

*To Know Christ and to Make Him Known*



*Wednesday, March 12, 2025*  
*Second Wednesday of Lent*

Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church.  
We are blessed to have you worship with us today.  
Please record your attendance in the red Friendship Register.  
If you are a guest or visitor, we have a  
"You're Very Welcome" folder for you with more information about our church.  
An usher or greeter would be glad to get one for you.

Website: [www.zionbrainerd.com](http://www.zionbrainerd.com)  
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Zion Lutheran Church - LCMS  
220 North 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
Brainerd MN 56401

*Wednesday, March 12, 2025 - Noon & 6 pm*

*Second Wednesday of Lent*

Recorded service is broadcast on CASH 95.9 FM Sunday at 11 AM.  
If you would like to receive a bulletin to participate in the service,  
please contact the church office so we can arrange to mail one to you.

Online Giving Option

Consider giving online by clicking the “Zion’s Online Giving” option  
on the home page of Zion’s website ([zionbrainerd.com](http://zionbrainerd.com)).

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## **The Good News of a Savior Who Conquers Evil**

### **As We Gather**

Who is the greatest conqueror ever to have walked on earth? Using the criterion of how much territory a conqueror ruled over, the Mongol warrior Genghis Khan could be considered the greatest conqueror in history. At the peak of his power in the thirteenth century AD, his rule extended over 4,860,000 square miles. Coming in at the second spot was the Macedonian ruler Alexander the Great. The borders of his empire in the fourth century BC included much of Europe and North Africa and parts of the Middle East and Asia, which totaled some 2,180,000 square miles. History reveals that those massive empires did not survive long past the deaths of these warrior leaders. In our worship, we acknowledge Jesus Christ as the “Conqueror renowned” (*LSB 554:1*) who “triumphed over cross and grave” (*LSB 551:4*). His coming to earth to bring about a matchless victory for us over evil and all that oppresses us is eternal and limitless!

## Pre-service Hymn Sing

### Christ, the Life of All the Living

LSB 420 sts. 1-2, 6-7



1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of  
2 Thou, ah! Thou, hast tak - en on Thee Bonds and stripes, a  
6 Thou hast suf - fered great af - flic - tion And hast borne it  
7 Then, for all that wrought my par - don, For Thy sor - rows



death, our foe, Who, Thy - self for me once giv - ing  
cru - el rod; Pain and scorn were heaped up - on Thee,  
pa - tient - ly, E - ven death by cru - ci - fix - ion,  
deep and sore, For Thine an - guish in the Gar - den,



To the dark - est depths of woe: Through Thy suf - f'rings,  
O Thou sin - less Son of God! Thus didst Thou my  
Ful - ly to a - tone for me; Thou didst choose to  
I will thank Thee ev - er - more, Thank Thee for Thy



death, and mer - it I e - ter - nal life in - her - it.  
soul de - liv - er From the bonds of sin for - ev - er.  
be tor - ment - ed That my doom should be pre - vent - ed.  
groan - ing, sigh - ing, For Thy bleed - ing and Thy dy - ing,



Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.  
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.  
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.  
For that last tri - um - phant cry, And shall praise Thee, Lord, on high.

Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605–81; (sts. 1–2, 7): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; (st. 6): tr. Evangelical Lutheran Hymn-Book, 1912, St. Louis  
Tune: Das grosse Cantional, 1687, Darmstadt  
Text and tune: Public domain

# God Loved the World So That He Gave

LSB 571 sts. 1-3



1 God loved the world so that He gave His on - ly  
 2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, Who was made  
 3 God would not have the sin - ner die; His Son with



Son the lost to save, That all who would in  
 flesh and suf - fered death; All then who trust in  
 sav - ing grace is nigh; His Spir - it in the

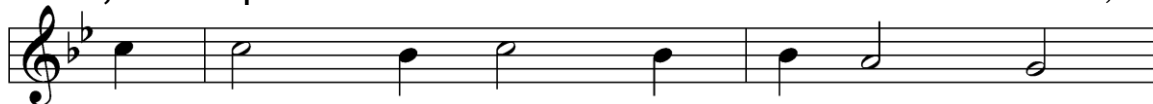


Him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.  
 Him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.  
 Word de - clares How we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.

Text: Heiliges Lippen- und Hertzens-Opfer, c. 1778, Stettin; tr. August Crull, 1845-1923, alt.  
 Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816-93  
 Text and tune: Public domain

# O Love, How Deep

LSB 544 sts. 1, 5-6



1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high,  
 5 For us by wick - ed - ness be - trayed,  
 6 For us He rose from death a - gain;



Be - yond all thought and fan - ta - sy,  
 For us, in crown of thorns ar - rayed,  
 For us He went on high to reign;



That God, the Son of God, should take  
 He bore the shame - ful cross and death;  
 For us He sent His Spir - it here



Our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake!  
 For us He gave His dy - ing breath.  
 To guide, to strength - en, and to cheer.

Text: attr. Thomas à Kempis, 1380–1471; tr. Benjamin Webb, 1819–85, alt.  
 Tune: English, 15th cent.  
 Text: Public domain

### Jesus, Lead Thou On

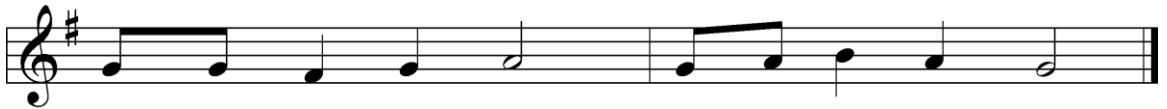
LSB 718 sts. 1-3



1 Je - sus, lead Thou on Till our rest is won; And al-though the  
 2 If the way be drear, If the foe be near, Let not faith-less  
 3 When we seek re - lief From a long-felt grief, When temp - ta - tions



way be cheer - less, We will fol - low calm and fear - less.  
 fears o'er - take us; Let not faith and hope for - sake us;  
 come al - lur - ing, Make us pa - tient and en - dur - ing.



Guide us by Thy hand To our fa - ther - land.  
 For through man - y a woe To our home we go.  
 Show us that bright shore Where we weep no more.

Text: Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, 1700–60; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–97, alt.  
 Tune: Adam Drese, 1620–1701  
 Text and tune: Public domain

Opening Hymn

Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

LSB 437



1 A - las! And did my Sav - ior bleed, And  
 2 Was it for crimes that I had done He  
 3 Well might the sun in dark - ness hide And  
 4 Thus might I hide my blush - ing face While  
 5 But drops of grief can ne'er re - pay The



did my sov - reign die? Would He de - vote that  
 groaned up - on the tree? A - maz - ing pit - y,  
 shut his glo - ries in When God, the might - y  
 His dear cross ap - pears, Dis - solve my heart in  
 debt of love I owe; Here, Lord, I give my -



sa - cred head For such a worm as I?  
 grace un - known, And love be - yond de - gree!  
 mak - er, died For His own crea - tures' sin.  
 thank - ful - ness, And melt mine eyes to tears.  
 self a - way: 'Tis all that I can do.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.  
 Tune: Hugh Wilson, 1764-1824  
 Text and tune: Public domain

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Psalm

Psalm 8

- L** O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth! You have set Your glory above the heavens.
- C** Out of the mouth of babes and infants, You have established strength because of Your foes, to still the enemy and the avenger.

- L** When I look at Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have set in place,
- C** what is man that You are mindful of him, and the son of man that You care for him?
- L** Yet You have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor.
- C** You have given him dominion over the works of Your hands; You have put all things under his feet,
- L** all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field,
- C** the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

### Salutation

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.

### Collect

- P** Let us pray.  
Gracious Father, for the joy set before Him, Your Son, Jesus, endured the suffering of the cross. In our suffering, O Lord, strengthen our faith that we may know Your companionship in our darkest hours; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

### Hymn Introduction

- L** Although the deep and grand texts of many of the hymns of the Lenten season have been used in the church for centuries, there are also new texts in other sections of the hymnal that highlight certain features of the Passion of our Lord in this holy season. One of those hymn texts is “The Tree of Life,” written in the 1990s by Pastor Stephen Starke. It contrasts the tree in the Garden of Eden—having fruit eaten in disobedience to God’s command by Eve and Adam—with the tree of the cross of Calvary, where Jesus overcame the power of Satan by His sacrificial death to pay the price of the sins of mankind. Both trees have power, and each has beauty as well. Both are central to the message of the Gospel.

# The Tree of Life

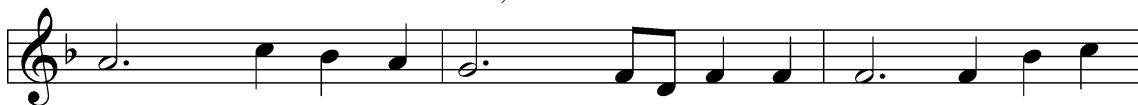
LSB 561



1 The tree of life with ev - 'ry good In E - den's  
 2 The still - ness of that sa - cred grove Was bro - ken,  
 3 What mer - cy God showed to our race, A plan of  
 4 Now from that tree of Je - sus' shame Flows life e -



ho - ly or - chard stood, And of its fruit so pure and  
 as the ser - pent strove With tempt - ing voice Eve to be -  
 res - cue by His grace: In send - ing One from wom - an's  
 ter - nal in His name; For all who trust and will be -



sweet God let the man and wom - an eat. Yet in this  
 guile And Ad - am too by sin de - file. O day of  
 seed, The One to fill our great - est need— For on a  
 lieve, Sal - va - tion's liv - ing fruit re - ceive. And of this



gar - den al - so grew An - oth - er tree, of which they  
 sad - ness when the breath Of fear and dark - ness, doubt and  
 tree up - lift - ed high His on - ly Son for sin would  
 fruit so pure and sweet The Lord in - vites the world to



knew; Its love - ly limbs with fruit a -  
 death, Its aw - ful poi - son first dis -  
 die, Would drink the cup of scorn and  
 eat, To find with - in this cross of



dorned A - gainst whose eat - ing God had warned.  
 played With - in the world so new - ly made.  
 dread To crush the an - cient ser - pent's head!  
 wood The tree of life with ev - 'ry good.



## First Reading

Genesis 3:14-15

<sup>14</sup>The LORD God said to the serpent,  
“Because you have done this,  
    cursed are you above all livestock  
    and above all beasts of the field;  
on your belly you shall go,  
    and dust you shall eat  
    all the days of your life.  
<sup>15</sup>I will put enmity between you and the woman,  
    and between your offspring and her offspring;  
he shall bruise your head,  
    and you shall bruise his heel.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Prayer Response

**L** Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, when we, by our sin, had fallen away from You, You graciously came down to us. You became man to save humanity. You lived among us in lowliness that we may live with You in glory. You endured Satan’s attacks for us that You could crush the serpent’s head for us. By Your humble incarnation, Your life of purity and selfless service, and Your sacrificial death, You have redeemed us. Therefore, God our Father has highly exalted You and put everything under Your feet, and we humbly bow before You, for You are our Lord, and You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Second Reading

Hebrews 2:11-15

<sup>11</sup>For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one origin. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers, <sup>12</sup>saying,

“I will tell of your name to my brothers;  
    in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise.”

<sup>13</sup>And again,

“I will put my trust in him.”

And again,

“Behold, I and the children God has given me.”

<sup>14</sup>Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, <sup>15</sup>and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Verse

*Romans 10:17*

**C** Faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

## Holy Gospel

*John 12:20-33*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twelfth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>20</sup>Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. <sup>21</sup>So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” <sup>22</sup>Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus.

<sup>23</sup>And Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

<sup>24</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. <sup>25</sup>Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup>If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

<sup>27</sup>“Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. <sup>28</sup>Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven: “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” <sup>29</sup>The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” <sup>30</sup>Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not mine.

<sup>31</sup>Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out.

<sup>32</sup>And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” <sup>33</sup>He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.



# Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain

LSB 435



1 Come to Cal - v'ry's ho - ly moun - tain, Sin - ners, ru - ined  
 2 Come in pov - er - ty and mean - ness, Come de - filed, with -  
 3 Come in sor - row and con - tri - tion, Wound - ed, im - po -  
 4 They that drink shall live for - ev - er; 'Tis a soul - re -



by the fall; Here a pure and heal - ing foun - tain  
 out, with - in; From in - fec - tion and un - clean - ness,  
 tent, and blind; Here the guilt - y, free re - mis - sion,  
 new - ing flood. God is faith - ful; God will nev - er



Flows for you, for me, for all, In a full, per -  
 From the lep - ro - sy of sin, Wash your robes and  
 Here the trou - bled, peace may find. Health this foun - tain  
 Break His cov - e - nant of blood, Signed when our Re -



pet - ual tide, O - pened when our Sav - ior died.  
 make them white; Ye shall walk with God in light.  
 will re - store; They that drink shall thirst no more.  
 deem - er died, Sealed when He was glo - ri - fied.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt.  
 Tune: Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812-87  
 Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon

## On My Heart Imprint Your Image

LSB 422



On my heart im - print Your im - age, Bless - ed Je - sus, King of grace,



That life's rich-es, cares, and plea-sures Nev - er may Your work e-raise;



Let the clear in - scrip-tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,



Is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, And my glo - ry and sal - va - tion!

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. Peer O. Strømme, 1856–1921, alt.

Tune: Johann Balthasar König, 1691–1758

Text and tune: Public domain

## Apostles' Creed

**C** 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



*Please sign the red Friendship Book that is in your pew.*

## Responsive Litany

**P** Hear our prayer, O Lord.

**C** Let our cry come to You.

**P** Almighty God, in the fullness of time, You sent the promised offspring, Your Son, Jesus Christ, to save us.

**C** By His redeeming death, He has crushed the serpent's head for us.

**P** Saved from sin, death, and the devil by His holy, precious blood and His innocent suffering and death,

**C** help us to find healing in His wounds

**P** and grant us eyes of faith

**C** to see that His cross is, for us, the tree of life.

**P** Throughout these forty days, O Lord, keep our eyes fixed on Jesus

**C** and help us to run with perseverance the race marked out for us,

**P** until the day when we and all the faithful rest and rejoice with You in paradise

**C** and experience the fullness of Your peace; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**P** Hear us, O Lord, as we silently bring You our private petitions.

*Silent prayer*

**P** Trusting in Your mercy, we pray as Your Son taught us:

## Lord's Prayer

**C** 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

**P** The Lord bless you, defend you from all evil, and bring you to everlasting life.

**C** Amen.

Closing Hymn

What Wondrous Love Is This

LSB 543



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, When  
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; To  
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; And



won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this That  
 I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, When I was sink - ing down Be -  
 God and to the Lamb I will sing; To God and to the Lamb, Who  
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free, I'll



caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dread-ful curse for my  
 neath God's righ - teous frown, Christ laid a - side His crown for my  
 is the great I AM, While mil - lions join the theme, I will  
 sing His love for me, And through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, To bear the dread-ful curse for my soul!  
 soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side His crown for my soul.  
 sing, I will sing, While mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.  
 on, I'll sing on, And through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: A General Selection of . . . Hymns and Spiritual Songs, 1811, Lynchburg, alt.  
 Tune: Southern Harmony, 1835, New Haven  
 Text and tune: Public domain

Dismissal

- P** Go in peace as you serve the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 2.  
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