

Zion Lutheran Church

Fredericksburg, Texas

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

February 12, 2023

P=Presider R=Responses

BELLS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS *(Please register your attendance in the books at the end of the row where you are seated, and fill out a prayer request card and place it in the offering basket as you desire.)*

P Let us pray.

R Gracious and loving God, we give you thanks for the faithful shepherds you have sent to Zion over the many years in this place. Thank you for their ministry done in your name. Bless their memory among us. We now wait in expectation for a new pastor. Wherever they may be, tend their heart, giving them courage to preach your Word, knowledge of your vision for the future, and the will to model consistent and godly living. Guard their family, that they may experience a healthy transition to our congregation. Bless them and us with genuine friendship. And bless the congregation that is left behind with a sense of your comfort and leading. Good and faithful God, prepare us for our new pastor. Set our hearts aright, encourage our faith, heal our divisions. Show us how to let go of what has gone before and, with open and eager hearts, take hold of what is coming. We pray all in the name of our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen

(Please prepare your heart and mind for worship)

PRE-WORSHIP MUSIC

“Redeeming Love” by William J. Gaither & Gloria Gaither
“The Bond of Love” by Otis Skillings

(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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Life-giving God, through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus.

R Amen

BENEDICTION

P Wherever you go, may God go with you: may he go before you to show you the way...behind you to encourage you...beside you to befriend you...above you to watch over...and within you to give you peace. In the name of our Creator, Redeemer, and Friend.

R Amen

SENDING HYMN “The Church’s One Foundation” (vs.1,2,5) **HYMN NO. 654**

**The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
she is his new creation by water and the word.
From heav'n he came and sought her to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.**

**Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth:
one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses, with ev'ry grace endued.**

**Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.
Oh, blessed heav'nly chorus! Lord, save us by your grace,
that we, like saints before us, may see you face to face.**

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

R Thanks be to God.

“Love Lifted Me” by Howard E. Smith & James Rowe

COMMUNION SONG*"Lamb of God (Your Only Son)"***HYMN NO. 336**

1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have
 2 Your gift of love we cru - ci - fied. We laughed and
 3 I was so lost, I should have died, but you have



sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y
 scorned him as he died. The hum - ble king we named a
 brought me to your side to be led by your staff and



sod and to be - come the Lamb of God.
 fraud and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God. O Lamb of
 rod and to be called a lamb of God.



God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God. Oh, wash me



in your pre - cious blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

"Lamb of God" Words and Music by Twila Paris ©1985 Mountain Spring Music and Straight Way Music, both administered by EMI Christian Music Publishing CCLI License #11089474

"Jesus, Lover of My Soul" by Simeon B. Marsh & Charles Wesley
"My Jesus, I Love Thee" by Adoniram J. Gordon & William R. Featherston

(Please stand as you are able)

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

R Amen

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever.

R Amen

P Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin. Holy One, source of our renewal,

R we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves. We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name. Amen

P Thus says our God: "The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare." God's mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of † Christ our Savior. 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

GATHERING

(Please remain standing as you are able)

GATHERING HYMN "Oh, That the Lord Would..." (vs.1-3) HYMN NO. 772

**Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his statutes still!
 Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!**

**Order my footsteps by your word and make my heart sincere;
 let sin have no dominion, Lord, but keep my conscience clear.**

**Assist my soul, too apt to stray, a stricter watch to keep;
 and should I e'er forget your way, restore your wand'ring sheep.**

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.

GREETING

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.

KYRIE (from the Greek word "Lord" – Sung)

HYMN NO. 157

A In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

R Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

A For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

R Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

A For your people here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your word, let us pray to the Lord.

R Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

A Help, save, and defend us, O God.

R Amen

Text and Music: Marty Haugen; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

HYMN OF PRAISE

"Now the Feast and Celebration"

HYMN NO. 167

Refrain: Now the feast and celebration, all of creation sings for joy to the God of life and love and freedom; praise and glory forevermore!

Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has freed and united us to be one great people of God. Refrain

Power and riches, wisdom and might, all honor and glory to Christ forever. Refrain

For God has come to dwell with us, to make us people of God; to make all things new. Refrain

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

R And also with you.

P Let us pray. O God, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

R Amen

(Sung)

HYMN NO. 191 (Holy, Holy...)

R Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might; Heaven and earth are filled with your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who comes in your name. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest!

Text and Music: Marty Haugen, 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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 for the 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 for the remembrance of me.

R Amen

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

HOLY COMMUNION

(Please be seated)

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

All are welcome to share the body and blood of Jesus that are present in the bread and wine of communion. If you do not wish to participate, you may still come forward for a blessing. As you come forward, please have your hands open to receive a wafer (the body of Christ). If you desire a gluten free wafer and/or white grape juice, please hold up two fingers to the server.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

R **And also with you.**

RESPONSE

(Please be seated)

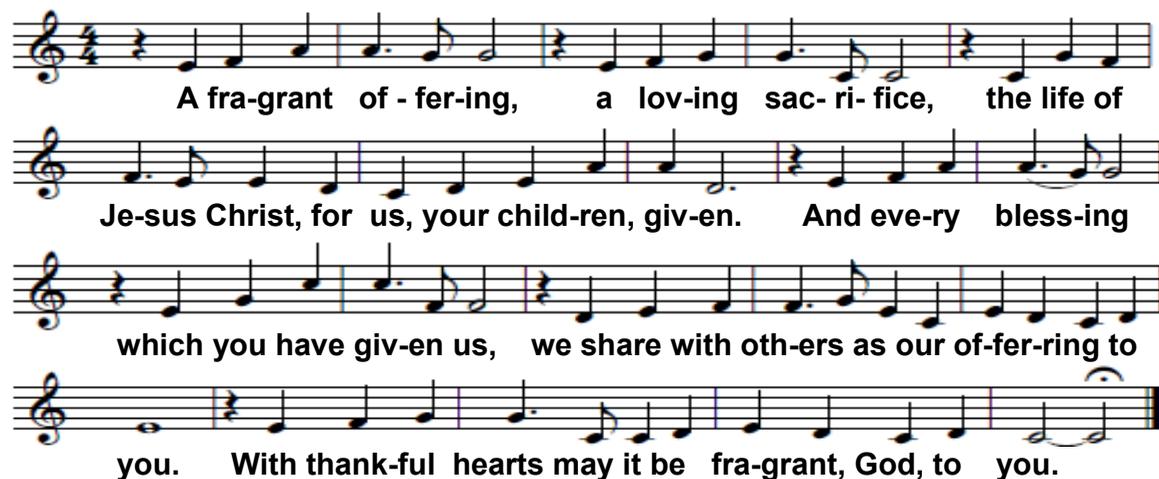
OFFERING

"Love Lifted Me" by Howard E. Smith & James Rowe

(Please stand as you are able)

OFFERING SONG

"A Fragrant Offering"



A fra-grant of - fer-ing, a lov-ing sac-ri-fice, the life of
Je-sus Christ, for us, your child-ren, giv-en. And eve-ry bless-ing
which you have giv-en us, we share with oth-ers as our of-fer-ring to
you. With thank-ful hearts may it be fra-grant, God, to you.

Text and music from One Body, Alive! written by Jay Beech, ©1994 Augsburg Fortress. One License #A-721458

(Please remain standing as you are able)

DIALOGUE *(Spoken)*

P The Lord be with you.

R **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

R **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

(Please be seated)

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Bless The Lord, Oh my Soul" **Kids of the Kingdom**

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

"See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶ If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷ But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸ I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹ I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰ loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob."

L The Word of the Lord.

R **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

And so, brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people but rather as fleshly, as infants in Christ. ² I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, ³ for you are still fleshly. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not fleshly and behaving according to human inclinations? ⁴ For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not all too human? ⁵ What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶ I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷ So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸ The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and each will receive wages according to their own labor. ⁹ For we are God's coworkers, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

L The Word of the Lord.

R **Thanks be to God.**

(Please stand as you are able)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

"Halle, Halle, Hallelujah"

HYMN NO. 172

Halle, halle, hallelujah. Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Halle, halle, hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

P The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the 5th Chapter.

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

GOSPEL **Matthew 5:21-37**

“You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not murder,’ and ‘whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.’²² But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment, and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council, and if you say, ‘You fool,’ you will be liable to the hell of fire.²³ So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you,²⁴ leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift.²⁵ Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison.²⁶ Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.²⁷ “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’²⁸ But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart.²⁹ If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.³⁰ And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.³¹ “It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’³² But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, causes her to commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.³³ “Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.’³⁴ But I say to you: Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God,³⁵ or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King.³⁶ And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black.³⁷ Let your word be ‘Yes, Yes’ or ‘No, No’; anything more than this comes from the evil one.

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

(Please be seated)

SERMON

Rev. Kay Johnson

(Please stand as you are able)

HYMN OF THE DAY “*Built on a Rock*” (vs.1,3,4,5) **HYMN NO. 652**

**Built on a rock the church shall stand,
even when steeples are falling; crumbled have spires in ev'ry land,
bells still are chiming and calling—calling the young and old to rest,
calling the souls of those distressed, longing for life everlasting.**

**Christ builds a house of living stones:
we are his own habitation;
he fills our hearts, his humble thrones,
granting us life and salvation.
Where two or three will seek his face,
he in their midst will show his grace,
blessings upon them bestowing.**

**Yet in this house, an earthly frame,
Jesus the children is blessing;
hither we come to praise his name, faith in our Savior confessing.
Jesus to us his Spirit sent, making with us his covenant,
granting his children the kingdom.**

**Through all the passing years, O Lord,
grant that, when church bells are ringing,
many may come to hear your Word,
who here this promise is bringing:
“I know my own, my own know me;
you, not the world, my face shall see;
my peace I leave with you. Amen.”**

Text: Nicolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783-1872; tr. Carl Doving, 1867-1937, adapt.; Text © 1958 *Service Book and Hymnal*

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**

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

In our Hearts and Prayers: our homebound and shut-ins, our Fredericksburg community, our nation, and the military.

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by Alma Sobey for his many blessings and she wishes you all a Happy Valentine's Day!

Doris Ernst has retired as Chairperson for Evangelism Committee and wishes to thank the present as well as former members of the committee for all the years of help with the many projects they've done. Sandy Schmitzinsky is the new Chairperson. Evangelism is an important committee and vital to the life of Zion.

The Special Concern for February is the Hill Country Needs Council.

We will provide Lenten meals each Thursday during Lent beginning Mar 2. If you would like to help bring soup, sandwiches or desserts, please sign up on one of the sheets in the Atrium or Narthex. (No meal on Ash Wednesday, Feb 22.)

Lenten Schedule:

Ash Wednesday with Communion, Feb 22 @ NOON & 6PM – Sanctuary

Lent Services, Mar 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 @ 6PM (meal at 5:15PM) – Fellowship Hall

Palm Sunday, April 2 @ 9AM – Sanctuary

Maundy Thursday with Communion, April 6 @ 6PM – Sanctuary

Good Friday, April 7 @ 6PM – Sanctuary

Thank you for your Contributions of \$10,605 given last week.

Attendance: 9am – 57

ASSISTANT & LECTOR – Robert Menking

USHERS – Perry & Cris Strackbein, Sandy Schmitzinsky, Karen Snowden
Jim & Emma Jane O'Neal, Dan & Judy McGookey, Donna Oehler

MINISTRIES FOR THE WEEK

TODAY – Feb 12 **11:00am Fellowship Lunch** hosted by Evangelism Committee

MON – Feb 13 **5:30pm Line Dancing** – Fell Hall

TUES – Feb 14 5:30pm Chancel Choir—Choir Room

WED – Feb 15 **5:15pm Finance Mtg – Conf Rm**
6:00pm Investment Mtg – Conf Rm

THURS – Feb 16 **5:00pm Council Mtg – Conf Rm**

SUN – Feb 19 8:30am Coffee & Donuts
9:00am Worship with Communion
(Live on YouTube @9am & Broadcast @10:30am)
10:15am SS – Fell Hall & Adult SS – Sewing Rm



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Fredericksburg, Texas

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Sixth Sunday after Epiphany – February 12, 2023

Video on Zion's YouTube Channel at 9:00AM

(go to www.zion-lutheran.com/youtube)

Podcast available www.zion-lutheran.com under sermons tab

Transitional Pastor – Rev. Kay Johnson

Pianist – Sheri Robinson

Choir Director – Rhonda Behrends

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