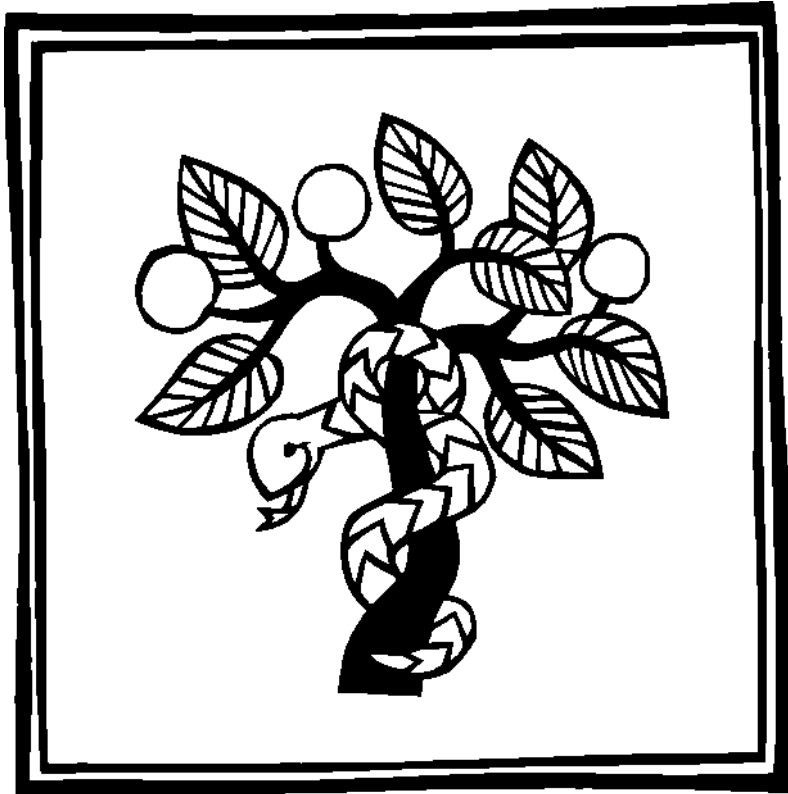


First Sunday of Lent



Morning Communion
March 1, 2020 + 8:30am

Zion Lutheran Church
Lexington, South Carolina

*You are invited to use this time before worship begins
for quiet prayer and meditation.*

WELCOME TO WORSHIP at ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH!

We are glad you have come to worship this day!

We especially Welcome our Visitors and Guests!

We hope you feel right at home here at Zion. You are invited to fill out a Welcome card found in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate.

If you are seeking a church home, we invite you to consider becoming a part of this community of faith and learning more about the mission and ministry of Zion. For more information about Zion, becoming a member, and sharing your gifts in ministry, contact the church office, (803) 356-2297, zionchurch@zionlexsc.com or visit our website, zionlexsc.com.

WORSHIP NOTES



THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION is offered to all baptized Christians who seek Christ's gift of grace. Visitors who receive Holy Communion in their home congregations are invited to share in this sacrament of grace. Gluten free bread is available to those with allergies. You may indicate this need to the pastor during communion distribution. Children who are not receiving communion may come forward for a blessing.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS may be placed in the plate at the head of the center aisle.

HYMNS not printed in the bulletin are from the red WORSHIP hymnal in the pew rack.

FOLLOWING WORSHIP you are invited to Coffee and Fellowship time and Sunday School. Please see the announcements page for schedule and locations.

PLEASE SILENCE YOUR ELECTRONICS AT THIS TIME.

+ **FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT** +

PRELUDE

We stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

During the season of Lent we are called to return to the Lord with all our heart. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

We kneel. Silence is kept for confession and medication.

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by 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. 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.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

We stand.

GATHERING HYMN # 320

The Glory of These Forty Days

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

We sit.

FIRST READING

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.

¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

^{3:1}Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'" ²The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; ³but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; ⁵for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

We stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 4:1-11

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. ³The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" ⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" ⁷Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ⁸

⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; ⁹and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" ¹¹Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

We sit.

SERMON

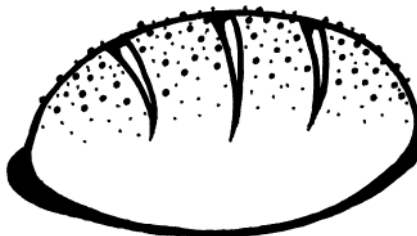
Pastor Nathan Gragg

Silence for reflection. Pastoral prayer.

We stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY # 325

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me



APOSTLES CREED

Living together in trust and hope, let us confess our faith.

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition ends: Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

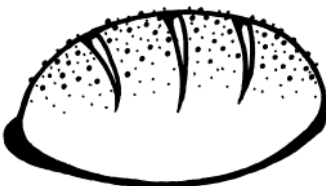
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

COMMUNION PRAYER

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, for ever and ever. Amen.



INVITATION TO COMMUNION

God's love is poured out in Christ for you. Come and receive these gifts of grace. **Amen**

We sit.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

We receive communion this morning at the head of the center aisle.

We commune by intinction. Hold your bread to dip in the chalice of wine.

You may return to your seat by the side aisles.

We remain seated.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We stand.

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN # 326

Bless Now, O God, the Journey

PEACE

We share the Peace of Christ with one another as we depart.

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+ SERVING IN WORSHIP THIS MORNING +

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Director of Music
Assisting Minister

Pastor Nathan Gragg
Julie Branham
Troy Fite



Lutheran Church

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