

SATURDAY EVENING SERVICE  
FEBRUARY 25, 2022  
ZION LUTHERAN, TAMAQUA, PA

*Note: Today's worship leader 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: "Return to God" – Marty Haugen

Gathering Words – Please remain seated

This is the day the Lord has made.

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it**

Temptation surrounds us every day.

**Happy are those whose transgressions are forgiven.**

Opportunities to stray litter our path.

**Happy are those whose sin is covered.**

Though we stumble and fall, God's mercy picks us up.

**God's grace brushes us off.**

Be glad in the Lord and rejoice,

**God's love meets us here.**

Welcome – Michael Haspe

Gathering prayer

Gathering song: "40 Days" – Matt Maher

Prayer of Yearning

Let us pray together: **God of wilderness wanderings, many things tempt us; many forces cause our feet to stray. Save us from the time of trial, for we easily succumb to temptation; we often heed voices that cause us to stray. Return us to the garden of your abiding love, or we yearn to walk with you with faithful hearts and upright spirits. 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 4:1-11)

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: Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted<sup>[a]</sup> by the devil. <sup>2</sup> After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. <sup>3</sup> The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread."

<sup>4</sup> Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'<sup>[b]</sup>"

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. <sup>6</sup> "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written:

"He will command his angels concerning you,  
and they will lift you up in their hands,  
so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'<sup>[c]</sup>"

<sup>7</sup> Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'<sup>[d]</sup>"

<sup>8</sup> Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. <sup>9</sup> "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me."

<sup>10</sup> Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'<sup>[e]</sup>"

<sup>11</sup> Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

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

Today's message – Michael Haspe

Song of Praise – “Old Rugged Cross” – Alan Jackson

## **Praise & Prayer**

The Offering Moment

Let us pray together: **Merciful One, we do not live by bread alone but by every word that comes from your mouth. Still, we seek your blessing upon this offering, for many are hungry and need food, many are naked and need clothes, many are homeless and need shelter. May these gifts reflect the depth of our gratitude as they go into the world. In Jesus’s name, we pray. 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: “May the Peace of God” – Getty & Townsend

Benediction

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