

Be merciful, just as
your *Father* is merciful.

📖 LUKE 6:36



ZION EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH, MONROE, MI

(Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

IN JESUS' NAME WE WELCOME YOU!

Third Sunday After the Epiphany

January 26, 2025

WELCOME TO ZION. It is our hope and prayer that the message you hear today from God's Word will strengthen your faith and fill your heart with the peace only God can give and the joy we have in believing that JESUS CHRIST is our Savior from sin.

Worship Focus: God reveals his forgiving love to us and bids us to love others.

This is the Seventh Sunday in the season of Epiphany. The readings during the Epiphany season carry forward the emphasis in the readings for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, the theme of Jesus revealing himself to us as God and Savior. In Christmas and Epiphany our attention is on getting to know Jesus, who he is and how he works; thus there is not so much emphasis on our response beyond the response of faith, which itself is always seen as his work and not ours.

LITURGY: Service of Morning Praise

CW pg. 45

OUR FAMILY AT WORSHIP

PHONES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES – We request that you please turn off all devices during the church service. You may keep it on if you are emergency response personnel or if you have an emergency call you are anticipating. Thank you for your cooperation.

BATHROOMS are located in the back of church, just down the hall toward the school. Please ask an usher for help finding them.

HEARING ASSISTANCE EQUIPMENT is available as part of our sound system. Individual hand-held units are available. Please check with an usher if you would like a unit for today's worship service.

VISITORS are asked to please sign our fellowship registry in the back of church so that we will have a record of your visit. Thank you for joining us today!

WORSHIP AND PRAISE

249

God of Mercy, God of Grace



1 God of mer - cy, God of grace, Show the bright - ness
 2 Let the peo - ple praise you, Lord! Be by all that
 3 Let the peo - ple praise you, Lord, Then en - joy your



of your face. Shine up - on us, Sav - ior, shine;
 live a - dored. Let the na - tions shout and sing
 rich re - ward! God to us his bless - ing give,



Fill your Church with light di - vine, And your sav - ing
 Glo - ry to their Sav - ior King, At your feet their
 We to God de - vot - ed live, All be - low and



health ex - tend To the earth's re - mot - est end.
 trib - ute pay, And your ho - ly will o - bey.
 all a - bove One in joy and light and love.

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847, alt.
 Tune: RATISBON (77 77 77) attr. Johann G. Werner, 1777–1822.

STAND



M: O Lord, o - pen my lips.



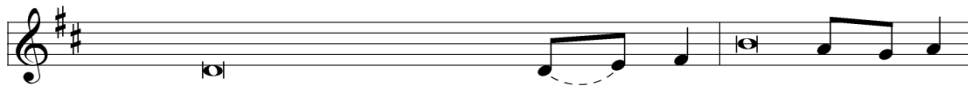
C: And my mouth shall de - clare your praise.



M: Has - ten to save me, O God.



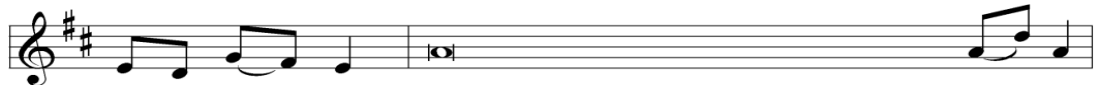
C: O Lord, come quick - ly to help me.



M: (Advent) Behold the _____ King comes: let us wor-ship him.
(Christmas) Unto us the _____ Christ is born: let us wor-ship him.
(Epiphany) The glory of Christ _____ is re-vealed: let us wor-ship him.
(Lent) Behold the _____ Lamb of God: let us wor-ship him.
(Easter) The Lord is _____ ris-en: let us wor-ship him.
(Pentecost) The Spirit of the Lord _____ fills the world: let us wor-ship him.
(General) Praise be to God, the Father,
the Son, and the Holy _____ Spir-it: let us wor-ship him.



C: Oh, come, let us sing to the Lord, let us make a joyful noise to the rock of



our sal - va - tion. Let us come into his presence with thanks-giv - ing,



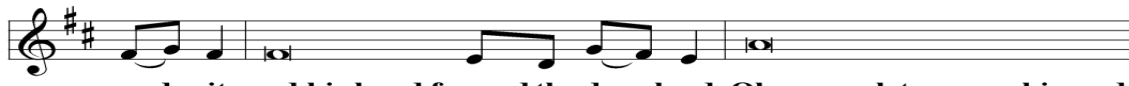
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise. For the Lord is a



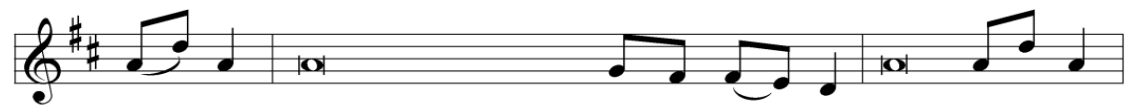
great God and a great king a-bove all gods. The deep places of the earth are



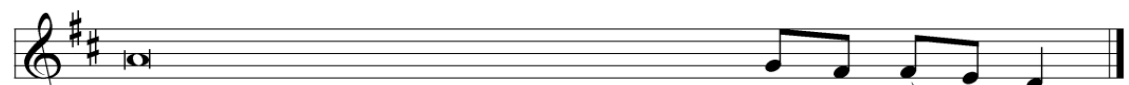
in his hand; the heights of the hills are al - so his. The sea is his, for he



made it, and his hand formed the dry land. Oh, come, let us worship and



bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our mak - er. For he is our God,



and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

BE SEATED

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 45:3-8a, 15

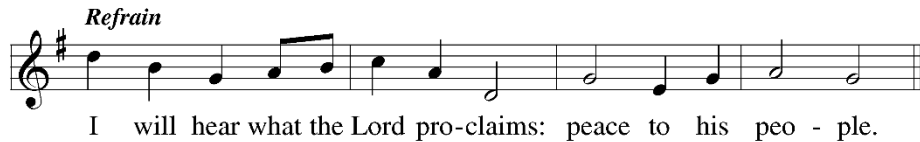
³ Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?" His brothers could not answer him, because they were terrified by his presence. ⁴ Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me, please." They came closer. He said, "I am Joseph, your brother, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵ Now

do not be upset or angry with yourselves for selling me to this place, since God sent me ahead of you to preserve life. ⁶For two years now the famine has been in the land, and there are still five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷God sent me ahead of you to preserve you as survivors on the earth, and to keep you alive by a great act of deliverance. ⁸So it was not you who sent me here, but God, and he has made me a father to Pharaoh, lord over his entire household, and ruler over the whole land of Egypt.

¹⁵He kissed all his brothers and wept over them. After that his brothers talked with him. (EHV)

PSALM 103

CW pg. 105



Praise the LORD, O my soul;*
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

He forgives all your sins*
and heals all your diseases;

he redeems your life from the grave*
and crowns you with love and compassion.

Refrain

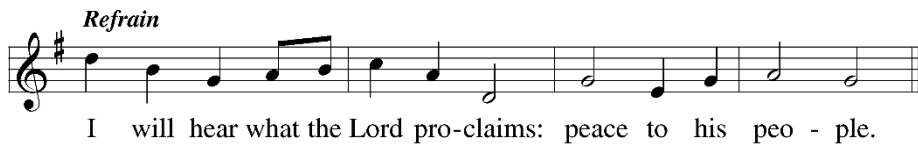
The LORD is compassionate and gracious,*
slow to anger, abounding in love.

He does not treat us as our sins deserve*
or repay us according to our iniquities.

For as high as the heavens are above the earth,*
so great is his love for those who fear him;

as far as the east is from the west,*
so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Refrain



As a father has compassion on his children,*
 so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him;

for he knows how we are formed,*
 he remembers that we are dust.

Our days are like grass, like a flower of the field;*
 the wind blows over it and it is gone.

But the LORD'S love is with those who fear him*
 from everlasting to everlasting.

**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.**

Refrain

Refrain Tune: From *The Psalms for the Day, Series C*. © 1976 Fortress Press. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress.

Second Lesson

1 Corinthians 15:35-38a, 42-49

³⁵ But someone will object, "How can it be that the dead are raised? With what kind of body are they going to come?" ³⁶ You are being foolish. What you sow is not made alive unless it dies. ³⁷ And what you sow is not the body that will be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or some other grain. ³⁸ But God gives it a body of the kind he wanted it to have, and to each of the seeds he gives its own body.

⁴² That is the way the resurrection of the dead will be. What is sown is perishable; it is raised imperishable. ⁴³ It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. ⁴⁴ It is sown as a natural body; it is raised as a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵ So also it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living natural being." The last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶ However, that which is spiritual is not first;

rather, first comes the natural, then the spiritual. ⁴⁷ The first man is of the earth, made of dust. The second man is the Lord from heaven. ⁴⁸ As was the man made of dust, so are the people who are made of dust, and as is the heavenly man, so the heavenly people will be. ⁴⁹ And just as we have borne the image of the man made of dust, let us also bear the image of the heavenly man. (EHV)

VERSE OF THE DAY

P: Alleluia. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. Alleluia. (Luke 6:36)

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

GOSPEL:

Luke 6:27-38

²⁷“But I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies. Do good to those who hate you. ²⁸ Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who mistreat you. ²⁹ If someone strikes you on one cheek, offer the other too. If someone takes away your coat, do not withhold your shirt. ³⁰ Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes away your things, do not demand them back. ³¹“Treat others just as you would want them to treat you. ³² If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? To be sure, even the sinners love those who love them. ³³ And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? Even the sinners do the same thing. ³⁴ If you lend to those from whom you expect to be repaid, what credit is that to you? Even the sinners lend to sinners in order to be paid back in full. ³⁵ Instead, love your enemies, do good and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, because he is kind to the unthankful and the evil. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. ³⁷“Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. ³⁸ Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be poured into your lap. In fact, the measure with which you measure will be measured back to you.” (EHV)

HYMN OF THE DAY: CW 492

“Son of God, Eternal Savior”

Son of God, Eternal Savior



1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior,
 2 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us,
 3 Bind us all as one to - geth - er
 4 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers,



Source of life and truth and grace, Word made
 King of love and Prince of Peace; Hush the
 In your Church's sa - cred fold, Weak and
 So may we for oth - ers live. Free - ly



flesh, whose birth a - mong us, Hon - ors
 storm of strife and pas - sion; Bid its
 health - y, poor and wealth - y, Sad and
 have your gifts been grant - ed; Free - ly



all our hu - man race, You our head,
 cru - el dis - cords cease. By your pa -
 joy - ful, young and old. Is there want
 may your ser - vants give. Yours the gold



who, throned in glo - ry, For your own will
 tient years of toil - ing, By your si - lent
 or pain or sor - row? Make us all the
 and yours the sil - ver, Yours the wealth of



ev - er plead: Fill us with your love and
 hours of pain, Quench our fe - vered thirst for
 bur - den share. Are there spir - its crushed and
 land and sea; We but stew - ards of your



pit - y; Heal our wrongs and help our need.
 plea - sure; Stem our self - ish greed for gain.
 bro - ken? Teach us, Lord, to soothe their care.
 boun - ty Held in sol - emn trust will be.

Text: Somerset T. C. Lowry, 1855-1932, abr., alt.
 Tune: LORD, REVIVE US (87 87 D) *The Revivalist*, Troy, NY, 1868.

Be Merciful, Just As Your Father Is Merciful

WE PRAISE YOU, O GOD



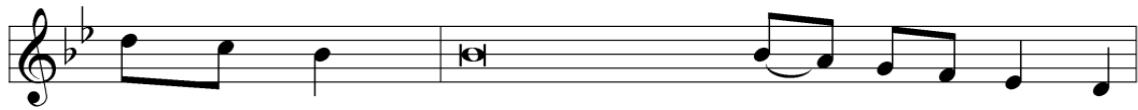
C: We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord; all creation worships you,



Fa-ther ev - er - last - ing. To you all angels, all the pow'rs of heav'n,



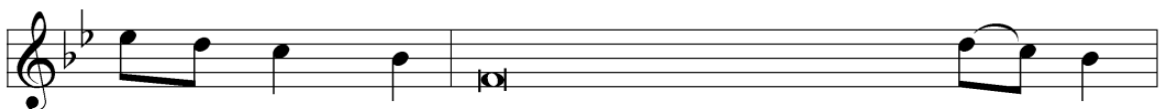
cherubim and seraphim, sing in end-less praise: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of



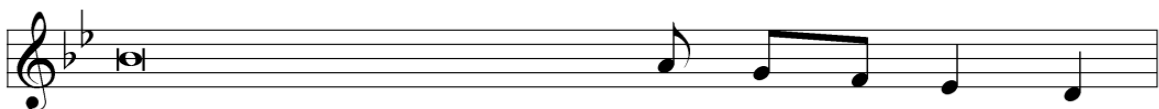
heav'n - ly hosts, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry.



The glorious company of apostles praise you. The noble fellowship of



proph - ets praise you. The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.



Throughout the world the ho - ly Church ac - claims you:



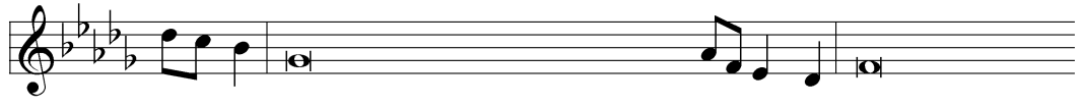
Father of majesty unbounded, your glorious, true, and on - ly Son,



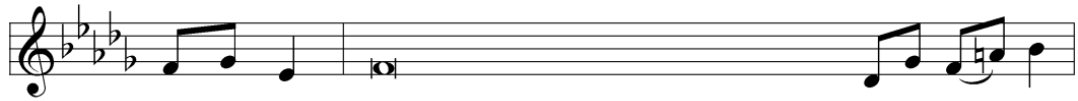
and the Holy Spirit, ad - vo - cate and guide. You, Christ, are the King of



glo - ry, the eternal Son of the Fa - ther. When you became man to



set us free, you humbled yourself to be born of a vir-gin. You overcame the



sting of death and opened the kingdom of heaven to all be-liev - ers.



You sit at the right hand of God in the glory of the Fa - ther.



We believe that you will come to be our judge.



Come then, Lord, and help your peo - ple, bought with the price of



your own blood, and bring us with your saints to glory ev - er - last - ing.

OFFERING: (Sunday only) The collection of the offering in the service is an opportunity for the members of Zion to give back to God a small portion of what he has given us in order to support the Gospel ministry of Zion Lutheran Church and School and of the WELS throughout the world. If you are a visitor today, while we appreciate an offering from you, please do not feel obligated to give.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie



M: In the morning, O Lord, I call to you; be merciful to me and hear my prayer.



C: Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

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.

PRAYER FOR GRACE

P: O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger; and in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C: Amen.



M: Let us praise the Lord.



C: Thanks be to God.

BLESSING



M: The grace of our Lord + Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the fellowship of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



C: A - men.

CHRISTIAN LOVE

491

O Master of the Loving Heart



1 O Mas - ter of the lov - ing heart, The
 2 Your days were full of kind - ly acts; Your
 3 Your face was warm with sym - pa - thy; Your
 4 Oh, grant us hearts like yours, dear Lord, So



friend of all in need, We pray that we may
 speech was true and plain; Of those who ev - er
 hand God's strength re - vealed; Who saw your face or
 joy - ous, free, and true, That all your chil - dren,



be like you In thought and word and deed.
 sought you, Lord, None came to you in vain.
 felt your touch Were com - fort - ed and healed.
 ev - 'ry - where, Be drawn by us to you.

Text: Calvin W. Laufer, 1874–1938, alt.
 Tune: AZMON (CM) Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829, alt.

Officiants

Accompanist: Kayla Liechty

Liturgist & Preacher: Pastor Jeffery Berg

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Pastor Greg Sitzman: 734-309-7877; gsitzman@zionmonroe.org

Principal: Bryan Schneck: 907-331-7761; bschneck@zionmonroe.org

CALL MEETING— The Joint Call committee has called Pastor Benjamin Kempfert to be the Associate Pastor. Please keep him in your prayers as he deliberates his call.

PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR CALL MEETING: A meeting was held on Sunday, February 9th to call for a Preschool Director/Teacher. We have extended a call to Mrs. Kristi Coffin. Please keep her in your prayers as she deliberates her calls.

FRIENDS IN FAITH: Friends in Faith is holding a Christian Book Study – Living the Chocolate Life. Everyone is invited to join for the last Sunday on 23rd from 2-4 pm. Each meeting will involve discussing two chapters of the book, enjoying fellowship and tasting chocolates.

KILLARNEY LUTHERAN CAMP: Killarney Lutheran Camp is very blessed to have the churches and people support them like they do. Zion Lutheran Church is one of the biggest supporters when it comes to Boosters. For the last 10 years, Zion has had 30 + boosters. Along with the regular boosters we now have 18 life time boosters, the most from any other congregations. We sincerely thank you for your continued support. Please stop by and see all the improvements that have and still are going on at the camp. May 23rd-26th is Memorial Day weekend. Plan on camping or come up Sunday for the Chicken Bar-b-que.

Zion's Sweetheart – Daddy Daughter Dance: Zion school is having their annual Daddy/Daughter Dance on Saturday, February 22nd from 5-7:00 p.m. There is more information on the back table along with the form to fill out to purchase tickets. Please come and enjoy.

BOTTLE DRIVE: Our Congregation is participating in the Change for Life program to support the ministry of New Beginnings—A Home for Mothers. New Beginnings is a WELS-based ministry that helps single mothers pave the way to self-sufficiency in a Christ-centered home. We will give gifts of LOVE to support the mothers and babies they serve. The bottle drive display is located in the back of the church and the school hallway. The fundraising effort is going to run from January 1st through February 23rd. Pick up a baby bottle, take it home and have everyone in your household fill it with their spare change. On **Sunday, February 23rd** please make sure all bottles are returned so we can send the money to New Beginnings. Thank you.

ZION SCHOOL BI-ANNUAL AUCTION: It is that time again for Zion School CEA to hold its auction. This auction helps fund many activities, school sport uniforms, classroom supplies and even the curtains in the gym. This year the auction is on Sunday, March 2nd. If you would like to donate any NEW items, homemade items or baked goods, please pick up a slip at the back of the sanctuary and turn into the office. Thank you.

ZION FINE ARTS FAIR: Zion's annual fine arts fair will be held on Sunday, March 9th from 12-2. Not only are only members invited to attend they are invited to submit art! If you have any works of art to display, please have them to the office between Monday, March 3rd and Thursday, March 6. Make sure to label your art with your name. If you are interested in performing a musical piece, dance or reading, please email Stacey Sordahl at ssordahl@zionmonroe.org or send a text to (248) 345-3525. Suggested items to display – paintings, sketches, crafts, photography, sculptures, poetry, and short stories.

STEWARDSHIP GIFT OF TIME OPPORTUNITY: Zion is in need of members who would be willing to input the attendance information into Church 360 following the service each week. Training will be provided and this is something that can be done from home. We hope that if we get five or six people to help it would have to be done once every month to month and a half. If interested, please reach out to Rob Krueger at 734-770-1149.

FRIENDS IN FAITH: In the East foyer Friends in Faith is selling greeting cards for \$1.00 each. There are different occasion cards available. The money raised from the sales is going towards future Friends in Faith projects, such as the Kleenex box ministry project and other shut in projects they do throughout the year.

Coming up at Zion

Sunday 9:00 a.m. Worship Service
 10:15 a.m. Sunday School
 10:15 a.m. Special Voter’s Meeting
 2:00 p.m. Friend in Faith – Living the Chocolate Life Devotion
 Tuesday 10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Class
 Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Worship Service (IC)
 Sunday 9:00 a.m. Worship Service (IC/CC)
 10:15 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Class
 11:30 a.m. Zion CEA Auction

February Volunteers

	Jan. 29 & Feb. 2	Feb. 5 & 9	Feb. 12 & 16	Feb. 19 & 23	Feb. 26 & Mar. 2
Altar Guild			Linda Selvidge		
Live Stream Helpers	Miller Sordahl	William Robinson	Miller Sordahl	Steve Sordahl	Erich Freiny
Ushers	<p>Jan. 29 Mark Kipf Keith McBee Joe Schmeling</p> <p>Feb. 2 Mark Kipf Keith McBee Joe Schmeling</p>	<p>Feb. 5 Dave Bengé Alan Bober Matthew Hill Joe Koch Jeremy Robinson Jacob Robinson William Robinson</p> <p>Feb. 9 Dave Bengé Alan Bober Matthew Hill Joe Koch Jeremy Robinson Jacob Robinson William Robinson</p>	<p>Feb. 12 Ray Chandonnet Erich Freiny Rob Krueger Matthew Loos Zach Turner</p> <p>Feb. 16 Ray Chandonnet Erich Freiny Rob Krueger Matthew Loos Zach Turner</p>	<p>Feb. 19 Jake Burke Rich Heusman Jeff Heusman Juergen Koenig Matt McCormick Zach McCormick</p> <p>Feb. 23 Jake Burke Rich Heusman Jeff Heusman Juergen Koenig Matt McCormick Zach McCormick</p>	<p>Feb. 26 Tony Affholter Jeff Douglas Mark Fuerstenberg Bryce Mueller Ray Palmatier</p> <p>March 2 Tony Affholter Jeff Douglas Mark Fuerstenberg Bryce Mueller Ray Palmatier</p>

Communion Helpers	<u>Jan. 29</u> Alan Bober <u>Feb. 2</u> Erich Freiny Ron Krueger		<u>Feb. 12</u> Ken Vagt <u>Feb. 16</u> Jeremy Robinson Jeff Heusman		<u>Feb. 26</u> Alan Bober <u>March 2</u> Mark Kipf Ray Palmatier
----------------------	--	--	---	--	--