



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Office Hours: Mon-Thurs: 9am-4pm; Fri: Office Closed

February 25, 2024 ✚ The Second Sunday in Lent

Welcome to Week Two in The Parables of Lent series of services, which is based on the parable of the hidden treasure and the priceless pearl. In this parable, two men give all that they have to buy objects of great worth. The service includes readings from Scripture, a children's sermon, a sermon and thematic hymns that help us to remember that we who are priceless to Christ receive him who gave all that he had to call us his own.

✚ GATHERING ✚

Prelude

(The prelude is a call to silent, personal preparation for worship.)

Welcome

Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church in Albion! We offer a warm welcome to all who are worshipping in person or by way of Vyve Cable Channel 21 and Facebook Live. We hope that you encounter a word of God's grace and love in this worship service.

Holy Communion will be celebrated today. At the table of our Lord Jesus Christ, God nourishes faith, forgives sin, and calls us to be witnesses to the Gospel. All who are baptized and believe in the real presence of Christ are welcome to share in the Lord's meal. Holy Communion will be distributed in person or by pre-packaged elements. If you are uncomfortable coming forward, please pick up the communion elements as you enter worship. We will partake of the sacrament as directed by the pastor within the worship service. If you have any questions or concerns, please speak with an usher. Gluten Free wafers are available on request.

THE PARABLES
OF LENT

SECOND SUNDAY **IN** LENT

Confession & Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

In this holy season the Son of God humbles himself
so that we receive mercy.

**Humble me once again, O God,
that my life would be pleasing and acceptable to you.**

In this holy season the Son of God abandons all the glory of heaven
to pay the price for us, his most precious treasure.

**Grant me the grace, O God,
to treasure all others as you have treasured me.**

In this holy season the Son of God enters into his Passion and death
so that we are exalted.

**Grant me your grace, O God,
that my faith in Jesus would be pleasing and acceptable to you.**

Too often we treasure the things of this world
more than the kingdom of God.

Let us confess the sins of our hearts and lives
to our Lord who hears and forgives:

(Silence is kept for self-reflection and confession.)

Most merciful God,

we confess that our very nature is sinful.

We value possessions more than we value your grace.

We value the things of this world

more than we value treasures that are stored in heaven.

We value money and wealth more than we value your Word.

**We show by what we do and by what we leave undone
that we are undeserving of heavenly treasure.**

**By our selfishness we have sinned against you
and against others in thought, word and deed.**

Forgive us, most holy God.

The Lord Jesus gave up the glory of heaven and came into this world to purchase you with his holy and righteous blood. His perfect life, crushing crucifixion and glorious resurrection mean complete forgiveness for the sins of our hearts and lives. Because he treasures you more than all the riches of heaven, all of your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father, and of the **+** Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Gathering Song

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

#597



1 My hope is built on noth - ing less than
 2 When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I
 3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus -
 4 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, oh,



Je - sus' blood and righ - teous - ness; no mer - it of my
 rest on his un - chang - ing grace; in ev - 'ry high and
 tain me in the rag - ing flood; when all sup - ports are
 may I then in him be found, clothed in his righ - teous -



own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
 storm - y gale my an - chor holds with - in the veil.
 washed a - way, he then is all my hope and stay.
 ness a - lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

Refrain



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1797-1874, alt.
 Music: John B Dykes, 1823-1876
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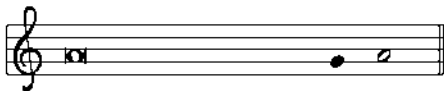
Apostolic Greeting

The grace and mercy of God, who in Christ bears our burdens and saves us from sin, be with you all.

And also with you.

Kyrie

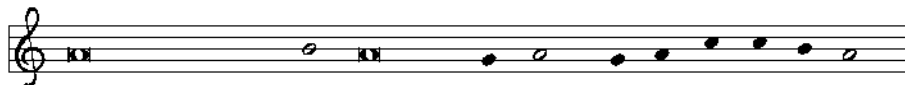
ELW setting 4



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



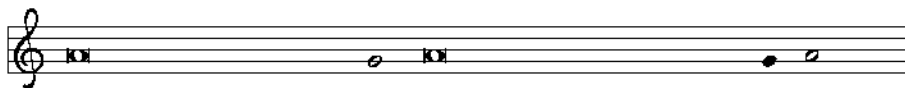
Lord, have mer - cy.



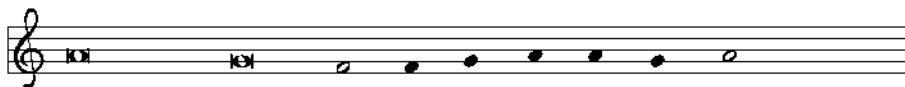
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



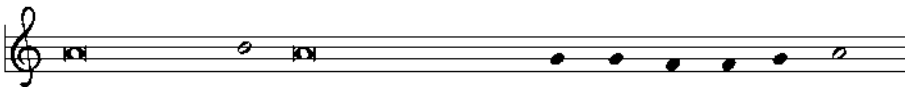
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray...

Heavenly Father,

**you sent your only-begotten Son into this world
to purchase for us all the glories of heaven.**

**Help us to value all that he has done for us,
and all that he is preparing for us,**

far more than anything this world could ever give. Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

First Reading

Isaiah 55:1-9

A reading from Isaiah.

¹Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;
and you that have no money, come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

²Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.

³Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.
I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.

⁴See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.

⁵See, you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.

⁶Seek the LORD while he may be found,
call upon him while he is near;
⁷let the wicked forsake their way,
and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them
return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.

⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

Philippians 3:2-11

A reading from Philippians.

²Beware of the dogs, beware of the evil workers,
beware of those who mutilate the flesh!

³For it is we who are the circumcision,
who worship in the Spirit of God and boast in Christ Jesus
and have no confidence in the flesh —
⁴even though I, too, have reason for confidence in the flesh.

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh,
I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day,
a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin,
a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee;
⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church;
as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷Yet whatever gains I had,
these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ.

⁸More than that, I regard everything as loss because of
the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.

For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things,
and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ
⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own
that comes from the law,
but one that comes through faith in Christ,
the righteousness from God based on faith.


¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection
and the sharing of his sufferings
by becoming like him in his death,

¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Lenten Verse

ELW setting 4



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,
slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 13:44-46

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 13th Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁴⁴The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field,
which someone found and hid;
then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵Again, the kingdom of heaven
is like a merchant in search of fine pearls;

⁴⁶on finding one pearl of great value,
he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

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

Children's Time

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

Christ's Kingdom is Made Known

(Tune: #599)



1 We list - en as the Word like scat - tered seed is sown,
2 A treas - ure that is found, dis - cov - ered in a field,
3 In ev' - ry time of need, be - fore the judg - ment throne,

Hymn continues on the next page



For as each par - a - ble is heard Christ's king - dom is made known.
Once bur - ied deep be - neath the ground, will un - told rich - es yield.
Your work, O Lamb of God, I'll plead, your mer - its, not my own.

Text: By Dean Nadasdy and Tom Eggebrecht.
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Music: W. Daman, The Psalmes of Daud, 1579, alt.; Public Domain

Apostle's Creed

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 again 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 the People

P Led by Christ in our journey of repentance
and moved by his compassion, let us pray for the church,
those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

A God, who gives the gift of the greatest treasure,
help us to value your kingdom
more than we value the things of this world.
Remind us that you value us so very much

that you sent your only Son to pay the price for our sin
and purchase for us the kingdom of heaven.
Giver of all good gifts, **thank you for making us your treasure.**

P God, who gives the gift of the greatest treasure,
you are the ruler over all the earth
and your kingdom will never end.
Guide the rulers of this world that all people
would remain free from oppression and live in peace.
Giver of all good gifts, **thank you for making us your treasure.**

A God, who gives the gift of the greatest treasure,
your Church is the place on earth
where the true treasure of mercy, peace and forgiveness is found.
Use those gifts in our lives
to strengthen our faith and value other people.
Giver of all good gifts, **thank you for making us your treasure.**

P God, who gives the gift of the greatest treasure,
we know all too well that we hold the treasure of faith
in our bodies that are “jars of clay.”
When we are broken, ill or need healing,
please make us whole or give us the grace to accept our affliction.
Giver of all good gifts, **thank you for making us your treasure.**

A God, who gives the gift of the greatest treasure,
we remember the saints who have gone before us,
who now possess in all reality
every treasure of the kingdom of heaven.
Enliven our hearts that we would follow after them
and receive the same heavenly treasure.
Giver of all good gifts, **thank you for making us your treasure.**

P Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

Peace

The Peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

✠ OFFERING ✠

Offering Response

Amazing Grace

#779



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt., sts. 1-4; anonymous, st. 5
 Music: W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1851-1921, alt.
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✠ MEAL ✠

Great Thanksgiving



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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 our thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
 that we should at all times and in all places
 give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
 through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts
 and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
 that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
 we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
 with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
 we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW setting 4

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer & Words of Institution

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.

Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness
to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup

we remember our Lord's passover from death to life

as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life:

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us

and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Bless this feast.

Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.

Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.

Breathe new life into us.

Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God

ELW setting 4



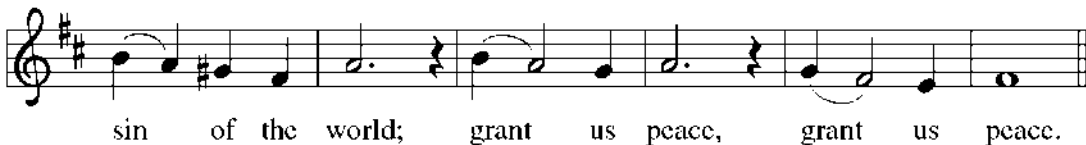
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



Distribution with silence for meditation

If you are joining us from home or are taking communion from your seat:

The body of Christ, given for you. Amen.

The blood of Christ, shed for you. Amen.

Table Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and preserve you unto eternal life. **Amen.**

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray... *(A brief silence is kept.)*

Merciful God,

accompany our journey through these forty days.

Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may

provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need,

fast from self-indulgence, and above all

that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son,

Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

✠ **SENDING** ✠

Announcements

Benediction

You have received the Treasure, God's only Son.

Receive now his blessing:

The God who gives the gift of the greatest treasure,

grant you every good thing on earth and all the riches of heaven.

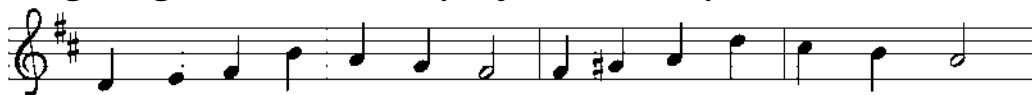
Amen.

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Sending Song

Take My Life, That I May Be

#685



1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - rat - ed, Lord, to thee;
2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;



take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.
take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.

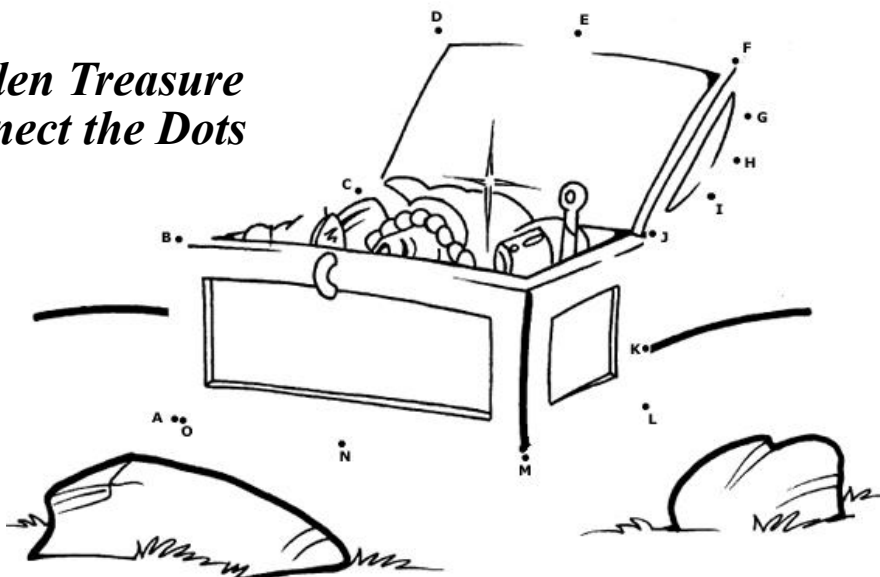
6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, alt.
Music: William Havergal, 1793-1870
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Dismissal

Treasured by Christ, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Amen. Thanks be to God.

Hidden Treasure Connect the Dots



The kingdom of heaven is like
a hidden treasure.

Find these treasures hidden in the field below.

