

Zion Lutheran Church

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

February 21, 2021

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Remembering

Examples of the faith in February

February 23: Saint Polycarp

A student of St. John the Apostle, St. Polycarp was bishop of Smyrna and may have been ordained to that post by St. John himself. He thus serves as an important link between the early Church and the apostles. He was martyred for refusing to honor the Roman emperor as a divine lord. At first, he was burned at the stake, but when the fires did not kill him, he was stabbed to death. He authored a letter to the Philipians.



Pastoral Letter

“Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers, but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night” (Psalm 1:1-2)



The Psalms have always been near and dear to the heart of the Church. These songs and hymns, poetry from a three millennia ago, was the Church’s only hymnbook for a number of generations. When Christians started composing and compiling their own hymns, the Psalms still held a place of honor.

We began Lent by embarking on a study of 6 psalms (6, 23, 32, 46, 100, 146), a study we began Ash Wednesday (available on our YouTube channel) and will continue through Holy Week. We want these psalms to be on your heart and mind, on the tip of your tongue, as you give thanks to God for all His gifts, including the book of Psalms. We want these psalms to be known by heart so that you might be able to call them to mind at a moments notice.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer once wrote, “We grasp [the Psalms] only when we remember that we can learn true prayer only from Jesus Christ... Jesus Christ has brought every need, every joy, every gratitude, every hope of men before God. In his mouth the word of man becomes the Word of God, and if we pray his prayer with him, the Word of God becomes once again the word of man.”

May these 6 psalms, and indeed, the whole book of Psalms, continue to be the very Word of God to you and you, in turn have them become your own words of prayer and devotion. Pray these psalms, imbibe these psalms, and know that Christ your Lord prays these psalms with you and for you too.

Lenten blessings and the peace of the Lord be with you all,

Pastor Johnson

Wednesdays in Lent: “The Faith We Confess”

Six Wednesdays
February 17 ~ March 24
All Services Open to the Public

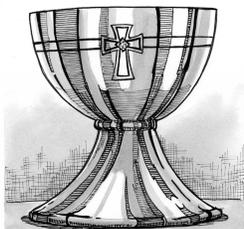
12:15 PM: Holy Communion
(30 minutes)
6:30 PM: Vespers/Evening Prayer
(40 minutes)



The Creed! It tells the story, comforts the soul, strengthens the mind, and teaches the truth! The Creed of the Church is **the faith we confess**, a source of continual nourishment for the believer. Each Wednesday in Lent, Pr. Johnson will unpack its power.

Daily Communion Will Continue in Lent

Public services of Communion will be celebrated daily throughout Lent.



Monday ~ Friday: 12:15 PM
(Wednesdays will feature
Lenten preaching; see
above)
Saturday: 5:15 PM
Sunday: 9:00 and 11:00 AM

Tuesday and Thursday Studies

Tuesdays, 9 AM: NEW STUDY: The Creeds

What are the Biblical foundations of the Church’s creeds? Pr. Johnson will explore this topic every Tuesday, a further investigation of his preaching series on Wednesdays.

Thursday Men’s Breakfast, 7 AM: NEW STUDY: Elijah-Elisha

Who were Elijah and Elisha? What do their prophetic ministries teach us about the Lord and trusting in Him? Pr. Gjerde will explore these topics as we read 1 and 2 Kings.

Sundays in Lent: “The Well-Ordered Soul”

Sundays at 9:00 and 11:00 AM

Saturdays at 5:15 PM

February 21 ~ March 28

All Services Open to the Public

For God is not a God of confusion but of peace” (1 Cor. 14:33).
God puts things in order that we may have peace “even if the earth gives way and the mountains fall into the sea” (Psalm 46:2). He begins by ordering our souls. Each Sunday in Lent, Pr. Gjerde will preach on a different feature of **the well-ordered soul**:

February 28: Enduring Suffering

March 7: Knowing Your Story

March 14: Walking the Path

March 21: Loving Mercy

March 28: Welcoming Humility

When our souls are well-ordered by God, we take God’s order with us into every situation, no matter the troubles we face.

Lenten Study: “Six Psalms by Heart”

The psalms open up conversation with God! Just a few psalms, carried in the heart, can become lifetime friends and sources of wisdom and resilience. This Lent, you have the opportunity to learn six psalms with the pastors of Zion:

- 1) Send an email to lent@zionlutheranwausau.com, and you’ll receive a weekly “learn-by-heart” guide (starting Feb. 22)
- 2) Each Wednesday morning, the pastors will post an online video unpacking the psalm and showing how to use it.



Outreach and Mercy

sharing and being the gifts

Monthly Mission Emphases:

- **Crossways Camping Ministries — Goal: \$2,000**
- **Hope Life Center, Wausau — Goal: \$1,500**

Hope Life Center

Hope offers information on all your options in a confidential judgment-free environment. They provide free services, resources and encouragement to help you make good decisions for your future. FREE services include pregnancy testing, limited OB ultrasound, STD testing and treatment, abortion recovery support, pregnancy and early parenting education, adoption information and sexual health information. Hope does not offer abortion services or referrals. To meet with one of their advocates, you can stop in, or call or text for an appointment at 715-843-4673. Please check the hours for both centers and the mobile unit at HOPEWI.ORG.

Operation Baby Bottle

During February, baby bottles will be placed by the entrances at Zion. Please take a baby bottle home (one per household) and fill it with your loose change. Return the bottles during the week of February 28 to the Zion church office. Thank you for your support of Hope Life Center.

Praying

in our prayers this week

Persecuted Christians in: Malaysia; Columbia; Oman

Sister Congregation: Lehurutshe Parish, South Africa

Missionaries: Elliot & Serena Derricks, Lutheran Bible Translators

For health and recovery: Kathy LaPorte

Those who need our on-going prayers: Hilmar Baumann, Les Brolliar, Mary Ellen Bureta, Rich Cornell, Abby Dobeck, Ruth Draeger, Carol Edelburg, Barbara Ellen, Dennis Falk, Rita Falk, Ben Fiedler, Ken Heinzen, Randy Holz, Avery Kluck, Debra Mertes, Terry Miller, Grace Mueller, Maggie Otto, Tina Parker, Marjorie Raddatz, Barb Ramker, Krista Salas, David Skola, Dave Torkko, Mike Trzebiatowski, Mark Wendorff, Nancy, Jim, Richard, Lenette, Mark, Rachel, Zion's homebound members.

Exploring our New Translation of the Creed

The new translation of the creed used at Zion stands in the longer tradition of creedal translation among Lutherans. Here are some of the main differences from what we have been using:

First Article: *I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.* The only difference here is the term “maker” versus “creator.” “Maker” more closely reflects the original Greek, which comes from the verb for “do” and “make.”

Second Article: *And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.* The creed that Zion used since 1978 had the phrase “was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit.” However, the original creed lacks the language “by the power of,” which was only employed because the translators felt the original “by the Holy Spirit” could be misunderstood. This translation restores the original, Biblical language. It also contains other original portions that the 1978 translation lacked: “. . . God the Father Almighty. From thence . . .”

Third Article: *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* This article of the creed is identical to what Zion has been using and matches the original, as well. While some Lutheran churches substitute “Christian” for “catholic,” *catholic* is original and is offered as an option for our new translation. It means more than simply *Christian*: *catholic* means the *whole* Church that preaches the *whole* Christ to the *whole* world. It is an ancient description of the Church, predating the Roman Catholic Church and accurately describing what every Christian church is.

News & Events

Sponsors for 2021 Radio Broadcasts, Flowers, and Bulletins

The sponsor charts are available for you to sign up, and are located by the stairs by the northwest entry of Zion. Many dates are available for 2021 for you to sponsor for your special occasion, memorial, etc. Please check the charts and sign up. If you wish to sponsor a weekly bulletin, please call the church office at 715-848-7286. Costs are: \$200 radio broadcast, \$60 flowers, and \$25 bulletin.

Strassenfest 2021

Yes! We're already planning for Strassenfest 2021 and anticipate a robust event given the additional time to plan and generous donations to organize. Mark your calendars for **Saturday, October 9, 2021** and make plans to not only attend, but support the event by volunteering, donating, and spreading the word.

We are still in need of a co-chair and a treasurer to join the Strassenfest committee. When you work with a dedicated committee of supportive volunteers, impassioned with the success of this treasured event, joining the team is an easy decision! Contact the church office at 715-848-7286 or David and Lori Torkko, current event chairs, at 715-216-3443, with your interest.

To stay up to date on Strassenfest news, follow the Facebook page: www.facebook.com/ZionStrassenfest.

Portals of Prayer

Copies of the January - March 2021 *Portals of Prayer* are available from the church office. Large print copies are also available. If you cannot come to church to get a copy, call us to have one mailed to you.

Thrivent Choice Dollars Program: Designate by March 31

Eligible benefit members of Thrivent Financial may now recommend where Thrivent distributes a portion of its charitable dollars. You can request that Zion be given your charitable dollars. Call 1-800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice"; or on the internet: www.Thrivent.com/thriventchoice. If you would like to learn more about the Thrivent Choice program, please contact Zion member and Thrivent Associate, Steven Zeinemann, 715-355-0676.

News & Events

Memorials and Other Gifts Received:

- **In memory of Adele Blair**, friends of Adele's family gave a gift to Altar Guild.
- **In memory of Adele Blair**, Gerald and Shirley Kieckhaefer gave a gift to the Property Improvement Fund.
- **In memory of Erma Singstock**, Gerald and Shirley Kieckhaefer gave a gift to the Property Improvement Fund.
- **In memory of Larry Schubring**, Gerald and Shirley Kieckhaefer gave a gift to the Property Improvement Fund.
- **In memory of Verna Schuett**, Gerald and Shirley Kieckhaefer gave a gift to Altar Guild.

Bread and Pie Baking on February 26

Phyllis Bliese will be baking the following: Apple Pies, \$6 & \$8; Lemon Meringue, \$6; Rhubarb, \$8; Strawberry-Rhubarb, \$8. The breads available are: White Bread, \$4; Whole Wheat Bread, \$4. Sign up at the church office; or call the church office, 715-848-7286.

Zion Now Participating in AmazonSmile Program

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support a charity of your choice every time you shop, at no cost to you. AmazonSmile is available at smile.amazon.com on your web browser and can be activated in the Amazon Shopping App for iOS and Android phones. AmazonSmile will be listed in the **Settings** menu; from there, you can follow onboarding instructions to activate the program on your device.

?? ? **Bible Quiz** ? ?

As the Israelites wandered in the wilderness, they longingly remembered some of the foods they'd had in Egypt. Which foods were not mentioned?

A. carrots and potatoes
B. onions and garlic
C. fish and leeks
D. melons and cucumbers



Answer A (See Numbers 11:4-6.)

LENTEN "SOUP TO GO" AT ZION

Wednesdays, now through March 24, 2021

- Note: You must order by 10 a.m. Monday morning before the Wednesday of your order.
- Suggested donation: \$10 per quart
- Pick up at Zion 12:45 pm—3:00 pm Wednesdays
- Curbside pickup or delivery to your home are available. Indicate your preference when placing your order. If you want curbside pickup, please use your cell phone and call the church office when you arrive at church. Someone will bring your order out to you.

SOUP MENU: *(includes 1 quart of soup and bread to serve 3-4 people)*

<u>March 3</u>	Chicken Dumpling Soup
<u>March 10</u>	Chili
<u>March 17</u>	Pea Soup
<u>March 24</u>	Minestrone Soup



**Sign up in the church office;
or call the office, 715-848-7286.**

Calendar

for the upcoming week

Sunday • February 28 (Second Sunday in Lent)

9:00 AM Holy Communion; Live Radio Broadcast,
WSAU 550 AM
10:00 AM Sunday School
10:15 AM Bible Study, Facebook
11:00 AM Holy Communion

Monday • March 1

8:30 AM Devotion, Facebook
10:00 AM Soup Orders Due
12:15 PM Holy Communion
8:30 PM Compline, Facebook

Tuesday • March 2

8:30 AM Devotion, Facebook
9:00 AM Bible Study
10:30 AM Staff Meeting
12:15 PM Holy Communion
8:30 PM Compline, Facebook

Wednesday • March 3

8:30 AM Psalm Study, Facebook
12:15 PM Holy Communion
12:45 — 3:00 PM Soup Pickup
6:30 PM Vespers
6:30 PM Confirmation
7:30 PM Hand Chimes

Thursday • March 4

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study
8:30 AM Devotion, Facebook
12:15 PM Holy Communion
8:30 PM Compline, Facebook

Friday • March 5

8:30 AM Devotion, Facebook
12:15 PM Holy Communion
8:30 PM Compline, Facebook

Saturday • March 6

5:15 PM Holy Communion



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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A member of Lutheran CORE

