



Fifth Sunday in Lent

MARCH 17, 2024

WELCOME TO ZION

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP — *Sunday School Kids* [10:30 AM]

LOUD OFFERING — *Sunday School Kids* [10:30 AM]

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

The sign of the cross ☩ may be made in remembrance of Baptism.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God who writes the law on our hearts, and who draws all people together through Jesus. **Amen.**

Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another. *(Silence is kept for reflection.)*

Holy God,

**we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free.
We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold.
We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred.
For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.**

Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through ☩ Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

HYMN #343 — *My Song is Love Unknown*

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And, also, with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

W O R D

FIRST READING — *Jeremiah 31:31-34*

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt – a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

SECOND READING — *Hebrews 5:5-10*

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you”; as he says also in another place, “You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek.”

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

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

The Holy Gospel, according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL — *John 12:20-33*

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much

fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say – ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDRENS’ MESSAGE

THE SERMON — *Rev. Dennis Nelson*

HYMN #330 — *Seed That in Earth is Dying*

BAPTISM — *Theodore Andrew Bornemann* [5 PM ~ SEE INSERT]

APOSTLES’ CREED

We have been made God’s people through our Baptism into Christ.

Living together in trust and hope, let us confess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit

and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day, he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

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 ... Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

The petitions conclude... through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

THE PEACE *Share God's peace. We'll forgo hand shaking due to cold/flu season.*

THE OFFERING

COMMUNION

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER *(Traditional)*

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.

MUSIC — *The Earth is the Lord's ~ ZION Choir* [10:30 AM]

BLESSING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Generous God, at this table, we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. **Amen.**

SENDING

BENEDICTION

HYMN #340 — *A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth* [VS: 1-2]

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share your bread.

Thanks be to God!



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A member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

