Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany – February 23, 2025

Genesis 45:3-15 NIV

³ Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still living?" But his brothers were not able to answer him, because they were terrified at his presence.

⁴Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come close to me." When they had done so, he said, "I am your brother Joseph, the one you sold into Egypt! 5 And now, do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you. For two years now there has been famine in the land, and for the next five years there will be no plowing and reaping. 7 But God sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance.

8"So then, it was not you who sent me here, but God. He made me father to Pharaoh, lord of his entire household and ruler of all Egypt. 9 Now hurry back to my father and say to him, 'This is what your son Joseph says: God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; don't delay. 10 You shall live in the region of Goshen and be near me – you, your children and grandchildren, your flocks and herds, and all you have. 11 I will provide for you there, because five years of famine are still to come. Otherwise you and your household and all who belong to you will become destitute.'

12 "You can see for yourselves, and so can my brother Benjamin, that it is really I who am speaking to you. 13 Tell my father about all the honor accorded me in Egypt and about everything you have seen. And bring my father down here auickly."

¹⁴Then he threw his arms around his brother Benjamin and wept, and Benjamin embraced him, weeping. 15 And he kissed all his brothers and wept over them. Afterward his brothers talked with him.

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1 Corinthians 15:21-26, 30-42 NIV

²¹ For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. 22 For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. ²³ But each in turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. 24 Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. ²⁵ For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶ The last enemy to be destroyed is death. ...

30 And as for us, why do we endanger ourselves every hour? 31 I face death every day - yes, just as surely as I boast about you in Christ Jesus our Lord. 32 If I fought wild beasts in Ephesus with no more than human hopes, what have I gained? If the dead are not raised,

"Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die." 33 Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character." ³⁴Come back to your senses as you ought, and stop sinning; for there are some who are ignorant of God – I say this to your

35 But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body will they come?" 36 How foolish! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. 37 When you sow, you do not plant the body that will be, but just a seed, perhaps of wheat or of something else. 38 But God gives it a body as he has determined, and to each kind of seed he gives its own body. 39 Not all flesh is the same: People have one kind of flesh, animals have another, birds another and fish another. 40 There are also heavenly bodies and there are earthly bodies; but the splendor of the heavenly bodies is one kind, and the splendor of the earthly bodies is another. 41 The sun has one kind of splendor, the moon another and the stars another; and star differs from star in splendor.

⁴²So will it be with the resurrection of the dead.

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Luke 6:27-38 NIV

²⁷ "But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, 28 bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. 29 If someone slaps you on one cheek, turn to them the other also. If someone takes your coat, do not withhold your shirt from them. ³⁰ Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. 31 Do to others as you would have them do to you.

32 "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. 33 And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do that. 34 And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, expecting to be repaid in full. 35 But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. 36 Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷ "Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. 38 Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

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ZION **Lutheran Church**

2122 Bronson Blvd Kalamazoo, MI 269.382.2360 zionkazoo.org

> FRIENDS OF **JESUS** Preschool

Senior Pastor Mike Saylor

Director of Christian Ed Aaron Grube

Preschool Director Jen LaPorte

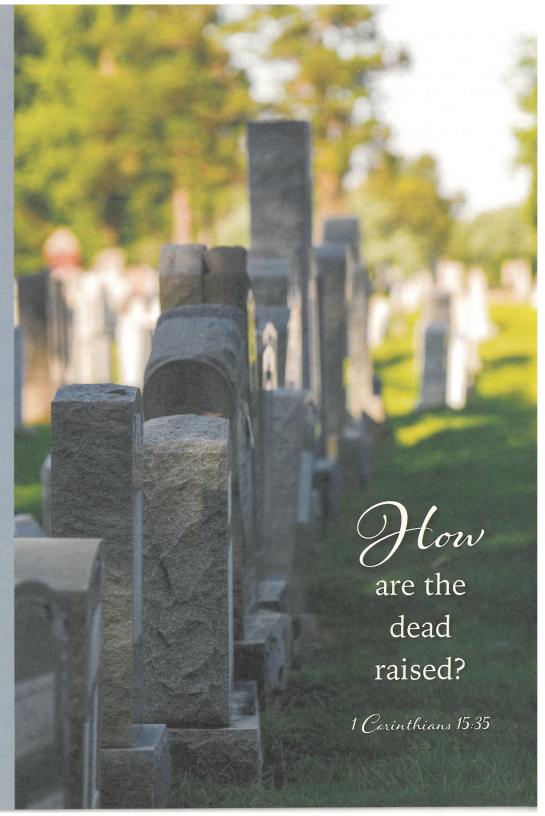
Office Administrator Brenna Harrington

Saturday Worship 5:30pm

Sunday Worship 8:00am and 10:30am

Sunday School and **Bible Study** 9:15am

Radio Broadcast Sunday @ 9:30am WKZO AM 590 106.9 FM





POSTLUDE

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Prelude: "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" by JS Bach, arr. by E.P. Biggs. ©1944 H.W. Gray Co.

Offering: "Beautiful Savior" by D.N. Johnson. ©1967 H.W. Gray Co.

Postlude: "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" by P. Manz. c1964 Concordia Publishing House.

9

Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

February 23, 2025

PRELUDE WELCOME



CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

C: Amen

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

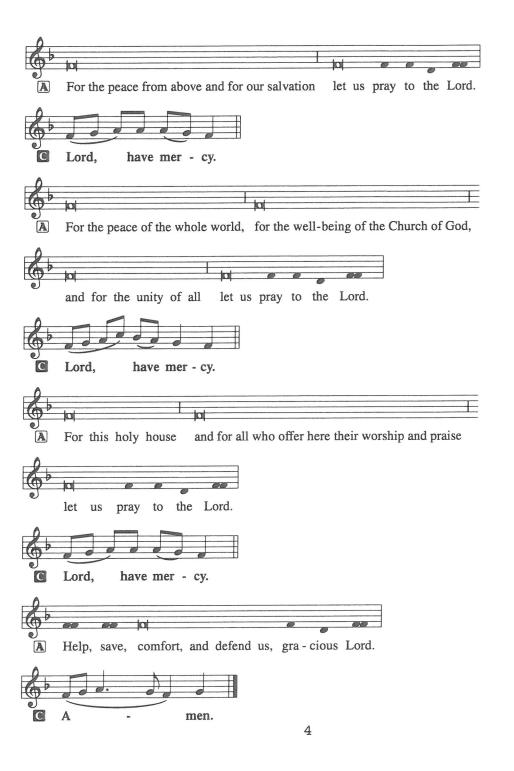
P: Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of you and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

P: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His on Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C: Amen.





GLORIA IN EXCELSIS - LSB pg. 154



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



C Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,



You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray...O God, the strength of all who put their trust in You, mercifully grant that by Your power we may be defended against all adversity; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Old Testament Reading

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE



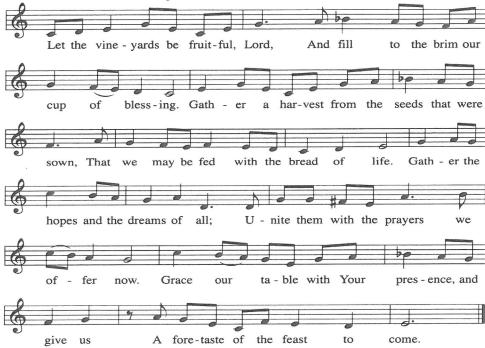
SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED - LSB back inside cover

SHARING OF PEACE

OFFERING

LSB 955 Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs...

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.
Thine is the kingdom

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

CONCLUDING COLLECT

P: Let us pray.

P: Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that, by patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: 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.

C: Amen.

About the Cover: Tombstones bear testimony to the sting that death still inflicts on this world. However, it could not hold Christ in the tomb. His tomb remains empty to this day. He has conquered sin, death, and the devil. At the day of His return and judgment, all shall be bodily raised to stand before the Lord. But we, the church, will be rejoicing over death's defeat and loss of its sting because Christ's forgiveness, life, and salvation is already ours today by faith.

WELCOME to Zion! May God bless your time with us today!

- Children are welcome in worship! Should parents need quiet time for their child, please utilize the Gathering Place behind rear of sanctuary. There you will find comfortable seating and a broadcast of the worship service.
- Baby changing tables are located in both restrooms.
- As a baptized Christian who believes in the real presence of Christ in the sacrament of Holy Communion and the forgiveness this gift offers, you are invited to join in this sacred meal.
- For those unable to consume alcohol, red grape juice is available in the center cups of the communion trays.

CHURCH STAFF

Senior Pastor	Mike Saylor
Director of Christian Education	Aaron Grube
Preschool Director	Jen LaPorte
Campus and Visitation Pastor	Mark Couch
Assistant Pastor	Tim Seeber
Deaconess Intern	Savannah Engelder
Vicar	Jack Engelder
Bookkeeper	Cody Collmenter
Office Administrator	Brenna Harrington

Zion Lutheran Church | 2122 Bronson Blvd Kalamazoo MI 49008 | 269.382.2360



TODAY	8:00am 9:15am 10:30am	Early Service Sunday School Late Service
Tue Feb 25	10:00am 7:00pm	Pastor Brelje's Bible Study Handbell Practice
Wed Feb 26	9:00am 5:15pm 6:15pm	Sewing Guild Midweek Dinner Midweek Kids Class/Bible Study/Confirm Class
Thur Feb 27	7:00pm	Choir Practice
Sat Feb 28	8:00am 5:30pm	Pastor Tim's Men's Zoom Bible Study Worship with Communion & Kids Handbells
Sun Mar 1	8:00am 9:15am 10:30am	Early Service with Communion Sunday School Late Service with Communion

SYMBOL IN THE WINDOW: On the Old Testament side, first panel on the left, you will see two tablets representing the commandments.

SERVING TODAY

Worship Leader		Pastor Mike Saylor
Organist		Roxanne Nieboer
Trumpet		Julie Ream
Ushers	8am - Matt Simmons	10:30am - Chuck Wendling
	Donya Mosher	Dave Alsvig
		Dan Buchtrup
Acolytes	8am – Zoe Tinigin	10:30am – Crosby Field
Cantor	8am – Vicki Holt	10:30am – Danielle Field
Lector	8am - Andrew Niedbala	10:30am - Chris Wilkins