

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



LENT

*April 13, 2011*



# ***LENT Midweek Service***

## ***April 13, 2011***

### **Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church!**

The Prayer of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector.

It is just a couple of days until “Holy Week.” Lent is in its final 10 days, and our journey through a selection of the prayers from the Bible is likewise reaching its end. Just this Wednesday’s service and one more (yes, WE ARE having a Wednesday Lenten service next Wednesday, April 20th) before our series concludes.

This week, our attention turns to a couple of prayers: that of the Pharisee and that of a Tax Collector. In this passage, Jesus shows us the difference in the prayer life of someone who “gets it” and someone who doesn’t.

But more than a lesson in how to pray, this passage teaches us that God’s grace extends to the likes of a “tax collector” (rather appropriate for this time of year, don’t you think?). And if God desires to show mercy to a first-century tax collector, can anyone be outside of his grace?

Don’t forget: we have Wednesday Lenten worship next week, along with Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services (all at 7:00pm) before we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord on Easter Sunday. Be thinking about who you can invite to these powerful worship services who may not know the good news of Jesus, or who might need a special reminder of God’s love for them in Christ.

-Pastor Duncan

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# Service of the Word

## *The Prelude*

## *Introduction to Worship*

## *Hymn-sing*

Before the service begins, offer your hymn requests to the pianist. We'll spend some time singing your favorites! Out of respect for our Lenten traditions, please do not choose hymns that contain "alleluias".

## *Announcements*

(please stand)

**Opening Hymn:** Glory Be to Jesus

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## *The Invocation*

**Leader:** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** Amen.

## *Confession and Absolution*

**Leader:** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**People:** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

**Leader:** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**People:** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, but what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. For**

**the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Leader: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

## ***The Prayers***

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

### ***The Apostles' Creed***

LSB 192

(Please be seated)

## ***The Offering***

## ***The Scripture Lessons***

### **Luke 18:9-14**

He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.

The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.'

But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted'."

