



# Zion Lutheran

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Church & School

1010 W. Monroe St. Decatur, IN, 46733



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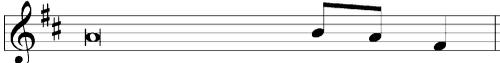
✠ VESPERS ✠

**RINGING OF BELLS  
WELCOME**

*Stand*



**L** O Lord, o - pen my lips,



**C** and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



**L** Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



**C** make haste to help me, O Lord.



**C** Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

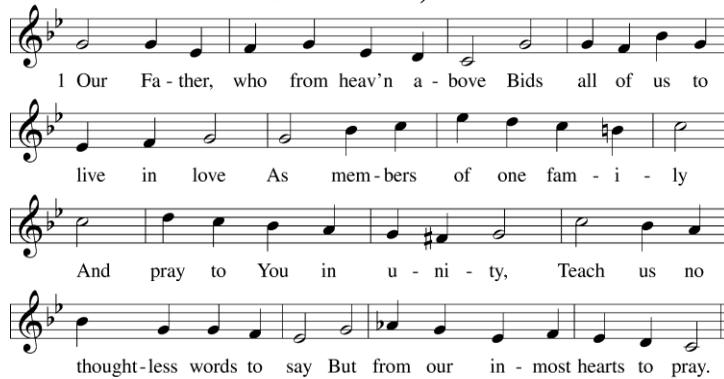


*Common:* Praise to You, O Christ. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Sit*



## OFFICE HYMN: 766 Our Father, Who from Heaven Above



1 Our Fa - ther, who from heav'n a - bove Bids all of us to  
live in love As mem - bers of one fam - i - ly  
And pray to You in u - ni - ty, Teach us no  
thought-less words to say But from our in - most hearts to pray.

7 Lead not into temptation, Lord,  
Where our grim foe and all his horde  
Would vex our souls on ev'ry hand.  
Help us resist, help us to stand  
Firm in the faith, a mighty host,  
Through comfort of the Holy Ghost.

9 Amen, that is, so shall it be.  
Make strong our faith in You, that we  
May doubt not but with trust believe  
That what we ask we shall receive.  
Thus in Your name and at Your Word  
We say, "Amen, O hear us, Lord!"

## FIRST READING

*Proverbs 1:8-19*

<sup>8</sup>Hear, my son, your father's instruction,  
and forsake not your mother's teaching,  
<sup>9</sup>for they are a graceful garland for your head  
and pendants for your neck.  
<sup>10</sup>My son, if sinners entice you,  
do not consent.  
<sup>11</sup>If they say, "Come with us, let us lie in wait for blood;  
let us ambush the innocent without reason;  
<sup>12</sup>like Sheol let us swallow them alive,  
and whole, like those who go down to the pit;  
<sup>13</sup>we shall find all precious goods,  
we shall fill our houses with plunder;  
<sup>14</sup>throw in your lot among us;  
we will all have one purse"—  
<sup>15</sup>my son, do not walk in the way with them;  
hold back your foot from their paths,  
<sup>16</sup>for their feet run to evil,  
and they make haste to shed blood.  
<sup>17</sup>For in vain is a net spread  
in the sight of any bird,

<sup>18</sup>but these men lie in wait for their own blood;  
 they set an ambush for their own lives.  
<sup>19</sup>Such are the ways of everyone who is greedy for unjust gain;  
 it takes away the life of its possessors.

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## SECOND READING

*Mark 4:1-20*

<sup>1</sup>Again he began to teach beside the sea. And a very large crowd gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat in it on the sea, and the whole crowd was beside the sea on the land. <sup>2</sup>And he was teaching them many things in parables, and in his teaching he said to them: <sup>3</sup>“Listen! A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup>And as he sowed, some seed fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured it. <sup>5</sup>Other seed fell on rocky ground, where it did not have much soil, and immediately it sprang up, since it had no depth of soil. <sup>6</sup>And when the sun rose it was scorched, and since it had no root, it withered away. <sup>7</sup>Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no grain. <sup>8</sup>And other seeds fell into good soil and produced grain, growing up and increasing and yielding thirtyfold and sixtyfold and a hundredfold.” <sup>9</sup>And he said, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

<sup>10</sup>And when he was alone, those around him with the twelve asked him about the parables. <sup>11</sup>And he said to them, “To you has been given the secret of the kingdom of God, but for those outside everything is in parables, <sup>12</sup>so that

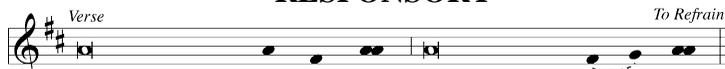
“they may indeed see but not perceive,  
 and may indeed hear but not understand,  
 lest they should turn and be forgiven.”

<sup>13</sup>And he said to them, “Do you not understand this parable? How then will you understand all the parables? <sup>14</sup>The sower sows the word. <sup>15</sup>And these are the ones along the path, where the word is sown: when they hear, Satan immediately comes and takes away the word that is sown in them. <sup>16</sup>And these are the ones sown on rocky ground: the ones who, when they hear the word, immediately receive it with joy. <sup>17</sup>And they have no root in themselves, but endure for a while; then, when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately they fall away. <sup>18</sup>And others are the ones sown among thorns. They are those who hear the word, <sup>19</sup>but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. <sup>20</sup>But those that were sown on the good soil are the ones who hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirtyfold and sixtyfold and a hundredfold.”

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## RESPONSORY



**L** 1 Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth.  
 2 Unite my heart to fear Your name that I may walk in Your truth.  
 3 Glory be to the  
 Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it.



**C** Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.



## THE 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.



**L** O Lord, hear my prayer.



**C** And let my cry come to You.

## COLLECTS

- L** Almighty God, Grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** Amen.

- L** Father in heaven, look on our neediness with the eyes of Your mercy and compassion. Rescue us from everything that would cause harm and destruction to us both physically and spiritually. Keep us in the true faith and finally bring us through the disappointments and sorrows of this life to live with You forever; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**C** Amen.

## COLLECT FOR PEACE

- L** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

## BENEDICAMUS



**L** Let us bless the Lord.



**C** Thanks be to God.

## BENEDICTION



The grace of our Lord + Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the communion of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



A - men.

Sit

## CLOSING HYMN: 756 Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me



1 Why should cross and tri - al grieve me? Christ is near  
 2 When life's trou - bles rise to meet me, Though their weight  
 3 God gives me my days of glad - ness, And I will  
 4 From God's joy can noth - ing sev - er, For I am



With His cheer; Nev - er will He leave me.  
 May be great, They will not de - feat me.  
 Trust Him still, When He sends me sad - ness.  
 His dear lamb, He, my Shep - herd ev - er.



Who can rob me of the heav - en That God's Son  
 God, my lov - ing Sav - ior, sends them; He who knows  
 God is good; His love at - tends me Day by day,  
 I am His be - cause He gave me His own blood



For me won When His life was giv - en?  
 All my woes Knows how best to end them.  
 Come what may, Guides me and de - fends me.  
 For my good, By His death to save me.

5 Now in Christ, death cannot slay me,  
 Though it might,  
 Day and night,  
 Trouble and dismay me.  
 Christ has made my death a portal  
 From the strife  
 Of this life  
 To His joy immortal!