



**Seventh Sunday After Epiphany**  
**Transfiguration Sunday**  
***Installation of Council Members***

**February 19, 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**

**CENTERING**

**WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**We Gather in Grace**

**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**     *“How Good, Lord, to Be Here!”*

**ELW 315**

**v 1,2,5**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Let us make a hopeful confession to God.

*Brief silence for individual reflection and confession.*

Let us pray together:

**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**

**All: Radiant God,**

**You revealed yourself in your Son, Jesus, when he was  
transfigured on the mountain before his disciples. Reveal  
yourself to us daily, so that we might enlighten others with the  
good news of your love. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our  
Savior and Lord. Amen.**

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

## **COMPLEMENTARY READING**

**Psalm 41:7-10**

<sup>7</sup> All who hate me whisper together about me;  
they imagine the worst for me.

<sup>8</sup> They think that a deadly thing has fastened on me,  
that I will not rise again from where I lie.

<sup>9</sup> Even my close friend in whom I trusted,  
who ate of my bread, has lifted the heel against me.

<sup>10</sup> But you, O Lord, be gracious to me,  
and raise me up, that I may repay them.

## READING

**Matthew 16:24-17:8**

<sup>24</sup> Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup> For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup> For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

<sup>27</sup> “For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. <sup>28</sup> Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

### **The Transfiguration**

<sup>1</sup> Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. <sup>2</sup> And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. <sup>3</sup> Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup> Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” <sup>5</sup> While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!” <sup>6</sup> When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. <sup>7</sup> But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” <sup>8</sup> And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

**Tent Building 101**

Pastor Amy Heinz

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*“Shine, Jesus, Shine”*

**WOV 651**

**INSTALLATION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**APOSTLES' CREED**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

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

*A brief silence.*

O Triune God, grant us your gracious, guiding presence. As we join Christians of every time who have awaited Jesus' return, lead us into a new time, confident that your promises will be fulfilled. Hear us, O God:

**Your mercy is great.**

Spirit of Truth, call us to repentance. Forgive us for past unfaithfulness, silence in the face of injustice and inaction amid suffering. Move us from the desire to hoard our wealth toward faithful stewardship. Help us to share your gifts with those who cry out for daily bread.

Hear us, O God:

**Your mercy is great.**

Prince of Peace, healer and reconciler, heal the divisions in your Church and among the peoples of the world. As you prayed that we should all be one, give us new visions to enable that unity.

Be with us on our ecumenical journey, and with those sisters and brothers who surround us in the great cloud of witnesses.

Hear us, O God:

**Your mercy is great.**

*Special Prayer Requests*

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 millenia. 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

<i>"Lamb of God"</i>	<b>ELW p. 154</b>
<i>"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"</i>	<b>ELW 815</b>
<i>"Beautiful Savior"</i>	<b>ELW 838</b>

## BLESSING AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

### We Serve the World in God's Name

## BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor ☩ and give you peace.

**Amen.**

**CLOSING SONG**      *"Alleluia, Song of Gladness"*      **ELW 318**

*As we sing this hymn, our young people will be taking the "alleluia banner" out of the sanctuary. This symbolizes our commitment to self-reflection and self-examination during the season of Lent which begins on Wednesday, February 22. From now until Easter Sunday, we will sing no alleluias and no hymn of praise in order to mark the serious nature of our Lenten discipline.*

## **DISMISSAL**

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

## **POSTLUDE**



## **Zion Lutheran Church**

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

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