

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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4th Sunday after Epiphany 10:45 am January 28, 2018

INTRODUCTION

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.

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

INTROIT “Arise! Shine; for Your Light Has Come” Mark Bender
Zion Adult Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP *(please stand)*

In the presence of God and in the company of one another,
we offer praise and thanks
for God’s greatness, glory and power.

**We express our wonder and delight
that God should care so graciously for us.**

God’s righteousness endures forever;
revealed in gracious and merciful acts.

**Let us praise and worship God
who is holy and awesome, faithful and just.**

OPENING SONG “Famous One”

You are the Lord, The Famous One, Famous One.
Great is Your Name in all the earth.
The Heavens declare
You’re Glorious, Glorious;
Great is Your fame beyond the earth.

For all You’ve done and yet to do
With every breath, I’m praising You.
Desire of Nations and every heart.
You alone are God, You alone are God.

You are the Lord, The Famous One, Famous One.
Great is Your Name in all the earth.
The Heavens declare
You’re Glorious, Glorious;
Great is Your fame beyond the earth.

The morning star is shining through,
And every eye is watching You.
Reveal thy nature and miracles.
You are beautiful, You are beautiful.

You are the Lord, The Famous One, Famous One.
Great is Your Name in all the earth.
The Heavens declare
You’re Glorious, Glorious;
Great is Your fame beyond the earth.

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The Heavens declare
You’re Glorious, Glorious;
Great is Your fame beyond the earth.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The Apostle Paul tells us that what is most essential in our conduct as Christians is not knowledge, but love. And that what we know is less important than our being known by God. So, we confess...

The times when we have used knowledge to put people down, rather than build them up.
God, source of all knowledge, forgive us.

When we see people being exploited because of lack of knowledge, and do nothing.
God, source of all goodness, forgive us.

When we have idolized knowledge at the expense of loving and caring for others.
God, source of all love, forgive us.

When we have ridiculed others for having a weak and feeble faith because they appear to lack wisdom ;
God, source of all wisdom, forgive us.

Remind us of Paul's words 'If I have all knowledge but do not have love, I am nothing.'
Touch us, teach us, heal us and make us newly aware of your love and forgiveness. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Hear and believe these words of grace: God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. (John 3:17) And so I declare to you: In Jesus Christ we are loved, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God! *(please be seated)*

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

WORD

PSALM Psalm 111

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 delight in them.**

³Majesty and splendor mark your deeds,
and your righteousness endures forever.

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

⁵You give food to those who fear you,
remembering forever 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 faithfulness and justice;
all of your precepts are sure.

⁸**They stand fast forever and ever,
because they are done in truth and equity.**

⁹You sent redemption to your people and commanded your covenant forever;
holy and awesome is your name.

¹⁰**The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
all who practice this have a good understanding. God's praise endures forever.**

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

"Hallelujah"

Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

The holy gospel according to Mark the 1st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ. *(please be seated)*

MESSAGE

Pastor Erin

SONG OF THE DAY

“We Are Called”

Come! Live in the light!
Shine with the joy and love of the Lord!
We are called to be light for the kingdom,
To live in the freedom of the city of God.

We are called to act with justice,
We are called to love tenderly;
We are called to serve one another,
To walk humbly with God.

Come! Open your heart!
Show your mercy to all those in fear!
We are called to be hope for the hopeless
So hatred and blindness will be no more.

We are called to act with justice,
We are called to love tenderly;
We are called to serve one another,
To walk humbly with God.

Sing! Sing a new song!
Sing of that great day when all will be one!
God will reign, and we'll walk with each other
As sisters and brothers united in love.

We are called to act with justice,
We are called to love tenderly;
We are called to serve one another,
To walk humbly with God.

CREED *(please stand)*

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.*
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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.

OFFERING SONG

“Shout To The Lord”

My Jesus, my Savior, Lord, there is none like you.
All of my days I want to praise the wonders of your mighty love.
My comfort, my shelter, tower of refuge and strength;
Let ev’ry breath, all that I am never cease to worship you.

Shout to the Lord, all the earth let us sing
Power and majesty, praise to the King.
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar at the sound of your name.
I sing for joy at the work of your hands;
Forever I’ll love you, forever I’ll stand.
Nothing compares to the promise I have in you.

Shout to the Lord, all the earth let us sing
Power and majesty, praise to the King.
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar at the sound of your name.
I sing for joy at the work of your hands;
Forever I’ll love you, forever I’ll stand.
Nothing compares to the promise I have in you.

OFFERING PRAYER *(please stand)*

Let us pray. Merciful God, receive the gifts we bring, ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Through this meal 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.**

MEAL

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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** *(please be seated)*

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SUPPER

*All are welcome at the Lord’s table. Please come forward as directed by the ushers.
Grape juice and gluten free wafers are available; please indicate to the server by raising your hand.*

DISTRIBUTION SONG

“Majesty”

Majesty, worship His majesty.
Unto Jesus be all glory, honor and praise.
Majesty, kingdom authority,
Flow from His throne unto his own, His anthem raise.

So exalt, lift up on high the name of Jesus.
Magnify, come glorify, Christ Jesus, the King.
Majesty, worship His majesty,
Jesus who died, now glorified, King of all kings.

Majesty, worship His majesty.
Unto Jesus be all glory, honor and praise.
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Flow from His throne unto his own, His anthem raise.

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SENDING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *(please stand)*

Let us pray. O Morning Star, fair and bright, you have refreshed us again with heavenly food. You are our dearest treasure. Go with us now— today, tomorrow, every day— that we tell the story of your never-ending love and sing your praise both now and forever. **Amen.**

BLESSING

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

SENDING SONG **“Forever”**

Give thanks to the Lord our God and King.
His love endures forever.
For He is good, He is above all things.
His love endures forever.
Sing praise, sing praise.

With a mighty hand and outstretched arm,
His love endures forever.
For the life that’s been reborn,
His love endures forever.
Sing praise, sing praise.
Sing praise, sing praise.

Forever God is faithful, Forever God is strong.
Forever God is with us, Forever, forever.

From the rising to the setting sun
His love endures forever.
And by the grace of God we will carry on.
His love endures forever.
Sing praise, sing praise.
Sing praise, sing praise.

Forever God is faithful,
Forever God is strong.
Forever God is with us,
Forever, forever.

Forever God is faithful,
Forever God is strong.
Forever God is with us,
Forever, forever.

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PSALM Psalm 111

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in giving them the lands of the nations.**

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holy and awesome is your name.

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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.