

# Zion Lutheran Church

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May God bless your worship with us this day. A new day of salvation!

**Welcome!** We worship the Triune God: Father, Son, & Holy Spirit. We are pleased you are here to worship with us today. Make yourself at home; you are among the family of Christ. If you are visiting, please do introduce yourself to others and to our Pastor. Please sign our Guest Book in the narthex so we can thank you for your visit...and come soon to see us again!

**Preparation for Worship:** The order of worship for today begins on the back of this page.

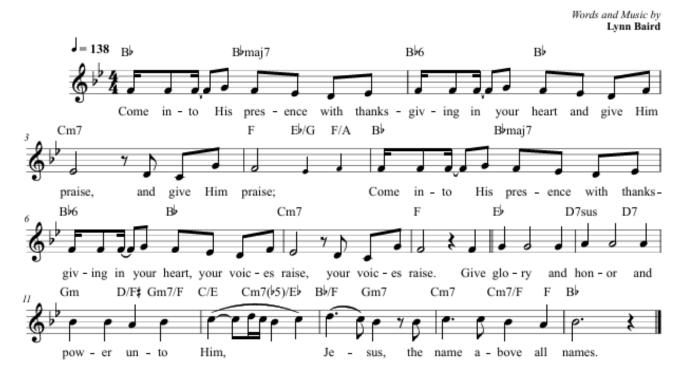
**To Stand or Sit:** There are certain parts of the service where you will be invited to kneel or stand. Sometimes, "wrestling" with kids, or a personal health condition makes standing uncomfortable...please know: It is okay to stand or sit.

### **TIME OF LEARNING**: Review songs

# Welcome

# **Opening Song:**

### Come Into His Presence



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# (Stand)

#### **Invocation**

P: In the name of the Father and of the **†** Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

### **Prayer**

#### P: Let us pray.

Remind us often Lord, when we are feeling proud, arrogant, beyond reproach, pleased with ourselves, self-sufficient in our ways, that for such as us, and better and worse, you walked a road that took you to a cruel cross, and rose again to show us where we might look for rescue from this lofty perch we fall.

#### C: Amen.

#### **Confession and Absolution:**

- P: Dear Heavenly Father, we lower our heads before you and we confess that we have too often forgotten that we are yours. Sometimes we carry on our lives as if there was no God and we fall short of being a credible witness to You.
- C: For these things we ask your forgiveness, and we also ask for your strength. Give us clear minds and open hearts so we may witness to You in our world. Remind us to be who You would have us to be regardless of what we are doing or who we are with. Hold us to You and build our relationship with You and with those You have given us on earth.
- **P:** The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in loving kindness. He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His loving kindness toward those who fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressing from us.

C: Amen

Psalm 138; antiphon: v. 3

<sup>1</sup>I give you thanks, O LORD, with | my whole heart;\*

before the gods I | sing your praise;

<sup>2</sup>I bow down toward your holy temple, and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your | faithfulness,\*

for you have exalted above all things, your name | and your word.

<sup>3</sup>On the day I called, you | answered me;\*

my strength of soul | you increased.

<sup>4</sup>All the kings of the earth shall give you thanks, | O LORD,\*

for they have heard the words | of your mouth,

<sup>5</sup>and they shall sing of the ways | of the LORD,\*

for great is the glory | of the LORD.

<sup>6</sup>For though the LORD is high, he regards the | lowly,\*

but the haughty he knows | from afar.

<sup>7</sup>Though I walk in the midst of trouble,

you pre- | serve my life;\*

you stretch out your hand against the wrath of my enemies,

and your right hand de- | livers me.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD will fulfill his pur- | pose for me;\*

your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.

Do not forsake the work | of your hands.

(sit)

### Song: "Seek Ye First"

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, And all these things shall be added unto you, Allelu, alleluia!

Man shall not live by bread alone but by ev'ry word That proceeds from the mouth of God Allelu, alleluia!

Ask and it shall be given unto you, seek and ye shall find, Knock and the door shall be opened unto you, Allelu, alleluia!

#### **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

### **Old Testament Reading** (this is the basis of today's sermon)

Genesis 18:20–33

<sup>20</sup>Then the LORD said, "Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great and their sin is very grave, <sup>21</sup>I will go down to see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me. And if not, I will know."

<sup>22</sup>So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the LORD. <sup>23</sup>Then Abraham drew near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? <sup>24</sup>Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city. Will you then sweep away the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous who are in it? <sup>25</sup>Far be it from you to do such a thing, to put the righteous to death with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" <sup>26</sup>And the LORD said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will spare the whole place for their sake."

<sup>27</sup>Abraham answered and said, "Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. <sup>28</sup>Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking. Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." <sup>29</sup>Again he spoke to him and said, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." <sup>30</sup>Then he said, "Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." <sup>31</sup>He said, "Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." <sup>32</sup>Then he said, "Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak again but this once. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it." <sup>33</sup>And the LORD went his way, when he had finished speaking to Abraham, and Abraham returned to his place.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

#### C: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Colossians 2:6–19

<sup>6</sup>Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, <sup>7</sup>rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

<sup>8</sup>See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ. <sup>9</sup>For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, <sup>10</sup>and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. <sup>11</sup>In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, <sup>12</sup>having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead. <sup>13</sup>And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, <sup>14</sup>by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. <sup>15</sup>He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

<sup>16</sup>Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath. <sup>17</sup>These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. <sup>18</sup>Let no one disqualify you, insisting on asceticism and worship of angels, going on in detail about visions, puffed up without reason by his sensuous mind, <sup>19</sup>and not holding fast to the Head, from whom the whole body, nourished and knit together through its joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from God.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

#### C: Thanks be to God.

(Stand for Alleluia and Gospel reading)

### Song: "Alleluia! Give the Glory"

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Give the glory and the honor to the Lord

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Give the glory and the honor to the Lord

Holy Gospel Luke 11:1–13

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the eleventh chapter.

#### C: Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." <sup>2</sup>And he said to them, "When you pray, say:

"Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

<sup>3</sup>Give us each day our daily bread,

<sup>4</sup>and forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us.

And lead us not into temptation."

<sup>5</sup>And he said to them, "Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves, <sup>6</sup>for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him'; <sup>7</sup>and he will answer from within, 'Do not bother me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed. I cannot get up and give you anything'? <sup>8</sup>I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his impudence he will rise and give him whatever he needs. <sup>9</sup>And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. <sup>10</sup>For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. <sup>11</sup>What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; <sup>12</sup>or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? <sup>13</sup>If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

**P:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

#### Song: "The Apostles Creed"

I believe in God, the Father, Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit.

I believe He was born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate. He was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into Hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead, ascended into Heaven and is seated at the right hand of God. From thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen!

### Children's Message

### Song: "Canticle of the Sun"

Refrain

The heavens are telling the glory of God, and all creation is shouting for joy; Come, dance in the forest, come, play in the field, and sing, sing to the glory of the Lord!

Sing to the sun, the bringer of day, he carries the light of the Lord in his rays; the moon and the stars who light up the way unto your throne. Refrain

Praise to the wind, that blows through the trees, the seas mighty storms, the gentlest breeze, they blow where they will, they blow where they please to please the Lord. Refrain

Praise to the rain, that waters our fields, and blesses our crops so all the earth yields; from death unto life her myst'ry revealed springs forth in joy. Refrain

Praise to the fire, who gives us his light the warmth of the sun to brighten our night; he dances with joy, his spirit so bright, he sings of you. Refrain

Sing to the earth, who makes life to grow, the creatures you made to let your life show; the flowers and trees that help us to know the heart of love. Refrain

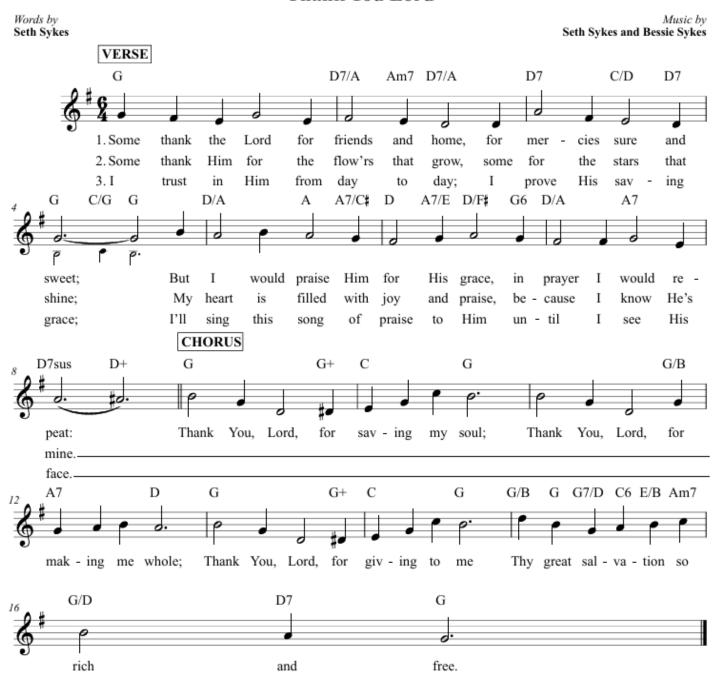
Praise to our death, that makes our life real, the knowledge of loss that helps us to feel; the gift of yourself, your presence revealed to lead us home. Refrain

Sermon – "Learn from Abraham to Pray" (based on Genesis 18:20-33)
Ushers bring Offering to the Altar

(Stand)

# **Offering Response Song:**

# Thank You Lord



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### **Prayer of the Church**

P: In our prayers today....

Song: "Whisper A Prayer"

Whisper a pray'r in the morning, Whisper a pray'r at noon;

Whisper a pray'r in the evening, He'll keep your heart in tune.

God answers pray'r in the morning, God answers pray'r at noon;

God answers pray'r in the evening, He'll keep your heart in tune.

P: Lord, in your mercy

C: Hear our prayer.

# Song: "Hallowed Be Thy Name"

Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done; Hallowed be Thy name.

As in heaven, so on the earth. Hallowed be Thy name. Give us this day our daily bread.

Hallowed be Thy name.

And forgive us all our debts; Hallowed be Thy name. Just as we forgive our debtors. Hallowed be Thy name.

Lead us not into temptation; Hallowed be Thy name. But deliver us from evil. Hallowed be Thy name.

Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory; Hallowed be Thy name. Forever and forever more. Hallowed be Thy name.

Amen, it shall be so. Hallowed be Thy name. Amen, amen, it shall be so. Hallowed be Thy name. Hallowed be Thy name.

#### **Consecration of Communion Elements**

(sit)

#### ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION/THE LORD'S SUPPER

Here at Zion Lutheran, we believe that Christ's true body and blood are received by everyone in the Lord's Supper (Real Presence). All who participate here believe the same Biblical truths and we practice "Closed Communion."

 $\label{thm:local_problem} \mbox{Visitors, please consult with Pastor Johnson or the Elder before receiving the Lord's Supper.}$ 

Only communicant members of Zion or one of our sister LCMS churches are invited to receive the Communion elements. If you do not meet this criterion, you are invited to come forward for a blessing by our pastor. Simply fold your hands across your chest when the bread and the wine are distributed, and our pastor will speak a blessing over you. All children are invited to come forward for a blessing.

Our Communion practices are to have four adults (with children standing in front of the adults) on each side of area in front of the chancel (Altar area) as our Pastor and Elder are serving the elements. The Ushers are instructed to limit the communicants to four. Inform the Usher if you desire NOT to be separated from someone and he'll adjust the groupings of four accordingly.

# **First Communion Song:**

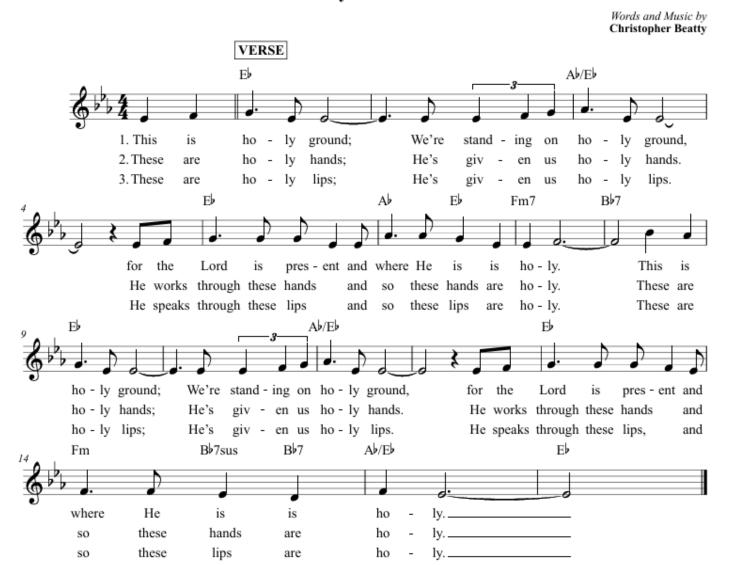
# **Communion Song**



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# **Second Communion Song:**

# **Holy Ground**



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# **Third Communion Song:**



### **Post Communion Collect**

P: Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

#### **Benediction**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ♠ give you peace.

C: Amen.

(sit)

# **Closing Song:**

# Majesty



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