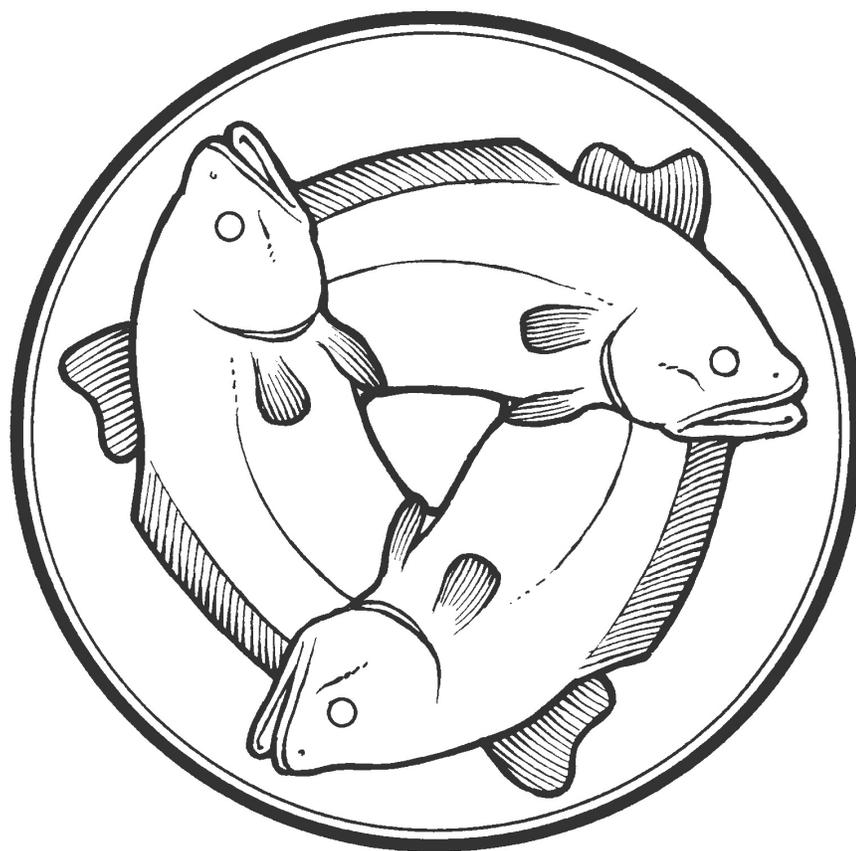


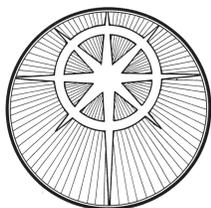
**A Prayer
Upon Enter-
ing Church**
Lord God, in
a constantly
changing
world we
look to you
as our rock
of hope.
Hear us as
we pour out
our hearts to
you, and
give us your
grace and
secure pro-
tection;
through your
Son, Jesus
Christ our
Lord. Amen.



The Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 24, 2021+ 9:00 A.M.

Welcome to the Lord's Day. "The kingdom of God is at hand! Repent and believe the gospel." So we see that our Lord never says "repent" without first speaking the promise and giving the gift: "the kingdom of God is here, for you, right at hand!" He is a happy King, our Lord, and He comes to give you happiness. For that reason, He established a ministry and Church that would spread across the world to proclaim His Gospel, and you are gathered into that holy fellowship this morning.



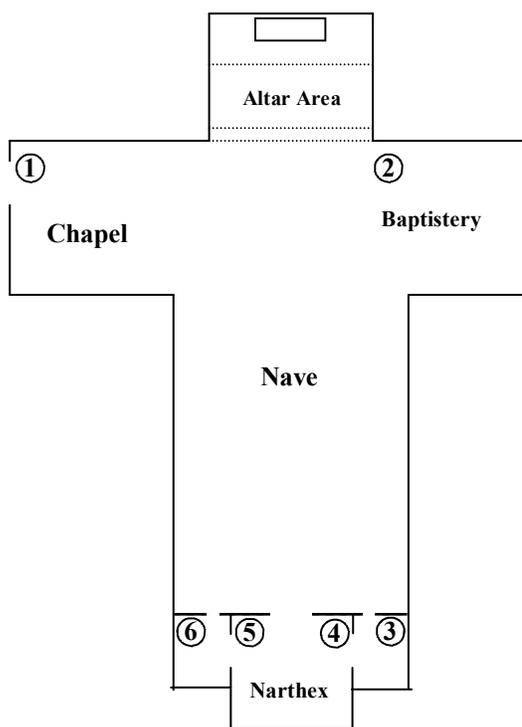
Sharing God's Blessings Today

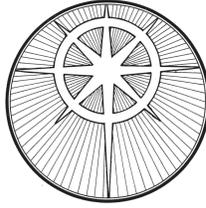
- Sunday's Radio Broadcast is sponsored by a homebound Zion couple.
- The sponsor charts for 2021 for Radio Broadcasts and Flowers are available for you to sign up. The charts are by the stairs by the northwest entry. Also, you may sponsor a bulletin. The cost is \$25. Call the church office, 715-848-7286.

To Share Your Offering

Offerings are received in **Zion's wooden offering boxes built into the walls of the church**. Please see the map, where the boxes are labeled by **number (1-6)** or ask an usher for assistance.

This returns us to an older and beautiful tradition of the Lutheran church in which offerings are not collected during worship so as to focus more intently on God's gifts and offerings to us.





PRELUDES

"O God of Light" ... Alfred V. Fedak and Kevin Hildebrand

RINGING OF THE BELLS

Please stand.

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Please kneel. Silence for reflection.

The Holy Trinity is Himself the very heart of the faith; the Father who first created the church has redeemed her by the blood of His Son and then sanctified her by His Spirit to be His holy dwelling. All we are and all we have received comes from the Father, through the Son, in the Holy Spirit. And all we do flows from who we are and what we have received

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. . . . And so
the entire
Christian
life – public
worship, pri-
vate prayer,
and daily vo-
cation – flows
back in the
Spirit
through the
Son to the
Father, one
God, now and
forever. We
live each day
and to all
eternity in
the very pres-
ence of God.
This is litur-
gical living;
it's the only
way to live.
~ Harold
Senkbeil,
Dying To
Live

P: Most merciful God,

C: **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church, and by the authority of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen**

Please stand.

ENTRANCE HYMN "O God of Light"



1 O God of light, Your Word, a lamp un - fail - ing,
2 From days of old, through blind and will - ful a - ges,
3 Un - dimmed by time, those words are still re - veal - ing
4 To all the world Your sum - mons You are send - ing,



Shall pierce the dark - ness of our earth - bound way
Though we re - belled, You gent - ly sought a - gain
To sin - ful hearts Your jus - tice and Your grace;
Through all the earth, to ev - 'ry land and race.



And show Your grace, Your plan for us un - veil - ing,
And spoke through saints, a - pos - tles, proph - ets, sa - ges,
And quest - ing spir - its, long - ing for Your heal - ing,
That myr - iad tongues, in one great an - them blend - ing,



And guide our foot - steps to the per - fect day.
 Who wrote with ca - ger or re - luc - tant pen.
 See Your com - pas - sion in the Sav - ior's face.
 May praise and cel - e - brate Your gift of grace.

GREETING

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

C: And also with you.

KYRIE

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the holy Church, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

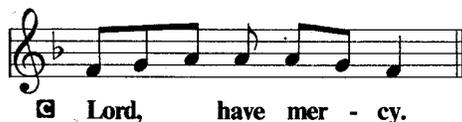
The fact that Christian mission intends to distinguish between the Church and the world is illustrated by many mission stories from the first centuries of the Church's history. The construction of a church was among the first things missionaries did. The church building was itself a witness to a new worship, to a new allegiance to an alien God in a pagan land. . .

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... Not surprisingly, therefore, churches and monasteries were the frequent objects of pagan hatred and violence. Also to be noted here is the fact that the construction of a place of worship did not simply fulfill the utilitarian interest of a worship place, but signified that this was a place now conquered for the worship of the new King, the Christ ...

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

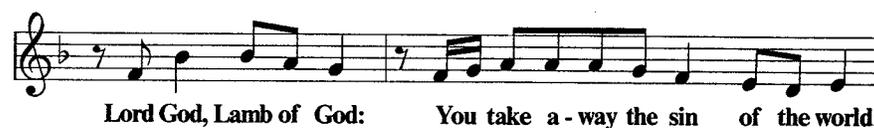
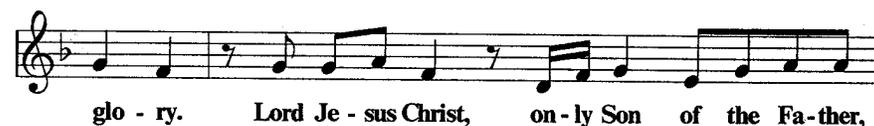


P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



GLORIA

P: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.



lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,
 you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,
 in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men

SALUTATION and COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.

☐ And al - so with you.

P: Let us pray . . . Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of your majesty to heal and defend us; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

Please be seated.

OLD TESTAMENT Jonah 3:1-5, 10

¹Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time, saying, ²“Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you.” ³So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days’ journey in breadth. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s journey. And he called out, “Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from

. . . Mission does not simply convert the hearts of men. Mission also effects the geographic extension of the Lordship of Jesus, and this extension is evidenced by the establishment of places where Christ is acknowledged to be the Lord. Jesus is not Lord in the abstract realm of “everywhere;” rather he is Lord precisely in this place and in that place, and this Lordship is denoted by the fact that there are places where his Name is worshipped above every name . . .

[continued next page]

*This element of place in the Bible's way of speaking about mission is often missed. We are told that at Pentecost persons from many regions heard the gospel, from Parthia, Judea, Cappadocia, Pontus, Asia, Egypt, and many other places (Acts 2:8-11). Pentecost was not only a miracle of language; it was also an indication that now the gospel was to reach many places.
~ Pr. William Weinrich, "The Face of Christ as the Hope of the World" 2000 A.D.*

the greatest of them to the least of them. ¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 62

P: For God alone my soul in silence waits; from him comes my salvation.

C: He alone is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold, so that I shall not be greatly shaken.

P: How long will you assail me to crush me, all of you together, as if you were a leaning fence, a toppling wall?

C: They seek only to bring me down from my place of honor; lies are their chief delight.

P: They bless with their lips, but in their hearts they curse.

C: For God alone my soul in silence waits; truly, my hope is in him.

P: He alone is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold, so that I shall not be shaken.

C: In God is my safety and my honor; God is my strong rock and my refuge.

P: Put your trust in him always, O people, pour out your hearts before him, for God is our refuge.

C: Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath, even those of low estate cannot be trusted.

P: On the scales they are lighter than a breath, all of them together.

C: Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no empty pride; though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.

P: God has spoken once, twice have I heard it, that power belongs to God.

C: Steadfast love is yours, O Lord, for you repay everyone according to his deeds.

All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen

EPISTLE 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

²⁹This is what I mean, brothers: the appointed time has grown very short. From now on, let those who have wives live as though they had none, ³⁰and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no goods, ³¹and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

VERSE

L: Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

*Christ is the
Morning Star,
who, when the
night of this
world is past,
gives to his
saints the
promise of the
light of life,
and opens ev-
erlasting day.
~ Bede the
Venerable,
700s A.D.*

GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1st chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹⁴After John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel." ¹⁶Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men." ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹And going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰And immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants and followed him.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

APOSTLES CREED

P: Let us confess the faith with one heart:

C: **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

HYMN OF THE DAY "O Christ, Our Light, O Radiance True"



1. O Christ, our light, O Ra - diance true, Shine forth on
 2. Fill with the ra - diance of your grace The wan - d'ers
 3. Lord, o - pen all re - luc - tant ears And take a -
 4. Lord, let your mer - cy's gen - tle ray Shine down on
 5. Make theirs with ours a sin - gle voice Up - lift - ed



those es - tranged from you, And bring them to your
 lost in er - ror's maze. En - light - en those whose
 way the child - ish fears Of those who trem - ble
 oth - ers strayed a - way, To those in con - science
 e - ver to re - joice With wond' - ring gra - ti -



home a - gain, Where their de - light shall nev - er end.
 se - cret minds Some deep de - lu - sion haunts and blinds.
 to ex - press The faith their se - cret hearts con - fess.
 wound - ed sore Show heav - en's wait - ing, o - pen door.
 tude and praise To you, O Lord, for bound - less grace.

SERMON

"The Order of the Kingdom"

Please kneel.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Trusting in our Lord Jesus Christ, the everlasting God and Son of Mary, let us pray.

P: . . . O King of Kings,

C: **receive our prayer.**

*What is the kingdom of God? Answer: Simply what we heard above in the Creed, namely, that God sent his Son, Christ our Lord, into the world to redeem and deliver us from the power of the devil, to bring us to himself, and to rule us as a king of righteousness, life, and salvation against sin, death, and an evil conscience. To this end he also gave his Holy Spirit to deliver this to us through his holy Word and to enlighten and strengthen us in faith by his power.
 ~ Martin Luther,
Large Catechism*

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our
Lord.

C: **Amen**

Please be seated.

OFFERTORY

As the pastors prepare the altar for the Holy Supper, vocal music provides a time for worshipers to prepare for the Holy Supper, offering thanks to God and asking for the blessing of His Holy Spirit. When the Offertory ends, please stand.

“Psalm 113”

Refrain: Hallelujah, hallelujah! Who is like the Lord our God?
Who is like the Lord our God?

Hallelujah, praise the Lord; who is like the Lord our God?
Hallelujah, praise the Lord, sing, O Servants of the Lord.
Refrain

When you speak the name of God, always think of who He is.
When you speak the name of God, always speak with joy and
praise. *Refrain*

Who is like the Lord our God? High as high can be, and yet
He does not keep to Himself, we are in His care and sight.
Refrain

Who is like the Lord our God, lifting up the lowest ones?
Those who were so weak and poor have a voice the proud
can hear. *Refrain*

Who is like the Lord our God? To the women with no hope
He gives children, He gives joy, so they sing hallelujah.
Refrain

Please stand.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Blessed are you, heavenly Father, for the priceless gift of your Son, sent into our flesh to redeem the creation. Grant that we may now so eat of his flesh and drink of his blood that we may ever dwell in him, and he in us.

C: Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.



P: Lift up your hearts.



P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



P: It is indeed right and salutary . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS ("Holy")



"This is my Word," the Spirit says as your pastor bears witness to Christ for you. "You are mine and all the gifts are yours." "This is the Lord's Supper," the Spirit says. "In it Christ is with you to open up the future to you."
~ "Free to Be," 1975 A.D.

The means of grace through which the Holy Spirit works on us to create faith and spiritual growth are evangelical. That is, they bear the Gospel of forgiveness through Christ. They do not work as talismans to make the rains fall or our business successful (though we can pray for such things). Their purpose is to communicate grace, the unmerited favor of God that grants eternal life . . .

Heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san-na. 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me."

In the same way also he took the cup after the supper, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink of it, in remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C: 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

ACCLAMATION

P: The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you. The Word was made flesh

C: and we have seen his glory, full of grace and truth.

AGNUS DEI ("Lamb of God")

♪ 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
 sin of the world; grant us peace.

Please be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

The congregation is ushered forward for Communion. The pastor will hand you the holy Body. Please take a cup of the holy Blood as directed. Those who do not commune may cross their arms over their chest as they come forward to ask for a blessing.

Holy Communion is the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ which He joyfully gives to His Church to eat and to drink. This gift bestows tremendous benefits. His Body and Blood forgives our sins, strengthens our faith, binds us to the Lord, and unites us with each other. In this is life and salvation.

The Lord therefore invites to His altar baptized Christians who trust that they will receive in Holy Communion all that He promises there: His body and blood, the forgiveness of sins, union with Christ and His Church, life, and salvation. Know that He gives it to you with great joy.

. . . In the sac-
 rament of
 Holy Com-
 munion, all of
 Lutheran
 spirituality is
 crystallized:
 God acts, ob-
 jectively,
 through mat-
 ter, embodying
 the Gospel and
 promising the
 forgiveness of
 sin. And,
 more than that
 – or rather,
 making all of
 these effica-
 cious – is the
 real presence
 of Jesus Christ.
 This is another
 astonishing
 claim, one
 which many
 Christians
 draw back
 from, but one
 that is at the
 pulsing heart
 of Lutheran
 evangelical-
 ism.

~ Gene
 Edward
 Veith, Jr.,
*Spirituality
 of the Cross*

COMMUNION HYMNS

The vocalists sing the hymns during the distribution. The texts are printed for prayerful meditation.

“Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning”

Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Cold on His cradle the dewdrops are shining;
Low lies His head with the beasts of the stall;
Angels adore Him in slumber reclining,
Maker and Monarch and Savior of all.

Shall we not yield Him, in costly devotion,
Fragrance of Edom and off' rings divine,
Gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean,
Myrrh from the forest and gold from the mine?

Vainly we offer each ample oblation,
Vainly with gifts would His favor secure.
Richer by far is the heart's adoration;
Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.

Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

“As with Gladness Men of Old”

As with gladness men of old
Did the guiding star behold;
As with joy they hailed its light,
Leading onward, beaming bright;

So, most gracious Lord, may we
Evermore be led by Thee.

As with joyful steps they sped,
Savior, to Thy lowly bed,
 There to bend the knee before
 Thee, whom heav'n and earth adore;
So may we with willing feet
Ever seek Thy mercy seat.

As they offered gifts most rare
At Thy cradle, rude and bare,
 So may we with holy joy,
 Pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to Thee, our heav'nly King.

Holy Jesus, ev'ry day
Keep us in the narrow way;
 And when earthly things are past,
 Bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide,
Where no clouds Thy glory hide.

In the heav'nly country bright
Need they no created light;
 Thou its light, its joy, its crown,
 Thou its sun which goes not down;
There forever may we sing
Alleluias to our King.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Let us pray. O God of wonder, we have tasted your goodness,
and beheld your presence in the Word made flesh. Shine forth
his light in all we say and do, and fill the earth with your glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

A Prayer as You Go

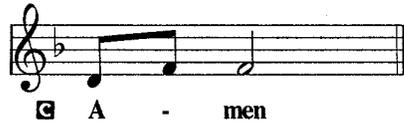
Almighty Father, your watchful care reaches from end to end and orders all things in such power that even the tensions and tragedies of sin cannot frustrate your loving plans. Help us to embrace your will, give us the strength to follow your call, so that your truth may live in our hearts and reflect peace to those who believe in your love.
Amen

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE

"As With Gladness, Men of Old"

... Michael Burkhardt and Paul Manz

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School for children preschool age through grade 6 begins in the east balcony, above the Baptistry. Children will gather first in the Baptistry area and then proceed up the steps together.

Preschool through Grade 4 remain in the balcony for all of the Sunday School time. Grades 5-6 proceed to the conference room/library (by the elevator) after the music portion. Please reclaim your children at 10:45 a.m.

+ Soli Deo Gloria +
To God alone be glory

Serving at Worship

Preaching: The Rev. Dr. Steven K. Gjerde

Presiding: The Rev. Christopher Johnson

(Pr. Gulhaugen at Bethany, 10:30)

Organist: Kantor Irene Beethe

Horn: Meagan Cihlar

Vocal Ensemble: Ethan Hochberger; Carter Kulesa;

Jim Speckhard; Steve Zeinemann

Lector: Jewell Holdorf

Radio Announcer: Dick Ames

Acolyte: Emma Pagel

Ushers: Sally Christoffersen; Ken Rodemeier;

Steve and Marlene Kroening

Elder: Scott Schubring

Altar Guild: Debra Thomas; Anna Mae Zeinemann

Acknowledgements

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Zion Lutheran Church

Sixth and Grant Streets, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403

Those who trust in the Lord shall be like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but abides forever. (Psalm 125:1)

Church Telephone: 715-848-7286

Senior Pastor Steven K. Gjerde
Associate Pastor Christopher S. Johnson
Int. Assoc. Pastor Theodore B. Gulhaugen
Kantor Irene Beethe
Office Manager Pam Gabriel
Secretary Anna Mae Zeinemann
Deployed Chaplain Joseph C. Pinzl

To contact us by email:
zion@zionlutheranwausau.com

To visit our webpage:
www.zionlutheranwausau.com

Host of the Wausau Lutheran Hour
Sundays, 9:00 am, WSAU Radio 550AM (or
click “Listen Live” at www.wsau.com)

Member Congregation of Lutheran Core
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