

**Zion Lutheran Church
Glen Rock, PA
Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany
LBW Holy Communion Setting One
Sunday, February 23, 2025**

*We stand as we are able.

Introduction to the day

Mercy. Mercy. Mercy. Joseph lives it in Egypt. Jesus preaches it in the gospel. The Spirit guides us into merciful lives with the power of forgiveness to reconcile what is fractured and divided. Such merciful living is the baptismal blessing of having put on Christ. It is the gift of the life-giving Spirit. It is a reflection of God's glory revealed in Christ.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

***BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (LBW p. 56)**

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

Amen

***ENTRANCE HYMN: “God Himself Is Present”**

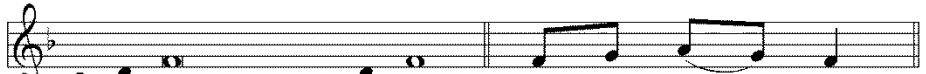
LBW (green) 249

***APOSTOLIC GREETING (LBW p. 57)**


The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE (LBW p. 57)



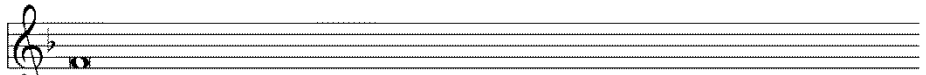
A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **B** Lord, have mer - cy.



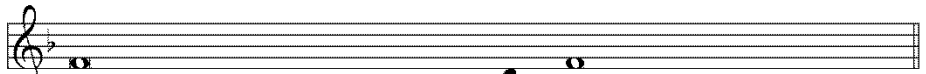
A For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



B Lord, have mer - cy.




A 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.



B Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. **☩** Lord, have mer - cy.

☩ Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **☩** A - men

***HYMN OF PRAISE (LBW p. 58)**

☩ Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

☩ Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - migh - ty 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,



***PRAYER OF THE DAY (LBW p. 62)**



Let us pray.

God of compassion, keep before us the love you have revealed in your Son, who prayed even for his enemies; in our words and deeds help us to be like him through whom we pray, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

ANTHEM: "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 45:3-11, 15

³ Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵ And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶ For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷ God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸ So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹ Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰ You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹ I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.' " ¹⁵ And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 37:1-12, 41-42

- ¹ Do not fret yourself because of ¹ evildoers;
do not be jealous of those ¹ who do wrong.
- ² **For they shall soon wither ¹ like the grass,
and like the green grass ¹ fade away.**
- ³ Put your trust in the LORD ¹ and do good;
dwell in the land and feed ¹ on its riches.
- ⁴ **Take delight ¹ in the LORD,
and he shall give you your ¹ heart's desire.**
- ⁵ Commit your way to the LORD and put your ¹ trust in him,
and he will bring ¹ it to pass.
- ⁶ **He will make your righteousness as clear ¹ as the light
and your just dealing ¹ as the noonday.**
- ⁷ Be still be- ¹ fore the LORD
and wait patient- ¹ ly for him.
- ⁸ **Do not fret yourself over the ¹ one who prospers,
the one who succeeds in ¹ evil schemes.**
- ⁹ Refrain from anger, leave ¹ rage alone;
do not fret yourself; it leads on- ¹ ly to evil.
- ¹⁰ **For evildoers shall ¹ be cut off,
but those who wait upon the LORD shall pos- ¹ sess the land.**
- ¹¹ In a little while the wicked shall ¹ be no more;
you shall search out their place, but they will ¹ not be there.
- ¹² **But the lowly shall pos- ¹ sess the land;
they will delight in abun- ¹ dance of peace.**
- ⁴¹ But the deliverance of the righteous comes ¹ from the LORD;
he is their stronghold in ¹ time of trouble.
- ⁴² **The LORD will help them and ¹ rescue them;
he will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because they
seek ref- ¹ uge in him.**

SECOND LESSON: 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

³⁵ But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” ³⁶ Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷ And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸ But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

⁴² So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³ It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. ⁴⁴ It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵ Thus it is written, “The first man, Adam, became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶ But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷ The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸ As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹ Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

⁵⁰ What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (LBW p. 62)

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Luke 6:27-38

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 6th chapter.

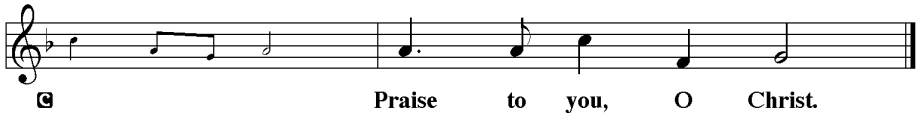


[Jesus said:] ²⁷ “But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹ If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰ Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. 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? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴ If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵ But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the 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, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

The Gospel of the Lord.



SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY:** “Take My Life, that I May Be” LBW (green) 406

***APOSTLES' CREED (LBW p. 65)**

With the whole church, we confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

***THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (LBW p. 65)**

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Surprising God, you call us to love our enemies and to show kindness in the face of cruelty. Let our actions be a shining witness of your overwhelming grace for all. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

As animals hibernate and fields lay dormant, let them be a reminder that life and faith are not static but always changing and growing. May we, with all creation, trust that the ending of one thing promises life in a new way. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We pray for leaders and policymakers who work to reduce violence in our nations, cities, and towns. Give your wisdom and discernment amid heated arguments and differing viewpoints. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We pray for the victims of abuse and violence. Provide safe shelter and new beginnings to those experiencing domestic violence and dangerous situations. Enfold with love all who seek your healing care (*especially*). God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Empower our faith communities to be signs of your gracious love. Bless the local ministries of parish nursing and caregiving, that they will be a voice for those in need in our communities. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We give thanks for the enduring witness of those who have died before us. May their lives in you provide a witness of your everlasting grace. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

Amen.

***PEACE (LBW p. 66)**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

***PRESENTATION OF OFFERING**

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE: (LBW p. 66)**



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our



cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the



seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.



Gath-er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

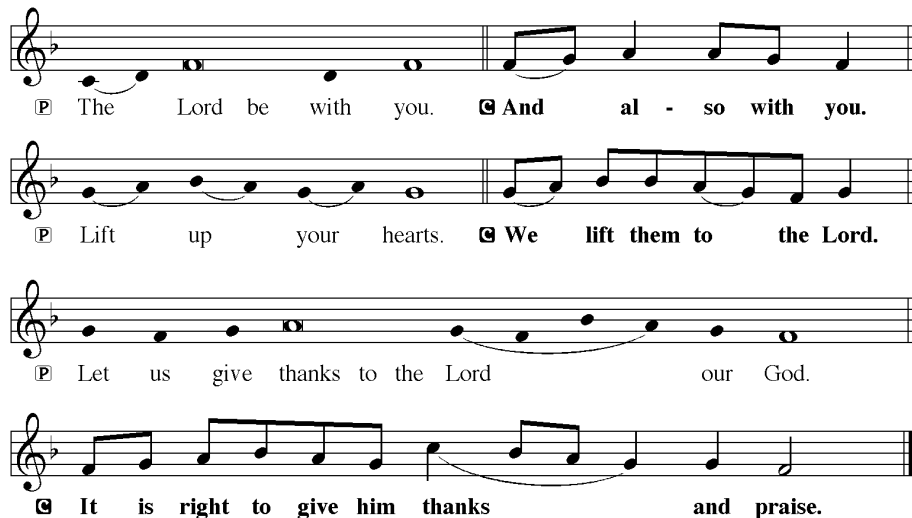
***OFFERTORY PRAYER (LBW p. 67)**

Let us pray.

Merciful Father,

we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

***DIALOGUE (LBW p. 68)**



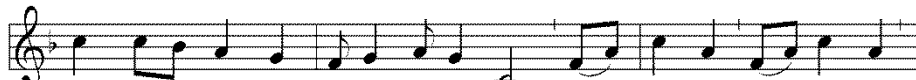
Ⓟ The Lord be with you. Ⓞ And al - so with you.
Ⓟ Lift up your hearts. Ⓞ We lift them to the Lord.
Ⓟ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
Ⓞ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

***PREFACE (LBW p. 68)**

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

***THANKSGIVING (LBW p. 70)**

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son,

that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.

Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

***LORD'S PRAYER (LBW p. 71)**

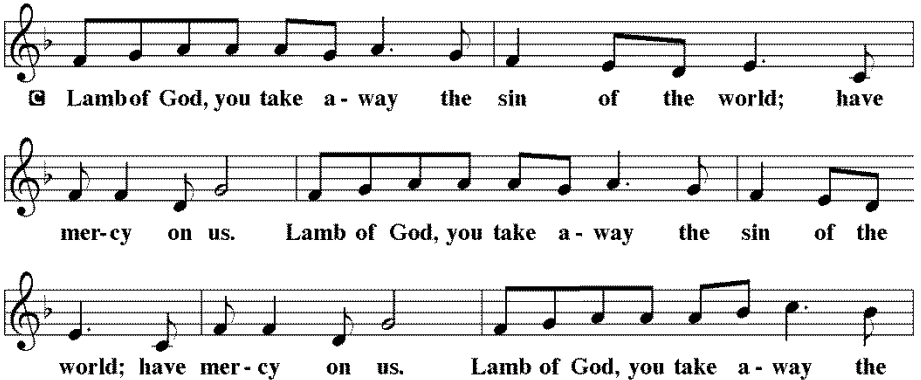
Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

***COMMUNION HYMN (LBW p. 72)**



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



COMMUNION (LBW p. 72)

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

COMMUNION HYMN: "Now the Silence"

LBW (green) 205

***POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND CANTICLE (LBW p. 72)**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**



☐ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (LBW p.74)

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

***BLESSING (LBW p. 74)**

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.

Amen

***SENDING HYMN:** “O Living Bread from Heaven”

LBW (green) 197

***DISMISSAL (LBW p. 74)**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Today’s communion elements are presented to the Glory of God, by Butch & Susie Hengst.

Today’s altar flower arrangement is presented in honor of Joy Keller-Brown’s birthday, by Jim Morris and Sarah Brown.

Today’s second altar flower arrangement is presented in honor of Claire Morris’ birthday, by Jim Morris and Sarah Brown.

SCRIPTURE TEXT FOR SUNDAY 3/2/2025

Exod 34:29-35, Ps 99, 2 Cor 3:12-4:2, Luke 9:28-36 [37-43a]

PRAYER REQUESTS

Rebecca Myers, Brian Phelps, Geraldine Ambrosius, Glenn and Linda Engler,
Marian Williams, Jan Cowart, Tim Myers, Bonni Whitman,
Jon Stiffler, Nolan Williams, Shirley Seitz, Sandy Fair, Diane Moul,
LeMos Stallard

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Zion! We are glad you are here today. After worship, you are invited to a time of fellowship with coffee and snacks in the social hall directly beside the sanctuary.

Communion is offered every Sunday. Wine and apple juice are both available. All are welcome.

Services are recorded and streamed live each week on Zion Lutheran Church's Facebook page. It is possible during the recording that people attending the service will be filmed. If you have any concerns about being filmed, please contact the office at 717-235-3276.

Today we welcome Rev. Clifton Suehr to lead us in worship.

The Loose Change offering plate is available every Sunday. At the end of the month, the total collected for that month will be sent to the chosen organization. **Our loose change collection for February will benefit Southern Community Services.** S.C.S provides services for community members who need food assistance, rental assistance, back to school supplies, veteran assistance, energy assistance, and so much more. Southern Community Services is located within the Shrewsbury Y.M.C.A at 100 Constitution Ave, P.O. Box 263, Shrewsbury, PA 17361.

Announcements for the weekly bulletin are due to the office by early Tuesday morning so bulletin work can be completed by the end of the day on Tuesday. This schedule allows time for the bulletin to be sent to the presiding pastor for the upcoming week and allows the website committee time to post the bulletin on Zion's website. Announcements can be emailed to Brenda at office@zionglenrock.org.

PERSONNEL here at ZION

Darryl Engler, Organist

Brenda Davis, Administrative Assistant

Kelley Fisher, Treasurer

Allison Fisher, Custodian

Chad Fisher, Sexton

Chad Fisher, Council President.....ckoash6@gmail.com or 717-891-5327

Rick Freda, Council Vice President.....rickfreda@yahoo.com or 302-864-5700

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Tom Bailey, Jeff Brown, Edgar Davis, Chad Fisher, Rick Freda, Pam Hoffman, Donna Price, and Jen Webb

SUNDAY SERVANTS

Assisting Ministers:

Feb 23: Donna Price
Mar 2: Pam Hoffman
Mar 9: Diane Bortner
Mar 16: George Brown
Mar 23: Jeff Hoffman
Mar 30: George Brown

Lectors:

Feb 23: Pam Hoffman
Mar 2: Joy Keller-Brown
Mar 9: Donna Price
Mar 16: Jake Gilroy
Mar 23: Linda Beegle
Mar 30: Jen Webb

Council Offering Duty:

February – Tom Bailey and Donna Price
March – Jen Webb and Edgar Davis

Altar Care:

February – Linda Beegle
March – Pam Hoffman



Zion Lutheran Church

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