

TRANSFIGURATION of OUR LORD

Comfort in Captivity

February 11, 2024

8:00 am

For surely
I KNOW THE
plans
I have for
YOU,
says the
Lord...

Zion Lutheran Church

1400 S Duluth Ave

Sioux Falls, SD 57105

605-338-5226

www.zlcsf.org

ORDER OF WORSHIP

AS WE GATHER

Our Bible Reading of the Day is Jeremiah 1:4–10; 29:1–14; 31:31–34; 33:14–16. When God calls Jeremiah to serve Him, God tells Jeremiah he was chosen as God’s prophet even before he was formed in the womb. When Nebuchadnezzar takes the Israelites into exile in Babylon, Jeremiah writes to the exiles, assuring them of God’s continuing care for them. Through Jeremiah, God promises a new covenant where all people will have the Law written on their hearts. God’s people will live under an eternal covenant through Jesus—David’s righteous branch.

WELCOME | ATTENDANCE | PRAYER CARDS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREET ONE ANOTHER

OPENING HYMN: LSB 850 God of Grace and God of Glory

- 1 God of grace and God of glory,
On Your people pour Your pow’r;
Crown Your ancient Church’s story;
Bring its bud to glorious flow’r.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
For the facing of this hour,
For the facing of this hour.

- 2 Lo, the hosts of evil round us
Scorn the Christ, assail His ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
Free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
For the living of these days,
For the living of these days.
- 3 Cure Your children's warring madness;
Bend our pride to Your control;
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
Rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
Lest we miss Your kingdom's goal,
Lest we miss Your kingdom's goal.
- 4 Save us from weak resignation
To the evils we deplore;
Let the gift of Your salvation
Be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
Serving You whom we adore,
Serving You whom we adore.

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INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us then come before God and each other and confess our sins and ask for forgiveness.

People: I confess to Almighty God our Father that I have sinned by allowing other things to become more important to me than God. I have trusted more in myself, my possessions, my works, and my own desires. I confess that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him. Therefore I pray that He come to me in His Word and Spirit to forgive me and enlighten and keep me in the true faith. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God has had mercy on you and has come to you in the person of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. For the sake of His death and resurrection for you, God forgives you all your sins and gives you the strength of faith to serve Him in all faithfulness. 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.

People: Amen. Thanks be to God.

INTROIT: Psalm 16 Antiphon vs 1

Pastor: Keep me safe, my God,

People: for in you I take refuge.

Pastor: I say to the Lord, “You are my Lord;

People: apart from you I have no good thing.”

Pastor: I say of the holy people who are in the land,

People: “They are the noble ones in whom is all my delight.”

Pastor: Those who run after other gods will suffer more and more.

People: I will not pour out libations of blood to such gods or take up their names on my lips.

Pastor: Lord, you alone are my portion and my cup;

People: you make my lot secure.

Pastor: The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;

People: surely I have a delightful inheritance.

Pastor: I will praise the Lord, who counsels me;

People: even at night my heart instructs me.

Pastor: I keep my eyes always on the Lord.

People: With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

Pastor: Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;

People: my body also will rest secure,

Pastor: because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead,

People: nor will you let your faithful one see decay.

Pastor: You make known to me the path of life;

People: you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

Pastor: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

People: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Pastor: Keep me safe, my God,

People: for in you I take refuge.

KYRIE

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People (sing): Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

People (sing): Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

People (sing): Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

People (sing): Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People (sing): Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE: LSB 933 My Soul Rejoices

- 1 My soul rejoices, My spirit voices—
Sing the greatness of the Lord!
For God my Savior Has shown me favor—
Sing the greatness of the Lord! With praise and blessing,
Join in confessing God, who is solely Mighty and holy—
O sing the greatness of God the Lord!
His mercy surely Shall rest securely
On all who fear Him, Love and revere Him—
O sing the greatness of God the Lord!

- 2 His arm now baring, His strength declaring—
Sing the greatness of the Lord!
The proud He scatters, Their rule He shatters—
Sing the greatness of the Lord!
Oppression halted; The meek exalted.
Full are the hungry; Empty, the wealthy—
O sing the greatness of God the Lord!
Here is the token All that was spoken
To Abr'ham's offspring God is fulfilling—
O sing the greatness of God the Lord!

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SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray together.

All: Almighty God and Father, by Your creative hand You formed us in the womb and knew us. Breathe the life-giving breath of Your Holy Spirit upon us that we might be filled with a true knowledge of You through Your Son, Jesus Christ. Fill us with Your mercy and grace that Your Word might abound in our hearts, in our minds, and in all of our doings. We pray, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit now and forever. Amen.

TIME IN THE WORD

Children's Bible Reading: Page 216

Reading of the Day:

Jeremiah 1:4–10; 29:1–14; 31:31–34; 33:14–16

The word of the Lord came to me, saying, “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.”

“Alas, Sovereign Lord,” I said, “I do not know how to speak; I am too young.”

But the Lord said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am too young.’ You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you,” declares the Lord.

Then the Lord reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, “I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant.”

This is the text of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the surviving elders among the exiles and to the priests, the prophets and all the other people Nebuchadnezzar had carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon. (This was after King

Jehoiachin and the queen mother, the court officials and the leaders of Judah and Jerusalem, the skilled workers and the artisans had gone into exile from Jerusalem.) He entrusted the letter to Elasah son of Shaphan and to Gemariah son of Hilkiah, whom Zedekiah king of Judah sent to King Nebuchadnezzar in Babylon. It said:

This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: “Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease. Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.” Yes, this is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says: “Do not let the prophets and diviners among you deceive you. Do not listen to the dreams you encourage them to have. They are prophesying lies to you in my name. I have not sent them,” declares the Lord.

This is what the Lord says: “When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will come to you and fulfill my good promise to bring you back to this place. For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you,” declares the Lord, “and will bring you back from captivity. I will gather you from all the nations and places where I have banished you,” declares the Lord, “and will bring you back to the place from which I carried you into exile.”

“The days are coming,” declares the Lord, “when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah. It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them,” declares the Lord. “This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time,” declares the Lord. “I will put my

law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, 'Know the Lord,' because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest," declares the Lord. "For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more."

"The days are coming," declares the Lord, "when I will fulfill the good promise I made to the people of Israel and Judah.

"In those days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David's line; he will do what is just and right in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. This is the name by which it will be called: The Lord Our Righteous Savior."

Reader: This Is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN: LSB 719

I Leave All Things to God's Direction

- 1 I leave all things to God's direction;
He loves me both in joy and woe.
His will is good, sure His affection;
His tender love is true, I know.
My fortress and my rock is He:
What pleases God, that pleases me.

- 2 God knows what must be done to save me;
His love for me will never cease.
Upon His hands He did engrave me
With purest gold of loving grace.
His will supreme must ever be:
What pleases God, that pleases me.

- 3 My God desires the soul's salvation;
My soul He, too, desires to save.
Therefore with Christian resignation
All earthly troubles I will brave.
His will be done eternally:
What pleases God, that pleases me.
- 4 My God has all things in His keeping;
He is the ever faithful friend.
He gives me laughter after weeping,
And all His ways in blessings end.
His love endures eternally:
What pleases God, that pleases me.

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THE SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING | TREASURE BOX

CHOIR ANTHEM: “My Shepherd”

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD’S PRAYER

All: 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.

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN: LSB 924

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

- 1 Lord, dismiss us with Your blessing,
Fill our hearts with joy and peace;
Let us each, Your love possessing,
Triumph in redeeming grace.
O refresh us; O refresh us,
Trav’ling through this wilderness.

- 2 Thanks we give and adoration
For Your Gospel’s joyful sound.
May the fruits of Your salvation
In our hearts and lives abound.
Ever faithful, ever faithful
To Your truth may we be found.

3 Savior, when Your love shall call us
From our struggling pilgrim way,
Let not fear of death appall us,
Glad Your summons to obey.
May we ever, may we ever
Reign with You in endless day.

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SEND OFF

Pastor: At Zion Lutheran we are committed to reaching out,
strengthening the saved,

All: and serving Jesus Christ by serving others!