

Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church!

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**Rooted in Faith   \*   Growing in Spirit   \*   Reaching out to Those in Need**  
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January 28, 2018 Fourth Sunday after Epiphany 8:30 am

In Deuteronomy God promises to raise up a prophet like Moses, who will speak for God; in Psalm 111 God shows the people the power of God’s works. For the church these are ways of pointing to the unique authority people sensed in Jesus’ actions and words. We encounter that authority in God’s word, around which we gather, the word that trumps any lesser spirit that would claim power over us, freeing us to follow Jesus.

PRELUDE “Now That the Daylight Fills the Sky” Dale Wood
“God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens” Dale Wood

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHER

OPENING HYMN “God, Whose Almighty Word” ELW #673

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *(please stand)*

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who stretches out the heavens,
who sends light to the nations,
who gives breath to us all.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.
Silence for reflection and self-examination.

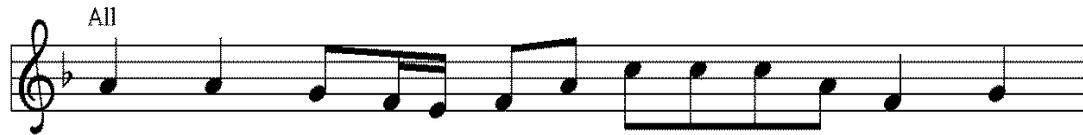
Loving God,
we confess that we have turned from your way to follow our own ways.
Forgive us for the times we have spoken or acted too quickly;
we have not spoken or acted at all;
we have hurt those closest to us;
we have hurt those we have yet to know;
we have thought more about ourselves than others;
we have thought less of ourselves than we ought.
Turn us around, and give us a fresh start, so that we can live again as your children.
Amen.

Even when we have done wrong, God makes us right.
Even when we have messed up, God puts us together.
God’s love never runs out.
God never tires of calling us beloved children.
Hear God say to you now:
Your sins are forgiven, for the sake of ☩ Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE



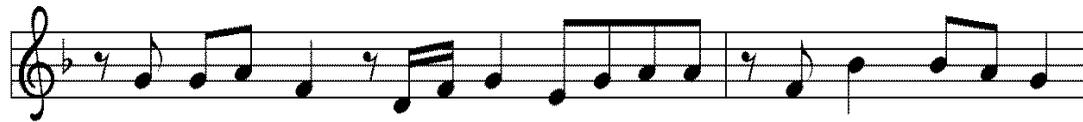
Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

GREETING

The boundless grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the wisdom of God,
and the light of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** *(please be seated)*

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

SPECIAL MUSIC "Arise! Shine, for Your Light Has Come" **Mark Bender**
Zion Adult Choir

WORD

PSALM Psalm 111 ~ sung with Psalm Tune 1
Northside – Non bold ~ Southside - Bold
The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom. (Ps. 111:10)

¹Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with | my whole heart,
in the assembly of the upright, in the | congregation.

²**Great are your | works, O LORD,**
pondered by all who de- | light in them.

³Majesty and splendor | mark your deeds,
and your righteousness en- | dures forever.

⁴**You cause your wonders to | be remembered;**
you are gracious and full | of compassion. R

⁵You give food to | those who fear you,
remembering forev- | er your covenant.

⁶**You have shown your people the power | of your works**
in giving them the lands | of the nations.

⁷The works of your hands are faithful- | ness and justice;
all of your pre- | cepts are sure.

⁸**They stand fast forev- | er and ever,**
because they are done in | truth and equity. R

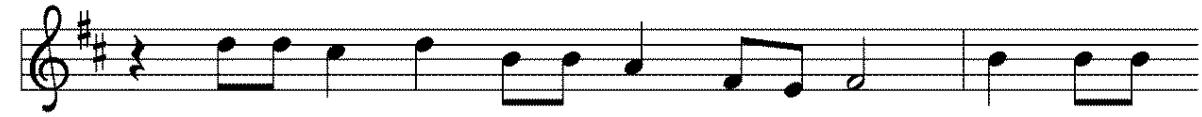
⁹You sent redemption to your people and commanded your cove- | nant forever;
holy and awesome | is your name.

¹⁰**The fear of the LORD is the begin- | ning of wisdom;**
all who practice this have a good understanding. God’s praise en- | dures
forever. R

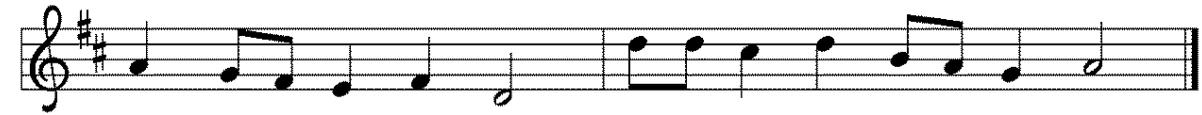
SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 NT Pew Bible pg. 178

Paul is concerned about how some Corinthian Christians use their freedom in Christ as license to engage in non-Christian behavior that sets a damaging example to other, impressionable, believers. Christians have a responsibility to each other that their behavior does not cause a sister or brother to sin.

ALLELUIA (please stand)



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL Mark 1:21-28 NT Pew Bible pg. 35

The story has barely begun, and already the battle is joined. Jesus sides with humanity against every force that would bring death and disease. These forces recognize Jesus and know what his power means for them. This, however, is only the first fight. The war will go on much longer.

SERMON

Pastor Erin

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Rise, Shine, You People!”

ELW #665

APOSTLES’ CREED (please stand)

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. *(please be seated)***

OFFERING

*The children are welcome to come forward and place their offerings in the
“For Children Everywhere” box.*

OFFERTORY HYMN “Songs of Thankfulness and Praise” ELW #310

OFFERING PRAYER *(please stand)*

Let us pray. Merciful God, receive the gifts we bring, ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Unite us as your body, shining with the light of your justice and mercy; for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Response: Let us pray... **Have mercy, O God.**

THE 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**

SENDING

BLESSING

The God of glory dwell in you richly,
name you beloved,
and shine brightly on your path;
and the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN

“Oh, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

ELW #886

POSTLUDE

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

Michael Burkhardt

Psalm: Psalm 111

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom. (Ps. 111:10)

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in the assembly of the upright, in the | congregation.

²**Great are your | works, O LORD,
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in giving them the lands | of the nations.**

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all who practice this have a good understanding. God's praise en- | dures
forever. R**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Paul is concerned about how some Corinthian Christians use their freedom in Christ as license to engage in non-Christian behavior that sets a damaging example to other, impressionable, believers. Christians have a responsibility to each other that their behavior does not cause a sister or brother to sin.

¹Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. ²Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; ³but anyone who loves God is known by him.

⁴Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” ⁵Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—⁶yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

⁷It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. ⁸“Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. ⁹But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? ¹¹So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. ¹²But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. ¹³Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

Gospel: Mark 1:21-28

The story has barely begun, and already the battle is joined. Jesus sides with humanity against every force that would bring death and disease. These forces recognize Jesus and know what his power means for them. This, however, is only the first fight. The war will go on much longer.

²¹[Jesus and his disciples] went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. ²²They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. ²³Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, ²⁴and he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.” ²⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” ²⁶And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” ²⁸At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Prayers of the Church

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

Confident that God our light and our salvation hears us when we pray, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

A brief silence.

For the works of God revealed in and through creation, for an end to pollution and unjust use of natural resources, and for good weather this season, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For peace and justice throughout the world (*especially*), for political leaders at all levels, and for those who provide public services, that you will grant them wisdom as they carry out their tasks, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the homeless, the unemployed, the underemployed, and their advocates; for the sick, the suffering, and their caregivers; and for the weak in body, mind, and spirit (*especially*), that your compassion be felt by all in need, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For those in our congregation celebrating special events, for those missing from our worship today, and for friends and family both near and far, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

In thanksgiving for the faithful departed who witnessed your love in their lives and in this world, that through them our own faith will grow stronger, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Merciful God, you hear our prayers even before we speak them. Receive them for the sake of the one through whom you have revealed your goodness, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.