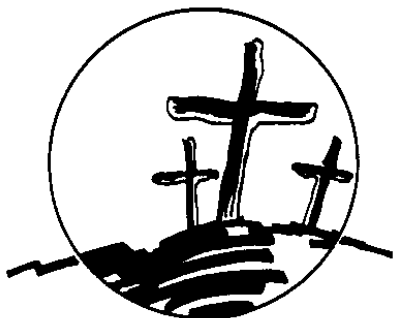


## Zion Lutheran Church Mission Statement

***“Bonded in Christ’s love, we teach, preach, and equip God’s people for discipleship here and throughout the world.”***



**Good Friday**

**7 p.m. March 29, 2024**

***For those who are hearing challenged, Zion has digital listening devices for your use during worship. Please ask an usher or council member for one and they will show you how to use it.***

### **Prelude – Bell**

*Storytelling is a sacred practice.*

*God’s story is intertwined with our own stories—refracted into millions of different versions, all revealing something true and unique of God’s image.*

### **Gathering**

P- Life and death stand side by side as we enter Good Friday. In John’s passion account, Jesus reveals the power and glory of God, even as he is put on trial and sentenced to death.

**C- My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?** Psalm 22:1

P- Standing with the disciples at the foot of the cross, we pray for the while world as Christ’s death offers life to all. We depart silently and anticipate the promised resurrection on Easter morning.

**C- My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?** Psalm 22:1

## Gathering Hymn – When I Survey the Wondrous Cross ELW 803

1 When I survey the wondrous cross  
on which the Prince of glory died,  
my richest gain I count but loss,  
and pour contempt on all my pride.

2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast  
save in the death of Christ, my God!  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them through his blood.

3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet,  
sorrow and love flow mingled down.  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

4 Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
that were a present far too small.  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
demands my soul, my life, my all.

### **Confession & Forgiveness**

*As you are able, please stand. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as pastor begins.*

P- Within the community of the church,  
God never wearies of forgiving sin  
and giving the peace of reconciliation.

On this night let us confess our sin  
against God and our neighbor,  
and enter the celebration of the Great Three Days  
reconciled with God and one another.

**C- Amen**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P- Most Merciful God,

**C- 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 neighbor as ourselves.**

**For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us.**

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us  
so that we might delight in your will  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P- Hear the Good News:

God, who is rich with mercy, loved us  
even when we were dead in sin,  
and made us alive together with Christ.

By grace you have been saved.

In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

Almighty God strengthen you with power  
through the Holy Spirit,

that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**C- Amen**

**Psalm 22 – Read responsively.**

Plea for Deliverance from Suffering and Hostility

To the leader: according to The Deer of the Dawn. A Psalm of David.

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

**Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my  
groaning?**

O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;

**and by night but find no rest.**

Yet you are holy,  
**enthroned on the praises of Israel.**  
In you our ancestors trusted;  
**they trusted, and you delivered them.**  
To you they cried, and were saved;  
**in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.**

But I am a worm, and not human;  
**scorned by others, and despised by the people.**  
All who see me mock at me;  
**they make mouths at me, they shake their heads;**  
“Commit your cause to the LORD; let him deliver—  
**let him rescue the one in whom he delights!”**

Yet it was you who took me from the womb;  
**you kept me safe on my mother’s breast.**  
On you I was cast from my birth,  
**and since my mother bore me you have been my God.**  
Do not be far from me,  
**for trouble is near**  
**and there is no one to help.**

Many bulls encircle me,  
**strong bulls of Bashan surround me;**  
they open wide their mouths at me,  
**like a ravening and roaring lion.**

I am poured out like water,  
**and all my bones are out of joint;**  
my heart is like wax;  
**it is melted within my breast;**  
my mouth is dried up like a potsherd,  
**and my tongue sticks to my jaws;**  
**you lay me in the dust of death.**

For dogs are all around me;  
**a company of evildoers encircles me.**  
My hands and feet have shriveled;  
I can count all my bones.  
They stare and gloat over me;  
they divide my clothes among themselves,  
**and for my clothing they cast lots.**

But you, O LORD, do not be far away!  
**O my help, come quickly to my aid!**  
Deliver my soul from the sword,  
**my life from the power of the dog!**  
**Save me from the mouth of the lion!**

From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me.  
I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters;  
**in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:**  
You who fear the LORD, praise him!  
**All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;**  
**stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!**  
For he did not despise or abhor  
**the affliction of the afflicted;**  
he did not hide his face from me,  
**but heard when I cried to him.**

From you comes my praise in the great congregation;  
**my vows I will pay before those who fear him.**  
The poor shall eat and be satisfied;  
**those who seek him shall praise the LORD.**  
**May your hearts live forever!**

All the ends of the earth shall remember  
**and turn to the LORD;**  
and all the families of the nations  
**shall worship before him.**

For dominion belongs to the LORD,  
**and he rules over the nations.**

To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;  
**before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,  
and I shall live for him.**

Posterity will serve him;  
**future generations will be told about the Lord,**  
and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,  
**saying that he has done it.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

P- Merciful God,

**C- your Son was lifted up on the cross to draw all people to himself. Grant that we who have been born out of his wounded side may at all times find mercy in him, Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.** P- Please be seated due to the length of this reading.

### **John 18:1-19:42**

On Good Friday, the story of Jesus' passion—from his arrest to his burial—is read in its entirety from the Gospel of John. Please remain seated while this gospel is read.

#### John 18:1-14 - The Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus

After Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across the Kidron valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with his

disciples. So Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons. Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them, "For whom are you looking?" They answered, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus replied, "I am he." Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. When Jesus said to them, "I am he", they stepped back and fell to the ground. Again he asked them, "For whom are you looking?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus answered, "I told you that I am he. So if you are looking for me, let these men go." This was to fulfil the word that he had spoken, "I did not lose a single one of those whom you gave me." Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear. The slave's name was Malchus. Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword back into its sheath. Am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?"

So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him. First they took him to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it was better to have one person die for the people.

### **ELW 353 – Were You There** *(first verse)*

**Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?**

## John 18:15-18 - Peter First Denial of Jesus

Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, but Peter was standing outside at the gate. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who guarded the gate, and brought Peter in. The woman said to Peter, "You are not also one of this man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not." Now the slaves and the police had made a charcoal fire because it was cold, and they were standing round it and warming themselves. Peter also was standing with them and warming himself.

## John 18:19-24 - The High Priest Questions Jesus

Then the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching. Jesus answered, "I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said." When he had said this, one of the police standing nearby struck Jesus on the face, saying, "Is that how you answer the high priest?" Jesus answered, "If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?" Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.



## **ELW 353 – Were You There (second verse)**

**Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?**

**Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?**

**Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.**

**Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?**

### John 18:25-27 - Peter Second and Third Denial of Jesus

Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They asked him, “You are not also one of his disciples, are you?” He denied it and said, “I am not.” One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, “Did I not see you in the garden with him?” Again Peter denied it, and at that moment the cock crowed.

### John 18:25-40 - Jesus before Pilate

Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate’s headquarters. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover. So Pilate went out to them and said, “What accusation do you bring against this man?” They answered, “If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you.” Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law.” The Jews replied, “We are not permitted to put anyone to death.” (This was to fulfil what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.)

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus answered, “Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?” Pilate replied, “I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief

priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice." Pilate asked him, "What is truth?"

### **ELW 353 – Were You There** (*third verse*)

**Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?**

### John 19:1-16a - Jesus Sentenced to Death

After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, "I find no case against him. But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" They shouted in reply,

**C- "Not this man, but Barabbas!"**

Now Barabbas was a bandit.

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. They kept coming up to him, saying,

**C- "Hail, King of the Jews!"**

...and striking him on the face. Pilate went out again and said to them, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him." So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Here is the man!" When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted,

### **C- "Crucify him! Crucify him!"**

Pilate said to them, 'Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him.' The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God."

Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. Pilate therefore said to him, "Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?" Jesus answered him, "You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin." From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the Jews cried out, "If you release this man, you are no friend of the emperor. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against the emperor."

When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon. He said to the Jews, "Here is your King!" They cried out,

### **C- "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!"**

Pilate asked them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but the emperor." Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

## **ELW 353 – Were You There** (*fourth verse*)

**Were you there when the sun refused to shine?  
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?**

### John 19:16b-27 - The Crucifixion of Jesus

So they took Jesus; and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.” Many of the Jews read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, “Do not write, ‘The King of the Jews’, but, ‘This man said, I am King of the Jews.’ ” Pilate answered, “What I have written I have written.” When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. So they said to one another, “Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it.” This was to fulfil what the scripture says,

“They divided my clothes among themselves,  
and for my clothing they cast lots.”

And that is what the soldiers did.

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, “Woman, here is

your son.” Then he said to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfil the scripture), “I am thirsty.” A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the wine, he said, “It is finished.” Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

### **ELW 338 – Beneath the Cross of Jesus** *(first verse)*

**Beneath the cross of Jesus  
I long to take my stand;  
the shadow of a mighty rock  
within a weary land,  
a home within a wilderness,  
a rest upon the way,  
from the burning of the noontide heat  
and the burdens of the day.**

### John 19:28-37 - The Death of Jesus

Since it was the day of Preparation, the Jews did not want the bodies left on the cross during the Sabbath, especially because that Sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed. Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. (He who saw this has testified so that you also

may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.) These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, 'None of his bones shall be broken.' And again another passage of scripture says, 'They will look on the one whom they have pierced.'

### **ELW 338 – Beneath the Cross of Jesus** *(second verse)*

**Upon the cross of Jesus,  
my eye at times can see  
the very dying form of one  
who suffered there for me.  
And from my contrite heart, with tears,  
two wonders I confess:  
the wonder of his glorious love  
and my unworthiness.**

#### John 19:38-42 - The Burial of Jesus

After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body. Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

## ELW 338 – Beneath the Cross of Jesus (*third verse*)

I take, O cross, your shadow  
for my abiding place;  
I ask no other sunshine  
than the sunshine of his face;  
content to let the world go by,  
to know no gain nor loss,  
my sinful self my only shame,  
my glory all, the cross.

### The Bidding Prayer

*By ancient usage this Prayer was specially appointed for Good Friday.*

*This prayer is intended to be read by an assisting minister at a lectern and by the presiding minister or pastor standing at the altar. A short pause of silence should be observed between the bid and the prayer.*

*The congregation responds with **Amen** after each section.*

Brothers and sisters, let us pray for the whole Christian Church, that our Lord God would keep and defend it against all the assaults and temptations of the devil, and keep it always on the true foundation, Jesus Christ.

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God, you have revealed your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ and the Word of his truth. Keep your people in safety, that your church, spread throughout all nations, may serve you in true faith and remain steadfast in the confession of

your name; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us pray for all servants of the Word and for all the people of God.

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God, you govern and sanctify the whole body of the church by your Holy Spirit. Receive the prayers we offer you, that all members of your church in their vocations and ministries may serve you in truth and godliness; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us pray for those instructed in the Christian faith, that our Lord God would open their hearts and pour out his mercy, that having received the forgiveness of all their sins by the washing of rebirth, they may remember their baptism and remain firm in the faith in Christ Jesus our Lord.

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God, you always cause your Church to grow, and with your light and grace you strengthen the hearts of those you have given new birth through water and the Spirit. Grant that those instructed in the Christian faith increase in faith and knowledge, that they may rejoice in their baptism and grow as members of the holy body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us pray for all in authority, and especially for the government of *the United States*, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

*Silent prayer.*



O merciful Father in heaven, you hold in your hand all the might of the nations, and you have established the authorities that exist for the punishment of evildoers and for the commending of those who do what is right. Yours is all rule and authority in the kingdoms of the world. Graciously regard your servants, the *President of the United States*, the *governor of this state*, our judges and officers, and all the rulers of the earth, that all who receive the sword as your servants, may bear it according to your commands; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us pray to our Lord God almighty, that he would deliver the world from all error, take away disease, ward off famine, free those in bondage, grant a safe return to the travelers, health to the sick, and a safe harbor for those at sea.

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God, the comfort of the sorrowful and the strength of the weak: Graciously hear the prayers of those who cry to you in any trouble or distress, that in all their needs they may see and receive your great help and comfort; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us pray for those who do not know Christ, that those who walk in darkness may see his glorious light.

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God, you do not desire the death of a sinner but want all people to repent and live. Hear our prayers for those who do not know you. Turn their hearts from idols and empty things to the living and true God, and gather them into your holy Church for the glory of your name; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us pray for peace, that we may come to the knowledge of God's holy Word, and walk before him as is fitting for Christians.

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God, King of Glory, and Lord of heaven and earth, by your Spirit all things are governed, by your providence all things are ordered. You are the God of peace, and the Author of all concord. Grant us your heavenly peace and unity, that we may serve you in true fear, to the praise and glory of your name; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us pray for our enemies, that God would remember them in mercy, and graciously give them whatever is needful for them and profitable for their salvation.

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God, through your only Son, our blessed Lord, you commanded us to love our enemies, to do good to those who hate us and to pray for those who persecute us. Lead all our enemies to true repentance, that they may have the same love and be of one mind and heart with us and with your whole Christian Church; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us pray for the fruits of the earth, that God would send down his blessing on them, and graciously move our hearts to enjoy them in submission to his holy will.

*Silent prayer.*

O Lord, Father almighty, by your Word you created and bless and uphold all things. Reveal to us your Word, our Lord Jesus Christ, that he would dwell in our hearts, and that by your grace we may

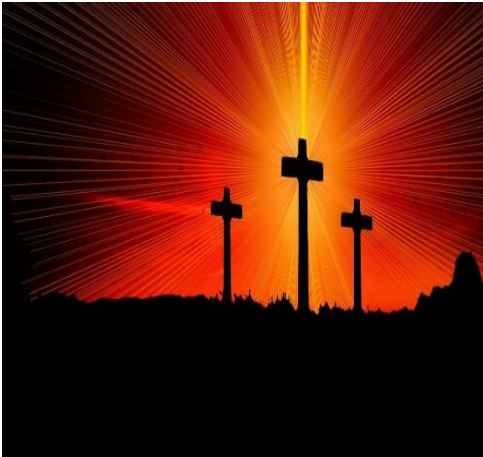
receive your blessing on all the fruits of the earth and whatever we need for body and life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

P- Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask, saying:

### **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,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

*We leave in silence, waiting expectantly for Easter morning and the promise of our Lord and Savior's glorious resurrection.*



**Attention all High School youth.** We will once again be leading the Easter Sunrise Service and are encouraging all of you to join us for **practice on Saturday March 30<sup>th</sup> at 9:00** am and the service Sunday March 31<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 am. If you have any questions reach out to Karla Holland or Cindy Parde.

**The Easter Breakfast Fellowship** ~ will be served immediately following the 7:00 am Sunrise Service (approximately @ 8:00 am) We are again asking for baked breakfast casseroles, rolls, muffins or coffee cakes and fruit plates or bowls, juice and milk. Food donations and kitchen help/serving/clean up signup clip boards can be found at the Welcome Center. We ask that your food be left in the Parish Hall by 7:30 am that morning. Your help and donations are appreciated! The free will offering will benefit the Youth Mission trip to Colorado July 2024.



The High School youth will again be participating in the Sunrise Easter Service, look for more details on practice and your participation. ~ Thank you.

**Helping out Next Sunday-Sunrise Service**

**Pastor.....Jerry Gilbreath**  
**Worship Assistants.....The Youth**  
**Keyboard.....Janelle Ideus**  
**Guitar.....Deric Bloom**  
**Special Music.....Endless Hallelujah**  
**Breakfast Club.....No Sunday School**

**Easter - 9:30 am Service**

**Pastor.....Jerry Gilbreath**  
**Organist.....Alnora Daubendiek**  
**Acolytes.....Paxton Parde**  
**Brogan Ideus**  
**Lector.....Mary Lenner**  
**Greeters.....Brian & Danelle Evers**  
**Gary & Brenda Gronewold**  
**Special Speaker.....Cassie Thornburg**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Offering**  
**Breakfast Club.....No Sunday School**

