

And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. -Acts 4:33

What do we do with this world that we live in? How should we respond to the challenges around us? What should the church be doing?

There are so many options: We could give in to the ideas and morality of our culture. That would probably make us more popular. We could be aggressive and vocal and oppose the things that are going on. That would make us less popular, but we may enjoy the fight. We could ignore society and isolate ourselves and become a sort of exclusive club. Or we could follow the example of the early church.

What did the early church do? They lived in a more difficult culture than we do. Not only was the church unpopular, it was illegal. Most of the religions around them were based on fertility and the Roman empire. Christians were profoundly countercultural and constantly in danger. But they didn't give in, and they didn't isolate, they proclaimed the gospel.

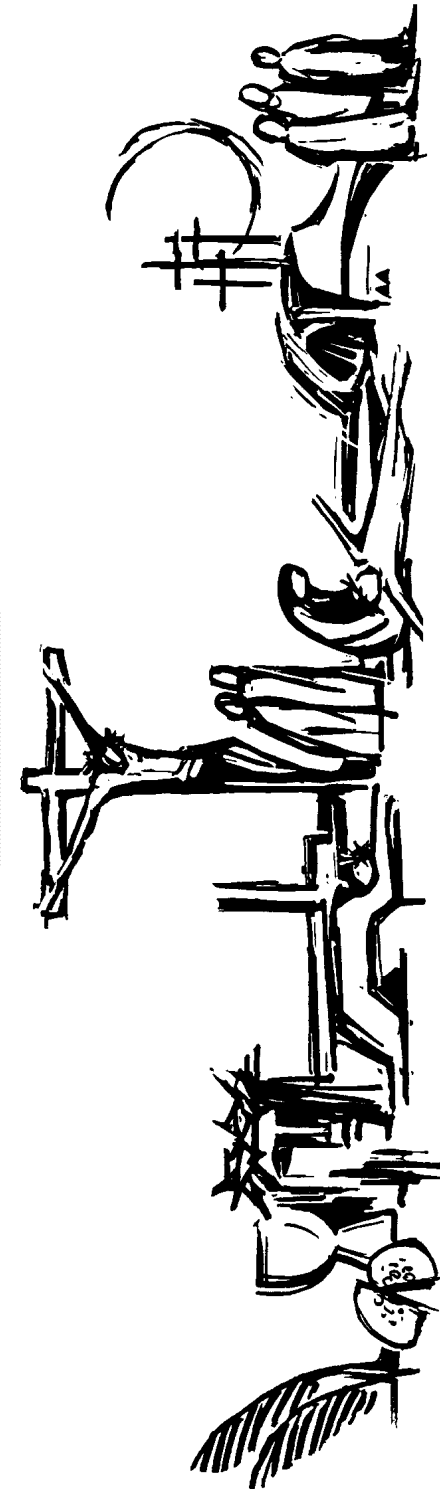
Mainly, they proclaimed the resurrection. That is the center of the gospel. Jesus died for the forgiveness of our sins, and on the third day He rose to make us right with God. That is the truth that separates us from the world. That is what the world needs to know. That's our message.

There is no other option for us as the church than to bring the good news of the resurrection to everyone who needs to hear it. That's everyone. That's what we do.

See you in worship.

Pastor Kleppe

Zion Lutheran Church
410 Main Street South
Pine City, MN 55063





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Worship/Comm 8am Jastram DO Education 9:30am	4 Evangelism 7pm	5 Endowment 7pm	6 Worship/Comm 11:30am & 7pm Confirmation 5:30pm	7	8	9
10 Worship/Comm 8am Food Shelf DO Education 9:30am	11 Elder Meeting 6pm Council Meeting 7pm	12	13 Worship/Comm 11:30am & 7pm Confirmation 5:30pm	14 LWML 9am Sewing LWML Meeting 1pm	15	16
17 Worship/Comm 8am Education Hour 9:30am	18	19	20 Worship/Comm 11:30am & 7pm Confirmation 5:30pm	21	22	23
24 Worship/Comm 8am Education Hour 9:30am	25	26	27 <i>No Confirmation</i>	28 <u>Maundy Thursday</u> 11:30am at Zion 7:00pm at Living Branch	29 <u>Good Friday</u> 11:30am at Zion 7:00pm at Zion	30
31 <u>Easter Sunday</u> Worship/Comm 6:30am & 8am:	1 Evangelism 7pm	2 Endowment 7pm	3 Confirmation 5:30pm Worship/Comm 7pm	4	5	6

MARCH

BIRTHDAYS

Linda Kleppe	3/1
Larry Pogones	3/1
Alexandra Waxberg	3/2
Jana Limanen	3/3
Grace Ammann	3/6
Karen Althoff	3/8
Dave Deutschlander	3/18
Caleb Fromm	3/19
Dave Wagner	3/20
Brenen Slama	3/24
Marsha Olson	3/24
Steven Olson	3/25
Caden Fedder	3/30
Jamie Miklya	3/30

ANNIVERSARIES

*No Anniversaries

MARCH SERVANTS

USHERS

Keith, Josh & Karl Strehlo
Josh & Jerry Lotz

OFFERING COUNTERS

Karen Teich	3/4
Verna Carpenter	3/11
Barb Carlson	3/18
Dallas Carpenter	3/25

ALTAR GUILD

Linda Kleppe &
Peyton Dickey

ELDERS

Chad Fedder	3/3
Jeremiah Slama	3/10
Keith Strehlo	3/17
Scott Ovick	3/24
Jerry Lotz	3/31 6:30am
Tom Martini	3/31 8:00am

Lent 2024: *Be Gracious to Me*

How has God's grace raised you? God's grace wells up in Psalm 41, where David praises God's divine mercy amid his own weakness, powerful enemies, and back-stabbing "friends." In this psalm, David tracks the flow of divine grace back to its source at the cross and, with prophetic vision, finds it springing forth in the lives of all baptized believers—including you. King David was set on a royal throne and made ruler over a great people. Maybe you've seen improvements in your finances or employment. Or perhaps family strife has been quieted. Or maybe a good friend has entered the picture at just the right moment. If so, rejoice and thank God for His grace and favor! But if you feel like you're sinking instead of rising, what then? Is there any comfort for the saint of God who looks around to find that "the waters have come up to my neck" Psalm 69:1? David knows that saint's fortunes because they are his as well: *In the day of trouble the Lord delivers him; the Lord protects him and keeps him alive; he is called blessed in the land; You do not give him up to the will of his enemies. Psalm 41:1-2*

Our Lenten series this year is based on King David's

Psalm 41. We'll look at God's grace to us in good times and bad. Lenten worship will be on **Wednesdays at 11:30 am and 7:00 pm.**



HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday, March 24th at 8am

Maundy Thursday, March 28th at 7pm

Good Friday, March 29th at 7pm

Easter Sunday, March 31st at 6:30am & 8am

SAVE THE DATE: APRIL 27TH , 2024 – 9:00 A.M.

Women's Praise Party to be held at Zion Breakfast served at 9:00 a.m. with featured speaker at 10:00 a.m. More info at a later date



LWML Rummage Sale. Mark your calendars:

Rummage sale will be **Friday May 10th from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m.** and **Saturday May 11th from 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

Set up will be on Thurs May 9th starting at 1:00 p.m. Save items for the sale. Please do not drop off any items until after May 5th. Items brought in may be Put in the church library. Any questions, please see Verna.

Zion Lutheran
February 12th, 2024 Council Meeting Agenda

Council Members: Pastor Kleppe, Jerry Lotz (President & Elder), Bob Thompson (Vice President), Karen Althoff (Treasurer), Chad Fedder (Elder), Keith Strehlo (Elder), Jeremiah Slama (Elder), Scott Ovick (Elder), Tom Martini (Elder), Larry Anderson (Trustee), Steve Olson (Trustee), Dallas Carpenter (Trustee), Brad Dickey (Trustee) & Kerry Dickey (Council Secretary)

Call to Order

Opening Prayer & Devotion

Secretary's Report (shared prior to meeting)

Treasurer's Report - Financial Reports attached

Pastor's Report - Pastors Report attached

Committee Reports:

Evangelism-

Endowment- Dallas reported the endowment committee is meeting monthly. New officers, Tom Martini President, Lisa Western Secretary, Dallas Carpenter Treasurer. Karen Althoff and Carrie Dickey are new committee members. Bob Thompson will be going off the committee but has agreed to remain active for a couple months. Funds from the Robbin's estate have been invested in a LCEF Investment Account. Dallas asked the council to consider the need for endowment committee members to be bonded. No decision was made. The next several months will focus on developing a grant application process to use the endowment earnings for the betterment of Zion Lutheran Church.

LWML- Sewing project is ongoing.

Preschool- no report

Worship, Music & Arts- no report

Men's Group- no report

Trustee Report:

Office Heating (Secretary's Office) Council approved the bid for \$1030.00 from Pine Electric and authorized an additional \$470.00 to repair the AC power line and freon line. Larry Anderson will coordinate the additional work with

Pine Electric.

Janitor Closet Door (In need of replacing as the current one is falling apart and does not work very well.) Council approved up to \$800.00 for the installation of a roll up door for the janitor closet.

Janitor's Wages (We set the budget for the position, we should look at their wage and consider raising it. They are paid hourly.) Council approved giving Norm and Karen Meyer each \$599.99 as an annual retainer for janitorial services payable each year in March.

Old Business:

Facia- Still needs to be addressed. Consider other options? Email sent to RJI requesting work to be done asap.

Computer Church Office- (Ideas provided, Katy looking at options.) Computers are ordered.

Pastor Computer- Possibly ordering one- already approved at previous meeting. Living Branch has been asked to pay 50% of the cost.

Stove/Fridge for Parsonage- Both have been received and are installed and working. Pastor requested the stove vent hood be replaced. Council authorized Larry to get some pricing. Constitution Review Committee- (This Committee needs to plan a meeting or two to review this so we can present at the April Voter's meeting.) Committee meeting needs to be re-scheduled.

Electronic Sign- (forwarded email to Pastor on 2/7, sign has been working so may be alright to skip ordering this for the time being.) No plan to replace recommended part as long as sign continues to function well. We believe the software upgrade has corrected the problem.

New Business:

Chamber of Commerce Membership renewal- Due February 15th Council approved \$85.00 payment for membership.

Dual Parish Committee meeting notes - Committee is planning a summer picnic gathering late June, possibly held at the Rock Creek City Park.

Submitted by:

Bob Thompson