



ZION LUTHERAN

**March 2-3, 2024**

We invite you to join us during the season of Lent for our *“Wounds of Jesus”* sermon series each Wednesday. We will be focusing our hearts on the many wounds of Jesus.

March 6 – The Wound of Denial

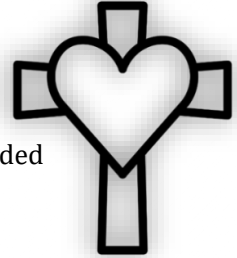
March 13 – The Wound of Mockery

March 20 – The Wound of Abandonment

March 28 – Maundy Thursday – A Meal for the Wounded

March 29 – Good Friday

**LENTEN HYMN SING** begins at 6:45 p.m.



### **THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS® ...**

Attention Thrivent Members – Please direct your Thrivent Choice Dollars to Zion Lutheran Church before they expire on Sunday, March 31, 2024. Please keep in mind that the phones will be very busy on Friday, March 29th as this is the last day by phone to designate Choice Dollars. Why not designate your Choice Dollars today. It is simple and does not cost you anything but your time. You must renew the distribution of your Choice Dollars every year. Your choice of a prior year does not carry over. There are two ways to direct your Choice Dollars. Go to [www.thriventchoice.com](http://www.thriventchoice.com) or call 1-800-847-4836 and say “choice dollars” after the prompt. Thank you for considering Zion when making your Choice Dollars donation.

### **MATCHING GIFT OPPORTUNITY FOR ZION TO SOAR IN 2024**

Through the generosity of Zion’s members, a matching gift challenge has been shared with our church as we seek to eliminate our debt. In the next few weeks, we are praying that the Lord blesses us with gifts to this campaign. For every \$2 raised another \$1 will be given up to \$10,000. Thank you for prayerfully considering a special gift to the SOAR in 2024 campaign as we ask the Lord to provide for us in ways we cannot even begin to imagine.



**EASTER FLOWERS:** Orders with payment are due in the church office **this Monday, March 4**. The order form is available at the Welcome Center or in the church office and as an attachment to this week’s bulletin.

## **DATES TO REMEMBER...**

**ROCK PRACTICE**, Saturdays, 3:30 p.m.

**SATURDAY EVENING WORSHIP**, 5 p.m.

**SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS**, 8:30 a.m., Ministry Room A.

**EASTER CANTATA PRACTICE**, Sunday, March 3, after the worship service.

**MEN'S CHORUS**, Monday, March 4, 6 p.m.

**EASTER FLOWER ORDER DEADLINE**, Monday, March 4.

**LADIES TEA & COFFEE CHOIR**, Tuesday, March 5, 11 a.m.

**FOOD PANTRY**, Tuesday, March 5, 4:30 p.m., Ministry Room A.

**ORCHESTRA**, Tuesday, March 5, 6 p.m.

**TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY**, March 5, 6 p.m., Nursery.

**CHAPEL**, Wednesday, March 6, 8:15 a.m., Sanctuary.

**HANDBELLS**, Wednesday, March 6, 5:30 p.m.

**HYMN SING**, Wednesday, March 6, 6:45 p.m.

**LENT WORSHIP SERVICE**, Wednesday, March 6, 7 p.m.

**THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY**, March 7, 10-11:30 a.m., Ministry Room A.

## **MARCH LOCAL MISSION – ZION FOOD PANTRY**

Zion's Food Pantry is just one of the 11 in our community that are affiliated with the Bay County Emergency Food Pantry Network. Their mission is to assist the needy in Bay and surrounding Counties with food assistance. The Network and our affiliation began in 1983 when many factories in our area laid off their staff. Pastor Bill Allwardt, our former pastor helped develop the constitution and directive of the network over 40 years ago. In the past 40 years, we have seen many changes including a push to wrestle with hunger insecurity. The network continues to serve in emergency situations and assistance helps to encourage self-sustaining principles and directives.

Our pantry is currently staffed by a team who trade off response times along with others who come forward to help coordinate special drives. Many hands make it much less difficult. Our parish is truly very supportive. While we like to take the time to say thanks to those who contribute, it is not always possible. Please know that your contributions are so very much appreciated, not only by the people who receive them, but also by those who serve.

**EASTER FOOD BAGS FOR FAMILIES:** Please help us to fill the Easter food bags for families in need. Items to be included are small, canned hams, boxed scalloped/au gratin potatoes, canned fruit (any kind), mac and cheese, baked beans, jelly, syrup, chocolate crosses or bunnies', and jellybeans. You may drop off any of the above listed items on the display table in the great hall. March 17 is the food donation deadline, and the distribution date is March 26. As always, the Food Pantry accepts monetary donations, please note "Easter bags" on your donation. (A shopping checklist is available on the display table)



### **AREA HAPPENINGS...**

The Men's Club of St. Peter Lutheran Church, 2461 North Raucholz Road, Hemlock, is sponsoring their **Annual Fish Fry** on Friday, March 8, from 3:30 – 7:00 pm. The dinner will be held in the school gymnasium. Take-outs will be available from 3:30 – 6:00 pm. Tickets are \$17.00 for adults; \$8.00 for children 6-12; Kids 5 and under Free.

The **Tri-Cities Good Friday service** this year is looking for people who want to sing in the joint choir during the service. If you are interested in singing, please come! The information is as follows..."Please join us in the joint choir for the Tri-Cities Good Friday service. Everyone is welcome, regardless of the number of rehearsals you can make. We will be rehearsing at St. John, Amelith on the following dates: March 9 @ 1 pm, March 16 @ 1 pm, March 23 @ 1 pm, March 26 @ 6 pm. The service is on Good Friday at 1 pm at Horizons."

On Sunday, March 17, the 80 musicians of the Symphonic Band and Golden Voice Choir of Valley Lutheran High School, under the direction of Rebecca Sugden and Paul Eschmann, will present a **Lenten worship concert** beginning at 3pm at Immanuel Lutheran Church Frankentrost. The theme of this year's worship is THY WILL BE DONE. Through word and song we'll focus on the overwhelming and incomprehensible love shown to us as the Son submitted to the will of the Father. The music program at Valley Lutheran High School has Christ as its foundation and strives to teach students that their musical gifts are a unique and powerful way to share the message of Christ with others. This tour is an extension of that teaching and offers our students the opportunity to share their faith in that way. Christ's message, as presented through our concert, is for all people to hear. This is the final concert of a 5-day, 5-concert tour through Indiana, Missouri, Illinois, and Michigan. We extend a warm welcome to you and pray that you will find strength and peace as we focus on Christ's ultimate act of love on our behalf. Please invite a friend to hear this important message of Christ's love for us!

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, GIFTS, AND MEMORIALS...**

**In memory of Judy Buerkel**, from family and friends...\$25 Building Preservation, \$25 Lanes 2 Learning, \$150 General Fund, \$820 Soar in 2024-General Fund.

**In remembrance of my father's birthday**, from Lane Valliere...\$100 Soar in 2024-General Fund.

**A thank offering for safe travels**, from Joan Stout...\$100 Soar in 2024-General Fund.

**In memory of Bill Deik**, from Jim & Alana Rabedioux...\$25 Soar in 2024-General Fund.

**In honor of Crystal & Brian's Anniversary**, from Jim & Alana Rabedioux...\$50 Soar in 2024-General Fund.

**From participants in the Kroger Community Rewards program** (November 1, 2023-January 31, 2024...\$92.41 for the General Fund.

**Gifts received:** \$250 Easter Food Bags-Food Pantry; \$9,500 IRA Distributions-General Fund; \$3,075 Soar in 2024-General Fund.

## **PREVIOUS WEEKS ATTENDANCE:**

Wednesday-2/21 (34), Saturday (111), Sunday (64), Wednesday-2/28 (34)

## **This Weekend – March 2-3 – Third Sunday in Lent**

Sunday Worship Setting: Divine Service 1, pg. 151

Readings: 2 Corinthians 1:1-5; John 18:1-11

Hymns: 420 v1, 5-7, 436, 617, 423, 664, 763

## **Next Weekend – March 9-10 – Fourth Sunday in Lent**

Sunday Worship Setting: Divine Service 1, pg. 151

Readings: 2 Corinthians 12:7-10; John 18:12-27

Hymns: LSB 420 v1-4, 566, 618, 702, 698, 580

## **AVAILABLE AT THE WELCOME CENTER:**

- **NEW** Spring 2024 Lutheran Woman's Quarterly
- Portals of Prayer devotionals for January-March
- Our Daily Bread devotionals for March-May
- Lutheran Hour Ministries devotional "Lamb of God"
- CPH Lenten devotional "Witnesses to Christ"
- **NEW** March Wonderful Times (Div. on Aging)
- Cougar Newsletter

**ACCESSING FACEBOOK STREAMING SERVICES.** You can access the streaming service site at <https://www.facebook.com/zionbaycity>.

**ACCESSING YOUTUBE STREAMING SERVICES.** To access the service from YouTube, go to <https://youtu.be/c7Wvx6h96XA>, select the PLAYLISTS tab, select Church to find the Live-Stream and hit SUBSCRIBE to add this site.

## **Zion Lutheran Church**

510 W. Ivy St., Bay City, Michigan 48706; 989-894-2611

**Worship: Saturday 5pm; Sunday 9:30am; Wednesday 7pm**

Pastor Phillip Baerwolf, pbaerwolf@zionbaycity.org, 989.284.0500

**Bulletin submission deadline: Wednesdays, 10 a.m.**

# Zion's Weekly Prayer Concerns March 2-8, 2024

## **Those ill, hospitalized (or recently hospitalized), seeking medical treatment or with long term needs...**

Erma Thomas, Connie Fisher, Lisa White, Ken Franz, Amy Nuffer, Kristy, and those with struggles who suffer silently.

## **For those celebrating Anniversaries...**

James & Candace Tacey celebrating 56 yrs. on March 2

Scott & Kim Bitzer celebrating 40 yrs. on March 3

Judy & Dennis Sepos celebrating 16 yrs. on March 6

Lowell & Marsha Horneber celebrating 44 yrs. on March 8

## **For those celebrating Birthdays...**

Emma Engelhardt-3/2

Paige Jurik-3/2

Tammy Kohler-3/2

Morgan Rozek-3/2

Pam Talaga-3/4

Bill Ott-3/5

Lyle Gripenrog-3/6

Aliana Crowl-3/7

## **For this week's homebound/nursing home patients ...**

Leonard Kaczorowski, Patricia Keene, and Della Marotzke.

## **Pray:**

- for Christ's work throughout the world, that the Gospel might be proclaimed to all people and the forgiveness of sins delivered through the Means of Grace.
- for families, that they might attend worship to hear the Word and receive the Sacraments.
- for all Christians, that they would help and defend the orphan and widow, the poor and lonely, the helpless and oppressed.

## **May our prayer be that of the psalmist who teaches us to pray:**

"I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God; incline your ear to me; hear my words. Wondrously show your steadfast love, O Savior of those who seek refuge from their adversaries at your right hand. Keep me as the apple of your eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings" (Psalm 17)



## The Sacrament of Holy Communion Our Understanding and Practice

We celebrate the Lord's Supper in our worship, firmly believing that Jesus' words, "*This Is My Body...This Is My Blood*" mean what they say. Therefore, Communion is more than a "memorial" or a "representation" of Jesus. Rather, we believe that with the bread and wine of Holy Communion, Christ gives us His true body and blood in a miraculous way through this sacrament. Because of this promise in the Bible that Jesus is truly present, we have confidence that God forgives our sins and likewise strengthens our faith.

Since Scripture instructs us to examine ourselves before receiving Holy Communion, please sincerely reflect on these questions:

1. Am I truly sorry for my sins?
2. Do I believe that Jesus Christ is my Savior from sin because He gave His life on the cross for me personally?
3. Am I depending on Him, and not my own goodness, as the only way to heaven?
4. Do I firmly believe that Jesus gives His actual body and blood to me in this sacrament?
5. Do I expect to receive God's gift of forgiveness through this meal?
6. Do I sincerely intend, with the help of God, not to return to a life of sin but to live to Jesus' glory?

All who have been instructed about the meaning of communion in the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod and who confess these statements of belief are welcome to receive communion.

The Bible tells us that those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm. Therefore, any who are not yet instructed, who are in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod are asked to speak with the pastor prior to receiving this sacrament.

All adults and children not taking part in communion are encouraged to come forward to receive a blessing from the pastor. Please indicate this by simply refraining from receiving the bread and wine.

Gluten free wafers and non-alcoholic wine are available for those desiring this option for reasons of health or conscience.