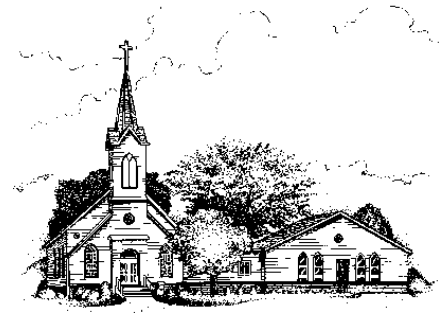


## FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

February 15 / 18, 2024

# Zion Ev. Lutheran Church

6430 Hwy. D Allenton, Wisconsin 53002  
Member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)  
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## Welcome to God's House

“If God loves us, why doesn't he remove all the trials and tests and temptations that we face?” That question demonstrates the religious assumption that those things are bad by definition. They aren't. In the hands of a loving God, they are tools by which he refines our faith. He uses tests as a way to compel us to be less self-reliant, and instead trust in his strength. He uses trials to teach us that this broken world is not our true home. God even takes Satan's temptations and uses them for our good.

Trials, tests, and temptations are not exceptions to God's love. That's a false assumption! These are examples of God's love. Proof is that God allowed his beloved Son Jesus to face trials and temptations, so that he might be our perfect Savior and substitute.

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## ORDER OF SERVICE

### Opening Hymn

### Children of the Heavenly Father #502

Children of the heav'nly Father safely in his bosom gather;  
nestling bird nor star in heaven such a refuge e'er was given.

God his own doth tend and nourish; in his holy courts they flourish.  
From all evil things he spares them; in his mighty arms he bears them.

Neither life nor death shall ever from the Lord his children sever;  
unto them his grace he showeth, and their sorrows all he knoweth.

Though he giveth or he taketh, God his children ne'er forsaketh;  
his the loving purpose solely to preserve them pure and holy.

### **Invocation**

In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

### **Confession of Sins**

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.  
**Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Almighty and merciful Father, we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts. We have offended you and sinned against your holy law. We have done those things that we should not have done, and we have not done those things that we should have done. Have mercy on us, Lord! Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to your promises in Christ Jesus.**

*silence for meditation and reflection*

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. 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 and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## **Lord, Have Mercy**

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

## **THE WORD**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

Mighty God and Father, our Lord Jesus walked into the wilderness to face the devil's temptations, but he did not succumb to Satan's lies or falter in his resolve to save the world from the prison of hell. Bolster our faith by his mighty victory that we may battle against the forces of evil with courage

and confidence; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **First Reading**

**Genesis 22:1-18**

Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, “Abraham!”

“Here I am,” he replied.

<sup>2</sup> Then God said, “Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you.”

<sup>3</sup> Early the next morning Abraham got up and loaded his donkey. He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. When he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering, he set out for the place God had told him about. <sup>4</sup> On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. <sup>5</sup> He said to his servants, “Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you.”

<sup>6</sup> Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together, <sup>7</sup> Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, “Father?”

“Yes, my son?” Abraham replied.

“The fire and wood are here,” Isaac said, “but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?”

<sup>8</sup> Abraham answered, “God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.” And the two of them went on together.

<sup>9</sup> When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. <sup>10</sup> Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. <sup>11</sup> But the angel of the Lord called out to him from heaven, “Abraham! Abraham!”

“Here I am,” he replied.

<sup>12</sup> “Do not lay a hand on the boy,” he said. “Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son.”

<sup>13</sup> Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. <sup>14</sup> So Abraham called that place The Lord Will Provide. And to this day it is said, “On the mountain of the Lord it will be provided.” <sup>15</sup> The angel of the Lord called to Abraham from heaven a second time <sup>16</sup> and said, “I swear by myself, declares the Lord, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, <sup>17</sup> I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, <sup>18</sup> and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm of the Day

## To You, O Lord, I Lift My Soul - Psalm 25A

### Refrain

To you, O LORD, I lift my soul; in  
you I trust, O LORD my God.

In you, Lord my God, I / put my trust.

I trust in you; do not let me be / put to shame.

Show me your ways, Lord, teach me / your paths.

Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my / Savior.

Remember, Lord, your great mer- / cy and love,  
for they are / from of old.

Do not remember the sins of my youth and my re- / bellious ways;  
according to your love remember me, for you, Lord, / are good. **Refrain**

Lord, forgive my iniquity, though / it is great.

Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and af- / flicted.

Look on my affliction and / my distress  
and take away / all my sins.

Glory be to the Father and / to the Son

and to the Holy / Spirit,

as it was in the be- / ginning,

is now, and will be forever. / Amen. **Refrain**

## Second Reading

Romans 8:31-39

<sup>31</sup> What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? <sup>32</sup> He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? <sup>33</sup> Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup> Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. <sup>35</sup> Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? <sup>36</sup> As it is written:

“For your sake we face death all day long;

we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

<sup>37</sup> No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup> For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, <sup>39</sup> neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

Hebrews 4:15

We do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses;

**we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin.**

## Gospel

Mark 1:12-15

<sup>12</sup> At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, <sup>13</sup> and he was in the



wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.

<sup>14</sup>After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. <sup>15</sup>“The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

**Hymn of the Day**

**A Mighty Fortress Is Our God #864**

A mighty fortress is our God, a trusty shield and weapon;  
he helps us free from ev'ry need that has us now o'ertaken.

The ancient evil foe now means to work us woe;

    deep guile and awful might are his dread arms in fight;  
on earth is not his equal.

With might of ours can naught be done, soon were our loss effected;  
but for us fights the valiant one whom God himself elected.

You ask who this may be? Christ Jesus, it is he,

    the Lord of hosts his name, from age to age the same,  
he holds the field forever.

Though devils all the world should fill, all eager to devour us,  
we tremble not, we fear no ill; they shall not overpow'r us.

The prince of darkness still may scowl fierce as he will,

    his raging harms us none. He's judged; the deed is done;  
one little word can fell him.

The Word they still shall let remain nor any thanks have for it;  
he's by our side upon the plain with his good gifts and Spirit.

And should they take our life, goods, honor, child, and wife,  
    though all of these be gone, our victory is won;

the kingdom's ours forever!

**Sermon**

**Mark 1:12-15**

*Lent in a Nutshell*

*Please stand*

**The Apostles' Creed**

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Be seated*

**Prayer of the Church**

Lord our God, we trust in you. Our eyes always look to you. Only you can release our feet from the snare of temptation.

**Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

You cannot be tempted by evil, nor do you tempt anyone. Strengthen us to withstand all temptations, so that we may overcome and win the victory

with you.

**Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

Your Son, Jesus, resisted the temptations of Satan by the power of your Word. Let that same Word spread throughout the world. Let your saving gospel reach those held under the power of the devil and free them from the misery of sin.

**Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

Your Son, Jesus, said, “Things that cause people to stumble are bound to come, but woe to anyone through whom they come.” Guard, guide and keep us steadfast in your Word and in the Christian faith so that we never tempt others to sin.

**Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

Look on Christians around the world who face temptations, trials, and persecutions because of their faith. Keep them from all harm and danger. Keep your Word in their hearts and on their lips.

**Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

Turn and be gracious to those who are lonely or afflicted, who suffer pains of body, soul, or mind [especially...] Relieve their distress and free them from anguish.

**Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow*

Lord God, heavenly Father, since the devil always prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking to devour us, shield us by your dear holy angels from all his cunning and terror for your dear Son’s sake. Through your Holy Spirit, give us repentant hearts, that we may serve you in all soberness and vigilance through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, our Lord.

**Amen.**

## Offering

*The members of Zion have joined together to do the Lord's work in this community and around the world. If you are a visitor, please don't feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.*

## Hymn

## The Lamb #525

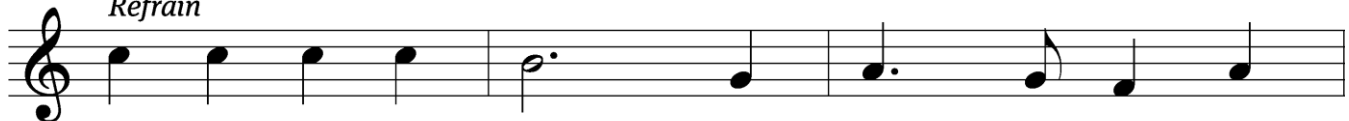


1 The Lamb, the Lamb, O Fa - ther, where's the sac - ri - fice?  
2 The Lamb, the Lamb, one per - fect fi - nal of - fer - ing.  
3 The Lamb, the Lamb, as way - ward sheep their shep - herd kill  
4 He sighs, he dies, he takes my sin and wretch - ed - ness.  
5 He rose, he rose, my heart with thanks now o - ver - flows.



Faith sees, be - lieves God will pro - vide the Lamb of price!  
The Lamb, the Lamb, let earth join heav'n his praise to sing.  
so still, his will, on our be - half the law to fill.  
He lives, for - gives, he gives me his own right - eous - ness.  
His song pro - long till ev - 'ry heart to him be - long.

### *Refrain*



Wor - thy is the Lamb whose death makes me his



own! The Lamb is reign - ing on his throne.

## Prayer

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by your Holy Word, we may cling to the

blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

## Blessing

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.

**Amen.**

## Closing Hymn

## I Run to Christ #833



1 I run to Christ when chased by fear and find a ref - uge  
2 I run to Christ when worn by life and find my soul re -  
3 I run to Christ when stalked by sin and find a sure es -



sure. "Be - lieve in me," his voice I hear; his words and  
freshed. "Come un - to me," he calls thro' strife; fa - tigue gives  
cape. "De - liv - er me," I cry to him; temp - ta - tion



wounds se - cure. I run to Christ when torn by grief and  
way to rest. I run to Christ when vexed by hell and  
yields to grace. I run to Christ when plagued by shame and

find a - bun - dant peace. "I too had tears," he  
 find a might - y arm. "The dev - il flees," the  
 find my one de - fense. "I bore God's wrath," he  
 gent - ly speaks; thus joy and sor - row meet.  
 Scrip - tures tell; he roars but can - not harm.  
 pleads my case— my ad - vo - cate and friend.

### This Week at Zion

- Today:** 7:30 / 9:45 a.m. Worship  
 8:30 / 8:45 a.m. Sunday School / Adult Bible study  
 2:00 p.m. KML Musical: *Shrek*
- Tue:** 6:30 p.m. Ladies' Aid
- Wed:** 6:30 p.m. Lenten Worship
- Thu:** 2:30 p.m. Samaritan Home Devotion, WB  
 6 – 8:00 p.m. Wine Tasting Night Out – Chandelier  
 Ballroom in Hartford  
 7:00 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion
- Sat:** 9:00 p.m. Catechism instructions
- Sun:** 7:30 / 9:45 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion  
 8:30 / 8:45 a.m. Sunday School / Adult Bible study  
 10:00 a.m. Seminary Chorus at St. Paul's, Brownsville

**In Our Prayers** Jim Ray, at Froedtert Hospital in Milwaukee following back surgery this past Tuesday; Rhea Schmidt, hospitalized at Aurora in Grafton after suffering a broken bone in her leg.

**Lenten Worship** You're invited to join us for the *extra* opportunities each week on Wednesday nights to focus on the events of Jesus' passion and the love that led him there. Remember we'll be worshipping at 6:30 p.m. on these Wednesday evenings during Lent.

**We thank** our organists this weekend: Barb Olsen on Thursday, and Bea Pamperin on Sunday.

**Make a Joyful Noise** Ladies, you're invited to a one - day women's retreat focusing on select Psalms and Stories, presented by Branches Band. The retreat will be held at St. Lucas Lutheran School in Hoenecke Hall on Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Registration and refreshments begin at 8:30 a.m. A registration fee of \$30 includes lunch and all of the presentations. We hope to see you there!

**WELS Youth Night** If you're between 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade, you are invited to a youth night on March 8, from 7-9 p.m. at KML in the Performing Arts Center. There will be a series of youth-focused activities to remind them that they are not alone and to encourage them to enjoy their faith as the blessing it is. Food and games will be provided as well. Register with the QR code on the poster on the bulletin board. For more information, talk to Pastor Bode.

**Seminary Chorus** The Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Chorus will be at St. Paul's, Brownsville next Sunday, February 25 at 10 a.m. They'll be singing most of the songs that they'll be performing on their tour of southwestern states during Easter break. St. Paul's will also be serving a meal for the choir and guests after the service. All are invited.

**WELS Connection** This month, we learn about the Pastoral Studies Institute, which provides theological training to North American students from a variety of countries and cultures without requiring them to move or leave their current jobs.

**Meditations** Copies of the next issue of this year's daily devotional,

*Meditations*, are available on the cabinets in the entryway.

**Forward in Christ** The February edition of the *Forward* is also on the cabinet, along with updated church calendars and the church newsletter.

**Online Bible Study** Did you miss *Forward in Christ's* first live Bible study on Jan. 23 with Pastor Greg Lyon? He builds on his January article "What if it's true . . . that mankind was created in God's image." Watch it now at [forwardinchrist.net/online-study](http://forwardinchrist.net/online-study). Then join us at 7 p.m. CT **on February 20<sup>th</sup>** for his next live study: "What's if it's true . . . that you are a sinner." Register now to attend at [www.forwardinchrist.net](http://www.forwardinchrist.net).

**Join Us for *Shrek The Musical* at KML** Tickets are now on sale for KML's production of *Shrek The Musical* at [www.kmlhs.org/theatre](http://www.kmlhs.org/theatre) Performances are at Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School **this weekend**: Friday & Saturday, February 16 & 17 at 7 PM and Sunday, February 18, at 2 PM. All tickets are general admission and \$12 each. Online ticket sales for all shows end at 11:59 PM on Thursday, February 15, 2024. Tickets will also be sold at the door beginning 30 minutes before each performance. We can't wait to share with you "the greatest fairy tale never told!"

**Wine Tasting Night Out** Last chance to join us for the 9<sup>th</sup> annual Wine Tasting Night Out! The date is Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 6 – 8 p.m. at the Chandelier Ballroom in Hartford (150 Jefferson Avenue). You'll enjoy an evening of wine and craft beer paired with gourmet appetizers and desserts. We will have a wine pull and a silent auction. This event benefits the ministry of Christian Life Resources! To register or for more information, go to [www.christianliferesources.com](http://www.christianliferesources.com)

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**502 Children of the Heavenly Father** CW 502

Text: tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958; Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903, abr.

Tune: Lofsånger och andeliga visor, Sweden, 1873

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**Psalm of the Day** To You, O Lord, I Lift My Soul - Psalm 25A Tune: Mark Haas

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**The Lamb** #525

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**833 I Run to Christ** CW 833

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