

SERMON: Numbers 16:23-40

²³ Then the LORD said to Moses, ²⁴ “Say to the assembly, ‘Move away from the tents of Korah, Dathan and Abiram.’”

²⁵ Moses got up and went to Dathan and Abiram, and the elders of Israel followed him. ²⁶ He warned the assembly, “Move back from the tents of these wicked men! Do not touch anything belonging to them, or you will be swept away because of all their sins.” ²⁷ So they moved away from the tents of Korah, Dathan and Abiram. Dathan and Abiram had come out and were standing with their wives, children and little ones at the entrances to their tents.

²⁸ Then Moses said, “This is how you will know that the LORD has sent me to do all these things and that it was not my idea: ²⁹ If these men die a natural death and experience only what usually happens to men, then the LORD has not sent me. ³⁰ But if the LORD brings about something totally new, and the earth opens its mouth and swallows them, with everything that belongs to them, and they go down alive into the grave, then you will know that these men have treated the LORD with contempt.”

³¹ As soon as he finished saying all this, the ground under them split apart ³² and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them, with their

households and all Korah’s men and all their possessions. ³³ They went down alive into the grave, with everything they owned; the earth closed over them, and they perished and were gone from the community. ³⁴ At their cries, all the Israelites around them fled, shouting, “The earth is going to swallow us too!”

³⁵ And fire came out from the LORD and consumed the 250 men who were offering the incense.

³⁶ The LORD said to Moses, ³⁷ “Tell Eleazar son of Aaron, the priest, to take the censers out of the smoldering remains and scatter the coals some distance away, for the censers are holy— ³⁸ the censers of the men who sinned at the cost of their lives. Hammer the censers into sheets to overlay the altar, for they were presented before the LORD and have become holy. Let them be a sign to the Israelites.”

³⁹ So Eleazar the priest collected the bronze censers brought by those who had been burned up, and he had them hammered out to overlay the altar, ⁴⁰ as the LORD directed him through Moses. This was to remind the Israelites that no one except a descendant of Aaron should come to burn incense before the LORD, or he would become like Korah and his followers. (NIV)

HUMBLE YOURSELF BEFORE THE LORD!

Zion

Evangelical Lutheran Church and School

The Third Sunday in Lent

March 7, 2010

Zion

EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
AND
SCHOOL

2600 S. Wadsworth Blvd.
Denver, CO 80227
(303) 985-2334

Divine Services
8:00 and 10:30AM

**Bible Study (Youth and Adult)
and Sunday School**
9:20AM

Rev. Earle D. Treptow, *Pastor*
etreptow@zion-wels.org

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Reaching out with the message of forgiveness through Jesus Christ.
Holding on to God's unchanging Word.

The Third Sunday in Lent March 7, 2010

Repentance is easy to talk about, but difficult to do. Impossible, in fact, for us to accomplish. Only God can enable us to acknowledge our utter sinfulness. Only God leads us to trust that there is forgiveness for our sin in the life and death of Jesus Christ. Day after day, the Lord leads us to humble ourselves before him, confessing our unworthiness and relying exclusively on his mercy. By his grace, we live in repentance.



Welcome to all who have gathered to hear God's Word! May the Holy Spirit work through the Word that you hear to lead you to trust completely in Jesus, your Savior. A special welcome to our visitors. We are happy to have you with us and hope that you will come again soon. Contact the pastor or one of the ushers if you have questions about the service or the congregation.

A nursery is available downstairs, should you find it necessary to take your child out of the service. During the second service, the nursery will be staffed. We are glad for the sound of young voices, but we also understand that parents may be a little more sensitive to the noise their children make. The service is available downstairs via closed-circuit television. There are also toys available.

This Week at Zion

- Today:** Divine Service with Holy Communion at 8:00 and 10:30AM
Bible Study (Youth and Adult) and Sunday School at 9:20AM
Anniversary Service for Mr. Michael Schaefer at 2:30PM (with reception following)
- Monday:** Bible Readers' Group at 7:00PM (Parts 22-28)
- Tuesday:** Church Council Meeting at 6:30PM
- Wednesday:** Lenten Supper at 5:45PM
Lenten Service at 7:00PM
Adult Choir at 7:50PM
- Thursday:** Handbell Choir Practice at 7:30PM
- Friday:** No School
Public School Confirmation Class at 4:00PM
RMLHS Federation Activity Night at 7:00PM
- Saturday:** Front Range Basketball Tournament
Daylight Saving Time - Set your clocks ahead an hour!
- Next Sunday:** Divine Service at 8:00 and 10:30AM
Bible Study (Youth and Adult) and Sunday School at 9:20AM

The Lord willing!

Worshipping the Savior, who willingly went to the cross for sinners,
on the Second Sunday in Lent - **194**

Offered out of love to the Savior - **\$5,979.00**
(General Fund - \$5,859.00)

Gathered at the foot of the cross for the mid-week Lenten service - **118**
Given in response to the Lord's gracious forgiveness - **\$996.33**

beginning at 9:00am. All members of the congregation are invited and encouraged to attend. Please bring along extra rags, buckets, and general cleaning supplies. The Women of Zion will serve a light lunch after the cleaning is finished. If you have any questions, please direct them to Anne Saggau.

RMLHS Federation Activity

Friday, March 12, has been chosen as the date for the annual Rocky Mountain Lutheran High School Federation activity night. All are invited to an evening of square dancing/line dancing that will begin at 7:00pm at the high school (11700 Irma Drive in Northglenn). Please sign up today to help with planning!

RMLHS Garage Sale

Rocky Mountain Lutheran High School will hold its first annual Garage Sale on Saturday, April 17, at 8:00am. The sale will be in the parking lot of Lord of Life Lutheran Church (12021 Northhaven Circle in Thornton). Proceeds from the garage sale will benefit the ministry to teens at RMLHS.

Donations can be brought to Lord of Life on the morning of the sale, beginning at 7:00am. Prior to the sale, donations may be dropped off at the home of Rick Lohmiller (12474 Albion Street in Thornton). To make a donation, please contact Mary

Peterson at 303-910-2891 or sammydog30@hotmail.com.

Church Retreat

The Board of Outreach is organizing a congregational retreat on July 30 and 31 at Snow Mountain Ranch in Granby. There will be some organized activities and also free time for participants to use as they wish. A service will be held on Saturday afternoon/evening at the retreat site. Please make your own reservations at your earliest convenience, as spaces quickly fill up. Information about the retreat can be found on the pillar in the northwest corner of the narthex. Direct questions to Kevin Borgmann.

Preparing for Next Week

The Lord's lavish love appears reckless at best and foolish at worst. Instead of abandoning those who stray, he continually reaches out to them to call them to repentance and life. Prepare for the Fourth Sunday in Lent by reading Judges 10:6-16 (sermon lesson); James 4:7-10; and St. Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32.

Church Cleaning

Thanks to those who will volunteer their time, energy, and skill to clean the church in the coming weeks: Mike and Dana Duffy and Bernie and Cindy Dull (second weekend in March) and Paul and Dani Lindholm and David and Pamela Flemming (third weekend).

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

OPENING HYMN

Today Your Mercy Calls Us (*Christian Worship* 339)

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

M: Let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: **Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.**

For faithless worrying and selfish pride,

For sins of habit and sins of choice,

For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,

You should cast me away from your presence forever.

O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.

M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant:

I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie

M: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

M: For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: Christ, have mercy.

M: For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.

C: Amen.

GLORY BE TO GOD

Gloria in Excelsis

**C: (sung) All glory be to God on high!
Your name, O Lord, we glorify;
We praise you for your peace and grace,
Your favor toward our fallen race.**

Sung to the tune of
Christian Worship 334.

**Our grateful thanks to you we bring,
For your great glory, heav'nly King,
For all, O Father, you have done
Through Jesus Christ, your only Son.**

**O Lamb of God, to you we pray.
You take all human sin away.
Have mercy, Lord; receive our prayer;
From God's right hand, your mercy share.**

**You Christ, are holy—Lord alone;
The Father's glory you made known.
We by your Spirit sing again:
"All glory be to God!" Amen.**

SALUTATION

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER

M: *Let us pray.* Almighty God, look with favor on your humble servants and stretch

soup (or some other main course) or dessert. Please take a look at the sheet and consider helping out in this way. If you have any questions, please contact Anne Saggau in the office.

Daylight Saving Time

Daylight Saving Time begins already next Sunday, March 14, at 2:00am. You may wish to set your clocks ahead an hour before retiring on Saturday evening so that you need not wake up in the middle of the night to do it.

Family Easter Egg Hunt

Our eighth annual Family Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 3, beginning at 10:00am and ending at noon. Many items (e.g. jelly beans, Easter candy, plastic eggs, and hard-boiled eggs) will be needed for the day. Sign up on the sheet posted on the pillar in the northeast corner of the narthex. Many volunteers will also be needed, both in preparation for the event and on the day itself. Volunteer your services to Pastor Treptow.

We are hoping to distribute flyers in the area inviting people to the Easter Egg Hunt and Easter services. Those flyers will be ready by Saturday, March 19. Please consider donating a couple of hours of your time to help deliver these invitations. Group distribution of flyers is scheduled for Saturday, March 20, beginning at 9:30am, and at that same time on Saturday, March 27. If you are willing to help deliver invitations,

please speak with Vicar Krieger, who will be coordinating the distribution.

Christian Book Club

The Christian Book Club has chosen its next book for reading and discussion: *The Hammer of God*, by Bo Giertz. This best-selling novel tells the story of three pastors who learn the necessity of relying on God's grace as they fall short in their pastoral duties. If you are interested in purchasing a copy (*whether you intend to participate in the discussion or not*), please sign up on the sheet posted on the pillar in the southwest corner of the narthex by next Sunday; an order will be made early on March 15. The book costs \$14. The Book Club plans to begin discussion of this book in late April.

The Book Club will conclude (perhaps!) its discussion of *Loving God with All Your Mind* on Friday, March 19, at 7:00pm. Participants should be ready to discuss pages 77-155.

Basketball Tournament

The annual WELS Area Basketball Tournament will be held on Saturday, March 13, at the St. Charles Recreation Center (3777 Lafayette Street in Denver). The cost per team is \$50. If you are interested in participating, please speak with Mr. Wilson.

Church Cleaning Day

The Women of Zion will host a church cleaning day on Saturday, March 27,

Zion News and Notes

MARCH 7, 2010

A Word of Thanks

Mr. Randy Currier wishes to express his appreciation for the prayers offered on his behalf, as well as the many cards, visits, and well-wishes during his recent surgery and convalescence. The Lord graciously granted success to the surgery and continues to restore Randy's strength.

Ministry Anniversary

This afternoon, in a 2:30pm service here, we will give thanks to the Lord of the Church for the blessings that he has poured out upon, and through, the ministry of Mr. Michael Schaefer, currently serving at Rocky Mountain Lutheran High School (RMLHS). Though it's actually his twenty-seventh year of ministry, it will be a celebration of his twenty-fifth anniversary. A short program in the fellowship hall, complete with appetizers and refreshments, will follow the service.

"We Preach Christ Crucified"

During the season of Lent we have an additional opportunity to gather around the Word and worship our Savior. Each Wednesday evening, at 7:00pm, we will consider the passion of our Savior under the theme, "We Preach Christ Crucified." Pastors of the area congregations will exchange pulpits for these forty-minute services.

Lenten Suppers

A Lenten supper, at 5:45pm, will precede each of the mid-week 7:00pm Lenten services. A sign-up sheet has been posted on the pillar in the southwest corner of the narthex for those willing to help with the meals, whether in providing

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

out the right hand of your power to defend us against all our enemies; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Numbers 16:23-40 (*page 171*)

SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 10:1-13 (*page 1430*)

VERSE OF THE DAY

St. John 3:14,15 (NIV)

Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.

HOLY GOSPEL

M: The Gospel according to St. Luke, chapter 13.

C: Glory be to you, O Lord.

St. Luke 13:1-9 (*page 1311*)

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lord, to You I Make Confession (*Christian Worship 302*)

SERMON

Numbers 16:23-40 (*printed on the back cover of the service folder*)

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,**

of all that is,
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

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SERVING THIS MORNING

Organist

Mrs. Debbie Blumer

DISTRIBUTION

During the distribution, the congregation sings

From Depths of Woe I Cry to You (*Christian Worship* 305)

Just As I Am, Without One Plea (*Christian Worship* 397)

SONG OF SIMEON

Nunc Dimittis

**C: (sung) O Lord, now let your servant
Depart in peace, assured:
For I have seen your promised
Incarnate, saving Word—
A Light that will enlighten
All gloom where Gentiles dwell;
The brilliant, crowning glory
Of those in Israel!**

Sung to the tune of
Christian Worship 368.

**All glory to the Father,
All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit,
Forever three in one;
For as in the beginning,
Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding
Through all eternity.**

PRAYER

M: We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is good and right so to do.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who willingly died under the curse of this world's sin so that we may live forever in the light of God's blessing. Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Sanctus

**C: (sung) O holy, holy, holy
Lord God of pow'r and might,
Your glory, earth and heaven
In countless ways recite.
Hosanna! Come and save us,
Lord God of hosts on high,
And in your grace and mercy
Receive our fervent cry.**

Sung to the tune of
Christian Worship 131.

**Hosanna in the highest!
How truly blest is he
Who in God's name is coming
To set his people free!
He comes to bring salvation
And with his blood outpoured,
Deliver us from bondage—
Hosanna, mighty Lord!**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

M: Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us.
 By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.
 By his innocent death, he overcame hell.
 By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

C: **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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all

of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

LAMB OF GOD

Agnus Dei

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 your peace. A - men.