DIVINE SERVICE SETTING THREE

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

STANDING STRONG + GROWING TOGETHER + REACHING OUT

The Third Sunday in Lent

March 7, 2021

AS WE GATHER

When the Israelites were encamped by Mount Sinai, just out of slavery in Egypt and far from the Promised Land, God wisely gave them the Ten Commandments. They are engraved in our historic churches and capitol buildings. Their perfect demands require a Savior for us. Jesus was so jealous for God's Law that He cleansed the temple before cleansing us of our sin by giving the temple of His body. In His wisdom, God did what we could not: He kept His own Law for us and then chose us to be the Body of Christ today. None of us has kept the commandments; we and our spiritual ancestors reflect our weaknesses in faith and action. But in the process, God's wisdom shows forth: When we are weak, He is strong. Today is a day to boast about God's grace and His Son, Christ crucified, the power and wisdom of God.



GATHERING MUSIC "Let All Mortal Flesh & WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION TO WORSHIP

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" by Michael Burkhardt

David Garcia, *Organ* Pastor Stephen Heimer

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Worshippers are invited to stand and face the processional cross.

"When I Behold Jesus Christ" v.1-3 LSB 542



INVOCATION AND BAPTISMAL REMEMBRANCE

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

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS AND FORGIVENESS

- P 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,
- **©** who made heaven and earth.
- P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.
- When we use the Ten Commandments and other parts of the moral code as a mirror, we see that we have fallen from the perfection of God's good creation and His perfect Law.

Who can discern his errors?

- Declare me innocent from hidden faults.
- P Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins;
- let them not have dominion over me!
- P Our gracious Lord has promised full and free forgiveness to all who call out to our heavenly Father in His name. Let us therefore confess our sins to God, our heavenly Father.
- O God, we confess that we have sinned against You and one another in our thinking, speaking, and acting. Worse, in our fallen nature, we are sinful and unclean, and in the eyes of many we are weak, lowly people. But because You have graciously chosen us and worked faith in our hearts, we humbly ask for mercy for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ. Forgive, renew, and lead us in paths of righteousness.
- The foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. We preach Christ crucified, and for us the word of the cross is the power of God. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the
 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- Amen. Thanks be to God.
- P Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.
- Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.
- 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 ⅓ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **G** Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +



For zeal for your house has con- | sumed me,*

and the reproaches of those who reproach you have fall- en on me.

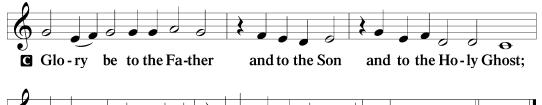
Deliver me from sinking | in the mire;*

let me be delivered from my enemies and from the deep | waters.

Let not the flood sweep over me, or the deep swal- | low me up,* or the pit close its mouth | over me.

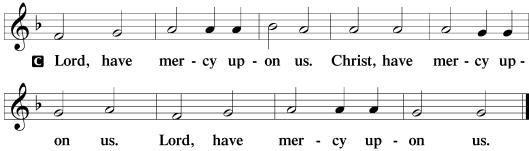
Answer me, O LORD, for your steadfast | love is good;* according to your abundant mercy, | turn to me.

GLORIA PATRI



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

KYRIE



SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- And with thy spirit.
- Let us pray. O God, who in wisdom created us, though we would become weak and rebellious creatures, knowing that Your Son's sacrifice of Himself on the cross would be necessary to save us,
- keep us strong in faith, so that we preach only Christ crucified and boast only in Your strong love and mercy toward us,
- through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

(The Ten Commandments)

Exodus 20:1-17

¹And God spoke all these words, saying, ²°¹I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. ³°You shall have no other gods before me. ⁴°You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁵but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments. ⁻°You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him quiltless who takes his name in vain.

8"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, ¹⁰but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. ¹²"Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. ¹³"You shall not murder. ¹⁴"You shall not commit adultery. ¹⁵"You shall not steal. ¹⁶"You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. ¹⁷"You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's."

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

¹⁸The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." ²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

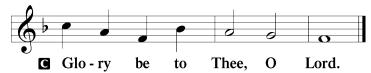
²⁶For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption. ³¹Therefore, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Stand

HOLY GOSPEL John 2:13–25

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the second chapter.



¹³The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. ¹⁵And making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶And he told those who sold the pigeons, "Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade." ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸So the Jews said to him, "What sign do you show us for doing these things?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking about the temple of his body. ²²When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken. ²³Now when he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast, many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he was doing. ²⁴But Jesus on his part did not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people ²⁵and needed no one to bear witness about man, for he himself knew what was in man.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



NICENE CREED

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

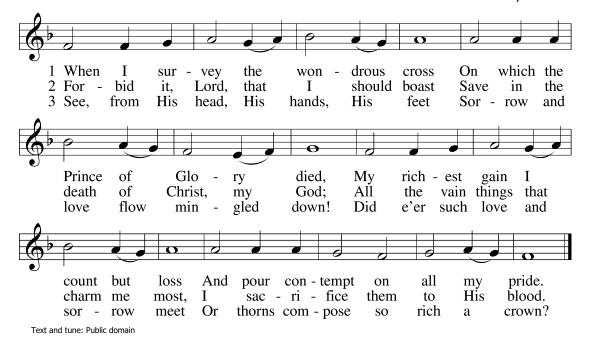
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven 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

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" v.1-3 LSB 425



SERMON "Our God is Greater"

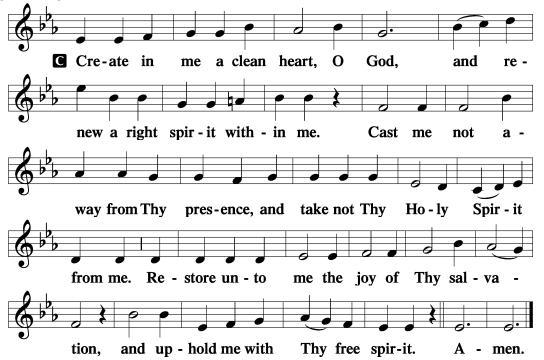
OFFERING

Tune "Jefferson" by Sandra Eithun

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.

OFFERTORY



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray for the Church here and around the world and for people everywhere in their various circumstances.

Lord over all, we give thanks that the heavens declare Your glory. And we pray Your blessings on all who seek ways to use the resources of Your good creation to feed the hungry, heal the sick, and shelter the homeless. Guide them toward bountiful harvests and life-saving technologies. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

P O Lord, who brought Your people Israel out of slavery in Egypt, hear the prayer of those who long for freedom from oppressive regimes, false imprisonment, poverty, and social discrimination. Awaken a desire for peace, justice, and human dignity in the citizens and leaders of the nations. Give them compassionate eyes so that they may seek to help one another, relieving hunger and despair with loving and sharing actions. Guide and protect armed forces deployed and those who work for peace and security in our local communities. Open our eyes to the vocation we have as people of faith each day. Lord, in Your mercy,

G hear our prayer.

Wise and loving heavenly Father, who chose those whom the world considered foolish, weak, lowly, and despised to be joined in the Body of Christ, give us Your strength and wisdom. Open doors of opportunity for the Church to preach Christ crucified and risen no matter the form of opposition they encounter, so that many will come to faith. Strengthen clergy and lay leaders to focus not on institutions or statistics but on the righteousness, sanctification, and redemption our Savior won in His gracious sacrifice for us in grace and love. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

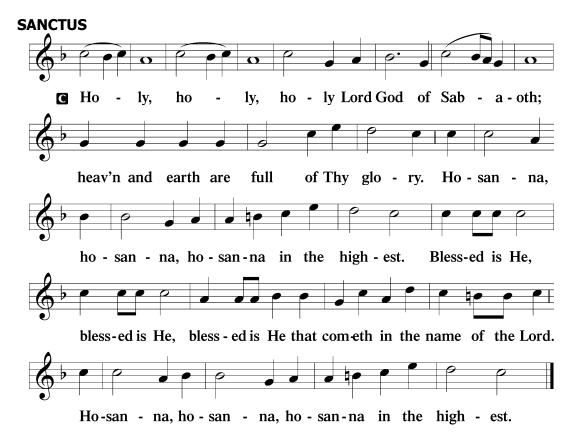
We ask Your gracious answers to the prayers of those near and dear to us, <u>[including . . .]</u>. Visit, relieve, console, and uplift them according to Your plans, using us where possible as part of the answer to their petitions. These and any other things You would have us ask of You, heavenly Father, grant to us for the sake of the bitter sufferings and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +



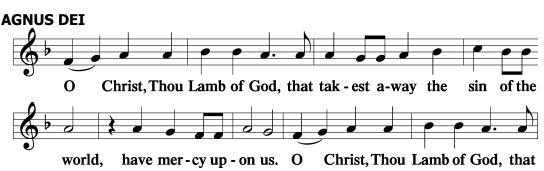
It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, for in wisdom, mercy, and love You sent Your Son into human flesh to die and rise on our behalf. Now Your great salvation may be proclaimed to all people in the preaching of Christ crucified, through whom with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

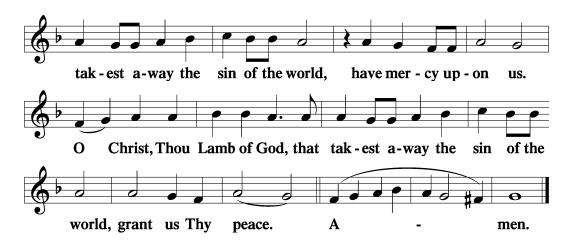


LORD'S PRAYER

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.



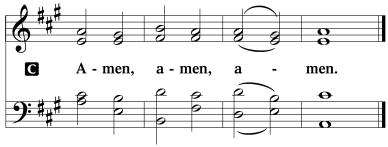




BENEDICTION

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

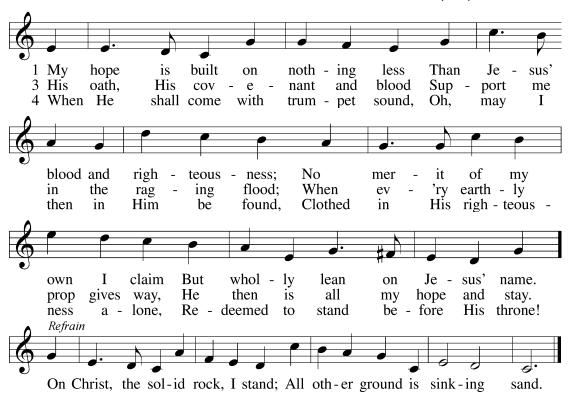
→ give you peace.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING HYMN

"My Hope is Built on Nothing Less" v.1,3-4 LSB 575



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:

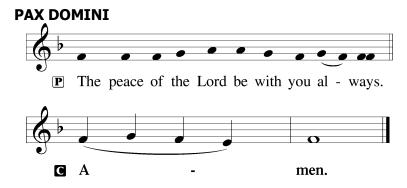
- \pm I am a baptized Christian and I trust in Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior.
- + I am a sinner in need of God's forgiveness.
- \pm I believe that Christ is truly present with His body and blood under the bread and wine offering me forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation.
- → Through His grace 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, for You sent Your only Son into human flesh so that He could become the complete sacrifice for our sins and our sinfulness. We give You thanks that in this Sacrament our hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness as we receive the forgiveness, life, and salvation that He won for us in His death and resurrection. Strengthen our faith thereby that we lift high the cross in how we live and what we proclaim.

G Amen.

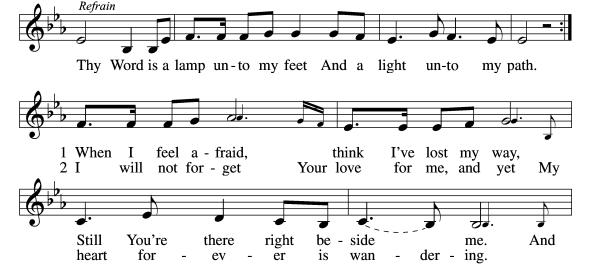
THE WORDS OF OUR LORD



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 as you return to your seat, placing them in one of the baskets located at either side of the sanctuary.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: 973 THY WORD IS A LAMP







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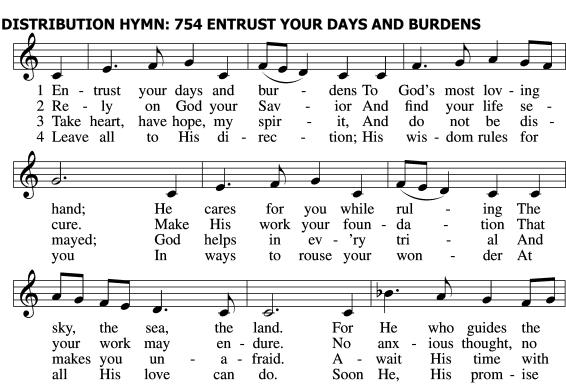
sts. 1-4



for my soul the high-est good! Be

Tune: Public domain

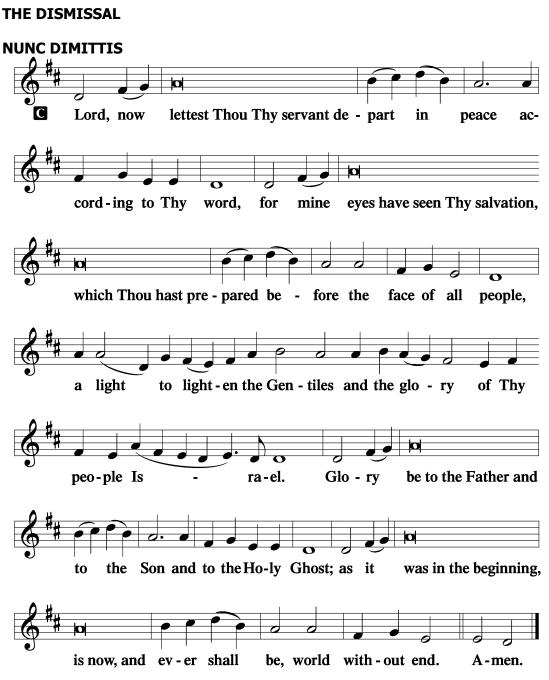
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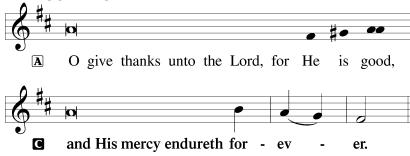


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THANKSGIVING



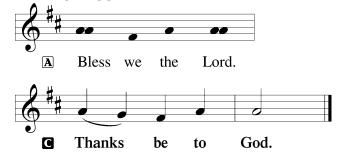
POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

- P O God the Father, who sent Your Son into human history so that He could be given over to death as one of us, despised, and in weakness and lowliness,
- we give thanks that in giving us His body and blood in this Sacrament You have bestowed on us the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation. Accompany us as we leave that we may proclaim Christ crucified to all who do not yet know Your true wisdom, strength, and salvation;
- P through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

SALUTATION



BENEDICAMUS



BENEDICTION

- The grace of our Lord

 → Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- Amen.



POSTLUDE David Garcia, *Organ*

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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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 www.zionelpaso.org. 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!

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.

> March 10 Matthew 23:1–12 "Bold Teaching"

March 17 "Bold Final Appearance" John 12:23-36

ZION STEWARDSHIP OF + TIME + TALENT + TREASURE

Preacher & Celebrant: Pastor Stephen Heimer

Organist: David Garcia Elder: Jim Smith Reader: Angie Gutierrez Acolvte: Victoria Ochoa Camera Operator: Jaden Heimer **Sound Director:** Brenna Rodriguez **Offering Counters:**

Terry & Linda Chaumont

Altar Guild: Sharon Amastae

THIS WEEK AT ZION

3/8	Monday	7:00 PM	Berea Bible Study
3/9	Tuesday	5:30 PM	Confirmation Class
3/10	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Lenten Prayer Service
3/11	Thursday	6:00 PM	Council Meeting
3/12	Friday	10:00 AM	Women's Bible Study
3/14	Sunday	9:15 AM	"Exodus" Bible Study
	,	10:30 AM	Worship Service



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

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