

Sunday, February 18, 2024

ZION EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH, MONROE, MI

(Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

IN JESUS' NAME WE WELCOME YOU!

First Sunday in Lent

February 18, 2024

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: Jesus both lived and died for us as our substitute – all to win us back to himself. This is the good news.

This is the First Sunday in 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: Service of the Word & Sacrament

CW pg. 26

OUR FAMILY AT WORSHIP

BATHROOMS are located in the back of church, just down the hall toward the school. 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!

OPENING HYMN: CW 343

REDEEMER



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Tune: CHRISTE SANCTORUM (10 11 11 6) Antiphoner, Paris, 1681.

P: The grace of our Lord (4) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

P: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

The congregation may kneel.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

P: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (\P) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie

P: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



P: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



P: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.



P: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



P: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

The minister says the Prayer of the Day.

P: Lord our strength, the battle of good and evil rages within and around us, and our ancient foe tempts us with his deceits and empty promises. Keep is steadfast in your Word, and when we fall, raise us up again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



THE WORD

First Lesson Genesis 22:1-18

22 Some time later God tested Abraham. He called to him, "Abraham!" Abraham answered, "I am here." ²God said, "Now take your son, your only son, whom you love, Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah. Offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains there, the one to which I direct you." Abraham got up early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, along with Isaac his son. Abraham split the wood for the burnt offering. Then he set out to go to the place that God had told him about. 4 On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. 5 Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey. The boy and I will go on over there. We will worship, and then we will come back to you." Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and loaded it on Isaac his son. He took the firepot and the knife in his hand. The two of them went on together. ⁷ Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, "My father?" He said, "I am here, my son." He said, "Here are the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" 8 Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them went on together. They came to the place that God had told him about. Abraham built the altar there. He arranged the wood, tied up Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar on top of the wood. ¹⁰ Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. ¹¹ The Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, "Abraham, Abraham!" Abraham said, "I am here." 12 He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy. Do not do anything to him. For now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." 13 Abraham looked around and saw that behind him there was a ram caught in the thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴ Abraham called the name of that place "The LORD Will Provide." So it is said to this day, "On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided." 15 The Angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven ¹⁶ and said, "I have sworn by myself, declares the LORD, because you have done this thing and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷I will bless you greatly, and I will multiply your descendants greatly, like the stars of the sky and like the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the city gates of their enemies. 18 In your seed all the nations of the earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice." (EHV)

PSALM 71 pg. 92





In you, O LORD, I have taken <u>ref</u>uge;* let me never be <u>put</u> to shame.

Rescue me and deliver me in your <u>right</u>eousness;* turn your ear to me and save me.

Be my rock of refuge to which I can <u>al</u>ways go;*
For you are my rock and my <u>for</u>tress.

Refrain

Since my youth, O God, you have <u>taught</u> me,* and to this day I declare your marvelous deeds.

Even when I am <u>old</u> and gray,* do not forsake <u>me</u>, O God,

till I declare your power to the next generation,* your might to all who are to come.

Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son* and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it, as it was in the be<u>gin</u>ning,* is now, and will be forever. <u>A</u>men.

Refrain

Refrain Tune: Robert J. Thompson. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL, www.giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

SECOND LESSON Romans 8:31-39

³¹ What then will we say about these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² Indeed, he who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also graciously give us all things along with him? ³³ Who will bring an accusation against God's elect? God is the one who justifies! ³⁴ Who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus, who died and, more than that, was raised to life, is the one who is at God's right hand and who is also interceding for us! ³⁵ What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will trouble or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶ Just as it is written: For your sake we are being put to death all day long. We are considered as sheep to be slaughtered. ³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor rulers, neither things present nor things to come, nor powerful forces, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. (EHV)

VERSE OF THE DAY

P: It is written: "Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only." (Matthew 4:10b)

GOSPEL: Luke 22:47-53

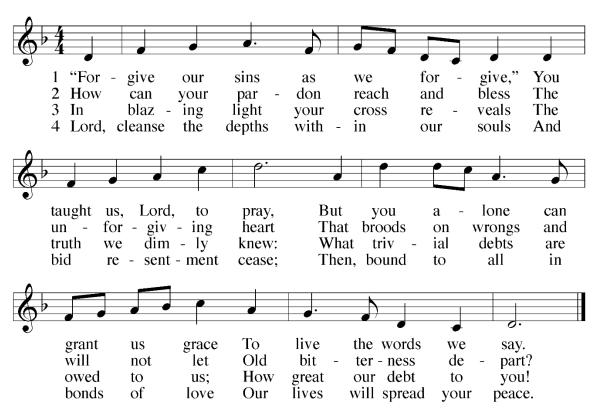
⁴⁷ While he was still speaking, suddenly a crowd appeared, and the man called Judas, one of the Twelve, was leading them. He came near to Jesus to kiss him. ⁴⁸ But Jesus said to him, "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?" ⁴⁹ When those who were around him saw what was about to happen, they said to him, "Lord, should we strike with a sword?" ⁵⁰ Then one of them struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his right ear. ⁵¹ But Jesus responded, "Stop! No more of this!" Then he touched the servant's ear and healed him. ⁵² Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple guard, and the elders, who had come out against him, "Have you come out as you would against a robber, with swords and clubs? ⁵³ Every day I was with you in the temple courts, and you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour—when darkness rules." (EHV)



HYMN OF THE DAY: CW 493

CHRISTIAN LOVE





Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905–87, alt. © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Tune: DETROIT (CM) A Supplement to the Kentucky Harmony, Harrisonburg, 1820.

SERMON THEME:

Restraint

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERING: 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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Gracious God and Father, we praise you for the countless blessings, which we receive from your hand: the beauties of creation and the bounties of the earth, the joy of life and the pleasure of friendship, the good of work and the gift of rest, the privilege to share happiness and sorrow with one another. Above all we praise and thank you for your saving Word and for your Son's body and blood, which you give us to eat and

to drink in the sacrament. Through these means of grace, you send the Holy Spirit into our hearts and unite us to Jesus and to the whole Christian Church on earth.

C: Strengthen us through this heavenly food; increase our trust in Christ and our love for one another.

P: Great God and Lord, without your continuing help we easily waver in our faith, lose courage, and grow careless in our watchfulness. The times and days are perilous. Give us strength to face the evils of each day with fresh confidence. Open our lips to speak of your grace, and move us to use the gifts that you give us to share your Word of salvation with all people. Protect and prosper the family, the school, the government, and all good institutions that you have established for the benefit of society. Remember in mercy those who are sick and suffering, and bring your healing to troubled homes and lives.

C: Move us to pray for those in need and to help them with deeds of kindness.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

P: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

P: Now, eternal God and Father, keep us in the saving faith and so enable us to overcome all things through our Lord Jesus Christ.

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.

THE SACRAMENT

Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. In this supper we celebrate the gift of his redemption, we bear witness to the fellowship we share as confessors of the truth, and we proclaim his death until he returns.

P: The Lord be with you.



P: Lift up your hearts.



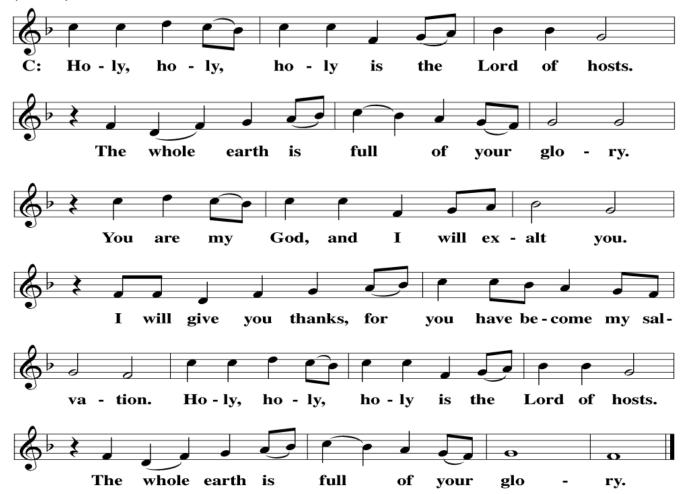
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



P: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He made his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the world.

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

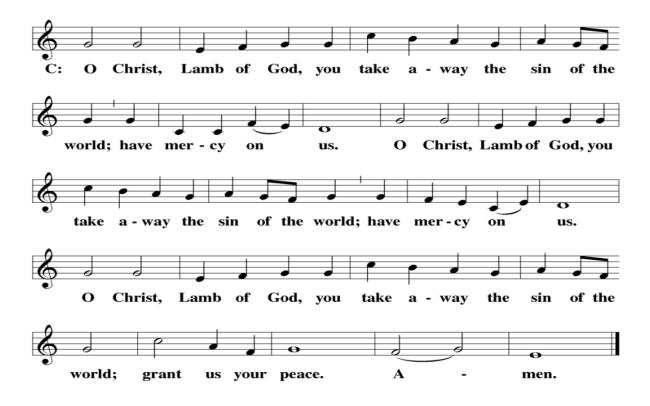
P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.



O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD



DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS: CW 110

CW 308

"My Song Is Love Unknown"
"As Surely As I Live, God Said"

110

My Song Is Love Unknown



- 6 In life no house, no home
 My Lord on earth might have;
 In death no friendly tomb
 But what a stranger gave.
 What may I say?
 Heav'n was his home
 But mine the tomb
 Wherein he lay.
- 7 Here might I stay and sing;
 No story so divine,
 Never was love, dear King,
 Never was grief like thine.
 This is my friend,
 In whose sweet praise
 I all my days
 Could gladly spend!

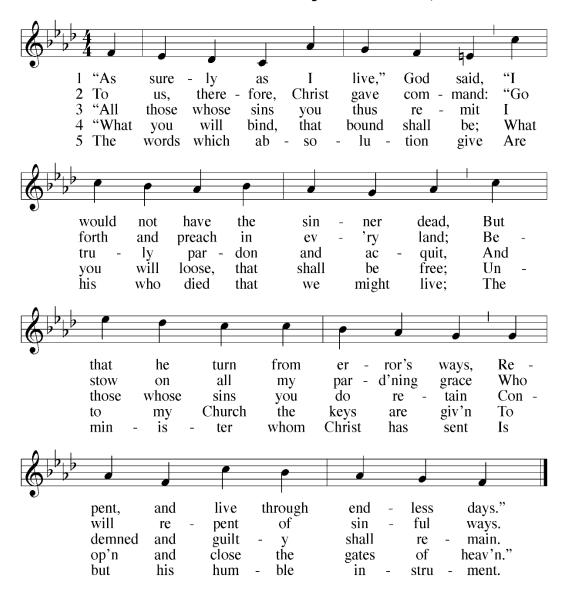
Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624–83, alt.

Tune: LOVE UNKNOWN (66 66 4444) John N. Ireland, 1879–1962. © John Ireland Trust.

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308

As Surely As I Live, God Said



- 6 When ministers lay on their hands, Absolved by Christ the sinner stands; He who by grace the Word believes Forgiveness, sure and sweet, receives.
- 7 Praise God the Father and the Son And Holy Spirit, Three in One, As was, is now, and so shall be Forever and eternally!

Text: Nikolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561, abr.; tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.

Tune: St. Luke (LM) Jeremiah Clarke, 1674–1707.

THANKSGIVING

Hymn: *CW 317 (v.1)*

1 O Lord, we praise you, bless you, and adore you, In thanksgiving bow before you. Here with your body and your blood you nourish Our weak souls that they may flourish. O Lord, have mercy! May your body, Lord, born of Mary, That our sins and sorrows did carry, And your blood for us plead In all trial, fear, and need: O Lord, have mercy!

P: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Benediction

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look on you with favor and (†) give you peace.



CLOSING HYMN: CW 459

COMMITMENT

459

O God, My Faithful God



Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647, abr., adapt.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Tune: O GOTT, DU FROMMER GOTT (II) (67 67 66 66) *Neu-vermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch*, 3rd ed., Meiningen, 1693, alt.

Officiants

Accompanist: Deanna Schneck Liturgist & Preacher: Pastor Greg Sitzman

^{*}All church service and music items are printed under One License – A-717618.

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Pastor Greg Sitzman: 734-309-7877; gsitzman@zionmonroe.org
Principal: Bryan Schneck: 907-331-7761; bschneck@zionmonroe.org

VOTER'S MEETING— A call meeting was held on Sunday, January 28th. Zion has extended a call to Benjamin Workentine. Please pray as he deliberates his call.

BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP:

Dear Members of Zion,

Since the Capital Campaign kicked off in April of 2022 Zion has received just over \$200,000 in major gifts and weekly offerings, what a blessing!

The funds have been used for a number of improvements including:

- New furniture has been purchased for the west foyer
- A new security system has been installed. This project included the installation of multiple cameras on the property, both inside and outside of the building, a keyless entry system, and more
- Generator backup switches have been installed on each church own parsonage/teacherage
- Professional design services for handicap bathroom remodeling plans
- Miscellaneous repairs to church owned properties

The Voters approved the following items in order of priority:

- Electric panel replacements (two panels at ~\$6,160 per panel)
- Tunnel water issues with mold remediation if found necessary
- Parking lot repair (patch and seal)
- Basement handicap access (lift)
- Backup power generator for the church and school

There is currently \$2,874.39 available that is not committed to a certain project. If you are moved to give to the capital campaign, please **mark your donations as "Capital Campaign".**

Thank you for your support as Zion undertakes some large and much needed projects.

Sincerely, Board of Stewardship

ZION ART FAIR:

Come join us for the Zion Art Fair on Sunday, March 3rd at Noon. We will kick the fair off with Forensic readings, music and light refreshments in the gym. All members are welcome to attend and display works! If you're interested in your work being displayed, providing music or a reading, please see Stacey Sordahl. Art works may be dropped to the office by Feb 28th. Hope to see you there!

EASTER LILIES: We would like to decorate our church again this year for Easter with lily plants in memory of or for blessings received from members of Zion. Suggested donation is \$13.00 per plant. The plants will be in church on Easter Sunday. **The deadline to order is Sunday, March 10.** Donation envelopes are in both foyers. Place your donation inside the envelope and put it in the office. Thank you in advance for decorating our church for Easter and remembering our loved ones and blessings received.

ZION CEA: At the past Zion CEA Meeting on Wednesday, January 17th it was decided that the Zion Rummage Sale will be headed by Deborah Hill this year, with Melissa Freiny assisting. The proceeds for the sale will be put towards replacing the yellow curtains in the gymnasium.

ALTAR GUILD: We are in desperate need of volunteers to help with Altar Guild. It only takes about a half hour per week to take care of the candles and maybe an hour a week when there is communion. We only have a few months with volunteers, so please ladies and gentlemen, if you can spare some time to help out it would be greatly appreciated. If you have never done it before someone can teach you very quickly what to do. Thank you for considering to help.

HELPING OUR CHURCH FAMILY: Friends in Faith has a "Zion's Meal Train" program. The "Zion Meal Train" is a program that assists members of the Congregation with meals for situations such as surgeries/recovery, unexpected hospital stays, loss, birth of a child, etc. The meal train is open to all male and female members of the Congregation interested in providing meals for fellow members in need. We will be utilizing the official Meal Train website (www.MealTrain.com) to stay organized. When many friends provide support through a meal it means you may only have to volunteer once in a while to make a meal. The Meal Train program keeps schedules, as well as provides locations and dietary restrictions. If you are interested in volunteering to prepare an occasional meal as needed, please sign up in the west foyer or contact Melissa Freiny at 734-652-1638. Thank you in advance for considering to use your time and talents to support our church family.

Shut-In Visit Information: To help Pastor Sitzman with ministering to our shut-ins, Ken Vagt has been asked to serve our shut-ins with the Word and Sacrament. During those visits there is fellowship, then a devotion on God's Word followed by the offering of absolution and Holy Communion. If you are a shut-in or a family member of a shut-in, please contact Pastor Sitzman or Ken Vagt to schedule a visit with you or the family member on a monthly rotation.

MLS News:

MLS FOUNDATION DINNER & AUCTION: Tickets are still available for our MLS Foundation Dinner & Auction. Our event will take place on Sunday, February, 18th at the Great Hall in Midland. Join us for an evening of fun, food, and entertainment to support Christian education at Michigan Lutheran Seminary. There will also be an online auction with separate items beginning on February 5th! Go to https://auctria.events/MLS2024 to get your tickets and to register for the online portion of our auction!

Coming up at Zion

Sunday 9:00 a.m. Lent #1 Worship Service (IC/CC)

10:30 a.m. Sunday School, Youth Group, and Adult Bible Class

1:00 p.m. Jesus Cares Ministry

Tuesday 7:45 a.m. Warrior Oasis Café

10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Class

5:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting

Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Midweek Lent #1 Worship Service

Friday 7:45 a.m. Warrior Oasis Café

5:00 p.m. Zion School Basketball Games @ home verses St. Stephen, Adrian

Saturday 5:00 p.m. Daddy/Daughter Dance Sunday 9:00 a.m. Lent #2 Worship Service

10:30 a.m. Sunday School, Youth Group, and Adult Bible Class

February Volunteers

	Jan. 31 & Feb. 4	Feb. 7 & 11	Feb. 14 & 18	Feb. 21 & 25	Feb. 28 & March 3
Altar Guild		Liz Seibert &	Deanna Schneck		
Live Stream Helpers	Erich Freiny	Rob Krueger	Ryan Roth	Steve Sordahl	Miller Sordahl
Ushers	Jan. 31 Ray Chandonnet Erich Freiny Rob Krueger Zach Turner Feb. 4 Tony Affholter Jeff Douglas Mark Fuerstenberg Ray Palmatier	Feb. 7 Tony Affholter Jeff Douglas Mark Fuerstenberg Ray Palmatier Feb. 11 Dave Benge Alan Bober Mathew Hill Joe Koch Jeremy Robinson Jacob Robinson William Robinson	Feb. 14 Dave Benge Alan Bober Matthew Hill Joe Koch Jeremy Robinson Jacob Robinson William Robinson Feb. 18 Jake Burke Rich Heusman Jeff Heusman Juergen Koenig Matt McCormick Zach McCormick	Feb. 21 Jake Burke Rich Heusman Jeff Heusman Juergen Koenig Matt McCormick Zach McCormick Feb. 25 Mark Kipf Keith McBee Joe Schmeling Russ Vitale	Feb. 28 Mark Kipf Keith McBee Joe Schmeling Russ Vitale March 3 Ray Chandonnet Erich Freiny Rob Krueger Zach Turner
Communion Helpers	<u>Jan. 31</u> Ken Vagt		<u>Feb. 14</u> Alan Bober		<u>Feb. 28</u> Ken Vagt
	<u>Feb. 4</u> Mark Kipf Jake Burke		<u>Feb. 18</u> Ray Palmatier Mark Fuerstenberg		<u>March 3</u> Jeff Heusman Jake Burke



Saturday, February 24th 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. In Zion's Gymnasium

Dads, Grandpas, and Uncles come dance the night away with your Sweetheart…

Your night includes dancing, dinner, sweet treats, glitter tattoos, and a take away photograph!



Suggested Donation \$10 Per Couple Each Additional Daughter is \$5 Please RSVP by 2-23-24

Tickets Sold at door as well

If you have any questions please contact Melissa Freiny 734-652-1638 Marleise Gutschow 734-755-6844



Fish Fry for Camp Killarney at Zion Lutheran Church's gymnasium Friday March 1, 2024 from 4:30 - 7p.m!

We will be serving baked tilapia, fried cod, french fries, green beans, cole slaw, applesauce, cornbread, dessert, and a drink.

Adult plates \$17 Children 10 and younger \$8

We have greatly appreciated all your support over the years for Camp Killarney. It's a place we hold near and dear to our hearts. This will be our final Fuerstenberg fish fry- let's make it the best one yet!