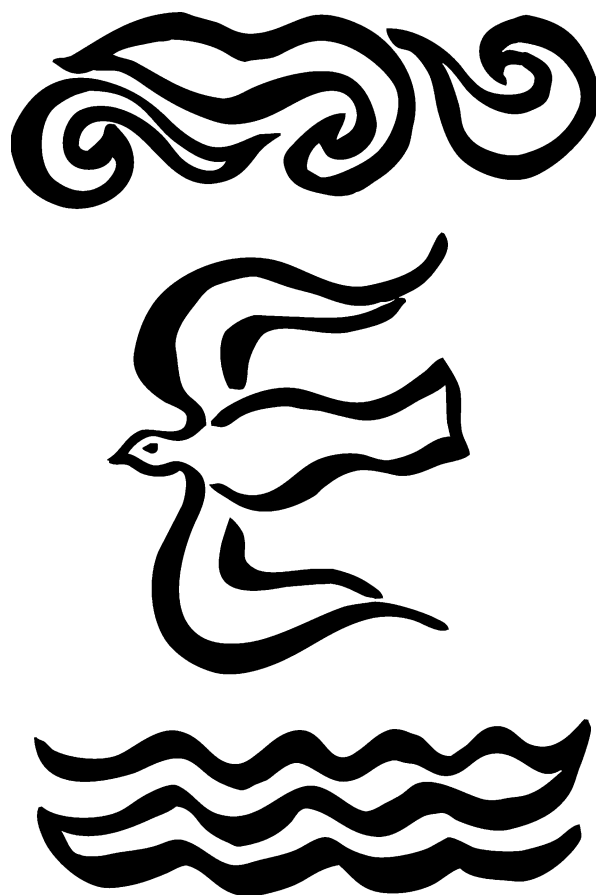


**CHRIST  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**  
ZIONSVILLE



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**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent**

**March 1, 2026**

God of Creation

*All members and guests, please fill out the Welcome Form found at the end of your row and pass it on to your neighbor. The pastoral and spiritual care of the members of Christ Church is very important to us. In order to care for all of you, we need to know who is present and who is not. So, please take a moment to sign the pad. The Welcome Forms will be picked up by the ushers at the end of the service.*

## WELCOME TO CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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### Looking for a Church Home?

Mr. Rogers once asked, "Won't you be my neighbor?" Jesus asked, "Who is your neighbor?" At Christ Lutheran Church (CLC) - Zionsville, our answer to Jesus' question is EVERYONE, and to Mr. Rogers - YES.

God calls us to meet people wherever they are in their journey of faith – and that includes YOU!

At Christ Lutheran Church you are welcomed, just as you are:

- Single, committed, married, divorced, lost your partner, still looking or not.
- Every race, nationality, gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation
- Ready to join a group or prefer to sit back
- Regardless of knowing a little or a lot about Jesus
- Whether you have left the Church and are returning
- Whether you find yourself on this list or not

We are calling YOU neighbor! Join us!

### Children in Worship

Children hold a special place in our congregation! We warmly invite children of all ages to join us in worship. We embrace their natural tendencies to giggle, poke, squirm, and swing their legs - it's all part of being a child and a precious gift to our community.

Our nursery is available from **10:30 to 11:30**, staffed by dedicated caregivers who will lovingly care for infants and toddlers. This allows parents to fully engage in worship, knowing their little ones are in safe hands. The nursery provides age-appropriate toys and a comforting environment, ensuring your child's needs are met while you worship with the congregation.

We respect and support each family's unique circumstances and preferences. Whether your child joins the main worship service or utilizes our nursery, we are here to accommodate and make everyone feel welcome and comfortable.

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## WELCOME

## LENTEN CANDLES

Each week during Lent we will extinguish one candle as Christ's life draws to a close. This week we extinguish the candle of searching.

Have you ever tried to find something in the dark? How would you look for something when you can't see where you are going? Would you feel your way around? There was a man named Nicodemus who was trying to find something, and he came to Jesus at night, when it was really dark, to see if Jesus could help him find it. Do you know what Nicodemus was looking for? He wanted to find out if Jesus was really the Christ, the Messiah. Today's candle represents searching. During Lent, we are searching for Jesus. As we extinguish this candle, it reminds us that Jesus will still be where we can find him, whether it is light or dark.

*Please stand as you are able.*

## GATHERING SONG

## God of Creation

*Choir sings all verses. Congregation and Choir sing the refrain (printed)*

Choir: God of creation, Giver of life, be the light in our darkness; grant us peace in our strife. Show us your mercy; give us new birth. You have made us your children to bear fruit on the earth.

## Congregation (refrain):

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son,  
 Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son,  
 Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, Ky - ri -  
 e e - le - i - son.

Choir: Lord, our Redeemer, Healer of souls, be the hope that restores us; with your touch make us whole.  
 Here we partake in your feast of love; give us strength on our journey with your body and blood.

### Congregation (refrain):

Musical score for the congregation refrain. It consists of four staves of music in a single system. The first three staves each begin with the lyrics "Chri - ste e - le - i - son,". The fourth staff continues with "ste e - le - i - son." The melody is written in a single treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature. The notes are: C4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), Bb4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), Bb4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter).

Choir: Spirit most holy, Comforter blest, be the fire that consumes us and our hearts' welcome guest.

Form us, renew us, call us by name. Raise us up from the ashes and create us again.

### Congregation (refrain):

Musical score for the congregation refrain. It consists of four staves of music in a single system. The first three staves each begin with the lyrics "Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son,". The fourth staff continues with "e e - le - i - son." The melody is written in a single treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a 3/4 time signature. The notes are: C4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), Bb4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), Bb4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter).

### CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P Let us pray our prayer of confession together.

**C Most merciful God, we confess that 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 neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry, and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

P Almighty God has mercy on us, forgives us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthens us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keeps us into eternal life.

**C Amen.**

Up from the ash - es we now a - rise, and re -  
 turn to our Mak - er who has an - swered our cries.  
 Know - ing God's mer - cy, we share this meal; through the  
 Word and the Ta - ble bound-less love is re - vealed.  
 Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, Ky - ri - e e -  
 le - i - son, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, Ky - ri -  
 e e - le - i - son.

*Please be seated.*

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen**

### **WORD**

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

### **FIRST READING Genesis 12:1-4a**

L A reading from Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>The Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

<sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him.

L Word of God, Word of life.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 121

L <sup>1</sup> I lift up my eyes to the hills;  
from where is my help to come?

**C <sup>2</sup> My help comes from the Lord,  
the maker of heaven and earth.**

L <sup>3</sup> The Lord will not let your foot be moved  
nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

**C <sup>4</sup> Behold, the keeper of Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep;**

L <sup>5</sup> the Lord watches over you;  
the Lord is your shade at your right hand;

**C <sup>6</sup> the sun will not strike you by day,  
nor the moon by night.**

L<sup>7</sup> The Lord will preserve you from all evil  
and will keep your life.

**C <sup>8</sup> The Lord will watch over your going out and your coming in,  
from this time forth forevermore.**

## SECOND READING Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

L A reading from Romans.

<sup>1</sup> What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? <sup>2</sup> For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup> For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup> Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup> But to one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup> For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup> For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup> For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression.

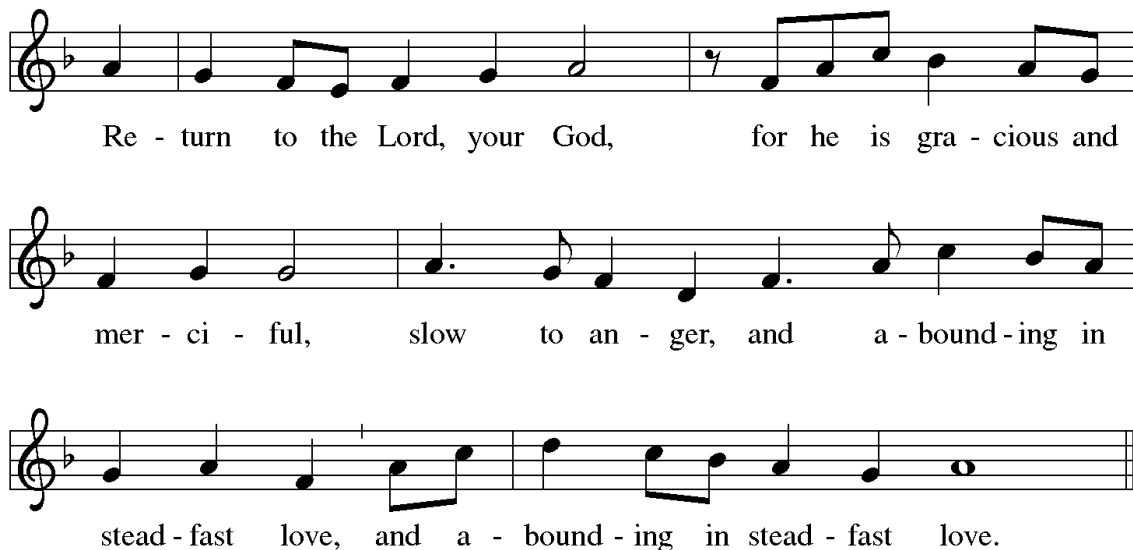
<sup>16</sup> For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup> as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations"), in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

L Word of God, Word of life.

**C Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

## GOSPEL John 3:1-17

P The holy gospel according to John.

**C Glory to you, O Lord.**

P<sup>1</sup> Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup> He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person." <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." <sup>4</sup> Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" <sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup> What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup> Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' <sup>8</sup> The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." <sup>9</sup> Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup> "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup> If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup> No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup> And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup> "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup> "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him."

P The gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated*

*Please rise as you are able.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

**God Love the World**

ELW 323



1 God loved the world so that he gave his on - ly  
 2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, who was made  
 3 If you are ill, if death draws near, this truth your  
 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son for - gives all  
 5 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly



Son the lost to save, that all who would in  
 flesh and suf - fered death; all who con - fide in  
 trou - bled heart can cheer: Christ Je - sus res - cues  
 sins that you have done, and jus - ti - fied by  
 Spir - it, Three in One! To you, O bless - ed



him be - lieve should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.  
 Christ a - lone are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.  
 us from death; that is the firm - est ground of faith.  
 Je - sus' blood, your bap - tism grants the high - est good.  
 Trin - i - ty, be praise now and e - ter - nal - ly!

*Please be seated.*

**APOSTLES' CREED**

AM Gathered together by the power of the Holy Spirit we confess our common faith:

**C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, died, and was buried;**

**he descended to the dead\*.**

**On the third day he rose again;**

**he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

**and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic\*\* Church,**

**the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

\*Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use. \*\* meaning the church universal

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

AM Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

*A brief silence.*

AM Faithful One, you renew us by grace. As you have inspired faith through the work of church artists and hymnwriters throughout the ages, give your church the means to praise your beauty today. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

AM Living One, you delight in this world. The sun and moon, the wind and the water declare your goodness. Preserve this earth, and protect conservationists, scientists, and all who labor in service to creation. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

AM Ruling One, you bless us to be a blessing. Open the hearts of all leaders to seek the flourishing of every person and lend your help to all who wait for justice, deliverance, and peace. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

AM Compassionate One, you send your Son to save. Declare your word of acceptance to any who feel condemned and lift up any brought low by hatred and exclusion. Tend to all who are struggling with illness or loss especially **Jennifer, Jonas, Jon, Donna, Bob, Rita, Mike, Mimi, Ray, Janice, Tina, Marilyn, Charlotte** and for all those we now name in our hearts or in Your presence. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

AM Guiding One, you watch over our going out and coming in. Bless newcomers and new members in this assembly and accompany those who have recently left this community to journey elsewhere. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

AM Eternal One, you neither slumber nor sleep. Be our keeper in life and in death. Thank you for our beloved who have died, and for your promise which saves this whole world by your love. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

AM Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

**C Amen.**

## **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

AM The peace of the Lord is with you always.

**C And also with you.**

AM Let us share a sign of God's peace with those around us.

*(Due to the intense flu season, we'll refrain from shaking hands).*

## **RECEIVING OUR OFFERINGS**

God calls us to be generous stewards for the sake of our ministry near and far. You can support our ministry by placing an offering in the offering plate, mailing it to the church, giving online through our website, or the QR code. If you would like more details on direct deposit, please contact our office administrator for more information at [office@clczionsville.org](mailto:office@clczionsville.org).



**OFFERING****Come to the Water  
~ Sanctuary Choir ~****arr. Hasseler**

*O let all who thirst, let them come to the water.  
And let all who have nothing, let them come to the Lord:  
Without money, without price. Why should you pay the price,  
Except for the Lord?*

*And let all who seek, let them come to the water.  
And let all who have nothing, let them come to the Lord:  
Without money, without strife. Why should you spend your life,  
Except for the Lord?*

*And let all who toil, let them come to the water.  
And let all who are weary, let them come to the Lord:  
All who labor, without rest How can your soul find rest,  
Except for the Lord?*

*And let all the poor, let them come to the water.  
Bring the ones who are laden, bring them all to the Lord:  
Bring the children without might, Easy the load and light,  
Come to the Lord.*

**OFFERTORY SONG****Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful****ELW 182**

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

AM O God, maker of heaven and earth,  
your steadfast love embraces all creation.  
You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth  
and bring forth its bounty.

Through these gifts of bread and wine,  
draw us into the death and life of your Son,  
who calls us to bear witness to his saving work.  
We ask this in Jesus' name.

**C Amen.**

## **MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

### **DIALOGUE**

P The Lord is with you.

**C And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

**C We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### **PREFACE**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God.  
You reveal your glory as the glory of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit:  
equal in majesty, undivided in splendor, one Lord, one God,  
ever to be adored in your eternal glory.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Holy, Holy, Holy". It consists of five staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,". The second staff continues with "heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho-". The third staff has "san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -". The fourth staff starts with "est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-". The fifth and final staff concludes with "san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est."

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho-  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -  
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

**P** In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

**C Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**C Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION


P Come to the table.

Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

## COMMUNION

*All are welcome to participate in the Lord's Meal. If it's been years, or just a week, the bread and wine/juice and Jesus' presence in, with, and around them are for all. If you have questions about taking your first communion don't hesitate to ask. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. When you come forward you will receive a wafer from the Pastor or Assisting Minister and you will hear the words **the body of Christ, given for you**. Once you eat the wafer you are invited to take either wine or juice from the communion assistant and you will hear the words, **the blood of Christ, shed for you**. Once you've communed there is a small receptacle where the used communion cup can be placed.*

## COMMUNION SONG



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

AM God of our salvation,  
we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls,  
reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey.  
Through the body and blood of your Son,  
may we become Christ's body in the world,  
bearing witness to your love for all creation,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C Amen.**

## SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please stand as you are able.*

## BLESSING

P Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity:  
God, who calls all things into existence,  
Jesus Christ, who redeems us,  
and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation,  
✠ bless you now and always.

**C Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

### *Blessed Assurance*

**ELW 638**



- 1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
- 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
- 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.  
an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.  
watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

*Refrain*



This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:



this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

## **DISMISSAL**

AM Go in peace. Believe the good news.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

***Come, Sweet Death***

**Bach**

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## **Lenten Wednesdays**

*Theme: Love Outpoured*

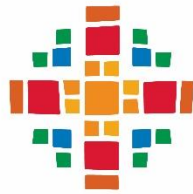
Various people will share when God's love was poured out on them or when they poured God's love out on another.

**March 4, 11, 18, 25**  
**Service | 7pm**

**March 4, 18**  
**Dinner | 6pm**

On select Wednesdays of Lent, a soup & bread dinner will be offered in the Fellowship Hall. Following at 7pm, we will gather in the Sanctuary to worship, sing and pray.





**CHRIST  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**  
ZIONSVILLE

## SERVING US AT WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY

<b>Interim Pastor:</b>	Hope Moran
<b>Assisting Minister:</b>	Bob Russell
<b>Lector:</b>	Connie Steinhart
<b>Communion Assistants:</b>	Barbara Burkhardt, John Burkhardt
<b>Communion Cup Holder:</b>	Jimmy & Maddie Knox
<b>Greeter:</b>	Randy Eugenio
<b>Usher:</b>	Connie Niessink
<b>Nursery:</b>	Angie Eugenio
<b>Hospitality:</b>	Cheryl Kussow, Chris Emsley
<b>Financial Assistants:</b>	Anne Behrend, Linda Callecod
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	Gretchen Jeffers, Jen Luczak, Deb Gates
<b>AV Assistant:</b>	Ted Kussow

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

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### **Anne Behrend**

Finance Administrator  
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*Please scan if you would like to give an electronic offering.*