

Lord Jesus, our Redeemer and Lord, over and over again you showed compassion to humanity while you were here on earth. Ultimately, you showed it by dying on the cross so that death, the devil, and hell would never harm us. Make us ever thankful that you paid the price we could not pay, so that our thankfulness and praise will resound to the ends of the earth. In your compassionate love, **Hear our prayer.**

Holy Spirit, fill us with compassion for others that we may give as you have given to us. Turn our hearts toward you and your mercy and grace. Humble us by your mighty power that we may cling to Jesus alone for life. In your compassionate love, **Hear our prayer.**

Lord God, you are the physician of body and soul. We humbly ask that you would heal those who are dealing with illness and injury according to your will. As they wait upon your healing, work through their struggle to reveal your mighty power and love in their lives. In your compassionate love, **Hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## THE OFFERING

### LORD'S PRAYER [TRADITIONAL]

## SENDING

## BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and show you His compassionate love. **Amen.**

## HYMN #801 — *Change My Heart, O God*

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the bread. **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE — Jill Sousek



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# ZION Lutheran Church

MARCH 11, 2026

WELCOME TO ZION



**Joseph**  
*God Loves a Forgiver*

## PRELUDE — Jill Sousek

### INVOCATION & CONFESSION

Pastor: In the name of the Father,

People: Who has compassion on those whom He has created;

Pastor: and of the Son,

People: Who has compassion on those whom He has redeemed;

Pastor: and of the Holy Spirit,

People: Who has continual compassion on those in whom He dwells.  
**Amen! Amen! Amen!**

Pastor: As we continue this Lenten journey of love, and reflect on the extreme compassion our Lord God has for us even though we don't deserve it, let us confess our sinfulness, and plead for God's mercy on us.

[SILENCE FOR REFLECTION ON GOD'S WORD AND SELF-EXAMINATION]

People: Heavenly Father, I, a destitute and unworthy sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended you. I don't deserve your compassion. I deserve your wrath and punishment. I have sinned in my thoughts, my words, and my actions. I have sinned by doing bad things and by failing and forgetting to do good things. I plead for your mercy and grace. Have compassion on me, a poor sinful being.

Pastor: God has, indeed, had compassion on you, and has taken away your sin! As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen!

## HYMN #328 — *Restore in Us, O God*

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray together the prayer of the day.

People: Lord God, you have compassion on whom you will, and mercy on whom you will. You desire all to believe and to come to a knowledge of the truth. As we reflect on your compassionate love for us today, fill us with your Spirit so that we may have that same compassion for others. Amen.

### WORD

#### Genesis 37:1-11

Jacob lived in the land where his father had stayed, the land of Canaan. This is the account of Jacob's family line. Joseph, a young man of seventeen, was tending the flocks with his brothers, the sons of Billhah and the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives, and he brought their father a bad report about them. Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons, because he had been born to him in his old age; and he made an ornate robe for him. When his brothers saw their father loved him more than any of them, they hated him and could not speak a kind word to him. Joseph had a dream, and when he told his brothers about it, they hated him all the more. He said to them, "Listen to this dream I had: We were binding sheaves of grain out in the field when suddenly my sheaf rose and stood upright, while your sheaves gathered around mine and bowed down to it." His brothers said to him, "Do you intend to reign over us? Will you actually rule us?" And they hated him all the more because of his dream and what he had said. Then he had another dream, and he told it to his brothers. "Listen," he said, "I had another dream, and this time the sun and moon and eleven stars were bowing down to me." When he told his father as well as his brothers, his father rebuked him and said, "What is this dream you had? Will your mother and I and your brothers actually come and bow down to the ground before you?" His brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the matter in mind.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

## JOSEPH — Pastor Scott Ludford

### HYMN #704 — *When Pain of the World Surrounds Us*

### PRAYERS

Heavenly Father, your compassion fills us with peace, because we know it will never end. We humbly ask you show the world this compassion so they may know you as we do, and may live in your house forever. In your compassionate love, **Hear our prayer.**