Historic Zion Lutheran Church

DIVINE SERVICE FOR INVOCABIT, THE 1ST SUNDAY IN LENT

9:00 am Sunday, February 18, 2024

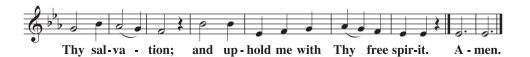
RECEIVING OF THE LORD'S SUPPER AT ZION

As intended by Christ and as practiced by the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church throughout her history, "Closed Communion" is observed in this congregation, in which the Lord's Supper is distributed only to those:

- (a) who have been **baptized** in the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit;
- (b) who have been instructed in the truth of Holy Scripture as taught in the Lutheran Confessions, who have been confirmed in this Lutheran faith, and who now confess the same doctrines that are taught in this congregation, holding membership in a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod;
- (c) who believe that in this sacrament the real body and blood of Christ are truly distributed to them and orally received by them, bestowing on them the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation;
- (d) who **sincerely repent** of all their sins, and desire to receive God's forgiveness in this holy meal. Guests at our services, before receiving the sacrament, are requested to affirm these facts with one of our pastors. Thank you for honoring our practice. If you are looking for a church home, would like to be a member of Zion, or would like to learn more about the Christian Faith, please speak to one of our pastors about our membership classes.

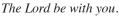
+ = appropriate to make the baptismal sign of the cross When "rise" or "kneel" is indicated, it is appropriate to sit if needed
Greeting And Announcements: The Lord be with you! And also with you!
[Rise] Invocation
In the name of the Father and of the \(\frac{1}{2} \) Son and of the Holy Spirit Amen!
The Office of Confession of Sins and Absolution
Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
[Kneel]
Our help is in the name of the Lord
O almighty God, merciful Father,
Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit

The Congregation rises, turns towards the entrance of the nave, and faces the Cross of Christ, the reminder of Christ's promise to come and dwell among His people as they are gathered in His name.



+ The Office of the Sacrament of the Altar +

Preface





We lift them up un-to the Lord.

Lift up your hearts.

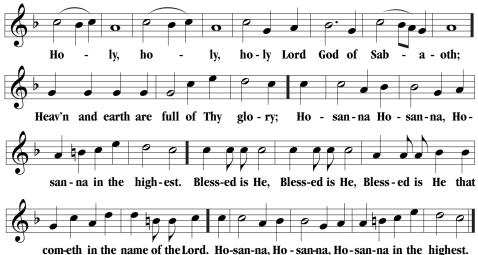
Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.



It is meet and right so to do.

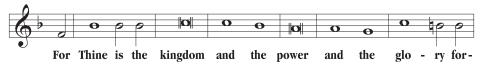
Proper Preface for Lent, Sanctus

It is truly meet, right and salutary ever more praising You and saying:



[Kneel] Lord's Prayer

[Pastor chants:] Our Father who art in heaven; but deliver us from evil.





Words of Institution, Pax Domini

The peace of the Lord be with you always!





[Deacon] Put on the whole | •armor• of God, || that you may be able to stand against the | schemes of the | •devil•.

All: O come, let us fix our | eyes on •Jesus•, || the founder and per- | fec- tor of our | faith__. || who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despis- | ing the shame || and is seated at the right hand | of the throne of | God.



Confession of Faith (The Nicene Creed)

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven

[Bow] And was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, And was made man;

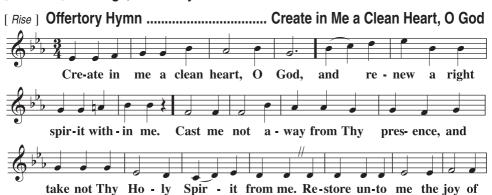
And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven, And sits at the right hand of the Father; And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; Whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe in one Holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, And I look for the resurrection of the dead, And the life \pm of the world to come. Amen!

[Be Seated] Hymn of the Day...... A Mighty Fortress ... Burgundy Hymn 656 Sermon

[Rise] Prayer of the Church

[Be Seated] Offerings, Voluntary





+ The Office of the Sacrament of the Altar +

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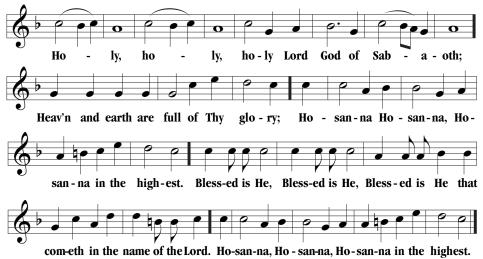
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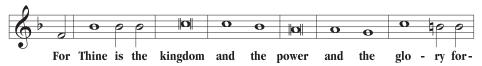
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[Kneel] Lord's Prayer

[Pastor chants:] Our Father who art in heaven; but deliver us from evil.





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[Be Seated]

Distribution Hymns Mark How the Lamb Burgundy Hymn 600

O Christ, You Walked Burgundy Hymn 424

[Rise] Eucharistic Benediction

Post-Communion Canticle The Nunc Dimittis



- 1. Lord now—lettest Thou Thy
 - servant, de- part— in peace, ac- cord-ing to Thy Word.
- 2. For mine__ eyes have seen Thy Salvation,

which Thou hast pre- pared__ be— fore the face of all__ people.



3. a Light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the Glo-ry of Thy peo-ple Is - - - - ra-el



4. Glo— ry___ be to the

Father, and to ____ the ___ Son, and to the Ho- ly Ghost.

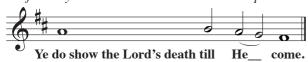


5. As it ___ was in the beginning, is

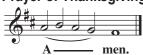
now, and e-ver shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

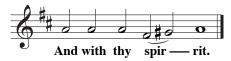
Post Communion Rite

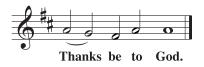
As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup:



Prayer of Thanksgiving ... now and forever.







Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and Φ give you peace.



During the Recessional, the Congregation turns and faces the Processional Cross, the symbol of Christ's promise to remain with and lead His people as they now go and live in the world in His name.

Recessional Hymn O Lord, throughout Burgundy Hymn 418

Postlude

Holy Week Schedule

444

Palm Sunday, March 24
Palm Sunday Divine Service, 9:00 a.m.

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The Triduum: The Three Day Vigil

* * *

Part I: Holy Thursday, March 28 Divine Service 7:00 p.m.

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Part II: Good Friday, March 29 Divine Service 7:00 p.m.

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Part III: Holy Saturday, March 30 The Great Vigil of Easter Divine Service 7:00 p.m.

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The Feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord Sunday, March 31

Easter Sunrise Matins 7:00 a.m.

Easter Breakfast 7:45 a.m.

Festival Divine Service 9:00 a.m.

(No Sunday School and Adult Bible Class this Sunday)

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The text and tune to the hymn, "God the Father, Be Our Stay" are in the public domain.

Psalm Tone for Introit and Tract: from The Anglican Chant Psalter, copyright © 1987 by The Church Hymnal Corporation; used by permission.

Readings for the First Sunday in Lent

The Old Testament Reading is Genesis 22:1-18

After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you." And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together.

When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called the name of that place, "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, and in your offspring

shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice."

The Epistle is James 1:12-18

Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

The Gospel is Mark 1:9-15

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opening and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. And he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. And he was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

Hymns for the First Sunday in Lent

LSB656 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Martin Luther

- A mighty fortress is our God, A trusty shield and weapon;
 He helps us free from ev'ry need That hath us now o'ertaken.
 The old evil foe Now means deadly woe;
 Deep guile and great might Are his dread arms in fight;
 On earth is not his equal.
- 2. With might of ours can naught be done, Soon were our loss effected; But for us fights the Valiant One, Whom God Himself elected. Ask ye, Who is this? Jesus Christ it is, Of Sabaoth Lord, And there's none other God; He holds the field forever.
- 3. Though devils all the world should fill, All eager to devour us. We tremble not, we fear no ill; They shall not overpow'r us. This world's prince may still Scowl fierce as he will, He can harm us none. He's judged; the deed is done; One little word can fell him.
- 4. The Word they still shall let remain Nor any thanks have for it; He's by our side upon the plain With His good gifts and Spirit. And take they our life, Goods, fame, child, and wife, Though these all be gone, Our vict'ry has been won; The Kingdom ours remaineth.

LSB600 Mark How the Lamb of God's Self-Offering Carl P. Daw, Jr. Text: © 1990 Hope Publishing Co.; Used by permission. LSBHymnLicense.net #100012381.

- 1. Mark how the Lamb of God's self-off'ring
 Our human sinfulness takes on
 In the birth-waters of the Jordan
 As Jesus is baptized by John.
 Hear how the voice from heaven thunders,
 "Lo, this is My beloved Son."
 See how in dove-like form the Spirit
 Descends on God's Anointed One.
- 2. From this assurance of God's favor Jesus goes to the wilderness,
 There to endure a time of testing
 That readied Him to teach and bless.

So we, by water and the Spirit Baptized into Christ's ministry, Are often led to paths of service Through mazes of adversity.

3. Grant us, O God, the strength and courage To live the faith our lips declare; Bless us in our baptismal calling; Christ's royal priesthood help us share. Turn us from ev'ry false allegiance, That we may trust in Christ alone: Raise up in us a chosen people Transformed by love to be Your own.

LSB424 O Christ, You Walked the Road Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr.

Text: © 1997, GIA Publication, Inc.; Used by permission. LSBHymnLicense.net #100012381.

- 1. O Christ, You walked the road Our wand'ring feet must go. You faced with us temptation's pow'r And fought our ancient foe.
- 2. No bread of earth alone Can fill our hung'ring hearts. Lord, help us seek Your living Word, The food Your grace imparts.
- 3. No blinding sign we ask, No wonder from above. Lord, help us place our trust alone In Your unswerving love.
- 4. When lures of easy gain With promise brightly shine, Lord, help us seek Your kingdom first; Our wills with Yours align.
- 5. O Christ, You walked the road Our wand'ring feet must go. Stay with us through temptation's hour To fight our ancient foe.

LSB418 O Lord, throughout These Forty Days Claudia F. Hernaman Text: © 1978 *Lutheran Service Book*; Used by permission. LSBHymnLicense.net #100012381.

- 1. O Lord, throughout these forty days You prayed and kept the fast; Inspire repentance for our sin, And free us from our past.
- 2. You strove with Satan, and You won; Your faithfulness endured; Lend us Your nerve, Your skill and trust In God's eternal Word.
- 3. Though parched and hungry, yet You prayed and fixed Your mind above; So teach us to deny ourselves that we may know God's love.
- 4. Be with us through this season, Lord, And all our earthly days, That when the final Easter dawns, We join in heaven's praise.

The First Sunday in Cent



Zion Ebangelical Lutheran Church

2313 Hanna Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46803 | 260-744-1389 pastor@zionfw.org, church@zionfw.org | website: www.zionfw.org

Zion Lutheran Church is the body of Christ at Hanna and Creighton in Fort Wayne, Indiana that:

- Receives Christ's gifts in Word and Sacraments; and
- Responds to God's love in Christ by
 - Reaching out to those who do not know His love; and
 - Revealing His love in acts of kindness and mercy.

The Pastoral Ministry at Zion

Senior Pastor: Rev. Douglas D. Punke, MDiv (341-5397)
Field Workers: Paul Mroczenski, Matthew Harrison

The Teaching Staff at Lutheran South Unity

Principal: Amber Bahr (744-0459; <u>www.lsusfw.org</u>)

Teachers: Yvonne Schwantz (8th, MS ELA), Michael Cullen (7th, MS Science), Chase Mertz (6th, MS Social Studies), Danielle Ramsey (5th), John Kuker (4th),

Abbey Zelt (3rd), John Fink (2nd), Hannah Maresh (1st),

Karen Koehlert (K-A), Rachel Wiegman (K-B), Natalie Reynolds (Art & Music), Lizzy Hoham (Progress Partners Coach), Marcus Rush (K-5 PE)

The Support Staff

Organist and Director of Parish Music:

Michael Hollman, MM Melvia Culpher

Church Office Manager:

PRAYERS FOR TODAY

- + For the church, especially those bearing the cross of persecution, including Bishop Juhana Pohjola and Dr. Päivi Räsänen
- + For those who serve our Lord at home and abroad, especially our fieldworkers Paul Mroczenski and Matthew Harrison
- + For our nation; for our leaders; for our military, including James Hall; especially at this perilous time in our world
- + For our schools, especially Lutheran South Unity School, Concordia Lutheran High School, and Concordia Theological Seminary
- + For those who travel
- + For the aged and the homebound
- + For those who are on hospice care
- + For the ill, distressed, and those suffering affliction, including Sarah Hollman, Jessica Krause, Connie Houser, Bill Weinrich, Susan Kaiser, Janice Grim, Debra Busche, John Starks, Dwight Bieberich, Willodean Bates, Dick Hollman, Bob Ockree, David Evans, John A. Pless, Joe Harrison, Louisa Porter, Marlow Hogan, Gregory Hogan, Marissia White, Dwight Johnson, Blakely White, Joan Messmann, Ron Rastl, Robert & Jenny Hobby, and Trooper Azariah Keith
- + For God's blessing on all godly marriages
- + For the gift of life and for length of days, especially Brendon Seifert
- + For the gift of rebirth by water and the Spirit
- + For those who mourn the death of loved ones
- + In remembrance of the faithful departed

2:00 PM

4:30 PM

+ For our communicants and for a fruitful use of the most Blessed Sacrament of our Lord's Body and Blood

IN THE SERVICE TODAY

Today is the Divine Service for the First Sunday in Lent. The Cross Bowl is given in. The Baptism Bud Vases are given in celebration of the 20th birthday of Brendon Seifert by his parents David & DaVanna Seifert. Please also complete an attendance/communion card, including the names of all children, and indicate if you are communing. Non-members, please read the back of the card.

CALENDAR

February 18, 2024 thru February 24, 2024				
SUN.	9:00 AM	Divine Service	Church	
	10:30 AM	Education Hour	Various	
MON.	3:45 PM	Jr. Catechesis	Conference Room	
TUES.				
WED.	9:30 AM	Men of Zion	Conference Room	
	5:45 PM	Lenten Supper	Bauer Hall	
	7:00 PM	Lenten Vespers	Church	
THURS.		•		
FRI.	7:30 PM	Guys and Dolls	CLHS	
SAT.	11:00 AM	Private Confession	Church	
	1:00 PM	Adult Catechesis	Conference Room	
	7:30 PM	Guys and Dolls	CLHS	
		February 25, 2024		
SUN.	9:00 AM	Divine Service	Church	
	10:30 AM	Education Hour	Various	

Concordia Choir of Concordia University Irvine

CLHS

Kramer Chapel

Guys and Dolls

ZION ANNOUNCEMENTS

EDUCATION HOUR: Adult Bible Class meets in Bauer Hall with Dr. Voelz. As needed, Sunday School will meet in the Assoc. Pastors Office.

CHOICE DOLLARS: the deadline to designate your Thrivent Choice Dollars is March 31st Direct your dollars online at www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice/ or call 800-THRIVENT. You must remake your request annually or quarterly to assure your funds are being distributed in accordance with your wishes.

THE BACH COLLEGIUM would like to say thank you to Zion parishioners by giving a discounted rate of \$10.00 for tickets to the St. John Passion. Zion members just need to identify themselves as parishioners to get the reduced rate. The St. John Passion is happening right here at Zion in the nave on March 3rd at 4:00 PM.

IT'S LENT: Join your brothers and sisters every Wednesday for a Lenten meal at 5:45 PM followed by Vespers at 7:00 PM. The Lord's Supper is served in the Chapel after Vespers to anyone who desires it.

MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE: Hebrews 4:15—"For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin." Last week's verse was Ephesians 4:32.

THE THIRD WORLD SHOPPE is at Zion today. Stop by after service and see what exotic merchandise Marian has brought with her.

CHAPEL OFFERINGS AT LSUS this quarter have been going to LAMB (Lutheran Agency for Missions to Burmese), the Charis House (provides free short-term and long-term residential housing for women and children experiencing a homeless crisis), and the Rescue Mission (their mission: "to provide, through the power of Jesus Christ, a home for the homeless, food for the hungry, and hope for their future). LSUS is inviting Association churches to join in this effort. They are looking for socks and socks (adults—men and women, and children, and deodorant). There is a box in the entry hall to place your offerings.

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RLNI: if you have a passion for helping women choose life, join RLNI on Thursday, February 22nd for Sidewalk Advocate Training and learn how to save lives in Northeast Indiana. The training, provided by Sidewalk Advocates for Life, will take place at the RLNI Training Center at 3106 Lake Ave, from 9am-noon. There is no cost to participate. Snacks provided. Questions? Please send an email to rlni@ichooselife.org.

CLHS'S WINTER MUSICAL, Guys and Dolls, is being performed Fri., Feb. 23 and Sat., Feb. 24 at 7:30 p.m., and Sun., Feb. 25 at 2:00 p.m. Set in Damon Runyon's mythical New York City, Guys and Dolls is an oddball romantic comedy. Characters go from the heart of Times Square to the cafés of Havana, Cuba, and even into the sewers of New York City. But eventually everyone ends up right where they belong. Mr. Chris Murphy directs this musical, with musical direction by Mrs. Kathryn Peperkorn.

INVITATION: On Saturday, March 16, 2024, at 10 a.m., the Mary Martha Guild of Ascension Lutheran Church, 8811 Saint Joe Road, Fort Wayne, will present a Lenten devotion entitled *Forgiveness for Lent*. We invite the ladies of your society to join us for this morning of worship, fellowship, and brunch. So that we may plan accordingly for bulletins and food, please respond with an approximate number by Sunday, March 10, to barbhamm@frontier.com.

LISTEN TO LUTHERAN PROGRAMMING You can listen to Issues, Etc. live or ondemand at www.issuesetc.org or on the LPR mobile app or to KFUO at KFUO.org.

For the family of God's Priestly People at Zion

God calls His own people a "Royal Priesthood." God makes us kings and queens, princes and princesses who are bound together by the Holy Spirit in Baptism for the Christian benefit of each other. Priests **PRAY** -- They talk to God about their neighbor! Priests **TEACH** -- They talk to their neighbor about God! Priests **OFFER SACRIFICES** -- They offer to God the sacrifice of broken and contrite hearts; they offer their bodies and work as holy services to God for their neighbors. Join in this priestly work of prayer with your fellow members.

Morning Prayer	DAILY LECTIONARY	Evening Prayer
Mark 1:9-15	The First Sunday in Lent	Genesis 22:1-8
Mark 3:1-19	Monday	Genesis 6:1–7:5
Mark 3:20-35	Tuesday	Genesis 7:11–8:12
Mark 4:1-20	Wednesday	Genesis 8:13-9:17
Mark 4:21-41	Thursday	Genesis 11:27-12:20
Mark 5:1-20	Friday	Genesis 13:1-18
Mark 5:21-43	Saturday	Genesis 15:1-21

THE DAILY PETITIONS OF THE CHURCH

[Daily] O Lord, have mercy upon us. O Christ, have mercy upon us. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Let us pray:

[S] For the joy of the Resurrection among us; for true and godly worship throughout the world; for diligent preaching and hearing of God's Word of Law and Gospel; for our pastors; for the teachers and students of our Sunday School; for our Bible Class leaders and their students; for our catechumens; Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen!

[T] For the tempted; for the addicted and despairing; for the tortured and oppressed; for the lonely; for the sick, the hospitalized, and the needy; Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen!

[T] For the Church and her pastors; for the training of ministers of the Word; for missionaries of the Church; for the leaders of the Church, including Matthew, our synod president, and Richard, our district president; for those who have not heard the Gospel; for the fruitful use of the blessed Sacrament of the Lord's Body and Blood; Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen!

[Sat] For faithfulness unto life's earthly end; for the revival of those who have withered in the faith or fallen away; for the dying; Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen!

[Daily] The Our Father

TO PREPARE FOR NEXT SUNDAY

The Second Sunday in Lent

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 Romans 5:1-11



What Doctor Luther Says:

About God's Ways ... How Inscrutable!

Oecolampadius, like a know-it-all, says, "There is no use or need for Christ's body to be in the bread, therefore it is not true." ... [This is one] of Dr. Oecolampadius' shameful, dreadful blasphemies, when he asks of what use or need it is for Christ's body to be in the bread, and, if we do not show him, he will conclude there is nothing to it. Now what shall I say of the outrageous audacity of this hellish Satan? Well then: even if we could not show how it is useful and necessary for Christ's body to be in the bread, should God's Word for that reason be false, or be twisted around according to our notion? A faithful, God-fearing heart does this: it asks first whether it is God's Word. When it hears that it is, it smothers with hands and feet the question why it is useful or necessary. ...

If [the fanatics] had any understanding of faith, however, and ever felt a spark of it, they would know that faith's highest single virtue and quality and glory is the willingness not to pry into the benefit or necessity of what one believes. It refuses to encircle God or to demand why, for what purpose, from what necessity he commands or enjoins something, but is perfectly happy to be unwise, to give God the glory and believe his simple Word. Shame on you, you leaders of the blind. that you should not know this, yet spew so many books into the world with such great boasting, whereby you expose before everyone's face your own folly and ignorance!

God commanded Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac [Gen. 22:2]. Of course, it was deeply hidden from Abraham of what need or use this would be. Had he proceeded to dispute with God, like our fanatics, in an effort to know of what use or need it would be, or had he tried to invert God's words, what sort of blessing would he have obtained?

Luther's Works, 37:127-129.

Summary of meeting of the Council of Elders, February 1, 2024 (The following summary is being provided in accordance with the congregation's bylaws, §VIII)

Attendance:

Elders present: R. Lammert (chairman), A. Litke (secretary), F. Jackson, W. Krause.

Elders absent: T. Muehl, B. Scott, K. Vlot.

Pastor present: Pr. Punke.

Pastor Punke led the elders in a devotion by reading Article III from the Augsburg Confession and from the Apology of the Augsburg Confession.

Since Pastor Punke had presented a full report to the Congregational Assembly the previous Sunday, he reported verbally on a few additional matters, including the start of a new adult confirmation class with three participants.

The elders revised the timeframe for their goals from the Ministry Clarity team, as reflected in the following paragraphs.

The elders considered Pillar 1, Goal #1: "Starting January 1, 2024, Zion will experience a 10% increase in average worship attendance by March 31, 2024." The average Sunday attendance has been established as 83.5. When the church's database has been updated to identify inactive members, the elders will begin consideration of methods to contact them.

The elders reviewed progress on Pillar 2, Goal #1: "In January, 2024, Zion will commence an annual opportunity for providing resources and training for members to gain confidence in inviting neighbors to Zion." The "Every One His Witness" workshop began on January 9, with eight participants, scheduled to end on February 13. The elders will assess the program at their meeting in March.

Frank Jackson reported that the AEDs have been received. The elders reviewed his suggestions for placement of the AEDs. Training will begin after the installation of the AEDs.

The meeting was concluded with Responsive Prayer 1.

Respectfully submitted, Arthur E. Litke, secretary

LSUS NOTES

Praying for You!

Please pray for these students/staff:

Jariah Melvin Yanuell Damari May Blake La'Bella Jabron

Sierra Mrs. Nadjeski Da'Marion Mrs. White



Way to go Phoenix! Way to go!

Congratulations to our Boys Varsity basketball team! They won $\mathbf{1}^{\text{st}}$ place at the annual DJ Honeick Hoopfest Tournament this year! Our boys worked hard and defeated 5 other teams in the tournament.

During the same tournament our cheerleading team also competed in a cheer competition. They were judged on their cheering performance throughout the tournament. They won 1st place! Congratulations to our Cheer Squad!



ENROLLING NOW

Do you have a K-8 student or know someone with a K-8 student? Come join the Lutheran South Unity School family! Registration for the 2024-2025 school year is now open. Schedule a visit and see our classrooms, programs, and all of the benefits we have to offer. We seek to share our faith with all who enter our building. Contact Barb Johnson or the office at LSUS for information on how to enroll!260-744-0459

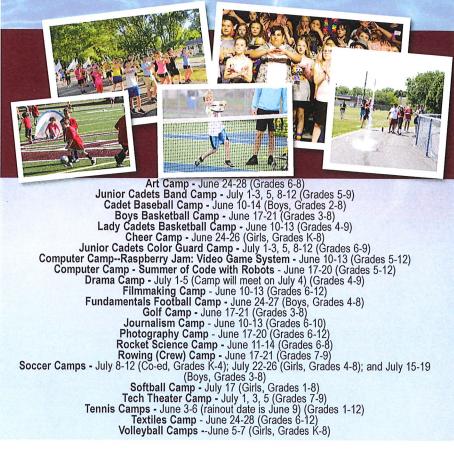
We have financial aid and scholarships available. We also accept School Choice vouchers.

Encouragement Found in Scriptures:

Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.—Psalms 25:4-5



At Concordia Lutheran High School Register online at www.clhscadets.com/summer





Holy Cross Lutheran Church & School

3425 Crescent Ave. Fort Wayne, IN

Learn more at holycrossfw.org



FRIDAY MARCH

7P.M.

Event is free & open to the public

A freewill offering in support of the Kapelle will be received.

Forgiveness for Lent



All ladies are invited to

A Lenten Devotion and Brunch

Saturday, March 16 10 a.m.

at Ascension Lutheran Church 8811 Saint Joe Road Fort Wayne, IN