



# ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

319 South 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Albion, Nebraska 68620

[www.zionalbion.org](http://www.zionalbion.org) + office @zionalbion.org+ 402-395-2043

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

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## March 9, 2025 ✚ The First Sunday in Lent

*Lent provides us with a perfect chance to explore the extraordinary attributes of our Savior, Servant, and Friend, Jesus. It is a time to marvel at the many blessings we received when he laid down his life for us on the cross and then rose victorious from the grave. In this service for Week 1 of Lent, we consider the fact that Jesus is our Healer. In word and song, we will remember that Jesus heals us of the sickness of our sin through his death on the cross and makes us well again in our very souls.*

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## ✚ 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.

**GOD Heals.**

# FIRST SUNDAY **IN** LENT

## Confession & Forgiveness

We gather together as friends in the healing presence of the Triune God.  
We gather in the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Be gracious to us, O Lord, hear our confession and heal our iniquity.

*Silence for meditation and self-examination.*

Healing God,

**My thoughts have veered away from your paths of righteousness.**

**My ways have departed from your ways.**

**My seeking to gain control has made me a slave to sin.**

**My desires have brought disease into my heart and life.**

**My sin makes me waste away from within.**

**My heart cries out for forgiveness and healing.**

**Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!**

Our healer, Christ Jesus, has good news for us!

The healing mercy of Jesus is stronger than the disease of sin.

Our Savior, Servant, Friend

brings healing through the cross and empty tomb.

Jesus forgives all your sins

and he applies a healing balm to your heart, soul, and all of your life.

Because of your friend Jesus, you are forgiven.

**Amen. What a friend we have in Jesus.**

## Gathering Song

## *We Come to You for Healing, Lord*

#617



1	We	come	to	you	for	heal	-	ing.	Lord,	of	
2	As	once	you	walked	through	an	-	cient	streets	and	
3	You	touch	us	through	phy	-	si	-	cians' skills,	through	
4	When	nights	are	long	with	wake	-	ful	-	ness,	through
5	We	come	to	you,	O	lov	-	ing	Lord,	in	



bod - y, mind, and soul, and pray that by your  
 reached toward those in pain, come, ris - en Christ, a -  
 nurs - es' gifts of care, and through the love of  
 days when strength runs low, grant us your gift of  
 our dis - tress and pain, in trust that through our

Spir - it's touch we may a - gain be whole.  
 mong us still with pow'r to heal a - gain.  
 faith - ful friends who lift our lives in prayer.  
 pa - tience, Lord, your calm - ing peace to know.  
 nights and days your grace will heal, sus - tain.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923  
 Music: Hugh Wilson, 1764-1824  
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## Call to Worship

Be gracious to me, O Lord,  
**For I am languishing; heal me, O Lord,**  
**for my bones are troubled.** (*Psalms 6:2*)

O Lord my God, I cried to you for help,  
**And you have healed me.** (*Psalms 30:2*)

He sent out his word and healed them,  
**And delivered them from their destruction.** (*Psalms 107:20*)

Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God;  
**For it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.** (*Psalms 147:1*)

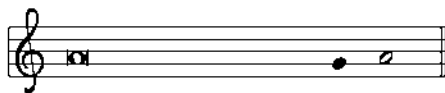
He heals the brokenhearted  
**And binds up their wounds.** (*Psalms 147:3*)

## The Greeting

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

# Kyrie

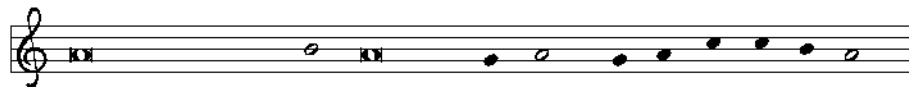
ELW setting 4



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



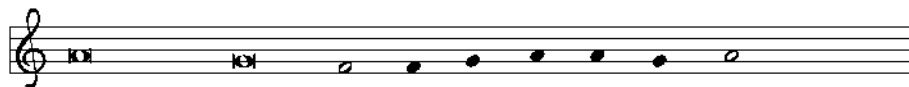
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



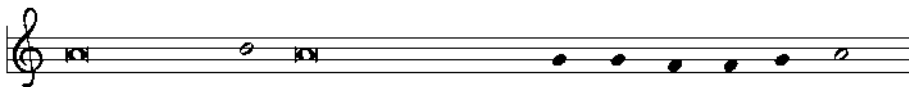
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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... *(A brief silence is kept.)*

Almighty and everlasting God,

**you created us for life and flourishing, not for death and disease.**

**Turn our hearts from all that is contrary to you,  
and bring us back to your healing ways.  
Let us seek you and the eternal healing that you alone provide.  
Let us desire friendship with you so that we are healed by love.  
We pray through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**✠ WORD ✠**

**First Reading**

Malachi 4:1-3

*Malachi, whose name means “my messenger,” warns that “the day is coming.” On that day, the evil will be destroyed like stubble in a fire, but the “sun of righteousness” will shine on those who honor God.*

*A reading from Malachi.*

<sup>1</sup>See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch.

<sup>2</sup>But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. <sup>3</sup>And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the LORD of hosts.

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

**Second Reading**

1 Peter 2:23-25

*Doing the right things does not guarantee that one will not experience difficulties, hardships, rejection, or even suffering. Here Christ is presented as the model for our path of endurance and loyalty to God, particularly amid adversity.*

*A reading from First Peter.*

<sup>23</sup>When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. <sup>24</sup>He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.

<sup>25</sup>For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

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

## Lenten Verse

*ELW setting 4*



## Holy Gospel

Matthew 8:14-17

*Even a soldier, who thinks of himself as unworthy, believes in the healing power of Jesus.*

*The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 8<sup>th</sup> Chapter.*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>14</sup>When Jesus entered Peter's house, he saw his mother-in-law lying in bed with a fever; <sup>15</sup>he touched her hand, and the fever left her, and she got up and began to serve him. <sup>16</sup>That evening they brought to him many who were possessed with demons; and he cast out the spirits with a word, and cured all who were sick. <sup>17</sup>This was to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah, "He took our infirmities and bore our diseases."

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

## Children's Time

### Sermon

*Healer*

## Hymn of the Day

*When Peace Like a River*

#785





sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast  
this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my  
sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I  
clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the



taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.  
help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.  
bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!  
Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.

*Refrain*



It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.  
It is well with my soul,

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828-1888  
Music: Philip P. Bliss, 1838-1876  
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 the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer  
for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

A There are hurts everywhere. This world hurts and we hurt,  
so we pray that the healing hands of Jesus  
would be placed upon us and all our hurts.  
Jesus, in your great love, place your healing hands on us.  
You know where it hurts — come and bring healing, Jesus.  
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

P Heal the hurts festering in our hearts and souls  
so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.  
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

A Heal the hurts of this world  
as you bring peace to war-torn places, protection to innocent lives  
and integrity to leaders and rulers.  
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

P Heal the hurts of failing bodies and aching bones,  
work through the hands and feet of medical practitioners  
and draw near to all in their times of illness and physical hurt.  
*Especially today, we pray for...*  
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

A Heal the pain of loneliness and despair, anxiety and fear.  
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

P Heal any strife that threatens to break apart your church  
and replace it with friendship and unity.  
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**



- A Heal us from all ungodly apathy or indifference  
so that we can be passionate for your kingdom work.  
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- P Here other intercessions may be offered.  
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- A Jesus, heal us by means of your body and blood  
and place your healing hands on all our hurts.  
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- P Receive the prayers of your people  
and draw all things together in your love,  
in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life. **Amen.**

## Peace

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

## ✠ OFFERING ✠

### Offering Response

### *Create in Me a Clean Heart*

#186

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: 'Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.'

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right  
spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take  
not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of  
your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

## ✠ MEAL ✠

### Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also 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.

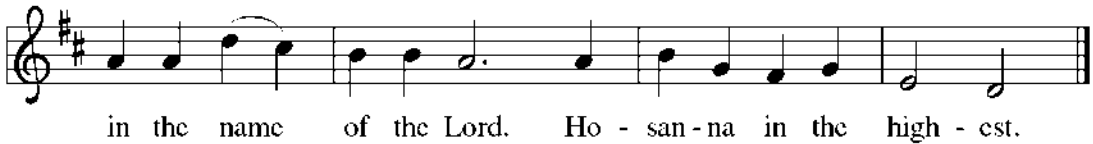
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### 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



## 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, Jesus 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*

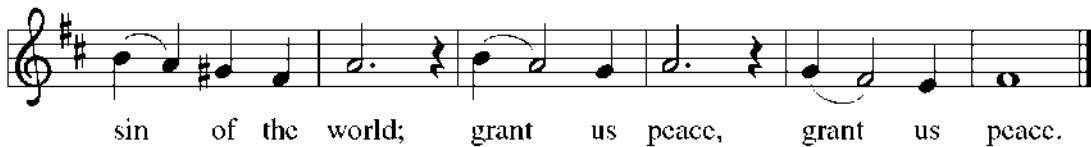
*ELW setting 4*



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**

May 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.)*

Generous Host,

**you have shared your feast with us and made us new.**

**Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities,  
that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom,  
in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

✠ **SENDING** ✠

### **Announcements**

### **Benediction**

Go now into this world of hurts  
knowing what a healer you have in Jesus!  
May the healing power of Jesus bless you and keep you;  
and may the healing hands of Jesus  
be placed upon you in faith and give you ✠ peace.  
**Amen. What a friend we have in Jesus!**



## Sending Song

## There Is a Balm in Gilead

#614

*Refrain*



There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed whole;



there is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul.

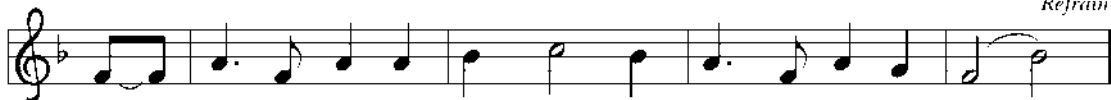


1 Some-times I feel dis-cour-aged and think my work's in vain.

2 If you can-not preach like Pe-ter, if you can-not pray like Paul.

3 Don't ev-er be dis-cour-aged, for Je-sus is your friend;

*Refrain*



but then the Ho-ly Spir-it re-vives my soul a-gain.

you can tell the love of Je-sus and say, "He died for all."

and if you lack for knowl-edge, he'll ne'er re-fuse to lend.

Text & Music: African American Spiritual  
Public Domain

## Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



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# Matthew 8:1-17 Word Search

F S X K P B D R O R C N Q C R H N  
 C O L H I P A O P B E A I T N E F  
 E L C L E P E R A E I V A P B A A  
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 G H E L K N J L F A I A N I O K U  
 O M T C H H F Q E E N I U T U L S  
 K A E M F W Q H V T G I D H L M Y  
 N B P M A V S E O P D J A C O B Q

authority  
 believe  
 servant  
 isaac  
 leper

suffering  
 abraham  
 heaven  
 fever  
 Jesus

paralyzed  
 illness  
 isaiah  
 peter  
 lord

centurion  
 touched  
 healed  
 faith  
 sick

disease  
 soldier  
 jacob  
 clean

## Jesus Heals – Dot-to-Dot and Coloring Page

Peter's mother-in-law was sick. When Jesus saw her, he had compassion for her. Jesus healed Peter's mother-in-law! Connect the dots on the page and color the picture.

