

# Zion Lutheran Church



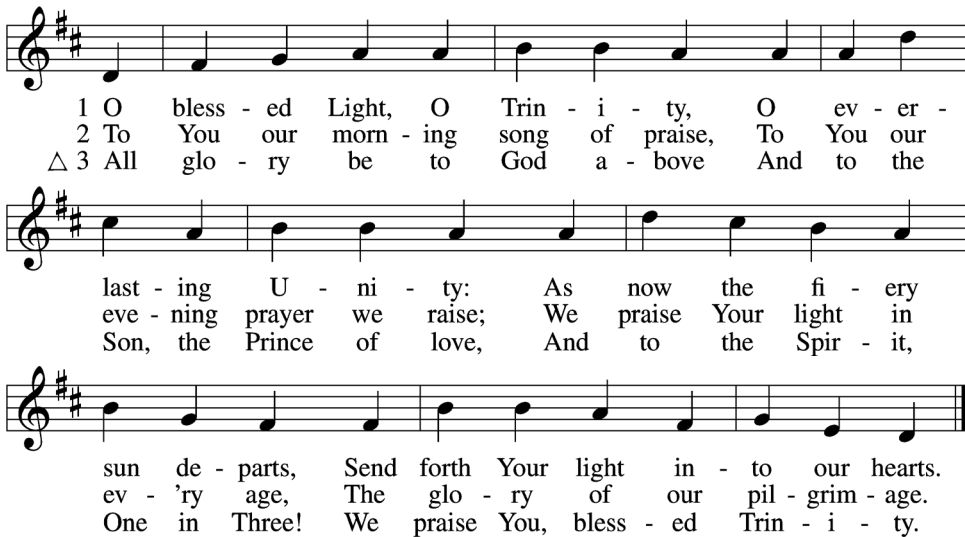
March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
Evening Service

Lent – Week 3

## Return from False Witness

One of the most straightforward sayings in the Book of Proverbs states, "A faithful witness does not lie, but a false witness breathes out lies" (Proverbs 14:5). A word of false witness can direct a series of actions in a deviant and destructive path. We find that negative action happening in the Passion account of our Lord, where we see Jesus standing before Caiaphas with a series of false witnesses seeking to defame the holy, innocent Lamb of God with untruths and lies. False witness can be a deadly weapon. Whenever we ask, as did the psalmist, "O Lord, open my lips" (Psalm 51:15), may what we then express always be true witness set in speech that declares the praises of God.

Opening Hymn: O Blessed Light, O Trinity #890



1 O bless - ed Light, O Trin - i - ty, O ev - er -  
 2 To You our morn - ing song of praise, To You our -  
 △ 3 All glo - ry be to God a - bove And to the  
 last - ing U - ni - ty: As now the fi - ery  
 eve - ning prayer we raise; We praise Your light in  
 Son, the Prince of love, And to the Spir - it,  
 sun de - parts, Send forth Your light in - to our hearts.  
 ev - 'ry age, The glo - ry of our pil - grim - age.  
 One in Three! We praise You, bless - ed Trin - i - ty.

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**P:** In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** Amen.

**P:** O Lord, open my lips,

**C:** and my mouth will declare Your praise.

**P:** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

**C:** make haste to help me, O Lord.

**C:** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.

### **First Reading -- Leviticus 24:13–16**

Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, “Bring out of the camp the one who cursed, and let all who heard him lay their hands on his head, and let all the congregation stone him. And speak to the people of Israel, saying, Whoever curses his God shall bear his sin. Whoever blasphemes the name of the LORD shall surely be put to death. All the congregation shall stone him. The sojourner as well as the native, when he blasphemes the Name, shall be put to death.”

**P**: O Lord, have mercy on us.

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

### **Second Reading -- Acts 22:12–16**

And one Ananias, a devout man according to the law, well spoken of by all the Jews who lived there, came to me, and standing by me said to me, “Brother Saul, receive your sight.” And at that very hour I received my sight and saw him. And he said, “The God of our fathers appointed you to know His will, to see the Righteous One and to hear a voice from His mouth; for you will be a witness for Him to everyone of what you have seen and heard. And now why do you wait? Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on His name.”

**P**: O Lord, have mercy on us.

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

### **Third Reading -- Matthew 26:57–68**

Then those who had seized Jesus led Him to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders had gathered. And Peter was following Him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest, and going inside he sat with the guards to see the end. Now the chief priests and the whole Council were seeking false testimony against Jesus that they might put Him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said, “This man said, ‘I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to rebuild it in three days.’” And the high priest stood up

and said, "Have You no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against You?" But Jesus remained silent. And the high priest said to Him, "I adjure You by the living God, tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God." Jesus said to him, "You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven." Then the high priest tore his robes and said, "He has uttered blasphemy. What further witnesses do we need? You have now heard His blasphemy. What is your judgment?" They answered, "He deserves death." Then they spit in His face and struck Him. And some slapped Him, saying, "Prophecy to us, You Christ! Who is it that struck You?"

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Responsory

**P**: Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

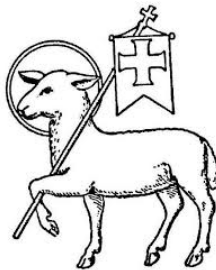
**C**: **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**

**P**: In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.

**C**: **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**

**P**: Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

**C**: **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**



## Sermon Hymn -- Break Your Hearts



1 Break your hearts with mourn - ing    And your pride in two,  
2 See your Sav - ior dy - ing,    Hung up - on the tree.  
3 Gath - er all in num - ber    From both far and near;



Ash and grief a - dorn - ing    Your re - pen - tance true.  
It is vain de - ny - ing    What is plain to see:  
E - ven those in slum - ber    Wait for trum - pets clear.



With your tears and fast - ing,    From your God dis - cern  
While His heart is break - ing,    Still your God will earn  
When the Lord grants bless - ing,    Bro - ken hearts will learn



His ways ev - er - last - ing:    To your Lord re - turn.  
Free - dom in the mak - ing.    To your Lord re - turn.  
Joy be - yond ex - press - ing;    To your Lord re - turn.

## Sermon

### + CANTICLE - *MAGNIFICAT* +



**L** Let my prayer rise before You as in - cense,



**C** and the lifting up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

# Magnificat



**C** My soul mag-ni-fies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Sav-ior;



**I** for He has re-gard - ed the lowliness of His hand-maid - en.



**II** For be-hold, from this day all generations will call me bless - ed.



**I** For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name;



**II** and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to gen - er - a - tion.



**I** He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the



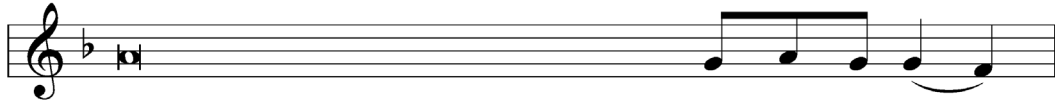
imagination of their hearts. **II** He has cast down the



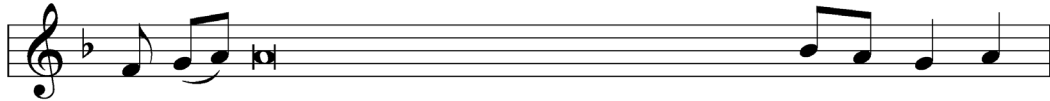
might-y from their thrones and has ex - alt - ed the low - ly.



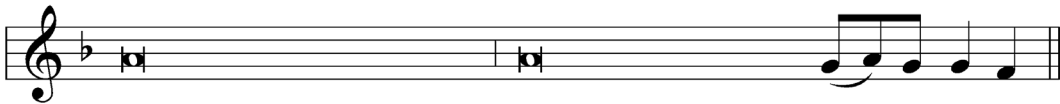
**I** He has filled the hun - gry with good things,



and the rich He has sent emp - ty a - way.



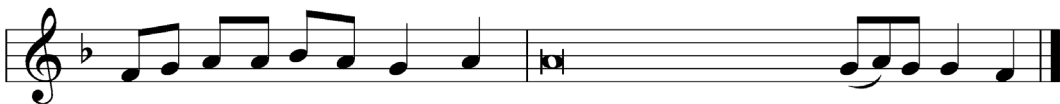
**II** He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mer - cy



as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for-ev - er.



**C** Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

+ PRAYER +



## Kyrie

- C:** Lord, have mercy;  
Christ, have mercy;  
Lord, have mercy.

## 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 + 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 T blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## Distribution

## Collects

**P**: O Lord, hear my prayer.

**C**: **And let my cry come to You.**

**P**: Lord God, in You we find the truth about our world and our lives. Spare us from the ravages of false witness. And when we fall, lift us up again and lead us to Jesus, the Way, the Truth, and the Life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

**P**: Let us bless the Lord.

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

**P**: The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C**: **Amen.**

## Closing Hymn: Christ, the Life of All the Living #420: 1, 5-7

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 Christ, the life of all the living,<br>Christ, the death of death, our foe,<br>Who, Thyself for me once giving<br>To the darkest depths of woe:<br>Through Thy suff'rings, death, and merit<br>I eternal life inherit.<br>Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,<br>Dearest Jesus, unto Thee. | 6 Thou hast suffered great affliction<br>And hast borne it patiently,<br>Even death by crucifixion,<br>Fully to atone for me;<br>Thou didst choose to be tormented<br>That my doom should be prevented.<br>Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,<br>Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.                        |
| 5 Thou hast suffered men to bruise Thee,<br>That from pain I might be free;<br>Falsely did Thy foes accuse Thee:<br>Thence I gain security;<br>Comfortless Thy soul did languish<br>Me to comfort in my anguish.<br>Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,<br>Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.         | 7 Then, for all that wrought my pardon,<br>For Thy sorrows deep and sore,<br>For Thine anguish in the Garden,<br>I will thank Thee evermore,<br>Thank Thee for Thy groaning, sighing,<br>For Thy bleeding and Thy dying,<br>For that last triumphant cry,<br>And shall praise Thee, Lord, on high. |

*Please leave your bulletin on the pew where you were seated to assist our custodian with sanitizing the pews following the service.*

