

SATURDAY EVENING SERVICE
FEBRUARY 11, 2022
ZION LUTHERAN, TAMAQUA, PA

Note: Pastor White will ask for prayer requests at the start of this evening's service. Worshipers are also invited to add their own prayers during Prayers of the People.

GATHERING

Prelude: "You Will Be Found" – One Voice Children's Choir

Gathering Words – Please remain seated

This is the day the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it

Happy are those who are without blame.

Blessed are those who walk in God's way.

Happy are those who are faithful.

Blessed are those who seek God.

We will obey your word, O God.

We will praise you forever!

Welcome – Pastor Cindy White

Gathering prayer – Pastor White

Gathering song: "10,000 Reasons" – Matt Redman

Prayer of Confession

Let us pray together: **Loving God, you call us into community, teach us your ways, and bless us with abundant life. Yet we turn aside to follow other paths: we take the easy way out, listening to the world's call rather than your call to commitment; we quarrel with one another, letting differences divide us; we cherish our resentments, shutting off our hearts from forgiveness and reconciliation; we cling to petty jealousies, feeling we deserve more than we have. Forgive us when we wander from your love. Draw us into community with each other, and feed us with the milk of your grace, that we may grow in faithfulness and work together in peace. Amen.**

Sharing of Peace

May the Peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Godsightings

Where have you seen God at work in your life?

THE WORD (Matthew 5:21-37)

Gospel reading – Please remain seated

Praise the Lord for the hearing of God’s holy word. Blessed are we when we live according to God’s ways.

A reading from Matthew: ²¹ “You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘You shall not murder,^[a] and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.’ ²² But I tell you that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister^{[b][c]} will be subject to judgment. Again, anyone who says to a brother or sister, ‘Raca,’^[d] is answerable to the court. And anyone who says, ‘You fool!’ will be in danger of the fire of hell.

²³ “Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you,²⁴ leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

²⁵ “Settle matters quickly with your adversary who is taking you to court. Do it while you are still together on the way, or your adversary may hand you over to the judge, and the judge may hand you over to the officer, and you may be thrown into prison. ²⁶ Truly I tell you, you will not get out until you have paid the last penny.

²⁷ “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’^[e] ²⁸ But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹ If your right eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰ And if your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.

³¹ “It has been said, ‘Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce.’^[f] ³² But I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for

sexual immorality, makes her the victim of adultery, and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

³³“Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘Do not break your oath, but fulfill to the Lord the vows you have made.’ ³⁴ But I tell you, do not swear an oath at all: either by heaven, for it is God’s throne; ³⁵ or by the earth, for it is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the Great King.³⁶ And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make even one hair white or black. ³⁷ All you need to say is simply ‘Yes’ or ‘No’; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.[g]

The Gospel of Our Lord
Praise to You, O Christ!

Today’s message – Pastor Cindy White

Special music – “How Great Thou Art” - Pastor Cindy White
Congregation is urged to join in on the chorus.

Praise & Prayer

The Offering Moment

Let us pray together: **These offerings belong to you, O Lord, for you are the source of every blessing and joy. Employ these gifts to build your realm. Send them into the world to heal the sick, feed the hungry, and reconcile us to one another. By our prayers, our presence, our gifts, and our service, make your church a true instrument of peace. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

(Note: Worshipers are also invited to add their own prayers at this time.)

God calls us to be a praying people. Let us join in prayer, offering our praise, thanksgiving, and concerns to God ...

Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayers**

The Lord’s Prayer – Spoken

The sending

Sending: “Christ, Be Our Light” – Ruth and Joy Everingham

Benediction

And all God’s people say **Thanks be to God.**