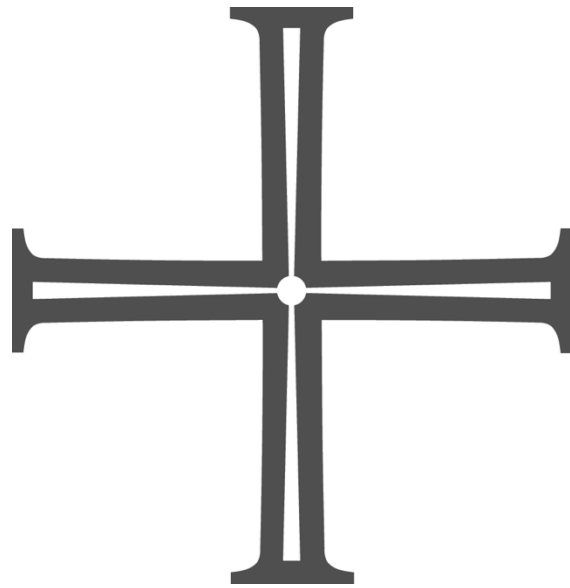


First Sunday of Lent



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Penn Hills, Pennsylvania

March 9, 2025 ♦ 9:30 am

Following the Liturgy:

- You are invited to speak the responses in **bold type**.
- **ELW #:** a hymn from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (red hymnal).
- **ACS #:** a hymn from *All Creation Sings* (purple hymnal supplement).
Hymn numbers are in the upper outside corners of the pages.

Holy Communion

All who believe and are baptized are welcome at the table Jesus Christ sets for us. You will be dismissed pew by pew by an usher to come forward to the bottom of the chancel steps. As you come forward, take a glass from the tray on either side of the aisle in front of the front pews: empty glasses for wine or a filled glass with grape juice. Proceed to the pastor for a piece of bread, and then to the assisting minister who will pour the wine into your glass. If you would like gluten-free bread or wish to only receive a blessing, please tell the pastor when you come forward. For those in need of mobility assistance, please let the ushers know, and communion will be brought to you in your pew.

Restrooms are located at the rear corner of the sanctuary.

The Playground on the rear balcony side of the church is a space specially designed for children and families in worship. Toys, books, and coloring materials are available there for your use.

Hearing Assistive Technology is available for those who need it. Please see an usher or tech minister at the desk at the back of the sanctuary.

Introduction to the Day: **First Sunday in Lent**

These forty days called Lent are like no other. It is our opportune time to return to the God who rescues, to receive the gifts of God's grace, to believe with the heart and confess with the mouth the wonder of God's love in Jesus, and to resist temptation at every turn. This is no small pilgrimage on which we have just embarked. It is a struggle Jesus knew. It is a struggle Jesus shares. The nearness of the Lord, in bread and wine, water and word, will uphold and sustain us.

Gathering

Prelude

The Great Litany

ELW 238

The assembly stands at the sound of the bell.

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

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.

O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

Word

First Reading: Deuteronomy 26:1-11

When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name.

You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, “Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us.” When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, you shall make this response before the LORD your God: “A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me.” You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

The choir sings an antiphon. The verses are chanted responsively.



¹You who dwell in the shelter of | the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of | the Almighty—

²you will say to the Lord, “My refuge | and my stronghold,
my God in whom I | put my trust.”

⁹**Because you have made the | LORD your refuge,
and the Most High your | habitation,**

¹⁰**no evil | will befall you,
nor shall affliction come | near your dwelling.**

- ¹¹ For God will give the angels charge | over you,
to guard you in | all your ways.
- ¹² Upon their hands they will | bear you up,
lest you strike your foot a- | gainst a stone.
- ¹³ **You will tread upon the lion | cub and viper;**
you will trample down the lion | and the serpent.
- ¹⁴ **I will deliver those who | cling to me;**
I will uphold them, because they | know my name.
- ¹⁵ They will call me, and I will | answer them;
I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and | honor them.
- ¹⁶ With long life will I | satisfy them,
and show them | my salvation.

Second Reading: Romans 10:8b-13

“The word is near you,
in your mouth and in your heart”
(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim), because if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart, leading to righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, leading to salvation. The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel. The acclamation is sung by the choir.

One does not live by bread alone, but by every word
that comes from the mouth of God. (*Matt. 4:4*)

Gospel: Luke 4:1-13

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tested by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over he was famished. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.' "

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." Jesus answered him, "It is written,

'Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.' "

Then the devil led him to Jerusalem and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,
to protect you,'

and

'On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.' "

Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.' " When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

The assembly stands to sing.

Apostles' Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.***

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.**

*Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.

Prayers of Intercession

Cantor All Final time

Hear our prayer, O Lord. Hear our prayer, O Lord. A - men.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The assembly may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

The assembly is seated.

Announcements

Meal

Offering

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

Offertory Anthem: "Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God" Thomas Keesecker

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

– *Psalm 51:10-12*

Setting the Table: We Place upon Your Table, Lord

ELW 467

The assembly stands to sing as the offering is brought forward.

Offering Prayer

Response: **Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also 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 our thanks and praise.

The thanksgiving continues with the preface for the season. The assembly responds:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow - er and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. 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.

The presiding minister continues with the eucharistic prayer.

The assembly responds: Amen.

Our Fa-ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,
your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we
for-give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al
and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,
and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

Communion

The assembly is seated. (See communion instructions on page 2).



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 sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

When We Are Tested

ACS 922

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

ELW 325

Once all have returned to their places, the assembly stands.

Prayer after Communion

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven.

Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage:

may our fasting be hunger for justice;

our alms, a making of peace;

and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts,

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Sending

Blessing

Response: **Amen.**

Sending Song: Bless Now, O God, the Journey

ELW 326

Dismissal

The worship has ended. Now the service begins.

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God.

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Worship Leaders

	Today	Next Week (Mar. 16)
Presiding Minister & Preacher	Rev. Richard Neumann	Rev. Richard Neumann
Assisting Minister	Gail Snyder	Gail Snyder
Organist & Choir Director	Andrew Sabol	Andrew Sabol
Musicians	Pickup Choir	Zion Church Choir
Ushers	Tony Lamorte	Mike Patchen
	Charlotte Fraser	Mark Mauro
Altar Guild	Bill Hauser	Brenda Wolfe
	Pat Hauser	Reid Wolfe
Tech Minister	Tom Felmley	Tom Felmley
Offering Count	Mary Lou D'Ambrosio	Pat Pope
	Jean Betker	Chris Dippold

Lenten Midweek Services
Reflection and Healing with Psalm 103
Thursdays at 7:00 pm in the Chapel

Join us for a quiet time of prayer,
scripture, and song.

Today at Zion

The Sanctuary candle is given today in memory of our father, Samuel, from Diane Santoriello and Samara Davis.

Good Shepherd Ministry: This week our cards are for Kay Clydesdale, Evelyn Lamm, Charles Long, and Carol Stephany. Please take a moment to sign the cards and share a smile with those unable to join us for worship. Also, remember them in your prayers this week.

Pickup Choir: Thanks to our extra singers who are joining us this morning for a pickup choir Sunday. The next pickup choir opportunity will be Sunday, April 27th. We'd love to add your voice!

Announcements

Bible Study: Beginning **Wednesday, March 19th**, Diane Santoriello will be leading our new Bible Study on Wednesday afternoons! The topic will be "Psalms." We will meet at 1:00pm in the Gerhard Lounge and over Zoom. Everyone welcome!

Pastor Neumann Office Coverage: Pastor Neumann's office days will be Monday: 10-2; Wednesday: 11-3; and Thursday: 1-5. If you need to meet with him after those hours, the best way to reach him is on his cell phone. Here are other ways to get in touch with him:

Cell: 412-401-5720 Home: 412-822-7652 Email: manyneumanns@gmail.com

Graham Standish Working Group Update: The proposal for the future of Zion was presented to the Zion council at their meeting in February. The council will vote on this proposal at their March meeting. Pending the council vote in March, informational sessions will be scheduled with the congregation after that. Please continue to keep this group and its work in your prayers.

Food Pantry: A BIG THANK YOU to all who helped out with our March distribution this weekend. If there are additional food items leftover, you are welcome to take them with you before you leave for Church today. A volunteer will meet you down in the Community room after worship for those items.

Special Offering for Easter: If you would like to purchase an Easter lily or Tulip in honor or memory of someone, or if you would like to donate to our Guest Musician Fund, please see the bulletin insert. You can drop it in the offering plate or mail it along with your check made out to Zion Lutheran Church. **The deadline is April 13th.** Thank you.

Lutherlyn Summer Camp: Registration has begun! If you are interested in attending summer camp at Lutherlyn during any of the weeks listed on the flyer posted on the kiosk beginning June 15th, please reach out to Debbie Rall. Zion will pay a portion of the cost. Any questions, please see Debbie Rall.

Food Pantry News: Zion's Food Pantry Leadership received news this week of an Ethel Verney grant award of \$12,000 for the coming year. The news came from the chair of the synod's Mission Endowment Fund Board. This grant, along with donations from the Zion congregation and others, will enable us to continue to purchase food from the Pittsburgh Food Bank and distribute those food items to our neighbors in need.

Thanks be to God for Ethel Verney's life, witness and stewardship! Her generous bequeath to the SWPA synod has enabled grants in her name to congregations and ministries throughout the synod, with the provision that the funds provide relief and support for people living in poverty in the area the synod serves.

Finances

Zion Lutheran Church Budgeted Finances as of February 28, 2025

Offering Income: \$ 28,919.52

Other Income:* \$ 11,873.00

Total Income: \$ 40,792.52

Total Expense: TBD

Net: TBD

*Thomas Child Care and Learning Center and other groups who use our facilities.

Prayer Requests

- Annette Felmley has 19 dental students that want to go on the Christian mission trip to Honduras on May 1st. Please pray for 1 or 2 other Christian dentists to come along to help mentor students.
- Please pray for Tom Felmley and his team to discern if they can go to India in April to help with a refugee crisis.
- Pray for healing for the lead doctors upcoming surgeries.

+ OREMUS +

We are concerned in maintaining a current Prayer List. If you see a name on this list that can be taken off or wish to add a name, please contact Julie in the Church office. If you or someone you know (who is not on the OREMUS) is in need of a pastoral visit, please call the Church office and let them know. Thank you.

Rehab Facility:

Evelyn Lamm (Concordia, Monroeville, Room 117)

Nancy Fabel (Rosebrook Living Facility, Sarver, PA, Room 116)

Paul and Mary Lou Feathers (Presbyterian Homes, Oakmont, Room 204)

Memory Care Facility:

Don Cook (Redstone Highlands in Murrysville, Room 46)

Prayers Requested for:

Elouise Brooky

Sandra Short

John Carter

Jenny Fabrizi

Marion Ertel

Wayne Stumpf

Ken Wagner

Sue Z. (friend of Annette Felmley)

Greg Felmley (brother of Tom)

Alanna McGlaughlin, Ella & Meredith
(niece of Gail Snyder)

John Mainarich (son-in-law of Pat Pope)

Shelly Clarke (friend of Kara Albrecht)

Ellen Waldo

(neighbor of Lisa & Ed Rickus)

Barb Kelly (cousin of Robert Page)

Audri Erfort

(cousin of Mary Lou D'Ambrosio)

Maggie Watson (daughter of Kathy Kraf)

Michael Gerdich (friend of Rhonda Pope)

Josh Cummings

(nephew of Tony Lamorte)

Patti Wunderley

(sister of Linda Neumann)

David Uptagraffe (friend of Audri Erfort)

John Hayes (friend of Tom & Annette)

Richard Sabol (father of Andrew Sabol)

Gary Bunch (husband of Cheryl Bunch)

Mike Walsh (friend of Kathy Gaberson)

Katie Ritenour

(cousin of Debbie Marks)

Sandy Hutchins
(friend of Diane Santoriello)
Darnell Pope
(brother of Sandra Short)
Steve Bell (brother of Rhonda Pope)
Chris Vuocolo
(nephew of Mary Lou D'Ambrosio)

Beth Rall
Denise Capobianco
(friend of Sandra Short)
Annette Felmley's Honduras mission trip
Tom Felmley's potential India mission trip

This Week at Zion

Sunday, March 9:	9:30 am	Worship
<i>First Sunday in Lent</i>	10:45 am	Sunday School/Confirmation
	4:00-6:00 pm	EAYC
Monday-Friday:	6:30-8:30 am	Thomas Learning Academy
	2:30-6:00 pm	Before/After School Program
Thursday, March 13:	1:00 pm	Task Force meeting - (<i>G. Lounge</i>)
	7:00 pm	Lenten Midweek Service (<i>Chapel</i>)
	7:30 pm	Choir
Saturday, March 15:	9:00-Noon	Audit (<i>Chapel</i>)

Zion Lutheran Church, Penn Hills

Rev. Richard Neumann, *Transitional Interim Pastor*

Mr. Andrew Sabol, *Director of Music Ministries*

Mrs. Julie Nieser, *Administrative Secretary*

Rev. William L. Hauser, *Pastor Emeritus*

Dr. Stanley E. Yoder, *Cantor Emeritus*

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