

**FIRST SUNDAY After EPIPHANY**  
**The Passover Promise**  
**January 11, 2026**  
**8:00 am**



**THE  
PASSOVER**

Zion Lutheran Church  
1400 S Duluth Ave  
Sioux Falls, SD 57105  
605-338-5226  
[www.zlcsf.org](http://www.zlcsf.org)

## **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

### **AS WE GATHER**

Our Bible Reading of the Day is Exodus 12:1-32. God, through Moses, threatens one final plague—worse than any previously experienced. Following God's instructions, the Israelites make careful preparations for the Passover, marking their doorposts with the blood of a lamb prepared for the feast. The final plague takes place at midnight as all the firstborn throughout Egypt die. The Egyptians hand over their valuables, hastening the Israelites away. Jesus Christ, the true Lamb of God, was slain for our sins. By His blood, we are protected from the eternal wrath of God and promised the gift of eternal life.

### **WELCOME | ATTENDANCE | PRAYER CARDS**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **GREET ONE ANOTHER**

#### **OPENING HYMN: LSB 901 Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty**

- 1 Open now thy gates of beauty;  
    Zion, let me enter there,  
    Where my soul in joyful duty  
        Waits for Him who answers prayer.  
    Oh, how blessed is this place,  
        Filled with solace, light, and grace!
  
- 2 Gracious God, I come before Thee;  
    Come Thou also unto me.  
    Where we find Thee and adore Thee,  
        There a heav'n on earth must be.

To my heart, O enter Thou;  
Let it be Thy temple now!

- 3 Here Thy praise is gladly chanted;  
    Here Thy seed is duly sown.  
    Let my soul, where it is planted,  
        Bring forth precious sheaves alone,  
    So that all I hear may be  
    Fruitful unto life in me.
  
- 4 Thou my faith increase and quicken;  
    Let me keep Thy gift divine,  
    Howsoe'er temptations thicken;  
        May Thy Word still o'er me shine  
    As my guiding star through life,  
    As my comfort in all strife.
  
- 5 Speak, O God, and I will hear Thee;  
    Let Thy will be done indeed.  
    May I undisturbed draw near Thee  
        While Thou dost Thy people feed.  
    Here of life the fountain flows;  
    Here is balm for all our woes.

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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.

Pastor: We come humbly before You, O Lord, recognizing that we have not always responded to Your grace in faithfulness and obedience. Often we feel we deserve more or better, forgetting and rejecting Your Word and Your works of salvation.

**People: At times, we are lured by the world's deceptions, consumed by greed, passion, and desire. We fail to be thoroughly grounded in Your Word. Forgive us, dear Lord, for rejoicing in the temporal treasures on earth instead of the eternal treasures of heaven.**

Pastor: We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

**People: Forgive my impatience and my neglect. By Your Spirit, lead me to greater faith, obedience, service, and repentance until Your call to eternal glory comes.**

Pastor: Our Lord invites us to come and see what He has done—He has given us solid promises that guard our faith in days of sorrow, suffering, confusion, conflict, and pain. He has sent His Son to be the Word of life. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, and through the work of our Savior Jesus Christ, all of your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen. Thanks be to God!**

**INTROIT:** Psalm 116:12-19 Antiphon vs 17

Pastor: What shall I return to the Lord for all his goodness to me?

**People: I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.**

Pastor: I will fulfill my vows to the Lord

**People: in the presence of all his people.**

Pastor: Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful servants.

**People: Truly I am your servant, Lord;**

Pastor: I serve you just as my mother did;

**People: you have freed me from my chains.**

Pastor: I will sacrifice a thank offering to you and call on the name of the Lord.

**People: I will fulfill my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people,**

Pastor: in the courts of the house of the Lord—

**People: in your midst, Jerusalem. Praise the Lord.**

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: I will sacrifice a thank offering to you

**People: and call on the name of the Lord.**

## **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, who by the blood of an innocent lamb delivered Your people Israel from the hand of the destroyer in Egypt: Grant that we, who are marked by the blood of the true Lamb, Jesus Christ, may be delivered from the bondage of our sins and the fear of death. Lead us through the waters of this life into the promised inheritance of Your heavenly kingdom; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## **TIME IN THE WORD**

**Children's Bible Reading:** Page 88

**Reading of the Day:** Exodus 12:1-32

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in Egypt, “This month is to be for you the first month, the first month of your year. Tell the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each man is to take a lamb for his family, one for each household. If any household is too small for a whole lamb, they must share one with their nearest neighbor, having taken into account the number of people there are. You are to determine the amount of lamb needed in accordance with what each person will eat. The animals you choose must be year-old males without defect, and you may take them from the sheep or the goats. Take care of them until the fourteenth day of the month, when all the members of the community of Israel must slaughter them at twilight. Then they are to take some of the blood and put it on the sides and tops of the doorframes of the houses where they eat the lambs. That same night they are to eat the meat roasted over the fire, along with bitter herbs, and bread made without yeast. Do not eat the meat raw or boiled in water but roast it over a fire—with the head, legs and internal organs. Do not leave any of it till morning; if some is left till morning, you must burn it. This is how you are to eat it: with

your cloak tucked into your belt, your sandals on your feet and your staff in your hand. Eat it in haste; it is the Lord's Passover.

"On that same night I will pass through Egypt and strike down every firstborn of both people and animals, and I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am the Lord. The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are, and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt. "This is a day you are to commemorate; for the generations to come you shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord—a lasting ordinance. For seven days you are to eat bread made without yeast. On the first day remove the yeast from your houses, for whoever eats anything with yeast in it from the first day through the seventh must be cut off from Israel. On the first day hold a sacred assembly, and another one on the seventh day. Do no work at all on these days, except to prepare food for everyone to eat; that is all you may do. "Celebrate the Festival of Unleavened Bread, because it was on this very day that I brought your divisions out of Egypt. Celebrate this day as a lasting ordinance for the generations to come. In the first month you are to eat bread made without yeast, from the evening of the fourteenth day until the evening of the twenty-first day. For seven days no yeast is to be found in your houses. And anyone, whether foreigner or native-born, who eats anything with yeast in it must be cut off from the community of Israel. Eat nothing made with yeast. Wherever you live, you must eat unleavened bread." Then Moses summoned all the elders of Israel and said to them, "Go at once and select the animals for your families and slaughter the Passover lamb. Take a bunch of hyssop, dip it into the blood in the basin and put some of the blood on the top and on both sides of the doorframe. None of you shall go out of the door of your house until morning. When the Lord goes through the land to strike down the Egyptians, he will see the blood on the top and sides of the doorframe and will pass over that doorway, and he will not permit the destroyer to enter your houses and strike you down. "Obey these instructions as a lasting ordinance for you and your descendants. When you enter the land that the Lord will give you as he promised, observe this ceremony. And when your children ask you, 'What does this ceremony mean to you?' then tell them, 'It is the Passover sacrifice to the Lord, who passed over the

houses of the Israelites in Egypt and spared our homes when he struck down the Egyptians.”” Then the people bowed down and worshipped. The Israelites did just what the Lord commanded Moses and Aaron. At midnight, the Lord struck down all the firstborn in Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh, who sat on the throne, to the firstborn of the prisoner, who was in the dungeon, and the firstborn of all the livestock as well. Pharaoh and all his officials and all the Egyptians got up during the night, and there was loud wailing in Egypt, for there was not a house without someone dead. During the night Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron and said, “Up! Leave my people, you and the Israelites! Go, worship the Lord as you have requested. Take your flocks and herds, as you have said, and go. And also bless me.”

Reader: This Is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

### **SERMON HYMN: LSB 583 God Has Spoken by His Prophets**

1 God has spoken by His prophets,  
Spoken His unchanging Word;  
Each from age to age proclaiming  
God, the one, the righteous Lord.  
In the world's despair and turmoil,  
One firm anchor holds us fast:  
God is king, His throne eternal;  
God the first, and God the last.

2 God has spoken by Christ Jesus,  
Christ, the everlasting Son,  
Brightness of the Father's glory,  
With the Father ever one;  
Spoken by the Word Incarnate,  
God of God, before time was;  
Light of Light, to earth descending,  
He reveals our God to us.

3 God is speaking by His Spirit,  
Speaking to our hearts again,  
In the ageless Word declaring  
His own message, now as then.  
Through the rise and fall of nations  
One sure faith yet standing fast;  
God abides, His Word unchanging;  
God the first, and God the last.

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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**

#### **OFFERING HYMN: LSB 433 Glory Be to Jesus**

1      Glory be to Jesus,  
          Who in bitter pains  
Poured for me the lifeblood  
From His sacred veins!

2 Grace and life eternal  
In that blood I find;  
Blest be His compassion,  
Infinitely kind!

3 Blest through endless ages  
Be the precious stream  
Which from endless torment  
Did the world redeem!

4 Abel's blood for vengeance  
Pleaded to the skies;  
But the blood of Jesus  
For our pardon cries.

5 Oft as earth exulting  
Wafts its praise on high,  
Angel hosts rejoicing  
Make their glad reply.

6 Lift we, then, our voices,  
Swell the mighty flood;  
Louder still and louder  
Praise the precious blood!

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## **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 548 Thanks to Thee, O Christ,  
Victorious

- 1    Thanks to Thee, O Christ, victorious!  
      Thanks to Thee, O Lord of Life!  
      Death hath now no power o'er us,  
      Thou hast conquered in the strife.  
      Thanks because Thou didst arise  
          And hast opened paradise!  
      None can fully sing the glory  
          Of the resurrection story.
- 2    Thou hast died for my transgression,  
      All my sins on Thee were laid;  
      Thou hast won for me salvation,  
      On the cross my debt was paid.  
      From the grave I shall arise  
      And shall meet Thee in the skies.  
      Death itself is transitory;  
      I shall lift my head in glory.
- 3    For the joy Thine advent gave me,  
      For Thy holy, precious Word;  
For Thy Baptism, which doth save me,  
      For Thy blest Communion board;  
      For Thy death, the bitter scorn,  
      For Thy resurrection morn,  
      Lord, I thank Thee and extol Thee,  
      And in heav'n I shall behold Thee.

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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!**