



Don't Hide From God
Psalm 32

ZION EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH, MONROE, MI

(Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

IN JESUS' NAME WE WELCOME YOU!

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 30, 2025

Welcome to Zion. It is our hope and prayer that the message you hear today from God's Word will strengthen your faith and fill your heart with the peace only God can give and the joy we have in believing that JESUS CHRIST is our Savior from sin.

Worship Focus: God's plan of salvation represents wisdom to the believers, but it is foolishness to the unbelievers.

This is the fourth Sunday in the season of Lent. The season of Lent leads the Church on a forty-day journey of repentance and prayer, of remembrance and renewal of our baptism. God calls to mankind: Return to the Lord! Even though the Church's Lenten worship is muted and quiet, the focus of the season is not Good Friday, but Easter! Sunday worship in the season of Lent is designed to be islands of refreshment in our Lenten walk. Here is refreshment for the Lenten journey: Your Savior has defeated the devil and his temptations for you. The promise comes by faith and is meant for all people. Though you were born in the blindness of sin, the light of the world shines upon you and lets you see. New life in the light of Christ leads you to selfless service until the day he makes good on his greatest promise—the resurrection. What can we say in response to love so great? Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

LITURGY: Morning Praise (New Service Settings)

OUR FAMILY AT WORSHIP

PHONES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES – We request that you please turn off all devices during the church service. You may keep it on if you are emergency response personnel or if you have an emergency call you are anticipating. Thank you for your cooperation.

BATHROOMS – Bathrooms are located in the East foyer and in the school hallway off the west foyer. Please ask an usher for help finding them.

HEARING ASSISTANCE EQUIPMENT is available as part of our sound system. Individual hand-held units are available. Please check with an usher if you would like a unit for today's worship service.

VISITORS are asked to please sign our fellowship registry in the back of church so that we will have a record of your visit. Thank you for joining us today!

JUSTIFICATION

384

By Grace I’m Saved



1 By grace I'm saved, grace free and bound - less;
2 By grace God's Son, our on - ly Sav - ior,
3 By grace! Oh, mark this word of prom - ise
4 By grace to tim - id hearts that trem - ble,
5 By grace! On this I'll rest when dy - ing;



My soul, be - lieve and doubt it not. Why wa - ver
Came down to earth to bear our sin. Was it be -
When you are by your sins op - pressed, When Sa - tan
In trib - u - la - tion's fur - nace tried— By grace, de -
In Je - sus' prom - ise I re - joice. For though I



at this word of prom - ise? Has Scrip - ture ev - er
cause of your own mer - it That Je - sus died your
plagues your trou - bled con - science, And when your heart is
spite all fear and trou - ble, The Fa - ther's heart is
know my heart's con - di - tion, I al - so know my



false - hood taught? So then this word must true re -
soul to win? No, it was grace, and grace a -
seek - ing rest. What rea - son can - not com - pre -
o - pen wide. Where could I help and strength se -
Sav - ior's voice. My heart is glad; all grief has



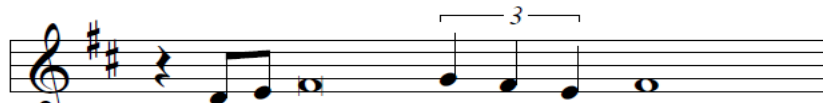
main: By grace you, too, shall heav'n ob - tain.
lone, That brought him from his heav'n - ly throne.
hend God by his grace to you did send.
cure If grace were not my an - chor sure?
flown Since I am saved by grace a - lone.

Text: Christian L. Scheidt, 1709–61, abr.; tr. composite.

Tune: O DASS ICH TAUSEND ZUNGEN HÄTTE (DRETZEL) (98 98 88) Cornelius H. Dretzel, 1697–1775, alt.

STAND


OPENING HYMN



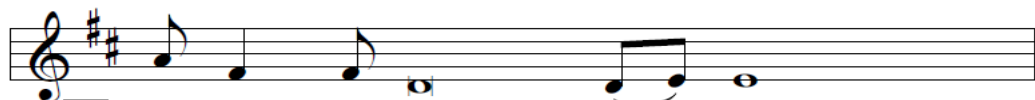
L O Lord, o - pen my lips.



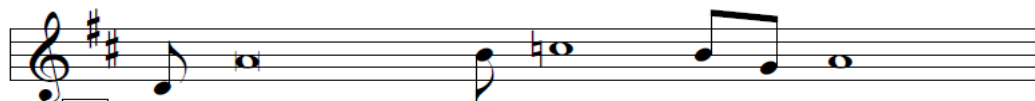
C And my mouth shall de - clare your praise.




L Hasten to save me, O God.



C O Lord, come quickly to help me.



L Give glory to God, our light and our life.



C Come, oh, come, let us wor - ship.

COME, OH, COME, LET US SING TO THE LORD

Venite

L Refrain

C Refrain



Come, oh, come, let us sing to the Lord,



let us shout with joy to our sav - ing Rock;



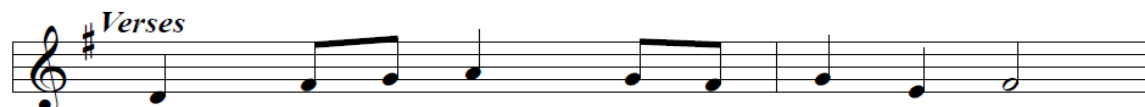
come, en - ter in with our songs of praise,



come, en - ter in with thanks - giv - ing.

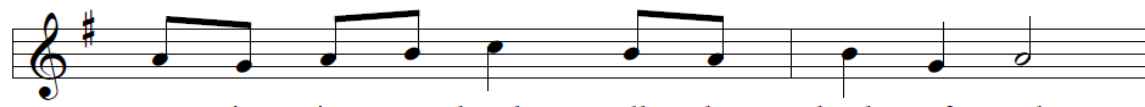


come, en - ter in with thanks - giv - ing.

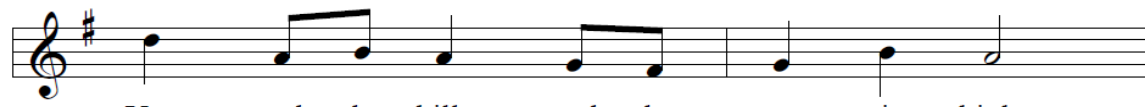


Verses

L 1. You are a great and a won - drous God,
2. Come, let us wor - ship and, bow - ing low,



cup - ping in your hands all the depths of earth.
kneel be - fore the One who has made us all.



You made the hills and the moun - tains high,
You are the God whom we call our own,



you made the seas and the dry land.
we are the flock that you shep - herd.

PSALM 63 (Congregation will sing refrain only.)

[C] Refrain



In the morn-ing I will sing, I will
sing glad songs to you, I will sing glad songs of praise to
you. I will sing glad songs of praise to you.

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1. O God, you are my God; for you I long; for you my soul is thirsting. My body pines for you like a dry, weary land without water. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary to see your strength and your glory.
2. For your love is better than life, my lips will speak your praise. So I will bless you all my life, in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, my mouth shall praise you with joy.
3. On my bed I remember you. On you I muse through the night, for you have been my help; in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 12:1-6

¹ In that day you will say: I will give thanks to you, Lord, for though you were angry with me, your anger has turned away, and you comfort me. ² Surely God is my salvation. I will trust him and will not be afraid, because Yah, the Lord, is my strength and song, and he has become my salvation. ³ Therefore with joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. ⁴ In that day you will say: Give thanks to the Lord!

Proclaim his name. Declare among the peoples what he has done. Proclaim that his name is exalted!

⁵ Sing to the Lord, for he has done amazing things! Let this be known in all the earth! ⁶ Shout aloud and sing for joy, daughter of Zion, for the Holy One of Israel is great among you! (EHV)

¹⁸For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved, it is the power of God. ¹⁹In fact, it is written: I will destroy the wisdom of the wise; the intelligence of the intelligent I will bring to nothing. ²⁰Where is the wise man? Where is the expert in the Jewish law? Where is the probing thinker of the present age? Has God not shown that the wisdom of this world is foolish? ²¹Indeed, since the world through its wisdom did not know God, God in his wisdom decided to save those who believe, through the foolishness of the preached message. ²²Yes, Jews ask for signs, Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we preach Christ crucified—which is offensive to Jews and foolishness to Greeks, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵We preach Christ crucified, because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. (EHV)

VERSE OF THE DAY

P: For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

GOSPEL:**Luke 15:1-3, 11-32**

15 All the tax collectors and sinners were coming to Jesus to hear him. ²But the Pharisees and the experts in the law were complaining, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.” ³He told them this parable:

¹¹Jesus said, “A certain man had two sons. ¹²The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of the estate.’ So he divided his property between them. ¹³Not many days later, the younger son gathered together all that he had and traveled to a distant country. There he wasted his wealth with reckless living. ¹⁴After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵He went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶He would have liked to fill his stomach with the carob pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. ¹⁷“When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have more than enough bread, and I am dying from hunger! ¹⁸I will get up, go to my father, and tell him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight. ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants.”” ²⁰“He got up and went to his father. While he was still far away, his father saw him and was filled with compassion. He ran, hugged his son, and kissed him. ²¹The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²²“But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick, bring out the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let us eat and celebrate, ²⁴because this son of mine was dead and is alive again. He was lost and is found.’ Then they began to celebrate. ²⁵“His older son was in the field. As he approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶He called one of the servants and asked what was going on. ²⁷The servant told him, ‘Your brother is here! Your father killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸The older brother was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹“He answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I’ve been serving you, and I never disobeyed your command, but you never gave me even a young goat so that I could celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But

when this son of yours arrived after wasting your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!’³¹ “The father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours.’³² But it was fitting to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again. He was lost and is found.’” (EHV)

HYMN OF THE DAY: CW 304

“Jesus Sinners Does Receive”

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

304

Jesus Sinners Does Receive



1 Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive; Oh, may all this
 2 We de - serve but grief and shame, Yet his words, rich
 3 Sheep that from the fold did stray Are not by the
 4 Come, O sin - ners, one and all, Come, ac - cept his
 5 I, a sin - ner, come to you With a pen - i -



say - ing pon - der Who in sin's de - lu - sions live
 grace re - veal - ing, Par - don, peace, and life pro - claim;
 Lord for - sak - en; Wea - ry souls who lost their way
 in - vi - ta - tion. Come, o - bey his gra - cious call;
 tent con - fes - sion. Sav - ior, show me mer - cy, too;



And from God and heav - en wan - der. Here is hope
 Here their ills have per - fect heal - ing Who with hum -
 Are by Christ, the shep - herd, tak - en In his arms
 Come and take his free sal - va - tion! Firm - ly in
 Grant for all my sins re - mis - sion. Let these words



for all who grieve— Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.
 ble hearts be - lieve— Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.
 that they may live— Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.
 these words be - lieve— Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.
 my soul re - ceive— Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.

6 Oh, how blest it is to know,
 Were as scarlet my transgression,
 It shall be as white as snow
 By your blood and bitter passion,
 For these words I do believe—
 Jesus sinners does receive.

7 Jesus sinners does receive.
 Even I have been forgiven.
 And when I this earth must leave,
 I shall find an open heaven.
 Dying, still to him I cleave—
 Jesus sinners does receive.

Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756, abr.; tr. composite.
 Tune: MEINEN JESUM LASS ICH NICHT (78 78 77) Neu-verfertigtes Darmstädtsches Gesang-Buch, Darmstadt, 1699, alt.

SERMON TEXT AND THEME: Psalm 32

¹ How blessed is the person whose rebellion is forgiven, whose sin is covered. ² How blessed is the person whose guilt the LORD does not charge against him, in whose spirit there is no deceit. ³ When I kept silent, my bones wasted away as I groaned all day long. ⁴ For day and night your hand was heavy on me. My moisture was dried up by the droughts of summer. ⁵ I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover up my guilt. I said, "I will confess my rebellion to the LORD," and you forgave the guilt of my sin. ⁶ Because of this, let everyone who receives favor pray to you at a time when you may be found. Surely when the mighty waters overflow, they will not reach him. ⁷ You are my hiding place. You will protect me from distress. You will surround me with shouts of deliverance. ⁸ I will make you wise. I will instruct you in the way that you should go. I will guide you, keeping my eye on you. ⁹ Do not be like a horse or a mule, which has no understanding. Its mouth must be controlled by a bit and bridle, or else it will not come to you. ¹⁰ Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but mercy will surround those who trust in the LORD. ¹¹ Rejoice in the LORD and celebrate, all you righteous, and shout joyfully, all you upright in heart. (EHV)

DON'T HIDE FROM GOD

OFFERING: (Sunday Only) *The collection of the offering in the service is an opportunity for the members of Zion to give back to God a small portion of what he has given us in order to support the Gospel ministry of Zion Lutheran Church and School and of the WELS throughout the world. If you are a visitor today, while we appreciate an offering from you, please do not feel obligated to give.*

Offertory Music played by Joey Ortiz

YOU ARE GOD; WE PRAISE YOU

Te Deum

L *Refrain*

C *Refrain*



You are God; we praise you. You are Lord; we ac - claim you.



To you, O Fa-ther ho - ly, all cre - a-tion of - fers praise.



Verses

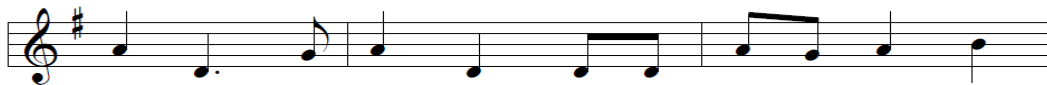
L 1. With the an - gels in heav - en,
2. Cre - a - tor of all things, **C** We praise you, we
3. O Christ, King of glo - ry,



praise you! **L** With the cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim,
O Je - sus Christ, the Son of God, **C** We
You be - came a man to set us free;



praise you, we praise you! **L** With a - pos - tles and proph - ets,
O Spir - it, most ho - ly, **C** We
You have ris - en to free us;



praise you, we praise you! **L** With the mar - tyrs and your
To the Trin - i - ty most
And with all your saints in

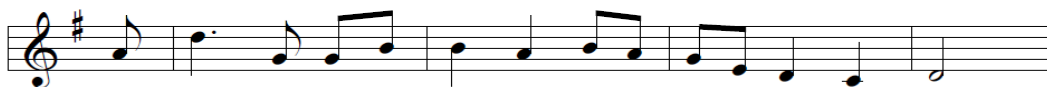


ho - ly Church,
bless - ed, **C** We sing in end - less praise! *to Refrain*
glo - ry, *to Refrain*
to Final Refrain

Final Refrain



C You are God; we praise you. You are Lord; we ac - claim you.



To you, O Fa - ther ho - ly, all cre - a - tion of - fers praise,



all cre - a - tion of - fers praise, all cre - a - tion of - fers praise.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie

Musical score for 'LORD, HAVE MERCY' in G major, 4/4 time. The score consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. The first staff begins with a 'L' in a box. The second staff continues the melody. The third staff begins with a 'C' in a box. The fourth staff concludes the piece with a double bar line.

L In the morn - ing, O Lord, I call to you;
be mer - ci - ful to me and hear my prayer.
C Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have
mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

PRAYER FOR GRACE

Musical score for 'PRAYER FOR GRACE' in G major, 4/4 time. The score consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. The first staff begins with a 'L' in a box. The second staff continues the melody. The third staff continues the melody. The fourth staff concludes the piece with a double bar line.

L O Lord, our heavenly Fa-ther, almighty and everlasting God, you have
brought us safely to this new day. De - fend us with
your might - y power, and grant that this day we neither
fall into sin nor run into an-y kind of danger; and in

all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight,

through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. **C** A - men.

L Let us praise the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

BLESSING

L The Lord bless and keep you.

C A - men.

L The Lord's face ev - er shine up - on you.

C A - men.

L The Lord grant you peace for all your days.

C A - men.

CLOSE OF SERVICE

329 Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing



1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless - ing; Fill our hearts with
 2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion For the gos - pel's
 3 So when - e'er the sig - nal's giv - en Us from earth to



joy and peace. Let us each, your love pos - sess - ing,
 joy - ful sound; May the fruits of your sal - va - tion
 call a - way, Borne on an - gels' wings to heav - en,



Tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace. Oh, re - fresh us,
 In our hearts and lives a - bound! Ev - er faith - ful,
 Glad the sum - mons to o - bey, May we ev - er,



oh, re - fresh us, Trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.
 ev - er faith - ful To your truth may we be found.
 may we ev - er Reign with Christ in end - less day.

Text: John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.

Tune: NEW ULM (87 87 87) Friedrich O. Reuter, 1863–1924.

Officials

Accompanist: Stefanie Sitzman
 Liturgist & Preacher: Pastor Greg Sitzman
 Soloist: Bryan and Deanna Schneck

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Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Pastor Greg Sitzman: 734-309-7877; gsitzman@zionmonroe.org

Principal: Bryan Schneck: 907-331-7761; bschneck@zionmonroe.org

CALL MEETING—On Sunday, March 23rd a joint call was extended to Pastor Andrew Leuhring. Please keep him in your prayers as he deliberates his call.

PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR CALL MEETING: Mrs. Kristi Coffin has returned her call. A new call meeting is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, April 6th.

LENTEN SUPPER: You are invited to join us for a Lenten Supper on Wednesday, March 26th from 5:30-6:30pm. The dinner will be Soup, Salad and a sandwich sponsored by Friends in Faith. Cost is a free-will donation.

ZION SCHOOL MUSICAL: On Friday, April 4th at 6:30 p.m. Please come and enjoy Zion Students as they present “Are We There Yet?” A musical retelling the story of Moses and the Exodus.

FRIENDS IN FAITH: Friends in Faith would like to invite all women of the church to come to their Spring Luncheon Meeting on Sunday, April 6th at 11:30 a.m. Please see the back table in the sanctuary for all the upcoming things Friends in Faith will be doing.

MOTHER/DAUGHTER TEA: On Sunday, April 13th from 2:00p.m.-4:00 p.m. There will be a mother/daughter tea. There will be fellowship, treats and tea. Please see the back table for more information.

Coming up at Zion

Sunday	9:00 a.m. Lent #4 Worship Service
	10:15 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Class
Tuesday	10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Class
	5:30 p.m. Zion School – Literacy Night/Open House
Wednesday	5:30 p.m. Lenten Supper – Soup, Salad, and Sandwich
	7:00 p.m. Lent #5 Worship Service (IC)
Friday	6:30 p.m. Zion School Musical
Saturday	Gym Rented
Sunday	9:00 a.m. Lent #5 Worship Service (IC/CC)
	10:15 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Class
	11:30 a.m. Call Meeting for Preschool
	11:30 a.m. Friends in Faith Luncheon

April Volunteers

	April 2 & 6	April 9 & 13	April 17, 18 & 20	April 23 & 27	April 30 & May 4
Altar Guild			Nancy Chalupka		
Live Stream Helpers	Steve Sordahl	Erich Freiny	Rob Krueger	Ryan Roth	William Robinson
Ushers	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>April 2</u> Tony Affholter Jeff Douglas Mark Fuerstenberg Bryce Mueller Ray Palmatier</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>April 6</u> Tony Affholter Jeff Douglas Mark Fuerstenberg Bryce Mueller Ray Palmatier</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>April 9</u> Mark Kipf Keith McBee Dave McKenzie Joe Schmeling</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>April 13</u> Mark Kipf Keith McBee Dave McKenzie Joe Schmeling</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>April 17</u> Dave Bengé Alan Bober Matthew Hill Joe Koch Jeremy Robinson Jacob Robinson William Robinson</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>April 18 @ 1:00</u> Ray Chandonnet Erich Freiny Rob Krueger Matthew Loos Zach Turner</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>April 18 @ 7:00</u> Jake Burke Rich Heusman Jeff Heusman Juergen Koenig Matt McCormick Zach McCormick</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>April 20</u> Dave Bengé Alan Bober Matthew Hill Joe Koch Jeremy Robinson Jacob Robinson William Robinson</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>April 23</u> Ray Chandonnet Erich Freiny Rob Krueger Matthew Loos Zach Turner</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>April 27</u> Ray Chandonnet Erich Freiny Rob Krueger Matthew Loos Zach Turner</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>April 30</u> Tony Affholter Jeff Douglas Mark Fuerstenberg Bryce Mueller Ray Palmatier</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>May 4</u> Tony Affholter Jeff Douglas Mark Fuerstenberg Bryce Mueller Ray Palmatier</p>
Communion Helpers	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>April 2</u> Alan Bober</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>April 6</u> Rob Krueger Jeff Heusman</p>		<p style="text-align: center;"><u>April 17</u> Mark Kipf Ken Vagt</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>April 20</u> Eric Freiny Ray Palmatier</p>		<p style="text-align: center;"><u>April 30</u> Jeremy Robinson</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>May 4</u> Alan Bober Mark Kipf</p>