

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 the God by Rhonda Behrends in loving memory of her mother, Annie Marie Rainbolt.

If you wish to bring food for the Lent Meals, please sign up in the Atrium.

Tiny items are needed to put inside Easter eggs for the children's egg hunt. Please leave donated items in the gray tubs in the Narthex and Atrium TODAY by 10:30am. *Examples of tiny items include: candy, bracelets, bandaids, stickers, ink stamps, and coins.*

The Children's Easter Egg Hunt will be Saturday, April 4 at 9:30am. Volunteers will be needed at 8:30am to help hide eggs and help with the snacks after the hunt.

Special Concern for March is Stand with Ukraine.

We have met our Capital Maintenance Improvement Projects goal of \$50,000. Thank you all so very much for your generosity.

Portals of Prayer for Apr – June are available in the Atrium or Narthex.

Thank you for your Lenten contributions of \$40. **Attendance:** 42

Thank you for your contributions of \$3,558 given last week. **Attendance:** 73

ASSISTANT & LECTOR – Sandy Schmidtzinsky & Doug Reitenga

USHERS – Darlene Hartmann, Jeff & Dawn Bourgeois, Arleen Crenwelge, Arthur Haun, Kris Kneese, Audrey Mayer (Acolyte – usher)

MINISTRIES FOR THE WEEK

TODAY – Mar 22	10:15am	Adult Sunday School – Adult SS Rm
	10:15am	Youth Sunday School – Fell Hall
	10:30-2pm	Council Retreat – Debbie Sultemeier's Home
TUES – Mar 24	5:30pm	Choir Practice – Choir Room
WED – Mar 25	9:00am	Laborers of Love – Arhelger House
	10:30am	Care Team Training – Library
	5:15pm	Lent Supper – Fell Hall
	6:00pm	Lent Service – Fell Hall
SUN – Mar 29	9:00am	Worship with Communion (Palm Sunday)
	10:15am	Adult Sunday School – Adult SS Rm
	10:15am	Youth Sunday School – Fell Hall



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Fredericksburg, Texas

Lent – A Season of Prayer

Fifth Sunday in Lent – March 22, 2026

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

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

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

Pastor – Rev. Jonathan Mollenkopf

Pianist – Sheri Robinson

Choir Director – Rhonda Behrends

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Go Like Our Facebook Page @ <http://zion-lutheran.com/facebook>

Follow Zion on Instagram @ <http://zion-lutheran.com/instagram>

Follow Zion on X @ <http://zion-lutheran.com/x>

P=Presider **R=Responses** *Please stand, as you are able

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We exist to share the Joy of Jesus by providing multiple opportunities for all people to encounter God through diverse worship, authentic love and intentional acts of service. We Share the Joy. We Worship, Love and Serve.

GATHERING

BELLS

WELCOME AND PRAYER *(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)

PRELUDE *"Behold The Man"* by Jimmy Owens; Arr. Dino Kartsonakis

***GATHERING HYMN** *"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"* **HYMN NO. 803**

**When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss
and pour contempt on all my pride.**

**Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
save in the death of Christ, my God;
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.**

**See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?**

**Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.**

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

"Just As I Am" by William B. Bradbury & Charlotte Elliott

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

R Amen

SENDING

*BENEDICTION

P Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, ☩ bless you now and always.

R Amen

***SENDING HYMN** *"I Am the Bread of Life"* (vs.1,4,5) **HYMN NO. 485**

"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."***

**"I am the resurrection, I am the life. If you believe in me,
even though you die, you shall live forever." *Refrain***

**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, based on John 6
Text © 1966, 1970, 1986, 1993 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com.
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*DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Believe the good news.

R Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"At the Cross" by Ralph E. Hudson & Isaac Watts

***DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

COMMUNION HYMN *"Lamb of God"*



1. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
2. Lamb of God, you break the chains of ha - tred and fear;



have mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world:



grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

Text: ICET; Additional text and music by Marty Haugen, ©1990

HYMN *"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"* **HYMN NO. 773**

**Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.**

**Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.**

**When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near,
when my life is almost gone,
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.**

**When the darkness appears and the night draws near,
and the day is past and gone,
at the river I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.**

Text and music © 1938, 1966 Unichappell Music Inc., admin. Alfred Publishing

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

R Amen

P Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Gracious God,

R have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you: Gracious God,

R have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word: Gracious God,

R have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,

R have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdain the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,

R have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world: Gracious God,

R have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life: Gracious God,

R have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace.

R Amen

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

HYMN NO. 157

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

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...

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...

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

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

R Amen

***APOSTOLIC GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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.**

P Let us pray...Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

R **Amen**

SPECIAL MUSIC

"El-Shaddai" by John Thompson

Rhonda Behrends

WORD

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ²He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." ⁴Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶I will lay sinews on you and will cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD." ⁷So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. ¹¹Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' ¹²Therefore prophesy and say to them: Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people, and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I am the LORD when I open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD."

L The Word of the Lord.

R **Thanks be to God.**

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features two parts: Presider and Congregation. The lyrics are: "The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give God thanks and praise." The score includes a key signature change to G major and a time signature change to 4/4.

P It is our duty and delight...join their unending hymn:

(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.

***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

***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**

***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 WITH HYMN NO. 752**

(Sung twice before intercessions and once after)

**Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.**

***PEACE**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

R And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEAL

OFFERING

"Holy Ground" by Geron Davis

***OFFERING SONG**

"Change My Heart, O God"

HYMN NO. 801

**Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.
You are the potter; I am the clay.
Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.
Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.**

Text: Eddie Espinosa, b. 1953; Text © 1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing, admin. Music Services

PSALM 130 *(Read responsively)*

L Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD.

R Lord, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

L If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand?

R But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.

L I wait for the LORD; my soul waits, and in his word I hope;

R my soul waits for the Lord

more than those who watch for the morning,

more than those who watch for the morning.

L O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem.

R It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

SECOND READING

Romans 8:6-11

⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

L The word of the Lord.

R Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

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

Congregation:



Re - turn to God with all your heart, the Source of grace and



mer-cy; Come, seek the ten-der faith-ful-ness of God.

P The holy gospel according to St. John, the 11th Chapter.

R Glory to you, O Lord.

***GOSPEL John 11:1-45**

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³ So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." ⁴ But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." ⁵ Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶ after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

⁷ Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." ⁸ The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" ⁹ Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰ But those who walk at night stumble because the light is not in them." ¹¹ After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." ¹² The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." ¹³ Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴ Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵ For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." ¹⁶ Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

¹⁷ When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." ²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴ Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷ She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

²⁸ When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." ²⁹ And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³² When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

³³ When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴ He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵ Jesus began to weep. ³⁶ So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" ³⁷ But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

³⁸ Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹ Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." ⁴³ When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

⁴⁵ Many of the Jews, therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did believed in him.

P The gospel of the Lord.

R Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE AND SERMON Rev. Jonathan Mollenkopf

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

"Restore in Us, O God"

HYMN NO. 328

Tune: Southwell

**Restore in us, O God, the splendor of your love;
renew your image in our hearts, and all our sins remove.**

**O Spirit, wake in us the wonder of your pow'r;
from fruitless fear unfurl our lives like springtime bud and flow'r.**

**Bring us, O Christ, to share the fullness of your joy;
baptize us in the risen life that death cannot destroy.**

**Three-personed God, fulfill the promise of your grace,
that we, when all our searching ends, may see you face to face.**

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

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