

# Zion Lutheran Church



May 31st, 2023  
Service of Prayer & Preaching

## Service of Prayer & Preaching

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** **who made heaven and earth.**

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

**P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## Readings from Holy Scripture

### Numbers 23:4-28

and God met Balaam. And Balaam said to him, "I have arranged the seven altars and I have offered on each altar a bull and a ram." And the LORD put a word in Balaam's mouth and said, "Return to Balak, and thus you shall speak." And he returned to him, and behold, he and all the princes of Moab were standing beside his burnt offering. And Balaam took up his discourse and said,

"From Aram Balak has brought me,  
the king of Moab from the eastern mountains:

'Come, curse Jacob for me,  
and come, denounce Israel!  
How can I curse whom God has not cursed?  
How can I denounce whom the LORD has not denounced?  
For from the top of the crags I see him,  
from the hills I behold him;  
behold, a people dwelling alone,  
and not counting itself among the nations!  
Who can count the dust of Jacob  
or number the fourth part of Israel?  
Let me die the death of the upright,  
and let my end be like his!"

And Balak said to Balaam, "What have you done to me? I took you to curse my enemies, and behold, you have done nothing but bless them." And he answered and said, "Must I not take care to speak what the LORD puts in my mouth?"

And Balak said to him, "Please come with me to another place, from which you may see them. You shall see only a fraction of them and shall not see them all. Then curse them for me from there." And he took him to the field of Zophim, to the top of Pisgah, and built seven altars and offered a bull and a ram on each altar. Balaam said to Balak, "Stand here beside your burnt offering, while I meet the LORD over there." And the LORD met Balaam and put a word in his mouth and said, "Return to Balak, and thus shall you speak." And he came to him, and behold, he was standing beside his burnt offering, and the princes of Moab with him. And Balak said to him, "What has the LORD spoken?" And Balaam took up his discourse and said,

"Rise, Balak, and hear;  
give ear to me, O son of Zippor:  
God is not man, that he should lie,  
or a son of man, that he should change his mind.  
Has he said, and will he not do it?  
Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?  
Behold, I received a command to bless:  
he has blessed, and I cannot revoke it.  
He has not beheld misfortune in Jacob,  
nor has he seen trouble in Israel.  
The LORD their God is with them,

and the shout of a king is among them.  
God brings them out of Egypt  
and is for them like the horns of the wild ox.  
For there is no enchantment against Jacob,  
no divination against Israel;  
now it shall be said of Jacob and Israel,  
'What has God wrought!'  
Behold, a people! As a lioness it rises up  
and as a lion it lifts itself;  
it does not lie down until it has devoured the prey  
and drunk the blood of the slain."

And Balak said to Balaam, "Do not curse them at all, and do not bless them at all." But Balaam answered Balak, "Did I not tell you, 'All that the LORD says, that I must do'?" And Balak said to Balaam, "Come now, I will take you to another place. Perhaps it will please God that you may curse them for me from there." So Balak took Balaam to the top of Peor, which overlooks the desert.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

### **Luke 22:47-71**

While he was still speaking, there came a crowd, and the man called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He drew near to Jesus to kiss him, but Jesus said to him, "Judas, would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?" And when those who were around him saw what would follow, they said, "Lord, shall we strike with the sword?" And one of them struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his right ear. But Jesus said, "No more of this!" And he touched his ear and healed him. Then Jesus said to the chief priests and officers of the temple and elders, who had come out against him, "Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs? When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness."

Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house, and Peter was following at a distance. And when they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat down among them. Then a servant girl, seeing him as he sat in the light and looking closely at

him, said, "This man also was with him." But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him." And a little later someone else saw him and said, "You also are one of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not." And after an interval of about an hour still another insisted, saying, "Certainly this man also was with him, for he too is a Galilean." But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about." And immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the saying of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the rooster crows today, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.

Now the men who were holding Jesus in custody were mocking him as they beat him. They also blindfolded him and kept asking him, "Prophecy! Who is it that struck you?" And they said many other things against him, blaspheming him.

When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people gathered together, both chief priests and scribes. And they led him away to their council, and they said, "If you are the Christ, tell us." But he said to them, "If I tell you, you will not believe, and if I ask you, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man shall be seated at the right hand of the power of God." So they all said, "Are you the Son of God, then?" And he said to them, "You say that I am." Then they said, "What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips."

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

### **The Sacrament of Holy Baptism**

**P** What does such baptizing with water indicate?

**C** **It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.**

**P** Where is this written?

**C** **St. Paul writes in Romans chapter six: "We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised**

**from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.” (Rom. 6:4)**

## **Catechetical Instruction**

### **Prayer**

**P** In Peace let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord have mercy.**

**P** For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord have mercy.**

**P** For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord have mercy.**

**P** For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord have mercy.**

**P** For reasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord have mercy.**

**P** For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord have mercy.**

**P** For those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord have mercy.**

**P** For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord have mercy.**

**P** Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy.**

### Service of the Sacrament

#### **Preface**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. Grant that we may receive the bread and wine, that is, His body and blood, as a gift, guarantee, and pledge of His salvation. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

#### **Lord's Prayer**

**C** **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.**

- P** In the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, at His command, and with His own words, we receive His testament:

### **The Words of Our Lord**

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✠}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

### **Distribution**

### **Post-Communion Collect**

- P** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- G Amen.**

### **Benedicamus and Benediction**

- P** Let us bless the Lord.

- G Thanks be to God.**

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and  $\text{✠}$  give you peace.

- G Amen.**