

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH – LCMS

410 Third Avenue West, Ada, MN



Pastor Ron Hobbie

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Sunday Worship at 9:00 AM

Parish Newsletter

February 2024

Pastor's Article

Philippians 2:12-13 **Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.**

“Work out your own salvation.” Surely at times, God’s people have hard work in this world. We endure various dangers, obstacles, and in many places we may find severe deprivation and persecution. Yes, we may have a lot of work to do in and for Jesus. But thankfully, we don’t need to work to be saved. When the apostle Paul speaks about working out our own salvation, he speaks of what we do in Christ. We might think of working out a math problem. To do so, we already know how to add, subtract, or do whatever algebraic or geometric formulas required. We work out the problem using the tools we already have.

That’s the life of a disciple. Jesus has already made us his own, filled us with the Holy Spirit and provides the gifts we need to accomplish the problem set before us. So, we work out our salvation by applying ourselves to the circumstances and opportunities of life. Sometimes, they are easy, sometimes they are hard, and sometimes they seem beyond our ability.

Yet, Jesus will supply us with all we need to accomplish all he expects of us, even if we don’t solve all the problems to our own satisfaction. We serve in, and for his good pleasure, which should also be ours now, and will surely be our pleasure in the resurrection to come.

Dates for future services:

Ash Wednesday:

February 14th at Zion – 7:00pm

Lenten services: 5:30PM supper with 7PM worship service.

February 21: St. John's

February 28: Zion

March 6: St. John's

March 13: Zion

March 20: St. John's

March 28: Maundy Thursday, Zion 7PM

March 29: Good Friday, St. John's 7PM

March 31: Easter Sunday, regular morning worship at both churches

SCRIPTURE READINGS

February 4th

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Isaiah 40:21–31; 1 Corinthians 9:16–27; Mark 1:29–39

February 11th

The Transfiguration of Our Lord

2 Kings 2:1–12 or Exodus 34:29–35; 2 Corinthians 3:12–13 (14–18); 4:1–6;
Mark 9:2–9

February 18th

First Sunday in Lent

Genesis 22:1–18; James 1:12–18; Mark 1:9–15

February 25th

Second Sunday in Lent

Genesis 17:1–7, 15–16; Romans 5:1–11; Mark 8:27–38

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