DIVINE SERVICE SETTING THREE

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

STANDING STRONG + GROWING TOGETHER + REACHING OUT

The First Sunday in Lent

February 21, 2021

AS WE GATHER

Today we hear of God testing Abraham and of Satan tempting Jesus. James reminds us that God tempts no one. So, how can we know whether God is testing us or Satan is tempting us? James reminds us that "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change" (James 1:17). As we go through life, striving to live out our calling as God's people, we will hit obstacles and face tests to our faith and to how we live that faith. God can work through these tests to draw us closer to Him. On the other hand, Satan wants to lure and entice us away from the path God would have us walk.

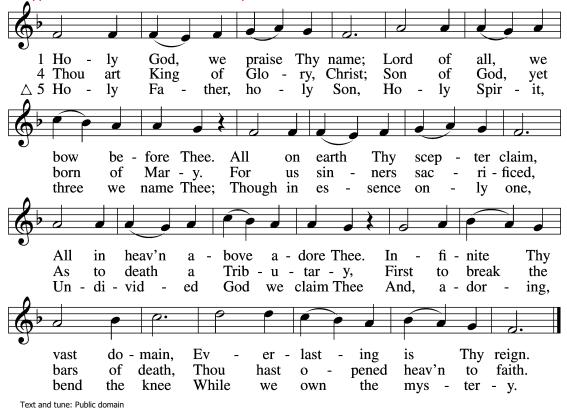
GATHERING MUSIC WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION TO WORSHIP

David Garcia, *Organ* Pastor Stephen Heimer

"Holy God, We Praise Thy Name" v.1,4-5 LSB 940

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Worshippers are invited to stand and face the processional cross.



INVOCATION AND BAPTISMAL REMEMBRANCE

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- \mathbf{P} In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **C** Amen.

1

CONFESSION OF SINS AND FORGIVENESS

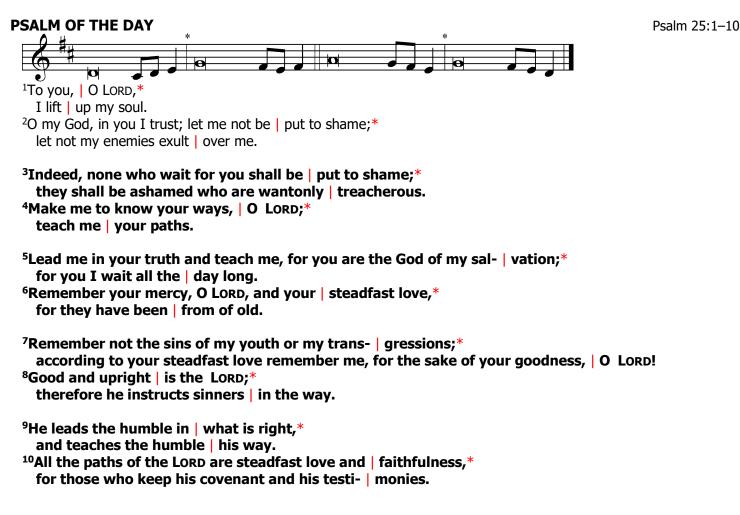
- Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- **P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- **G** who made heaven and earth.
- I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- **G** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

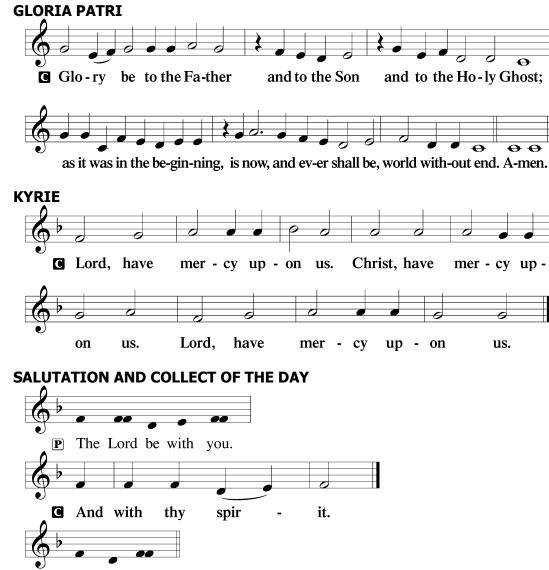
Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

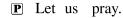
- Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.
- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the
 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +







 P O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



OLD TESTAMENT READING

(God tested Abraham.)

Genesis 22:1-18

¹After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." ²He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." ³So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. ⁴On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. ⁵Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you." ⁶And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. ⁷And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here am I, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood,

G Thanks be to God.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

P

A

С

EPISTLE

HOLY GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.



⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opening and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

¹²The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³And he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. And he was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him.

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

(Jesus is baptized and sent to be tempted.)

tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. ¹⁴But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. ¹⁵Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death. ¹⁶Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. ¹⁷Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures. This is the Word of the Lord. A

(The path temptation treads) ¹²Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the

¹⁵And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven ¹⁶and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, ¹⁸ and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice." This is the Word of the Lord.

order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. ¹¹But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." ¹²He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." ¹³And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴So Abraham called the name of that place, "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" ⁸Abraham said, "God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together. ⁹When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in

crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. ¹³Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being

James 1:12-18

Mark 1:9-15

C Praise be to Thee, 0 Christ.

NICENE CREED

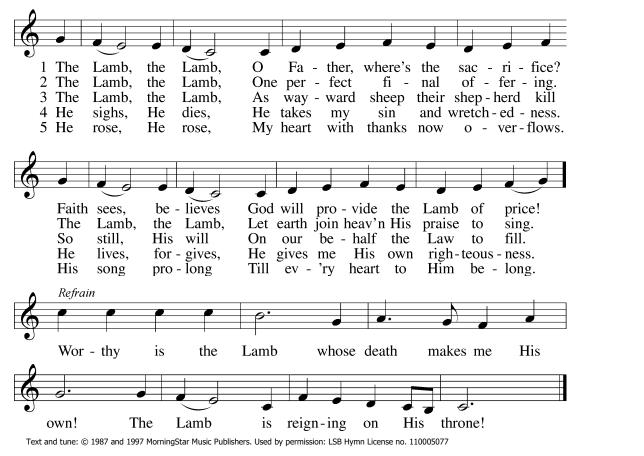
I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"The Lamb" LSB 547



SERMON

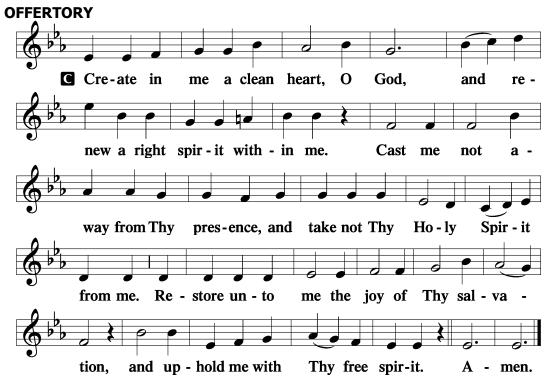
"Count on God's Promises"

OFFERING

"Prayer of Humanity"

Handbell Choir

Offerings can be placed in the offering plate located on the stand while entering the church or can be mailed of given online at www.zionelpaso.org.



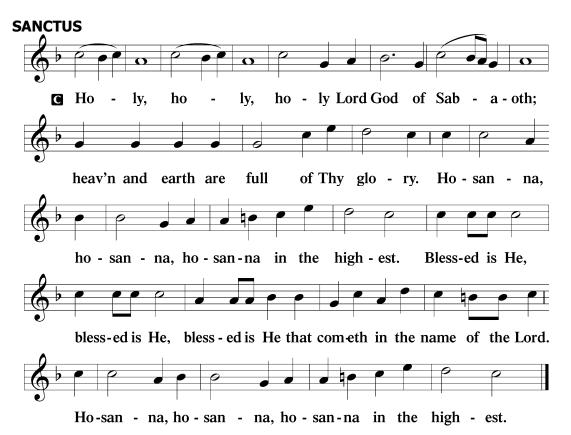
PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +



■ It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord our God, who keeps His promises from generation to generation. As You talked with Your servants over the

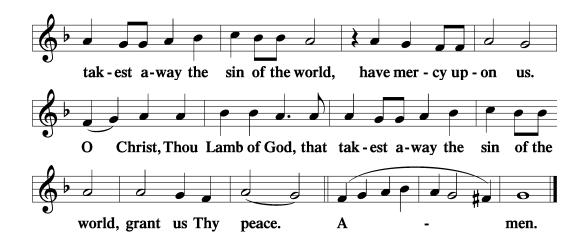
centuries, in these last days You have spoken to us by Your Son, whom You appointed the heir of all things, through whom also You created the world. Strengthen our faith, give us the courage to follow where You lead, and remind us of Your faithful promises. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



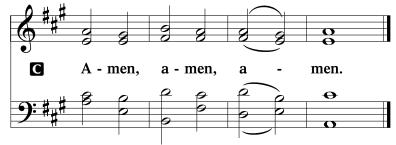
LORD'S PRAYER

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.





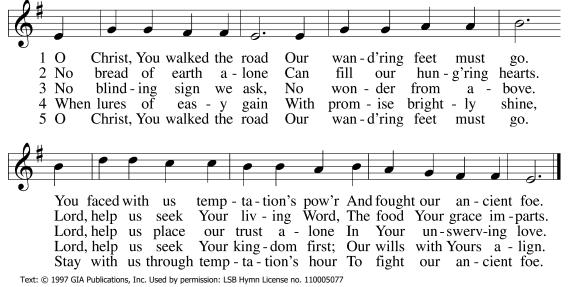
BENEDICTION



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING HYMN

"Christ, You Walked the Road" LSB 424



Tune: Public domain

After the hymn, the Livestream comes to an end and the service of the sacrament continues. If you are unable to be present in the sanctuary due to health concerns but desire to receive the sacrament of the altar, Pastor Stephen and an elder will be available curbside on Birch St. between 12:30 and 1pm today that you might partake while remaining in your vehicle. As you wait curbside, pray aloud the prayers below in preparation for the sacrament:

Today we celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Here our Heavenly Father promises anew His unconditional love, renews His pledge of forgiveness in Christ, and offers His Holy Spirit as strength for daily faith and life. If you are a visitor to Zion, we invite you in the Name of Jesus to commune with us. However, since God reminds us that thoughtless or faithless reception of the Sacrament can incur His judgment (1 Corinthians 11:27-32), the Scriptures call those who commune to personally examine themselves and in their communing publicly confess:

+ I am a baptized Christian and I trust in Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior.

+ I am a sinner in need of God's forgiveness.

+ I believe that Christ is truly present with His body and blood under the bread and wine offering me forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation.

+ Through His grace and strength, I will live to God's glory, in ministry with His people, in mission to His world.

For those communicants preferring it, a light-colored, non-alcoholic grape juice can be found at the center of each tray of wine (fruit of the vine). Children are invited to accompany parents to the altar for the blessing. We trust that your communion with Christ and His people will strengthen your faith, increase your love, and empower your witness to Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. If you have questions about your communing, please speak with the Pastor.

+ + +

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

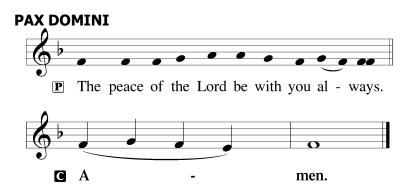
Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given your onlybegotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your great wisdom, You tested Abraham and provided a ram as a substitute sacrifice. In Your great mercy, You allowed Your Son to be tempted in every way that we are, and as He did not sin, You provided Him as the substitute sacrifice for our sins, including the temptations we so easily fall prey to.

We thank You for the forgiveness You freely offer us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

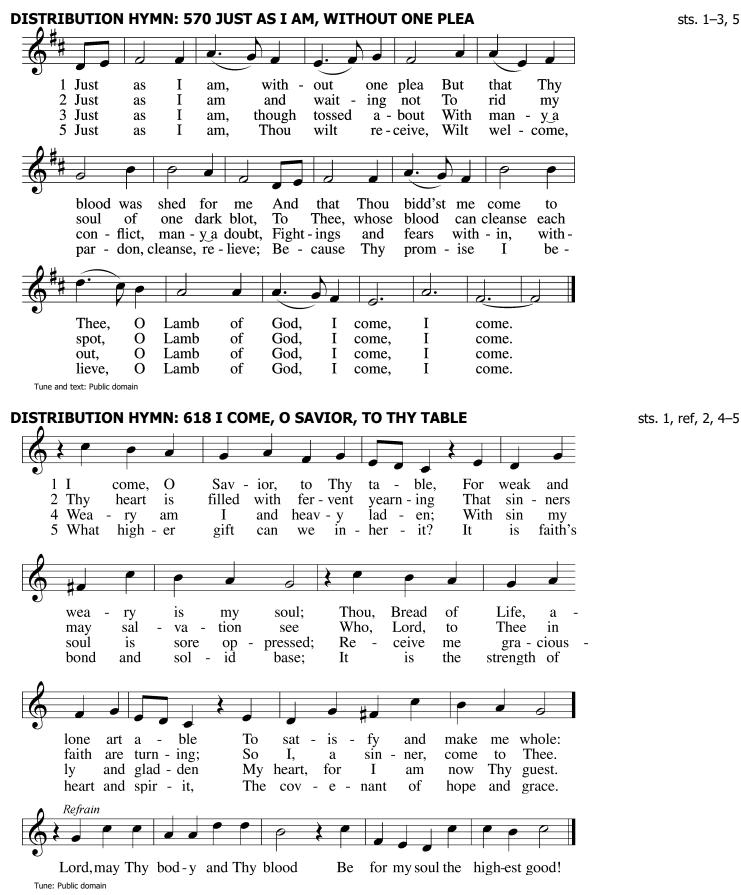
G Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD



DISTRIBUTION

If you will be receiving the Lord's Supper today, please wait as ushers guide each household forward. Remain standing and the pastor will serve you the sacrament in plastic cups. Take those cups with you and place them in one of the baskets located at either side of the sanctuary.



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DISTRIBUTION HYMN: 727 ON EAGLES' WINGS





THE DISMISSAL





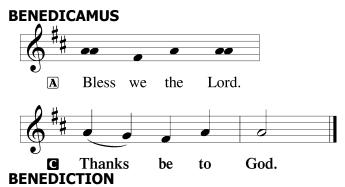
POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

▶ O God, our Father, the One who fulfills His promises and gives the crown of life to those who believe, we thank You for keeping Your promises, even when it meant the death of Your one and only Son, Jesus. We thank You that in spite of all of our wrongs, You give us forgiveness freely in this sacred Meal. Guide us on our pilgrimage through this life to the life You have promised, so that together with all of Your saints we may celebrate the feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.



LSB 201

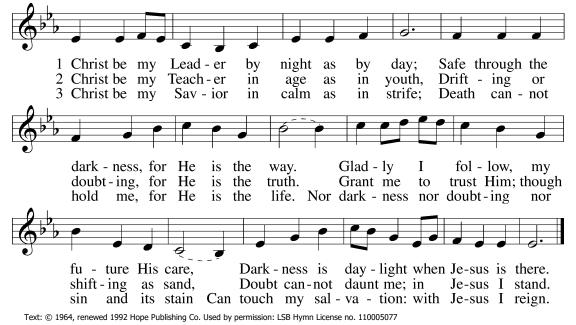


P The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

"Christ Be My Leader" LSB 861



Tune: Public domain

POSTLUDE

David Garcia

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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ZION STEWARDSHIP OF + TIME + TALENT + TREASURE

Preacher & Celebrant:	Pastor Stephen Heimer
Organist:	David Garcia
Elder:	Jim Smith
Reader:	Valerie Rasmussen
Acolyte:	Gabryelle Rodriguez
Camera Operator:	Jaden Heimer
Sound Director:	Brenna Rodriguez
Offering Counter:	Jim Smith
Altar Guild:	Mary Sanchez

Offerings

You can contribute offerings using three main methods:

Online donations: You can make a secure contribution from your credit card or bank account at <u>www.zionelpaso.org</u>. We use Vanco, a reputable agency which specializes in donations to churches and nonprofits. Your contribution can be set up to be recurring, such as each week or month, or as a one-time donation.

Mail donations: Mail your check to the Zion church office at 2808 Pershing Drive, El Paso, TX 79903. The mail is checked every day.

Donations via an app: If you prefer using your phone or tablet, you can download the Vanco Give Plus app. You can easily set up an account and donation through the app.

Your offerings and support are crucial to our congregation and we are very grateful for your support!

Zion's LWML will meet this coming Tuesday, February 23rd, at 1:30 p.m., on Zoom. Peggy Djerf will present the Devotion; we will be discussing our upcoming Lenten and Spring activities and projects. While we cannot have our annual February Friendship Party, as in the past, we will be playing Virtual Friendship LWML Bingo, during the Zoom meeting, complete with prizes! LWML members should have received your Bingo card and "M & M markers" this past week. Sharon Amastae will send out the link to the Zoom meeting, as well as the Meeting Agenda, to all members with email, today. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting on Tuesday!

Lenten Food Collection for the Ysleta Lutheran Mission: LWML will be collecting non-perishable food items to assist YLM in their weekly food distribution during the Season of Lent. We are, once again, inviting the congregation to join us in this Lenten outreach project. Items may be placed in the designated location in the Auditorium or dropped off at the church office.

****** Food items most needed right now are: small bags of rice, beans, and flour, as well as boxes of cereal.** Thanks, in advance, for your support of this project!

Lenten Services on Wednesdays. We are having mid-week prayer services throughout the season of Lent. These services will be on Wednesdays at 7:00pm, in-person in the Zion sanctuary and livestreamed on YouTube and Facebook. Refer to our website for weekly posts on the upcoming Lenten service, including an RSVP form for each service and a link to the livestream. Our remaining schedule of mid-week services is shown below.

Feb. 24	Mark 11:15–19	"Bold Action"
March 3	Mark 12:28–37	"Bold Questions"
March 10	Matthew 23:1–12	"Bold Teaching"
March 17	John 12:23–36	"Bold Final Appearance"

THIS WEEK AT ZION

2/22	Monday	7:00 PM	Berea Bible Study
2/23	Tuesday	1:30 PM	LWML Meeting
	-	5:30 PM	Confirmation Class
2/24	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Lenten Prayer Service
2/26	Friday	10:00 AM	Women's Bible Study
2/28	Sunday	9:15 AM	"Exodus" Bible Study
		10:30 AM	Worship Service



Zion Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 10:00am—3:00pm

Visit our website: zionelpaso.org Follow us on Facebook: facebook.com/zionlutheranelpaso/



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