

Zion Lutheran Church

Fredericksburg, Texas

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 19, 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.)*

(Please prepare your heart and mind for worship)

PRE-WORSHIP MUSIC

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” by J.S. Bach & Hans L. Hassler; arr. Tedd Smith

(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

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace.

R Amen

P Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy. Holy God,

R we confess to you our faults and failings. Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word; we take for ourselves instead of giving to others; we spoil rather than steward your creation; we cause hurt though you call us to heal; we choose fear over compassion. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life. Amen

P Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that all may receive life. 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

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 *“There's a Wideness in God's...”* (vs.1,2,3) **HYMN NO. 588**
to tune of NO. 712

**There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in God's justice which is more than liberty.**

**There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in heav'n.**

**There is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly judgment giv'n.**

**There is welcome for the sinner,
and a promised grace made good;**

there is mercy with the Savior; there is healing in his blood.

**There is grace enough for thousands
of new worlds as great as this;**

there is room for fresh creations in that upper home of bliss.

**For the love of God is broader than the measures of our mind;
and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.**

**But we make this love too narrow by false limits of our own;
and we magnify its strictness with a zeal God will not own.**

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814-1863, alt.

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve in love.

R Thanks be to God.

“Down at the Cross” by John H. Stockton & Elisha A. Hoffman

(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.

COMMUNION HYMN

“Lamb of God”

HYMNAL p. 154



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

“I Saw the Cross of Jesus” ~Music: Anonymous; Lyrics: Frederick Whitfield

“I Hear Thy Welcome Voice” by Lewis Hartsough

(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

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

GATHERING

(Please remain standing as you are able)

GATHERING HYMN “The King of Love My...” (vs.1,2,4,6) **HYMN NO. 502**

**The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
and he is mine forever.**

**Where streams of living water flow,
my ransomed soul he leadeth
and, where the verdant pastures grow,
with food celestial feedeth.**

**In death's dark vale I fear no ill,
with thee, dear Lord, beside me,
thy rod and staff my comfort still;
thy cross before to guide me.**

**And so, through all the length of days,
thy goodness faileth never.
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house forever.**

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-1877

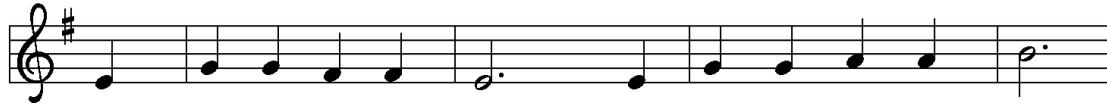
GREETING

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)

HYMNAL p. 203



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

R And also with you.

P Let us pray. Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

R Amen

(Please be seated)

SPECIAL MUSIC "Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)" **Chancel Choir**

Words and music by Chris Tomlin and Louie Giglio with "Amazing Grace "
words by John Newton, arranged by Joel Raney

FIRST READING 1 Samuel 16:1-13

The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." ²Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' ³Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do, and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." ⁴Samuel did what the LORD commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, "Do you come peaceably?"

(Please remain standing as you are able)

DIALOGUE

P The Lord be with you.

R And also with you.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Holy God, our living Water and our merciful Guide, we bless and magnify you. You led your people Israel through the desert, and provided them water from the rock. We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water, who joined us in our desert, pouring out his life for the world. Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and resurrection, we await your salvation for all this thirsty world. Pour out your Spirit on this holy food and on all the baptized gathered for this feast: wash away our sin, that we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

R Amen

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

P When we eat this bread, we share in the body of Christ. When we drink this cup, we share in the blood of Christ. These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Welcome to the table of the Lord.

HOLY COMMUNION

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

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

"Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross" by William H. Doane & Fanny J. Crosby

(Please stand as you are able)

OFFERING SONG *"As the Grain of Wheat"* (vs.2) **HYMN NO. 465**

Refrain:

**As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill
were gathered into one to become our bread;
so may all your people from all the ends of earth
be gathered into one in you.**

**Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come
when all creation shares this feast with you. *Refrain***

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950; Text © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638

⁵ He said, "Peaceably. I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. ⁶ When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely his anointed is now before the LORD." ⁷ But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him, for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." ⁸ Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ⁹ Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ¹⁰ Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." ¹¹ Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him, for we will not sit down until he comes here." ¹² He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him, for this is the one." ¹³ Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

L The Word of the Lord.

R Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING **Ephesians 5:8-14**

⁸ for once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light, ⁹ for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰ Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹ Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose them. ¹² For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly, ¹³ but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴ for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

L The Word of the Lord.

R Thanks be to God.

(Please stand as you are able)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *"Jesus, Remember Me"* **HYMN NO. 616**

**Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.**

Repeat

Text: Luke 23:42; Taizé Community; Text © 1981 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc.

P The holy gospel according to St. John, the 9th Chapter.

R Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL John 9:1-41

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, ⁷saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am he." ¹⁰But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" ¹¹He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." ¹²They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." ¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath." Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet." ¹⁸The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" ²⁰His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind, ²¹but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." ²²His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." ²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." ²⁵He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." ²⁶They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" ²⁷He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" ²⁸Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from."

³⁰The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." ³⁴They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out. ³⁵Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" ³⁶He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." ³⁷Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." ³⁸He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind." ⁴⁰Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" ⁴¹Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

P The gospel of the Lord.

R Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

SERMON

Rev. Stanley Sultemeier

(Please stand as you are able)

HYMN OF THE DAY *"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"* **HYMN NO. 611**

**I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto me and rest;
lay down, O weary one, lay down your head upon my breast."
I came to Jesus as I was, so weary, worn, and sad;
I found in him a resting-place, and he has made me glad.**

**I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Behold, I freely give
the living water, thirsty one; stoop down and drink and live."
I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him.**

**I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am this dark world's light;
look unto me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."
I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk till trav'ling days are done.**

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

In our Hearts and Prayers: Kathy Haley, Dot Jenkins (mother of Susan Otto), Holy Ghost Lutheran Church (the GCMA Church of the Week), our homebound and shut-ins, our Fredericksburg community, our nation, and the military.

Thank you to Rev. Stanley Sultemeier for presiding over worship today while Pastor Kay is in Italy.

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by Rhonda Behrends in loving memory of her mother, Ann Marie Rainbolt.

The March Special Concern is the Food Pantry. They currently need canned meats, canned tomato products, and pasta. Leave your items in the Atrium wagon.

Lent & Easter Schedule:

Lent Services, Thurs, Mar 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

Saturday, April 8 @ 9:15AM Easter Egg Hunt (meet in Atrium) (public invited)

Sunday, April 9 @ 6:30AM Easter Sunrise Service on Cross Mountain

Easter Breakfast at Zion @ *time to be determined*

Easter Worship at Zion with Communion @ 9AM – Sanctuary

Portals of Prayer for April – June are available in the Narthex and Atrium.

The American Legion Hall will be selling BBQ chicken & pork plates for \$11 each on Sunday from 11am until sold out. Funds will benefit veteran programs.

Texas Lutheran College Choir with TLU Treble Choir & Kantorei Chamber Choir present “Peace, My Heart” on Saturday, March 25, at 3:00pm at Sheep Barn @ Mansefeldt Ranch, 1532 Cherry Spring Rd.

Thank you for your Lent Contributions of \$195 on 3/9. **Attendance:** 6pm – 41

Thank you for your Contributions of \$2,485 given last week. **Attend:** 9am – 57

ASSISTANT & LECTOR – Robert Menking & Arleen Crenwlege

USHERS – Glenn & Gina Koennecke, Yvonne Klaerner

Malrin & Laurie Hartmann, Margie Eckhardt, Alma Sobey

MINISTRIES FOR THE WEEK

TUES – Mar 21 5:30pm Choir Practice – Choir Rm

6:30pm Call Committee – Conf Rm

WED – Mar 22 9:00am Laborers of Love – Arhelger House

THURS – Mar 23 5:15pm Lenten Meal & 6:00pm Lent Service – Fell Hall

SUN – Mar 26 8:30am Coffee & Donuts

9:00am Worship with Communion

(Live on YouTube & Broadcast at 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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Fourth Sunday in Lent – March 19, 2023

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

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

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

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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