

# Zion Lutheran Church

Oldwick, New Jersey



## Season of Lent

Communion Worship Service

# WELCOME!

We are pleased you are worshipping with us today. As a Lutheran congregation, we are liturgical, which means we follow an order of worship which is found in the seasonal worship booklet. The weekly bulletin contains the lessons, gospel, and hymn numbers, and the hymns can be found in the red (ELW) and purple (ACS) hymnals. Children's activity bags are available in the narthex. Please let an usher know if you would like one. We hope you find our worship service meaningful.

Zion is a friendly, active, and generous congregation.

- We support each other ... meals, rides, visits and prayer.
- We support our community ... housing the homeless, feeding the hungry locally as well as around the world, and providing camp scholarships to needy children.
- We support the larger Lutheran church ... tithing 10% of our budget to contribute toward the millions of dollars targeting world hunger, disaster relief, and the effort to end malaria. Through Lutheran Social Services, we touch 1 in every 50 Americans each year.

It is good to be gathered as God's people. If you would like more information about Zion or if you are interested in becoming a member of the Zion family, please talk to Pastor Kat.

## WORSHIPING IN LENT

As early as the mid-fourth century, Christians have observed a time of preparation before the Easter celebration. The Lenten season begins on Ash Wednesday and lasts for forty days. The forty days of Lent recall the forty-day fast of Jesus in the wilderness after his baptism and Moses' forty-day fast on Mount Sinai. It is a time of repentance and preparation. At Zion, we observe the following changes in our worship:

- + The color for Lent is purple which symbolizes both the suffering of the crucified Jesus and the suffering of a sinful world and people. Purple is also the color of royalty, anticipating the resurrection of Christ who is victorious over sin and death.
- + The tone of the liturgy and hymns is penitential. The joyful use of the word "alleluia" (which means "praise God") is removed and will return on Easter Sunday.

# **CELEBRATING CHILDREN AT ZION**

## **TO THE PARENTS OF YOUNG CHILDREN, MAY WE SUGGEST ...**

- Relax! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house. We claim the noise and activity of children as a sign of a healthy church. Children will always be welcome here!
- Sit toward the front where it is easier for your little ones to see and hear what's going on. They tire of seeing the backs of others' heads.
- Quietly explain the part of the service and the actions of the pastor, ushers, choir, etc.
- Sing the hymns, pray, and voice the responses. Children learn liturgical behavior by copying you.
- If you have to leave the service with your child, feel free to do so, but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."
- Remember that the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to the Church, to God, and to one another. Let them know that they are at home in this house of worship.

## **TO THE MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH**

- The presence of children is a gift to the church, and they are a reminder that our congregation is growing.
- Please welcome our children and give a smile of encouragement to their parents.

## GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

### WELCOME

*Please stand, as you are able.*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive 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.**

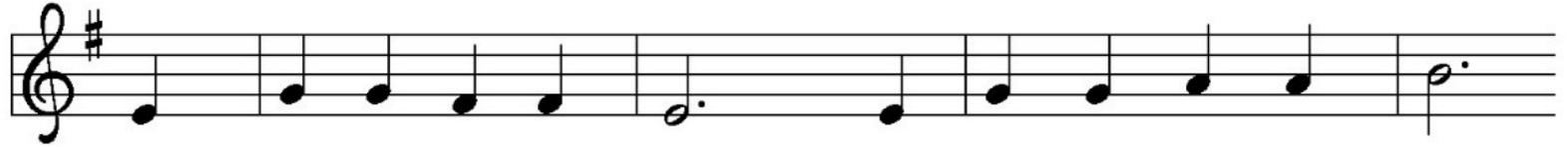
In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

### ENTRANCE HYMN

*see weekly bulletin*

## KYRIE



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

## GREETING

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

**And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

*Please be seated.*

## WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

## CHILDRENS' TIME

### FIRST READING

*see weekly bulletin*

### SECOND READING

*see weekly bulletin*

*Please stand, as you are able.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

## GOSPEL

*see weekly bulletin*

The holy gospel according to ...

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

## SERMON

*Please stand, as you are able.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*see weekly bulletin*

## APOSTLES CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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 INTERCESSION

*Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:*

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you."*

*Please be seated.*

## OFFERING

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*see weekly bulletin*

*Please stand, as you are able.*

### OFFERTORY RESPONSE



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.

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

### **DIALOGUE**

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.

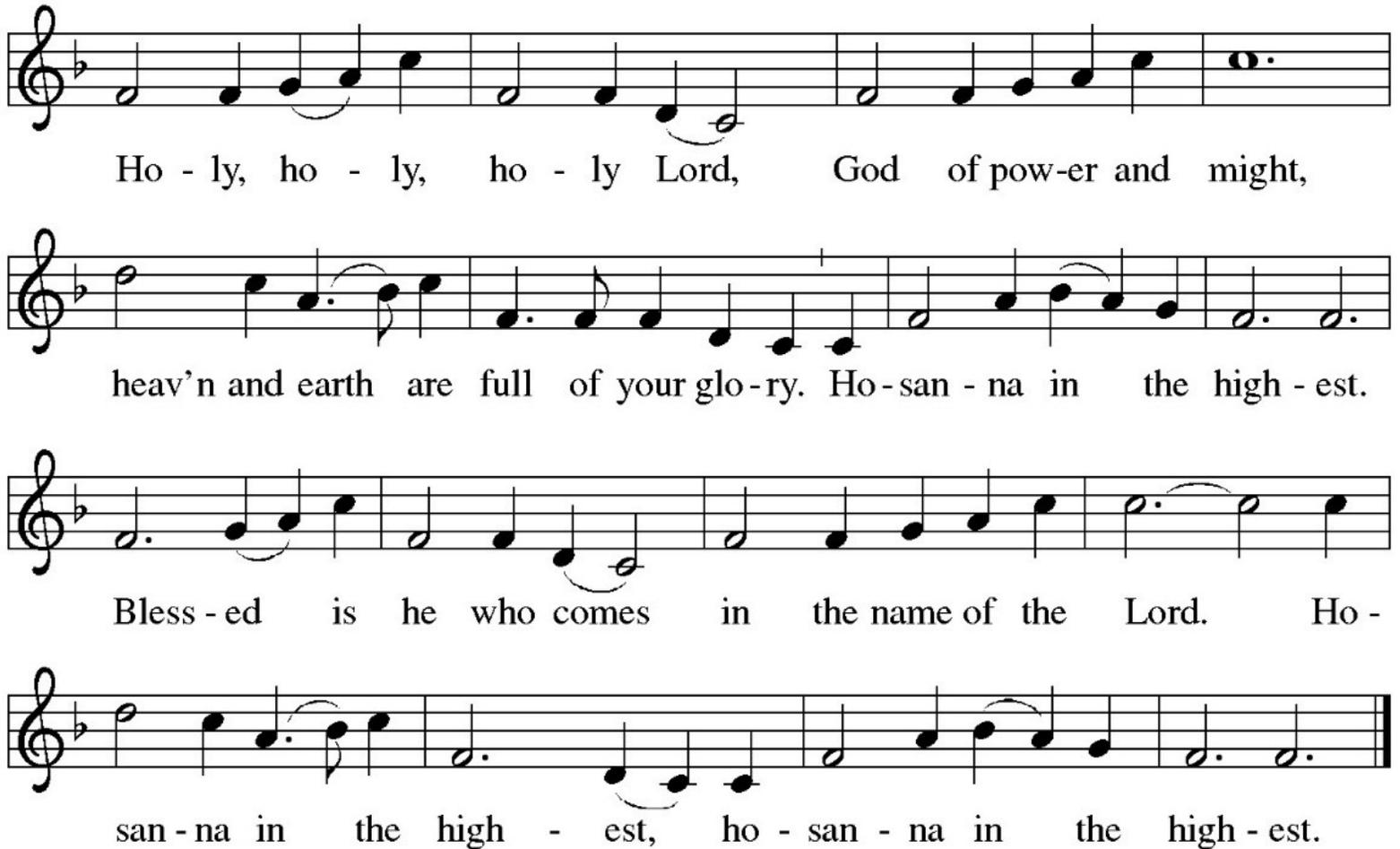
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### **PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ...

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er 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 in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

*Please be seated.*

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

## DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

*Zion welcomes all who celebrate the presence of Christ to the Lord's Table for Holy Communion. An usher will direct you forward for communion. You will receive a piece of bread (wafer) in your hand and may take an individual cup of wine or grape juice. Please tell the pastor if you would like a gluten-free wafer. Those who are not receiving communion are invited to come forward to receive a blessing. Please let an usher know if you would like communion brought to you in the pew.*

## COMMUNION MUSIC

### COMMUNION SONG



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

*Please stand, as you are able.*

## POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## **SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Please stand, as you are able.*

## **BLESSING**

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN** (11 a.m.)

*see weekly bulletin*

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**



*Connecting People with God's Grace*

**Pastor**

The Rev. Katherine Steinly

**Director of Youth & Family Ministry**

Jaime VanNostrand