

**THE SERVICE OF PRAISE**  
**For the Installation**  
**of**  
**Pastor Paul Winckler**

**AS WE GATHER**

The Office of the Holy Ministry has been instituted by Christ Himself as a gift to His Church (John 20:19–23; Ephesians 4:11–16). Through the Christian congregation, as the holder of all churchly authority, God calls qualified men to fill this divinely established office.

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN:** LSB 837 Lift High the Cross

ref Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
Till all the world adore His sacred name.

- 1 Come, Christians, follow where our Captain trod,  
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. Refrain
- 2 Led on their way by this triumphant sign,  
The hosts of God in conqu'ring ranks combine. Refrain
- 3 All newborn soldiers of the Crucified  
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died. Refrain
- 4 O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,  
As Thou hast promised, draw us all to Thee. Refrain
- 5 Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell  
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell. Refrain
- 6 So shall our song of triumph ever be:  
Praise to the Crucified for victory! Refrain

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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 confess together:

**People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. 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: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**INTROIT:** Psalm 100

Pastor: Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.

**People: Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.**

Pastor: Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his.

**People: We are his people, the sheep of his pasture.**

Pastor: Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise;

**People: Give thanks to him and praise his name.**

Pastor: For the Lord is good and his love endures forever;  
**People: his faithfulness continues through all generations.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.  
Almighty God, You have called Your church to witness that in Christ you have reconciled us to Yourself. Grant that by Your Holy Spirit we may proclaim the good news of Your salvation so that all who hear it may receive the gift of salvation; through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

**PRAISE SONG:** “Lord, I Need You” © Matt Maher, 2013

### Verse 1

Lord I come, I confess Bowing here I find my rest  
Without You I fall apart You're the one that guides my heart

## Chorus

Lord, I need You, oh I need You Every hour I need You  
My one defense, my righteousness Oh God, how I need You

## Verse 2

Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more  
Where grace is found is where You are

And where You are Lord I am free Holiness is Christ in me

## Chorus

Lord, I need You, oh I need You Every hour I need You  
My one defense, my righteousness Oh God, how I need You

## Bridge

So teach my song to rise to You When temptation comes my way  
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You Jesus You're my hope and  
stay

## Chorus

Lord, I need You, oh I need You Every hour I need You  
My one defense, my righteousness Oh God, how I need You

## Ending

My one defense, my righteousness, Oh God how I need you  
Your my one defense, my righteousness, Oh God how I need you

## TIME IN THE WORD

**Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 40:1-8**

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. A voice of one calling: "In the wilderness prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out." And I said, "What shall I cry?" "All people are like grass, and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field. The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the LORD blows on them. Surely the people are grass. The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever."

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### The Epistle Reading: Colossians 3:12-17

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Please rise out of respect for the words and ministry of Jesus Christ.

### **RESPONSE**

**People (Sing): Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

**The Holy Gospel: John 20:26-31**

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**CHOIR ANTHEM** "His Mercy Endures Forever"

### **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.**

**PRAISE SONG:** Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me  
Jonny Robinson | Michael Farren | Rich Thompson

Verse 1

What gift of grace is Jesus my Redeemer  
There is no more for heaven now to give  
He is my joy my righteousness and freedom  
My steadfast love my deep and boundless peace  
To this I hold my hope is only Jesus  
For my life is wholly bound to His  
Oh how strange and divine I can sing all is mine  
Yet not I but through Christ in me

Verse 2

The night is dark but I am not forsaken  
For by my side the Savior He will stay  
I labor on in weakness and rejoicing  
For in my need His power is displayed  
To this I hold my Shepherd will defend me  
Through the deepest valley He will lead  
Oh the night has been won and I shall overcome

Yet not I but through Christ in me  
Verse 3  
No fate I dread I know I am forgiven  
The future sure the price it has been paid  
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon  
And He was raised to overthrow the grave  
To this I hold my sin has been defeated  
Jesus now and ever is my plea  
Oh the chains are released I can sing I am free  
Yet not I but through Christ in me

Verse 4  
With every breath I long to follow Jesus  
For He has said that He will bring me home  
And day by day I know He will renew me  
Until I stand with joy before the throne  
To this I hold my hope is only Jesus  
All the glory evermore to Him  
When the race is complete still my lips shall repeat  
Yet not I but through Christ in me

(Repeat)

Ending

When the race is complete still my lips shall repeat  
Yet not I but through Christ in me Yet not I but through Christ in me  
Song # 7121852

## **RITE OF INSTALLATION**

### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

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

**People: 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: 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: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For Synod President Matthew Harrison and District President Randy Sturzenbecher, for all pastors in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all people, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For President Donald Trump, Governor Larry Rhoden and Mayor Paul TenHaken, for all public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruit of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: Lord God, You have called Your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that Your hand is leading us and Your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **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**

Pastor: 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.

**People: Amen.**

## **RECESSIONAL HYMN:** LSB 644 The Church's One Foundation

- 1 The Church's one foundation  
Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
She is His new creation  
By water and the Word.  
From heav'n He came and sought her  
To be His holy bride;  
With His own blood He bought her,  
And for her life He died.
- 2 Elect from ev'ry nation,  
Yet one o'er all the earth;  
Her charter of salvation:  
One Lord, one faith, one birth.  
One holy name she blesses,  
Partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses  
With ev'ry grace endued.

- 3 Though with a scornful wonder  
The world sees her oppressed,  
By schisms rent asunder,  
By heresies distressed,  
Yet saints their watch are keeping;  
Their cry goes up, "How long?"  
And soon the night of weeping  
Shall be the morn of song.
- 4 Through toil and tribulation  
And tumult of her war  
She waits the consummation  
Of peace forevermore  
Till with the vision glorious  
Her longing eyes are blest,  
And the great Church victorious  
Shall be the Church at rest.
- 5 Yet she on earth has union  
With God, the Three in One,  
And mystic sweet communion  
With those whose rest is won.  
O blessed heav'nly chorus!  
Lord, save us by Your grace  
That we, like saints before us,  
May see You face to face.

Text: Public domain

## **SEND OFF**

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

**All: and serving Jesus Christ by serving others!**

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Everyone is invited over to the Atrium following the service, for supper and a time of fellowship.

The Preacher .....Rev. Randy Sturzenbecher  
South Dakota District President

The Liturgist .....Rev. Greg Lehr  
Senior Pastor, Zion Lutheran Church

Pastoral Participants ..... Pastors of the Lutheran Church  
Missouri Synod

Organist ..... Maxine Farden

Pianist.....Mary Dunlap

### **REV. PAUL WINCKLER**

Rev. Paul Winckler was born in Tyndall, South Dakota and raised on the family farm near Tripp. He graduated from Tripp/Delmont High School in 1994 and from the University of South Dakota in 1998 with degrees in History and Political Science.

Paul met Laura Popkes while they both worked for Custer State Park in the summer of 1997 and they were married in 1999 in Larchwood, Iowa. Paul's first full-time job out of college was in Aberdeen, South Dakota as a Community Development Specialist for the Northeast Council of Governments. That was followed by a seven-year stint as Park Manager at Fort Sisseton State Park in Lake City, South Dakota and two years of work at Presentation College, Aberdeen, in the Advancement and Development Offices. Laura also completed a degree in Environmental Science at Northern State University during this time.

While at Fort Sisseton, both Paul and Laura received adult instruction and were confirmed in the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod by Rev. Russell Allan Reed at St. John's Lutheran Church, Britton, SD. They also attended St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Aberdeen before enrolling in the Master of Divinity program at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri in June 2008. While at Seminary Laura worked on campus as the coordinator of the Re-Sell It Shop.

Paul received a deferred vicarage placement to Zion Lutheran Church, School, and Preschool in Rapid City, South Dakota in 2011. His Seminary placement was also to Zion, Rapid City where he was ordained on July 1, 2012. Rev. Winckler served 11 years at Zion as Assistant, Associate, and Lead Associate Pastor. In September 2022 Rev. Winckler received and accepted a call from the South Dakota District Board of Directors and served as Assistant to District Presidents Scott Sailer and Randy Sturzenbecher until receiving the call to be Associate Pastor to Zion, Sioux Falls in December 2025.

Rev. Winckler and Laura have three children. Benjamin (25) lives and works in Sioux Falls. Emily (22) works for Camp Lutherhaven in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Caleb (19) recently graduated from Harrisburg High School.