

Zion's Weekly Announcements

Sunday, March 14, 2021



time of worship, and even in the days ahead.

"Face to Face with Death: Confronting the Cross" is our Sunday morning Lenten theme. In connection with God's Holy Word, we are using the five stages of grief from Dr. Elizabeth Kubler-Ross' book "On Death and Dying." Today's message, "**Look to Jesus! And Live!**" based on John 3:16 (a look at stage four: depression).

A Prayer: God of healing and salvation, turn my eyes away from my troubles and set my focus on you — first, for this time of worship, and even in the days ahead. Amen.

There will be **Drive-In Communion today, Sunday, March 14** from 10:30 AM to 1:00 PM.

If you are unable to attend today, please make an appointment with Pastor Matt. An **ONLINE** and **IN-PERSON** services will be at **9:00 AM**. You can register for next Sunday's "In-Person" worship service on the church's website. If you need assistance, call the church office (507) 373-8609.



Welcome and Good Morning!

God of healing and salvation, turn my eyes away from my troubles and set my focus on You — first, for this time of worship, and even in the days ahead.

WEEKLY MEMORY VERSE

1 Peter 3:18 --- "For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit."

LOOKING AT TODAY'S LESSONS

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

Jesus Is Lifted Up on the Cross so that We May Look to Him and Live

The people sinned by speaking "against God and against Moses," and the Lord called them to repentance by sending fiery serpents, which "bit the people, so that many people of Israel died" (Num. 21:4-6). When the people confessed their sin, the Lord provided a means of rescue from death. He instructed Moses to "make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole," so that "if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live" (Num. 21:8-9). Thus, God sent His Son into the world, in the likeness of our sin and death, and lifted Him up on the pole of the cross, that whoever looks to Him in faith "may have eternal life" (John 3:14-16). By His cross, "the light has come into the world," not for condemnation, but "that the world might be saved through him" (John 3:17-19). While we "were dead in the trespasses and sins" in which we once lived (Eph. 2:1), God loved us, calling us to repentance and raising us up with Christ to live "with him in the heavenly places" (Eph. 2:4-6).

IN-PERSON SERVICES HOLY WEEK 2021

Palm Sunday – 9:00 AM

Maundy Thursday – 7:00 PM

Good Friday – 7:00 PM

Easter Sunday – 8:00 and 10:30 AM

40 DAY LENTEN CHALLENGE

Reading the New Testament throughout the season of Lent will take about 30 minutes each day. Sunday is a catch-up day or a day of rest.

WEEK FIVE

March 15	Romans 1-8
March 16	Romans 9-16
March 17	1 Corinthians 1-8
March 18	1 Corinthians 9-16
March 19	2 Corinthians 1-13
March 20	Galatians 1-6

OUTREACH THOUGHT

John 3:14-22 --- When we think about telling others about Jesus, sometimes we get overwhelmed. "Where do I start?" we ask ourselves. A good starting point is John 3:16, sometimes known as "The Gospel in a Nutshell." Here, the entirety of the Gospel can be found in one short and memorable verse. God loves you – what a wonderful message to share!

STEWARDSHIP PONDERING

Ephesians 2:10 – **"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."**

Even the good we do in this world is a gift from

God, prepared beforehand for us to do. And this too is a gift! For isn't doing good also a good thing for the one who does it? So from first to last, from the Lord's free salvation given to us to the good works He's prepared for us to walk in, it is all a gift of God's grace.

A BOUNTIFUL LIFE

"Life is given to you like a flat piece of land," said actress Jeanne Moreau. "I hope that when I'm finished, my piece of land will be a beautiful garden."



God, who put the first human in a garden to care for creation, blesses us with talents and resources to wisely manage. In gardening terms, God gives us the plot of ground, the seed, the wisdom and strength to bring forth beauty and abundance. Yet we do the work, with God's help, to make it a reality. Like Adam, we till, but God gives the increase. God's provisions and our labor bring the garden — and our lives of stewardship — to fulfillment. As stewards, we ponder: When God calls us home, what will our garden be like, and what will it have produced?

Bake-less Bake Sale Begins today!

The Zion Ladies Society is having a spring fundraiser. You can place your donations in the container on the Information Table in the Fireside Narthex. Thank you!



WOM have arrived!

WOM (Women on a Mission), newsletter from the Minnesota South District LWML is in church mailbox!

Girl Scout Cookie sales begin today! An order form is on the bulletin board next to Pastor's Office. Each box is \$5.00. Make checks out to Girl Scouts. These sales supports Troop #43224 that normally meets at Zion. If you have any questions, speak with Diane Hanson, troop leader.



CONFIRMATION CLASS: We will be on break March 17 (Spring Break) and March 31 (Holy Week Break). Classes will resume "In-Person at Zion on March 24.



ST. PATRICK'S DAY TRIVIA

You may know that St. Patrick used shamrocks to teach about the Trinity, but did you know these other facts about him?

- St. Patrick wasn't Irish. (His parents were Roman citizens living in either Scotland or Wales.)
- He was kidnapped and sold as a slave at age 16. After escaping six years later, he joined a monastery in England.



- March 17 is the date of St. Patrick's death, not his birth. He died in 461 A.D.
- The color originally associated with St. Patrick is blue, not green.
- The harp, not the shamrock, is the national symbol of Ireland.

Church Office Hours

Monday-Thursday: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
and afternoon by appointment
Friday: Office Closed • Saturday: by
appointment

Church Phone: 507-373-8609
Church Email: zionalbertlea@gmail.com

Pastor: Matthew L. Lehman
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Women **You are invited to a newer and** *Women*
better ZOOM Rally to hear about *Women*
"Sharing the Love of Jesus" *Women*

"Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God."
Hebrews 13:16

Saturday, April 17, 2021

10:00 p.m. to 12:00 p.m.

No refreshments this time



**Our Guest Speaker is Deb Vinkemeier, President of
Minnesota South LWML (Lutheran Women in Mission)**

**Ideas for connecting to ZOOM: Send your e-mail address to willa4u@gmail.com OR
Gather a small group at church or a house and send that e-mail address to willa4u@gmail.com**

Gifts from the Heart Ingathering is for the Ronald McDonald House in Rochester. Their wish list is: Checks made out to Ronald McDonald House, gift cards to Target, HyVee, Walmart, and cards to Rochester gas stations. If you wish to donate physical gifts, you will have to deliver them to the Ronald McDonald House.

We'll also have instructions and ideas to make "May baskets" to deliver to your shut-ins.

Women (and men & children) continue filling your MITE BOXES. This is one of the best ways to support the LWML projects to spread the good news of our Savior's love for all people!

+ This Week's Calendar +

Sunday, March 14, 2021 – The Fourth Sunday in Lent (Daylight-Saving Time Begins)

9:00 AM – Online Service and In-Person Service with Holy Communion

10:30 AM – Drive-In Communion (ends at 1:00 PM)

6:00 PM – Lutheran Hour on KATE Radio (1450 AM)

Monday, March 15, 2021

Tuesday, March 16, 2021 - Recording service

Wednesday, March 17, 2021 – Midweek IV of LENT (St. Patrick's Day)

5:00 PM – Online Midweek IV Lenten Service

NO Confirmation (Spring Break)

Thursday, March 18, 2021

Afternoon recording online Sunday service.

Friday, March 19, 2021

Pastor's Day Off

Saturday, March 20, 2021 – Spring Arrives

Sunday, March 21, 2021 – The Fifth Sunday in Lent

9:00 AM – Online Service and In-Person Service with Holy Communion

10:30 AM – Drive-In Communion (ends at 1:00 PM)

6:00 PM – Lutheran Hour on KATE Radio (1450 AM)



A NEW SPRING

Botanists say that trees need the powerful March winds to flex their trunks and main branches, so that the sap is drawn up to nourish the budding leaves.

Perhaps we need the gales of life in the same way, though we dislike enduring them. A blustery period in our fortunes is often the prelude to a new spring of life and health, success and happiness, when we keep steadfast in faith and look to the good in spite of appearances. —Jane Truax

MIDWEEK LENTEN: "The Sign of the Cross"

Midweek Lenten services are ONLINE each Wednesday of Lent. You will receive an email with the YouTube link and the bulletin. The sermon title is "Regeneration and Redemption."

PREPARE FOR NEXT SUNDAY: Study the appointed Scripture readings for **The Fifth Sunday in Lent:** Jeremiah 21:31-34, Psalm 119:9-16, Hebrews 5:1-10, and Mark 10:32-45. The sermon, "Oh to See Jesus" (fifth stage: acceptance) based on John 12:20-33.

Third Sunday in Lent – March 7, 2021

In-Person Attendance: 63

YouTube Views: 93

In-Person Communion: 61

Drive-In Communion: 16

Midweek IV of Lent – March 10, 2021

YouTube Views: 53

Easter Flowers: Order forms available at Information table in Fireside Narthex.