Zion Lutheran Church





November 15th, 2017 Service of Prayer and Preaching

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

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- Amen.
- 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.
- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
- 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.
- Amen.

Readings from Holy Scripture

Jeremiah 30:1-24

The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Write in a book all the words that I have spoken to you. For behold, days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will restore the fortunes of my people, Israel and

Judah, says the LORD, and I will bring them back to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they shall take possession of it."

These are the words that the LORD spoke concerning Israel and Judah:

"Thus says the LORD:

We have heard a cry of panic,
 of terror, and no peace.

Ask now, and see,
 can a man bear a child?

Why then do I see every man
 with his hands on his stomach like a woman in labor?
 Why has every face turned pale?

Alas! That day is so great
 there is none like it;

it is a time of distress for Jacob;
 yet he shall be saved out of it.

"And it shall come to pass in that day, declares the LORD of hosts, that I will break his yoke from off your neck, and I will burst your bonds, and foreigners shall no more make a servant of him. [a] But they shall serve the LORD their God and David their king, whom I will raise up for them.

"Then fear not, O Jacob my servant, declares the LORD, nor be dismayed, O Israel; for behold, I will save you from far away, and your offspring from the land of their captivity. Jacob shall return and have quiet and ease, and none shall make him afraid.

For I am with you to save you, declares the LORD;

I will make a full end of all the nations among whom I scattered you, but of you I will not make a full end.

I will discipline you in just measure, and I will by no means leave you unpunished.

"For thus says the LORD:
Your hurt is incurable,

and your wound is grievous.

There is none to uphold your cause, no medicine for your wound, no healing for you.

All your lovers have forgotten you;

they care nothing for you;
for I have dealt you the blow of an e

for I have dealt you the blow of an enemy, the punishment of a merciless foe,

because your guilt is great, because your sins are flagrant.

Why do you cry out over your hurt? Your pain is incurable.

Because your guilt is great,

because your sins are flagrant,

I have done these things to you.

Therefore all who devour you shall be devoured, and all your foes, every one of them, shall go into captivity;

those who plunder you shall be plundered,

and all who prey on you I will make a prey.

For I will restore health to you, and your wounds I will heal,

declares the LORD,

because they have called you an outcast:

'It is Zion, for whom no one cares!'

"Thus says the LORD:

Behold, I will restore the fortunes of the tents of Jacob and have compassion on his dwellings;

the city shall be rebuilt on its mound,

and the palace shall stand where it used to be.

Out of them shall come songs of thanksgiving, and the voices of those who celebrate.

I will multiply them, and they shall not be few;

I will make them honored, and they shall not be small.

Their children shall be as they were of old,

and their congregation shall be established before me, and I will punish all who oppress them.

Their prince shall be one of themselves;
their ruler shall come out from their midst;
I will make him draw near, and he shall approach me,
for who would dare of himself to approach me?
declares the LORD.
And you shall be my people,
and I will be your God."
Behold the storm of the LORD!
Wrath has gone forth,
a whirling tempest;
it will burst upon the head of the wicked.
The fierce anger of the LORD will not turn back
until he has executed and accomplished
the intentions of his mind.
In the latter days you will understand this.

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

Matthew 26:57-75

Then those who had seized Jesus led him to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders had gathered. And Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest, and going inside he sat with the guards to see the end. Now the chief priests and the whole council were seeking false testimony against Jesus that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said, "This man said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to rebuild it in three days.'" And the high priest stood up and said, "Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?" But Jesus remained silent. And the high priest said to him, "I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God." Jesus said to him, "You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven." Then the high priest tore his robes and said, "He has uttered blasphemy. What further witnesses do we need? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your judgment?"

They answered, "He deserves death." Then they spit in his face and struck him. And some slapped him, saying, "Prophesy to us, you Christ! Who is it that struck you?"

Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. And a servant girl came up to him and said, "You also were with Jesus the Galilean." But he denied it before them all, saying, "I do not know what you mean." And when he went out to the entrance, another servant girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, "This man was with Jesus of Nazareth." And again he denied it with an oath: "I do not know the man." After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, "Certainly you too are one of them, for your accent betrays you." Then he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, "I do not know the man." And immediately the rooster crowed. And Peter remembered the saying of Jesus, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.

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

Confession

- **P** What is the Office of the Keys?
- The Office of the Keys is that special authority which Christ has given to His Church on earth to forgive the sins of repentant sinners, but to withhold forgiveness from the unrepentant as long as they do not repent.
- P Where is this written?
- This is what St. John the Evangelist writes in chapter twenty: The Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."
- **P** What do you believe according to these words?
- I believe that when the called ministers of Christ deal with us by His divine command, in particular when they exclude openly unrepentant sinners from the Christian congregation and absolve those who repent of their sins and want to do better, this is just as valid and certain, even in heaven, as if Christ our dear Lord dealt with us Himself.

Sermon or Catechetical Instruction

Prayer

- **P** In Peace let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord have mercy.
- For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord have mercy.
- For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord have mercy.
- P For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord have mercy.
- P For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord have mercy.
- P For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord have mercy.
- For those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord have mercy.
- P For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord have mercy.
- P Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:
- **©** Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **G** We lift them to the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- 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, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. Grant us Your Spirit, gracious Father, that we may give heed to the testament of Your Son in true faith and, above all, firmly take to heart the words with which Christ gives to us His body and blood for our forgiveness. By Your grace, lead us to remember and give thanks for the boundless love which He manifested to us when, by pouring out His precious blood, He saved us from Your righteous wrath and from sin, death, and hell. Grant that we may receive the bread and wine, that is, His body and blood, as a gift, guarantee, and pledge of His salvation. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- Amen.

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.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

In the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, at His command, and with His own words, we receive His testament:

The Words of Our Lord

- Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My → body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
- In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My → blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Distribution

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus and Benediction

- **P** Let us bless the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.
- The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and ♣ give you peace.
- C Amen.

