

**All that is lovely, good, and true.
Bless those who in Your presence wait
And every day their love renew.**

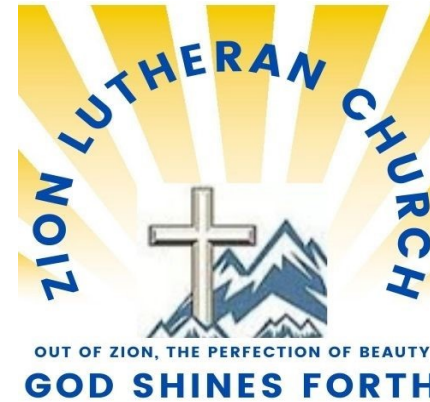
**O God of love, inspire our life,
Reveal Your will in all we do;
Join every husband, ever wife
In mutual love and love for You.**

THE BENEDICTION

*P: The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious
to you;
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give
you peace.*

Cong: Amen.

SILENT PRAYER



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The Order of Worship

OPENING PRAYER: *We ask the Lord's blessings on our worship.*

HYMN:.....“*Love Divine, All Love Excelling*”

Love Divine, all love excelling,
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down,
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling,
All Thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation;
Enter ev'ry trembling heart!

Breathe, oh, breathe Thy loving Spirit
Into ev'ry troubled breast;
Let us all in Thee inherit,
Let us find Thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver;
Let us all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return and never,
Nevermore, Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
Pray and praise Thee without ceasing,

In Christian fellowship to live,
In joyful hope to die.
Amen.

THE SERMON: John 15:9-17

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. (10) If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. (11) These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. (12) "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. (13) Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. (14) You are my friends if you do what I command you. (15) No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. (16) You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. (17) These things I command you, so that you will love one another.

The Love You Really Need

THE PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER: *We offer our petitions to the Lord and join in the prayer our Lord taught us.*

HYMN:.....“*Your Love, O God, Has Called Us Here*”

**Your love, O God, has called us here
For all love finds its source in You,
The perfect love that casts out fear,
The love that Christ makes ever new.**

O gracious God, You consecrate

**Was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the
right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there He will come to judge the living and
the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The Holy Christian Church, the communion of
saints,
The forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body,
And the life everlasting. Amen.**

HYMN:.....“May We Thy Precepts, Lord, Fulfill”

**May we Thy precepts, Lord, fulfil,
And do on earth our Father's will,
As angels do above;
Still walk in Christ, the living Way,
With all Thy children and obey
The law of Christian love.**

**So may we join Thy name to bless,
Thy grace adore, Thy pow'r confess,
From sin and strife to flee,
One is our calling, one our name,
The end of all our hopes the same,
A crown of life with Thee.**

**Spirit of Life, of Love and Peace,
Unite our hearts, our joy increase,
Thy gracious help supply.
To each of us the blessing give,**

Glory in Thy perfect love.

**Finish then, Thy new creation;
Pure and spotless let us be.
Let us see Thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in Thee,
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.
Amen.**

INVOCATION

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

Cong: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS & ABSOLUTION

P: God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all.

**Cong: If we walk in the light as He is in the light,
we have fellowship with one another, and the
blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all
sin.**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**Cong: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and
just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from
all unrighteousness.**

P: Then let us confess our sins to God in prayer and seek His forgiveness for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Cong: Almighty God, merciful Father, we are sin-
ful by nature and have sinned against you in our
thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry
for our transgressions and pray, of Your bounti-**

ful mercy, be gracious and merciful unto us. Forgive us for Jesus' sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.

P: Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven. With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in every need. In the peace of forgiveness let us praise the Lord.

Cong: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Merciful Lord God, from whom all good things come and who is always more ready to give than we are to ask, give to us, Your humble servants, the mind of our Savior that we may think rightly about Your will and commandments and by the Holy Spirit's guidance and power do that which please You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit—one God, forever and ever.

Cong: Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Psalm 138:1-8

(ESV) I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise; (2) I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness, for you have exalted above all things your name and your word. (3) On the day I called, you answered me; my strength of soul you increased. (4) All the kings of the earth shall give you thanks, O LORD, for they have heard the words of your mouth, (5) and they shall sing of the ways of the LORD, for great is the glory of the LORD. (6) For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly, but the haughty he knows from afar. (7) Though I walk in the midst of

trouble, you preserve my life; you stretch out your hand against the wrath of my enemies, and your right hand delivers me. (8) The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: 1 Cor. 13:1-13

(ESV) If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. (2) And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. (3) If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing. (4) Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant (5) or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; (6) it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. (7) Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. (8) Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. (9) For we know in part and we prophesy in part, (10) but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. (11) When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. (12) For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known. (13) So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

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,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
Born of the virgin Mary,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,**