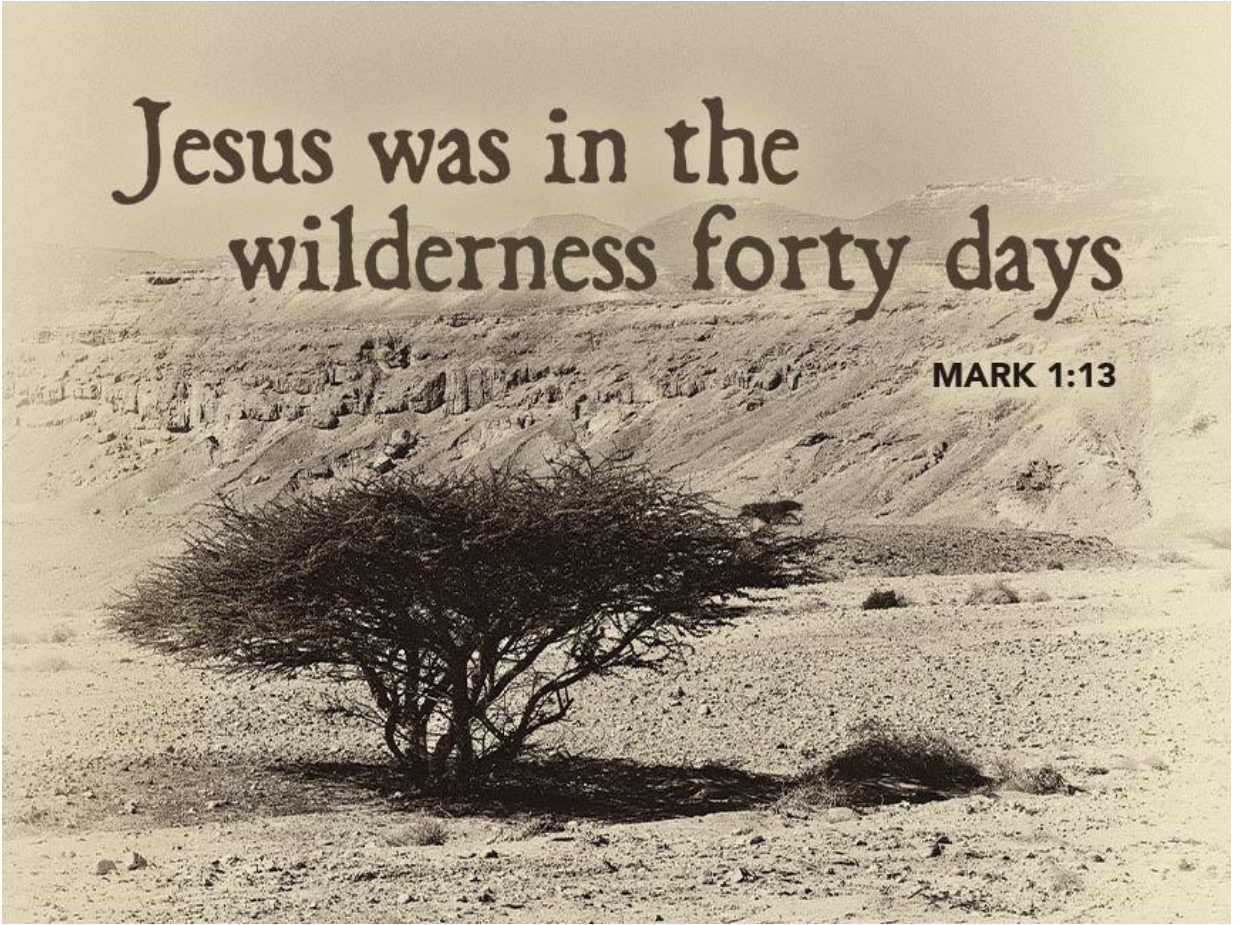


Welcome!

Jesus was in the
wilderness forty days

MARK 1:13



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

101 N. Greenwood Street, Tamaqua, PA 18252

(570) 668-2180 - Email: zionlcof@verizon.net

Our Mission: Zion proclaims the Gospel of Jesus Christ through Word and Sacrament as Gospel messengers in the community. We seek to be instruments through which God transforms lives and strengthens relationships within families and within our community of believers

The First Sunday in Lent

February 21, 2021 ~ 9:00 am
The Liturgy of Word and Sacrament

On Ash Wednesday the church began its journey toward baptismal immersion in the death and resurrection of Christ. This year, the Sundays in Lent lead us to focus on five covenants God makes in the Hebrew Scriptures and to use them as lenses through which to view baptism. First Peter connects the way God saved Noah's family in the flood with the way God saves us through the water of baptism. The baptismal covenant is made with us individually, but the new life we are given in baptism is for the sake of the whole world.

**Congregation please stand*

The Pre-service Music

~ The Gathering ~

* The Confession and Forgiveness

BLESSED BE THE HOLY TRINITY, ✚ ONE GOD, THE KEEPER OF THE COVENANT, THE SOURCE OF STEADFAST LOVE, OUR ROCK AND OUR REDEEMER.

Amen.

GOD HEARS US WHEN WE CRY, AND DRAWS US CLOSE IN JESUS CHRIST. LET US RETURN TO THE ONE WHO IS FULL OF COMPASSION.

Silence is kept for reflection.

FOUNTAIN OF LIVING WATER,

pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free. Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love. Amen.

BELOVED, GOD'S WORD NEVER FAILS. THE PROMISE RESTS ON GRACE: BY THE SAVING LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST, THE WISDOM AND POWER OF GOD, YOUR SINS ARE ✚ FORGIVEN, AND GOD REMEMBERS THEM NO MORE. JOURNEY IN THE WAY OF JESUS.

Amen.

* The Gathering Hymn *“O Lord, Throughout These Forty Day”* No. 99 Stanzas 1,2

**O Lord, throughout these forty days you prayed and kept the fast;
inspire repentance for our sin, and free us from our past.**

**You strove with Satan, and you won; your faithfulness endured;
lend us your nerve, your skill and trust in God's eternal word.**

* The Greeting

THE GRACE OF JESUS CHRIST OUR SAVIOR, THE RECONCILING LOVE OF GOD, AND THE COMMUNION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT BE WITH YOU ALL.

And also with you.

* The Kyrie Eleison *(music on page 57 of LBW)*

IN PEACE, LET US PRAY TO THE LORD.

(Sung) **Lord, have mercy.**

FOR THE PEACE FROM ABOVE, AND FOR OUR SALVATION, LET US PRAY TO THE LORD.

Lord, have mercy.

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.

Lord, have mercy.

FOR THIS HOLY HOUSE, AND FOR ALL WHO OFFER HERE THEIR WORSHIP AND PRAISE, LET
US PRAY TO THE LORD.

Lord, have mercy.

HELP, SAVE, COMFORT, AND DEFEND US, GRACIOUS LORD.

Amen.

* **The Prayer of the Day**

THE LORD BE WITH YOU

(Sung) **And also with you.**

LET US PRAY:

Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

~The Word~

The First Lesson Genesis 9:8-17

Today's reading is the conclusion to the flood story. Because of human sin, God destroys the earth by flood, saving only Noah, his family, and the animals on the ark. Yet divine destruction gives way to divine commitment. As in the first creation, God blesses humanity and establishes a covenant with all creatures.

(After the reading)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm 25:1-10

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul. O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me. Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous. Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long. Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O LORD! Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way. He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way. All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

The Second Lesson 1 Peter 3:18-22

As God acted through Christ's suffering and death to bring us to God, so God acts through baptism to save us from a sinful existence. This spiritual cleansing marks our new life in Christ.

(After the reading)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

Thanks be to God.

* **The Gospel Acclamation** (*Lenten Verse LBW p. 63*)

**Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger,
and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.**

* **The Holy Gospel St. Mark 1:9-15**

The Spirit that comes upon Jesus at his baptism sustains him when he is tested by Satan so that he might proclaim the good news of God's reign.

(Before the Gospel)

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT MARK THE 1ST CHAPTER:

(Sung) **Glory to you, O Lord.**

(After the Gospel)

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

(Sung) **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Sermon

Pastor Cindy White

* **The Hymn of the Day**

"In the Garden"

Additional Hymnal No.5

**I come to the garden alone While the dew is still on the roses;
And the voice I hear, falling on my ear, The Son of God discloses.**

(Refrain) **And He walks with me, and He talks with me
And He tells me I am His own.
And the joy we share as we tarry there,
None other has ever known.**

**He speaks, and the sound of His voice Is so sweet the birds hush their singing;
And the melody that He gave to me Within my heart is ringing. *(Refrain)***

**I'd stay in the garden with Him Tho' the night around me is falling;
But He bids me go thru the voice of woe His voice to me is calling. *(Refrain)***

* **The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker 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 to the dead. 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 Intercession**

RELYING ON THE PROMISES OF GOD, WE PRAY BOLDLY FOR THE CHURCH, THE WORLD, AND ALL IN NEED.

A brief silence.

IN JESUS YOUR REALM HAS COME NEAR TO US IN EVERY PLACE AND TIME. GIVE YOUR CHURCH THROUGHOUT THE WORLD A SPIRIT OF HUMILITY AND REPENTANCE; TEACH US TO TRUST ALWAYS IN THE GOOD NEWS OF YOUR SALVATION. HEAR US, O GOD.

Your mercy is great.

YOU HAVE MADE A COVENANT OF MERCY WITH EVERY LIVING CREATURE. PROTECT ALL THE EARTH'S CREATURES FROM DESTRUCTION. EMPOWER THE WORK OF BIOLOGISTS, CONSERVATIONISTS, AND SCIENCE EDUCATORS. HEAR US, O GOD.

Your mercy is great.

ALL YOUR PATHS ARE STEADFAST LOVE AND FAITHFULNESS. DIRECT THE WORDS AND ACTIONS OF LEADERS IN OUR COMMUNITY AND THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, THAT THEY MAY MAINTAIN JUSTICE FOR THE LOWLY. HEAR US, O GOD.

Your mercy is great.

EVEN IN THE WILDERNESS YOU ARE WITH US. WALK ALONGSIDE MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES CROSSING DANGEROUS LANDS. TEND TO THOSE WHOSE LIVES FEEL DESOLATE. GIVE HEALING AND STRENGTH TO ALL WHO SUFFER ESPECIALLY PAT, RICK, RYAN, BROOKLYN, ELAINE, DEREK, FERN, ROBERT, MARY, DOLLY, CAROL, IRENE, MRS. CHRIS MILLER, NANCY, IDA, JEANNE, CAROLYN, GWEN, KATHLEEN, RALPH, SAM, JOSEPH, EVA, MARY, JOHN, AND ALL OF OUR MEMBERS WHO ARE HOMEBOUND. HEAR US, O GOD.

Your mercy is great.

IN THE COVENANT OF BAPTISM YOU CLAIM US AS BELOVED CHILDREN. NURTURE US IN OUR BAPTISMAL IDENTITY AND TEACH US TO LIVE WITHIN IT FOR THE SAKE OF OTHERS. STRENGTHEN THIS CONGREGATION'S MINISTRIES OF CARE AND CONCERN. HEAR US, O GOD.

Your mercy is great.

IN BAPTISM YOU JOIN US TO THE DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST. WE PRAISE YOU FOR ALL THOSE WHO HAVE DIED TRUSTING IN YOUR FAITHFULNESS. BRING US WITH THEM TO THE FULLNESS OF YOUR REIGN. HEAR US, O GOD.

Your mercy is great.

GOD OF GRACE AND MERCY, (PLEASE SHARE ANY PERSONAL PRAYER PETITIONS) HEAR OUR PETITIONS THAT WE SPEAK OUT LOUD AND THE ONES THAT WE HOLD IN OUR HEARTS. HEAR US, O GOD.

Your mercy is great.

WE ENTRUST OURSELVES AND ALL OUR PRAYERS TO YOU, O FAITHFUL GOD, THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD.

Amen.

*** The Peace of Christ**

THE PEACE OF THE LORD BE WITH YOU ALWAYS.

And also with you.

~The Meal~

*** The Offering and Offertory**

Zion members, please use your envelopes for contributions so that your offering may be officially recorded. Please mail your envelopes to Zion Lutheran Church 101 N. Greenwood Street Tamaqua, PA 18252 or visit ziontamaqua.com for our myEoffering option.

*** The Offertory Procession** *(music on page 66 of the LBW)*

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.

Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, That we may be fed with the bread of life.

Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; Unite them with the prayers we offer now.

Grace our table with your presence, And give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

*** The Offertory Prayer**

LET US PRAY: FAITHFUL GOD, YOU WALK BESIDE US IN DESERT PLACES, AND YOU MEET US IN OUR HUNGER WITH BREAD FROM HEAVEN. ACCOMPANY US IN THIS MEAL, THAT WE MAY PASS OVER FROM DEATH TO LIFE WITH JESUS CHRIST, OUR SAVIOR AND LORD.

Amen.

*** The Great Thanksgiving**

*** The Preface and Sanctus** (*LBW page 68*)

THE LORD BE WITH YOU.

(Sung) **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 him thanks and praise.

IT IS INDEED RIGHT AND SALUTARY...AND JOIN THEIR UNENDING HYMN: (*LBW page 69*)

(Sung) **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might:**

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

*** The Prayer of Thanksgiving**

BLESSED ARE YOU, O GOD OF THE UNIVERSE...WITH THIS BREAD AND CUP WE REMEMBER OUR LORD'S PASSOVER FROM DEATH TO LIFE AS WE PROCLAIM THE MYSTERY OF FAITH:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

O GOD OF RESURRECTION AND NEW LIFE...GRACE OUR TABLE WITH YOUR PRESENCE.

Come, Holy Spirit.

REVEAL YOURSELF TO US...SEND US FORTH, BURNING WITH JUSTICE, PEACE, AND LOVE.

Come Holy Spirit.

WITH YOUR HOLY ONES OF ALL TIME AND PLACES, WITH THE EARTH AND ALL ITS CREATURES, WITH SUN AND MOON AND STARS, WE PRAISE YOU, O GOD, BLESSED AND HOLY TRINITY, NOW AND FOREVER.

Amen.

*** The Lord's Prayer**

JESUS, 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.

*** The Invitation to the Holy Meal**

JESUS DRAWS THE WHOLE WORLD TO HIMSELF. COME TO THIS MEAL AND BE FED.

*** The Agnus Dei "Lamb of God" (*LBW No. 72*)**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

The Distribution

All who are baptized and believe that Christ is truly present in the Sacrament are welcome to commune when we celebrate the Lord's Supper. *Zion members, please complete a Communion card once a year for our records.*

* The Post-Communion Blessing

THE BODY AND BLOOD OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST STRENGTHEN YOU AND KEEP YOU IN HIS GRACE.
Amen.

* The Post Communion Canticle (*music on page 72 of LBW*)

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace according to thy word;
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;
A light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen

* The Post Communion Prayer

LET US PRAY: GOD OF STEADFAST LOVE, AT THIS TABLE YOU GATHER YOUR PEOPLE INTO ONE BODY FOR THE SAKE OF THE WORLD. SEND US IN THE POWER OF YOUR SPIRIT, THAT OUR LIVES BEAR WITNESS TO THE LOVE THAT HAS MADE US NEW IN JESUS CHRIST, OUR SAVIOR AND LORD.

Amen.

~The Sending~

* The Blessing

YOU ARE WHAT GOD MADE YOU TO BE: CREATED IN CHRIST JESUS FOR GOOD WORKS, CHOSEN AS HOLY AND BELOVED, FREED TO SERVE YOUR NEIGHBOR. GOD BLESS YOU ✝ THAT YOU MAY BE A BLESSING, IN THE NAME OF THE HOLY AND LIFE-GIVING TRINITY.

(Spoken) Amen.

* The Sending

GO IN PEACE. SHARE THE GOOD NEWS.

Thanks be to God.

* The Sending Hymn *"I Want Jesus to Walk With Me"* WOV No.660 Stanzas 1,2

I want Jesus to walk with me; I want Jesus to walk with me;
All along my pilgrim journey, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

In my trials, Lord, walk with me; In my trials, Lord, walk with me;
When my heart is almost breaking, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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First Reading: Genesis 9:8-17

⁸God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹“As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, ¹⁰and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark.

¹¹I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” ¹²God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” ¹⁷God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:18-22

¹⁸Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Gospel: Mark 1:9-15

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

¹²And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

February 28, 2021 readings are:

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16
Romans 4:13-25

Psalms 22:23-31
Mark 8:31-38

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

February 20-21, 2020

**If you need assistance, please see one of the ushers in the back of the church; Large Print Bulletins are available. Grape juice is available in the tray for those who wish not to partake of the wine. Please Silence your cell phones during service. A Family Room is available for use during or after services. It is located across from the office. A changing station is available for your convenience in the restroom across the hall from the Family Room. We respectfully ask that you refrain from taking photos during the service. Opportunities are always available after the service. Welcome visitors please sign our guest book. Thank you.*

GIFTS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

THE CANDLES are given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of the Fritzinger & Turrano family members by Glenn & Lorie Fritzinger

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of all of my loved ones by Judy Brennan

CURRENT FUND DONATIONS are given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of Zalane Kunkel by Judy Brennan

In loving memory of Betty Dolinsky by Judy Brennan

In loving memory of Fern Woodring whose birthday is February 14 by her children

ENDOWMENT FUND DONATIONS are given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of Jean Hartz by Tyrone, Janet and Tyrone Coal Rarick

In loving memory of Jean Hartz by Jennifer and Joshua Deeble

In loving memory of Jean Hartz by Joshua and Jenny Young

Altar Flower Sponsors are needed for February 28th.

Bulletin sponsors are needed for the entire month, thank you.

Please remember the following in your prayers: The family and friends of William Linkhorst Jr., Pat Brown, Rick Bachman, Ryan, Brooklyn, Elaine Koch, Derek Hill, Fern Rudenko, Robert Schlock, Mary Richards, Dolly Christ, Carol Dietrich, Irene Pecha, Mrs. Chris Miller, Nancy Betz, Ida Piccin, Jeanne Rajnic, Carolyn Tirpak, Gwen Evans, Kathleen Valentine, Ralph Derr, Sam Caley, Joseph Harvilla, Eva (Mitzi) Koomar, Mary Koch, John Lattanzi, and all our members who are homebound.

PHONELIVESTREAM - Zion has begun offering worship services and messages through a phone streaming service. The target audience is our homebound members who receive calls when a service or message is about to begin. Anyone can call 570-393-2180 (it's a local number) and listen. Services are recorded so a caller can listen to recent services or messages. We started using the service right before Christmas and as of Jan. 26, we've phone-streamed 14 events and 89 people have listened. The service costs \$59 per month and has been sponsored the first three months by members of Church Council. Would you consider being a sponsor for a month? If you feel called to be a sponsor, please write PHONELIVE STREAM on your envelope or check.

This Week in Our Church

SUNDAY, February 21, 2021

9:00 The Service of Word & Sacrament/ Reservations Only
Congregational Meeting/ Zoom/ In Person

WEDNESDAY

7:00 Mid-Week Lenten service/ St. John's

SATURDAY

5:30 Saturday Evening Worship/ Online only

NEXT SUNDAY, February 28, 2021

9:00 The Service of Word & Sacrament/ Reservations Only
10:15 Christian Education

We extend our Christian Love and Sympathy to the family and friends of:

- ◆ *William D. Linkhorst Jr., who passed away on February 3, 2021.*

ZION IN-PERSON WORSHIP - Sunday in-person worship attendance is limited to 25. The Saturday 5:30 p.m. worship will remain virtual (online). The service is downstairs. Reservations for the Sunday service will be accepted on a first come, first served basis by calling the Parish office at 570-668-2180 or by email at zionlcof@verizon.net. Reservations can be made Friday, the cut-off day, by calling 610-674-2072. Zion is following CDC guidelines and members are expected to also act responsibly. Those attending must wear a mask and only members living in the same household may sit together.

SUPPORTING OUR SEMINARIAN - As most of you know, we are extremely blessed here at Zion to have Dillon Epler, one of our own members, studying at seminary to become a Lutheran Pastor. It is customary for a church to make a gift to support their candidate each semester. Dillon's tuition will be covered by seminary grants, however there are still considerable expenses. Church Council is requesting your support with donations for Dillon's textbooks. If you would like to make a donation, please write a check to Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church and designate "For Dillon Epler." Jesus said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all nations." (Mark 16:15) Let's help our brother respond to his call for ministry with our prayers and gifts.

PLANNED GIVING - Church Council has established a three-person team to develop a planned giving strategy for Zion. The team is led by George Taylor and consists of one Council member and one member of the congregation. Ernie Henritz is the Council member. The team will review available materials and brainstorm ways of conveying information to the congregation. Do you feel called to serve on this ministry? If so, contact George Taylor at gtay200@verizon.net or at 570-668-4451. P.S. If you are planning to revise or make a will this year, consider including the church.