

# Third Sunday in Lent



**Morning Communion**  
**March 15, 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](mailto:zionchurch@zionlexsc.com) or visit our website, [zionlexsc.com](http://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.**

+    **THIRD 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 # 770**

***Give Me Jesus***

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through 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**

**Exodus 17:1-7**

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup>The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" <sup>3</sup>But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" <sup>4</sup>So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." <sup>5</sup>The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. <sup>6</sup>I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup>He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

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**

**John 4:5-42**

*Today's Gospel reading is found on page 94 of the pew bible.*

*We sit.*

## **SERMON**

Pastor Nathan Gragg

*Silence for reflection. Pastoral prayer.*

*We stand.*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY # 777**

***Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty***

## **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

*Christ welcomes you to this feast of the baptized!*

*We receive communion today at the head of the center aisle. Proceed down the center aisle. Receive the bread given to you and continue toward the side aisle nearest you to receive the wine. Return to your seat by the side aisle.*

*We remain seated.*

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*We stand.*

## BLESSING

## SENDING HYMN # 843

*Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness*

## PEACE

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



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## + SERVING IN WORSHIP THIS MORNING +

Presiding Minister  
Director of Music  
Assisting Minister

Pastor Nathan Gragg  
Julie Branham  
Troy Fite



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH 275TH ANNIVERSARY

### **History Moment**

Zion has been praying for those affected by the coronavirus, but did you know that our congregation was praying for victims of the Spanish Flu during World War I? A young soldier from Zion was drafted and sent to France. His name was Sammie Monts, son of Daniel Jacob Monts. Sammie left Lexington on February 25<sup>th</sup>, 1918 with a group of other draftees from Camp Jackson. He then left for France around May 1<sup>st</sup> of that year. In the 1910 census, Sammie was listed as a farm laborer who couldn't read or write. Neither could his parents. Imagine their feelings when they received a cablegram stating that their son, Samuel Preston Monts, died in France of influenza, September 1<sup>st</sup> at the age of 25 years. According to the Dispatch News, "Sammie was the first soldier from the Lexington area to die in France giving his life for his country and the cause for which it is fighting. He was ready and willing to go to the front from the time he was drafted." Sammie is buried at St. David's Lutheran Church.

We honor all of our veterans and continue to pray for all those in harm's way.