways we can make offerings to God, such as prayer and acts of service.*

*"Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone" by George N. Allen & Thomas Shepherd*

*(Please stand as you are able)*

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

**P** If the Son sets you free,

**R you will be free, indeed!**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**R 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**

**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.

**R Amen**

*(Please stand as you are able)*

**HYMN** "In the Hour of Trial"

**In the hour of trial, Jesus, plead for me,  
lest by base denial I depart from thee.  
When thou seest me waver, with a look recall;  
nor from fear or favor suffer me to fall.**

**With forbidden pleasures  
should this vain world charm,  
or its sordid treasures spread to work me harm,  
bring to my remembrance sad Gethsemane,  
or, in darker semblance, cross-crowned Calvary.  
Should thy mercy send me sorrow, toil, and woe,  
or should pain attend me on my path below,  
grant that I may never fail thy hand to see;  
grant that I may ever cast my care on thee.**

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854

### **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

**A** Let us confess our faith, the faith in which we baptize, in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**R I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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**

*(Please be seated)*

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

**Ray Salinas**

## **WORD**

### **FIRST READING Exodus 14:22-29**

<sup>22</sup>The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. <sup>23</sup>The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. <sup>24</sup>At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. <sup>25</sup>He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt." <sup>26</sup>Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." <sup>27</sup>So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. <sup>28</sup>The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. <sup>29</sup>But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. (NRSV)

**A** The Word of the Lord.

**R Thanks be to God.**

### **SECOND READING Romans 6:1-11**

What then are we to say? Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? <sup>2</sup>By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? <sup>3</sup>Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup>Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

<sup>5</sup> For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup> We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. <sup>7</sup> For whoever has died is freed from sin. <sup>8</sup> But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup> We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. <sup>10</sup> The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. <sup>11</sup> So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. (NRSV)

A The Word of the Lord.  
**R Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand as you are able)*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *“Return to...”* **HYMNAL p. 142**



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,



slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

P The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the 27<sup>th</sup> Chapter.

**R Glory to you, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL** **Matthew 27:11-23**

<sup>11</sup> Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus said, “You say so.” <sup>12</sup> But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. <sup>13</sup> Then Pilate said to him, “Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?” <sup>14</sup> But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

<sup>15</sup> Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. <sup>16</sup> At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas. <sup>17</sup> So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them, “Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?” <sup>18</sup> For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. <sup>19</sup> While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, “Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.” <sup>20</sup> Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. <sup>21</sup> The governor again said to them, “Which of the two do you want me to release for you?” And they said, “Barabbas.” <sup>22</sup> Pilate said to them, “Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?” All of them said, “Let him be crucified!” <sup>23</sup> Then he asked, “Why, what evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “Let him be crucified!” (NRSV)

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

*(Please be seated)*

**SERMON** *“Places of the Passion: Pilate’s Judgement Hall”*  
**Rev. Ron Windecker**

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**In our Hearts and Prayers:** our homebound and shut-ins, all other nursing home residents, Myrtle Becker, Claribel Hannemann, Alton Moellering (husband of Dorothy Moellering), Margaret Wilke, our Fredericksburg community, our government, our nation, and the military.

**The Special Concern** for March is the Fredericksburg Food Pantry. Thank you for your support.

**Zion is now offering In-Person Worship** each Sunday along with the service still being live on the radio and YouTube. If you wish to attend the Sunday Worship Service, please RSVP to the church office by the Thursday before.

**You are invited to participate** in a weekly self-guided devotion in the Sanctuary each Wednesday through March 24 from 11:30am – noon & 5:30pm – 6:30pm. Devotion handouts will be available in the Narthex and will be emailed as well.

**Next Sunday is Palm Sunday!** We encourage you all to participate in worshiping with us in-person. Palm crosses will be handed out during the service and available to those who can't make it to church on the Atrium porch Sunday afternoon. Check out the April Chimes for a Holy Week worship schedule. Let's journey through Holy Week together!

**Thank you** for your General Fund Contributions of \$4,705, and your Special Contributions of \$170 given this past week.

**WORSHIP LECTOR** – Helen Rode

### MINISTRIES FOR THE WEEK

MON – Mar 22	9:00am	Staff Meeting
	6:30pm	Growing in Faith
TUES – Mar 23	6:00pm	Bible Study via Zoom & In-Person in the Conf Rm
	7:00pm	Parish Ed & Youth Committee Mtg via Zoom
WED – Mar 24	9:00am	Daycare Chapel
SUN – Mar 28	10:30am	In-Person Worship (Please RSVP)
<i>Palm Sunday</i>	10:30am	Service Broadcast on KNAF
	10:30am	Service Live on YouTube <a href="http://www.zion-lutheran.com/youtube">www.zion-lutheran.com/youtube</a>



## ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

Fredericksburg, Texas

426 W. Main – PO Box 1571 – Fredericksburg, TX 78624

(830) 997-2195 – [www.zion-lutheran.com](http://www.zion-lutheran.com) – email: [zionfbg@gmail.com](mailto:zionfbg@gmail.com)

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## Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 21, 2021

**Broadcast on KNAF (910AM) at 10:30AM**

**Video on Zion's YouTube Channel at 10:30AM**

*(go to [www.zion-lutheran.com/youtube](http://www.zion-lutheran.com/youtube))*

**Podcast available [www.zion-lutheran.com](http://www.zion-lutheran.com) under sermons tab**

Senior Pastor – Rev. Ron Windecker; [prwzion@gmail.com](mailto:prwzion@gmail.com)

Associate Pastor – Rev. Lisa Hoelscher; [pastorlisah@gmail.com](mailto:pastorlisah@gmail.com)

Accompanist – Sheri Robinson; Director of Music – Ray Salinas

Videographer – Peter Ray

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