

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, and 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 #824 — *This Is My Father's World*

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE — Jill Sousek



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A member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



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ZION Lutheran Church

MARCH 12, 2025

WELCOME TO ZION



James

One of That Blessed Few

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 #592 — *Just As I Am, Without One Plea*

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.**

Luke 9:51-55

When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" But he turned and rebuked them.

Mark 10:35-45

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." And he said to them, "What is it you want me to do for you?" And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" They replied, "We are able." Then Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared."

When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. So Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many."

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON — Pastor Scott Ludford

HYMN #574 — *Here I Am, Lord*

PRAYERS

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