



**Fourth Sunday After Epiphany  
Pray in This Way**

**January 29, 2023 + 9:00 a.m.**

**Zion-Public WiFi password: Zion54484**

**Congregational responses are in BOLD.**

All are welcome to receive Jesus' unconditional gift of God's grace through the sacrament of Holy Communion. Regardless of your church membership or affiliation, all are encouraged to participate in communion or to come forward for a blessing.

Children of all ages are encouraged to worship with the whole community in Christ. Children's worship bags are available in the back of the sanctuary.

Page numbers that are listed are found in the front of the cranberry-colored hymnal at the bottom of the page. Hymn numbers are listed in bold, large print on the top of the page.

If you would like home communion, a hospital visit, or a conversation with the pastor, please contact the church office at 715.687.4110 or at [office@zionstratford.org](mailto:office@zionstratford.org) or Pastor Amy Heinz at 608.498.5772 or [pastoramy@zionstratford.org](mailto:pastoramy@zionstratford.org).

**Ministers:** All the People of God through the love of Jesus and the power and gifts of the Holy Spirit

**Pastor:** Rev. Amy Heinz

**Administrative Assistant:** Kathy Busche

**Organists:** Judy Polege, Marge Redetzke, Ryan Huther

**Custodian:** Rod Huther

**Missionaries:** Steven & Bethany Friberg, Tanzania

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## PRELUDE

## WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS/CENTERING

### We Gather in Grace

## NEW YEAR'S PRAYER OF INVOCATION

A new day has begun!

Are you ready to give God praise?

**We are ready!**

Are you ready to leave behind the baggage?

**We are ready!**

Are you ready to step out in faith?

**We are ready!**

Are you ready to forgive?

**We are ready!**

Even the one who hurt you the most?

**We are ready!**

Are you ready to release your doubts and fears?

**We are ready!**

**O Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! We are yours  
and we are ready! Alleluia! Amen!**

<https://carolpenner.typepad.com/leadinginworship/church-year-new-year/>

**GATHERING HYMN**     *“O Word of God Incarnate”*     **ELW 514**

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us make a hopeful confession to God.

*Brief silence for individual reflection and confession.*

**We seek you, God, in the spaces of our lives.  
The spaces between what we've done  
and what we've left undone.  
The spaces between our convictions  
and our actions,  
the spaces between all that we hoped to do,  
and what we've actually done.  
We come with humility,  
knowing that we can't always see  
the ways we've disappointed you,  
nor can we always see  
the long-term effects of the good we've done.  
This is a prayer for the road ahead,  
which is an empty space stretching before us.  
Fill us with a burning compassion  
for those around us,  
a love that will not let us go.  
Give us courage to give boldly,  
love simply,  
hope deeply,  
risk greatly.  
Our light is small,  
our time is short,  
but let it shine for you,  
always, ever, all for you.  
Amen.  
God hears our fervent prayer.  
In the name of + Jesus Christ,  
our sins are pardoned.  
The penalty is paid.  
Thanks be to God! Amen.**

## **GREETING**

May the love of God the Father, the grace of Jesus the Son,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit abide with you all.

**And also with you.**

## **HYMN OF PRAISE**

*“Glory to God”*

**ACS Setting 11**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Extravagant God,**

**You have promised treasure in heaven that far outweighs any  
we could envision or imagine on earth. Help us to be grateful for  
the amazing gifts you have already given us. We pray these  
things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior, and Lord. Amen.**

## **We Hear the Word of God**

## **COMPLEMENTARY READING**

**Psalm 20:7**

<sup>7</sup> Some take pride in chariots and some in horses,  
but our pride is in the name of the Lord our God.

## **READING**

**Matthew 6:7-21**

<sup>7</sup> “When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the  
gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard because of their  
many words. <sup>8</sup> Do not be like them, for your Father knows what  
you need before you ask him.

<sup>9</sup> “Pray, then, in this way:

Our Father in heaven,  
may your name be revered as holy.

<sup>10</sup> May your kingdom come.

May your will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.

- <sup>11</sup> Give us today our daily bread.<sup>[a]</sup>  
<sup>12</sup> And forgive us our debts,  
as we also have forgiven our debtors.  
<sup>13</sup> And do not bring us to the time of trial,<sup>[b]</sup>  
but rescue us from the evil one.<sup>[c]</sup>

<sup>14</sup> “For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, <sup>15</sup> but if you do not forgive others,<sup>[d]</sup> neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

<sup>16</sup> “And whenever you fast, do not look somber, like the hypocrites, for they mark their faces to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>17</sup> But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, <sup>18</sup> so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.<sup>[e]</sup>

<sup>19</sup> “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust<sup>[f]</sup> consume and where thieves break in and steal, <sup>20</sup> but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust<sup>[g]</sup> consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

*Pray in This Way*

**Pastor Amy Heinz**

**HYMN OF THE DAY** “*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*” **ELW 742**

**APOSTLES’ CREED**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

United with your saints across time and place, we pray for our shared world.

*A brief silence.*

We rejoice at the bounty of your creation. Fill the land and sea with your abundance. Bless harvests in the southern hemisphere and fallow fields in the northern hemisphere. Equip farmers to till and keep the earth sustainably. Hear us, O God.

### **Your mercy is great.**

In Christ, your reign comes near and calls all to repentance. Break the rod of the oppressor in every nation. Dispel the shadow of death in places of war and persecution. Grant us leaders who lift the yokes that burden those in need.

Hear us, O God.

### **Your mercy is great.**

Lord, you have called us out of the world into this congregation of your disciples. Make clear the way you would have us go, the work you would have us do, and the love you would have us share. Especially bless our relationship with other Christians in the world as we support and share ministry with our companion synod in Malawi.

Hear us, O God.

### **Your mercy is great.**

Protector of us all, we ask that you watch over our military troops. Keep your hand upon each one and send the Holy Spirit to dwell in each one. We ask you to guide each one to safety in your arms and to bring each one to your saving grace.

Hear us, O God

### **Our mercy is great.**

God of all ages, release us from fear. Lead us forward, even as you have led your Church forward from an empty cross and tomb through millennia. Be our companion as we walk unexplored paths into an unknown future. Open us to new possibilities. Renew our hope. Grant us faith to move ahead. Be our companion until Jesus comes again. In his name, we pray.

**Amen.\*\***

### **We Share the Meal**

#### **OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY** *“Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring”* ELW 691 Vs. 1

#### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**Faithful God,**

**We look back on the year behind us and appreciate your presence with us through it. In this new year, grant that we may become more faithful, more committed to your kingdom work, more knowledgeable of your ways, more familiar with your spirit, more yielding to your instruction, and more willing to give of ourselves for others.**

**Accept our tithes and offerings this day as an act of faith and of worship.**

**In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.**

#### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**



## **DISTRIBUTION SONGS**

*“Lamb of God”*

**ELW p. 154**

*“Be Thou My Vision”*

**ELW 793**

*“Jesus, Priceless Treasure”*

**ELW 775**

## **BLESSING AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

### **We Serve the World in God’s Name**

#### **BENEDICTION**

May the God who gave us the past year and the Savior who walked at our side each day and the Spirit who filled us with life abundant, grace this new year with peace ✝ and hope, and joy.

**Amen.**

**CLOSING SONG** *“Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise”* **ELW 826 Vs.  
1, 2, 4**

#### **DISMISSAL**

We go in peace serving the Lord,  
**with open doors, open hearts, and open hands.**  
**Thanks be to God!**

#### **POSTLUDE**

**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA  
January 29, 2023 following worship**

**Call to Order**                      **President Dan Thompson**

**Opening Devotion**                      **Pastor Amy Heinz**

**Secretary's Report**                      **Approval of 1-30-2022  
Annual Meeting,  
5-15-2022 Congregational  
Meeting &  
9-25-2022 Congregational  
Meeting**

**Treasurer's Report**                      **Approval of Report**

**Agenda Approval (Additions)**

**Unfinished Business**                      **None**

**New Business**

A.) Election of Council Members

B.) Election/Team Extension of Trust Committee  
Member – June Krueger

C.) Budget - Treasurer

D.) Future of Parsonage

E.) Estate Gift

**Give Thanks**



## **Zion Lutheran Church**

***Open Doors, Open Hearts, Open Hands***

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