

Zion Lutheran

*Creating Community Through
God's Love and Guidance*



Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 24, 2023

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCESSIONAL HYMN#523 **“Let Us Go Now to the Banquet”**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be God,
the one who forms us,
Jesus who bears the cross,
the Spirit who makes our joy complete.
Amen.

Let us bow before God in humility,
confessing our sin.

Steadfast and faithful God,
**you have revealed the ways of justice,
yet we fail to follow you.**
**We are overwhelmed
by the world’s violence and suffering.**
**We are afraid to risk what we have
for the sake of others.**
**For the harm we have caused,
known and unknown, forgive us.**
**For the unjust demands we place on others
and your creation, forgive us.**
**For the ways we turn away
from you and our neighbor, forgive us.**
**Lead us back to you
and set us on the right path;
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.**
Amen.

Beloved in Christ,
God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.
God's compassion is beyond compare.
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.
In Christ, you are already and always forgiven.
Amen.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

FIRST READING

Jonah 3:10-4:11

A reading from Jonah.

¹⁰When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. ^{4:1}But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ²He prayed to the Lord and said, "O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. ³And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴And the Lord said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" ⁵Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. ⁶The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush.

⁷But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live." ⁹But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰Then the Lord said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 145: 1-8

Read Responsively

¹I will exalt you, my God and king, and bless your name forever and ever.

²**Every day will I bless you and praise your name forever and ever.**

³Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised! There is no end to your greatness.

⁴**One generation shall praise your works to another and shall declare your power.**

⁵I will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty and all your marvelous works.

⁶**They shall tell of the might of your wondrous acts, and I will recount your greatness.**

⁷They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; they shall sing joyfully of your righteousness.

⁸**The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

SECOND READING

Philippians 1:21-30

A reading from Philippians.

²¹For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. ²³I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; ²⁴but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. ²⁷Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—³⁰since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Setting 8

Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al-le - lu - ia.
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 20:1-16

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; ⁴and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. ⁶And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ ⁷They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ ⁸When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ ⁹When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹²saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ ¹³But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Jake

HYMN OF THE DAY #765

“Lord of All Hopefulness”

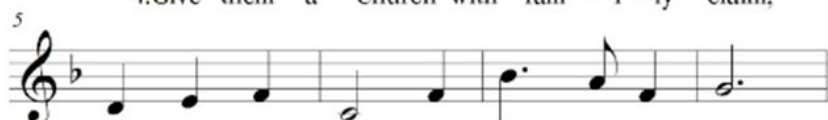
BAPTISMAL HYMN

"Welcome the Child"

Verses 1,3 & 4



1. Wel - come the child who comes to be blessed,
 2. Joy - bring - er God, new life is our joy!
 3. Bless them by wa - ter, Spir - it and sign,
 4. Give them a Church with fam - i - ly claim,



wel - come the faith that makes the re - quest,
 Gift them with hope no hurt can de - stroy,
 bring them to share the bread and the wine,
 close - ness to Christ, not on - ly in name,



ech - o the words that Je - sus would say:
 keep them clear - eyed to won - der and trust,
 draw them, like frond of fern leaf un - curled,
 make them a source of light and de - light,



"Bring them and nev - er turn them a - way!"
 find - ing a peo - ple gen - tle and just.
 o - pen to love and life in your world.
 bap - ti - sm's grace with bap - ti - sm's rite.

TEXT: Shirley Erena Murray

MUSIC: Joy F. Patterson

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

CHOIR ANTHEM

“Faith Begins by Letting Go”

OFFERING PRAYER

God of power, God of plenty,
all things belong to you.
We bring your gifts to the table,
that all might be fed.
Form us into the body of your Beloved,
Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

HOLY HOLY HOLY

Setting 8

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

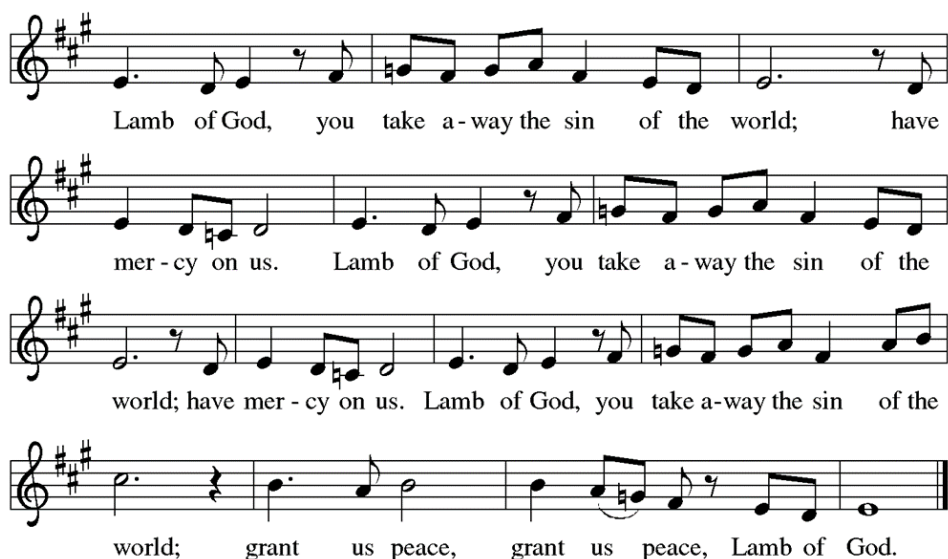
THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

LAMB OF GOD

Setting 8



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 peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live.

COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN# 479

“We Come to the Hungry Feast”

TABLE BLESSING

Now may the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Blessed be your name, O God,
for we have feasted on your Word,
Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.
Strengthened by this food,
send us to gather the world to your banquet,
where none are left out and all are satisfied.
In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

BLESSING

The God of glory,
Jesus Christ, name above all names,
and the Spirit who lives in you,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN #668

"O Zion, Haste"

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

**Creating Community through God's Love and Guidance —
thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

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Pastor Jake Czarnik-Neimeyer jake@zionappleton.org

Pastor Mike Dismar kmdiz@new.rr.com

Office Coordinator: Sarah Clarke sarah@zionappleton.org

Financial Coordinator: Maggie Rogers
maggie@zionappleton.org

Maintenance Engineer: Elliot Pegel

Parish Nurse: Kandie Wilz kw4421333@gmail.com (920) 442-1333

Choir Director: Cheryl Meyer

Handbells: Paula Staedt

Worship & Music Assistant: Heather Watney

Zion Lutheran

920-739-3104 • Monday- Thursday, 9:30 am - 2:00 pm

zion@zionappleton.org • www.zionappleton.org

For Pastoral Emergencies, contact Pastor Jake: 920-570-1514

Welcome!

We invite visitors to complete the card in the pew and put it in the collection basket. Thank You!

Please ask an usher for a Large Print or Children's Bulletin.

Announcements

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FAMILY OF Ayla Mae Stube who is being baptized today. Her parents are Kevin & Stephani Strube. Ayla's sponsors are Brian & Jodi Strube.

On Sunday, October 1, we will be celebrating our 3rd grade Sunday School students during worship as we bless them with a Bible that they will use throughout their Faith Formation experience. Please join us on this special day.

The fall mums that are in place surrounding Zion's facilities are given by Bonnie Arps in loving memory of her husband Tom, on the the 3rd anniversary of his death on Sept. 3rd and in memory of her Dad, Jim Kohl on the date of his 91st birthday Sept. 2.

This is a reminder that RSVPs for Zion's 140th anniversary celebration are **due by next Sunday, October 1st**. Return your reply card by mail, in person at the church office, or by dropping it in the offering basket. We regret that we will not be able to accept walk-ins.

We are still in need of a few more door prizes for our program for the 140th anniversary celebration. Ideal prizes would be small & new items or gift cards that might go unused. Please give donations to Pastor Jake on Sunday or drop them off at the office by **Oct. 5th**. Thank you!

With every party there is cleanup. For our 140th celebration is an opportunity to help for an hour or so to get dishes to the kitchen, dry them and put them away. Please see the signup sheet in the narthex. Thank you!

If you receive the messenger through the mail there will be an envelope in the narthex alphabetically with your name on it with the messenger in it. Please save Zion some mailing costs by taking your envelope home with you. The messenger will be sent by e-mail to the people that normally get it that way. There will be extras for those that pick it up in church after the service.

With your help, we would like to compose a booklet of "ZION, 140 YEARS OF CONGREGATIONAL MEMORIES". Add your words now so we have the time to gather and compose the history. Contact Karen Luedtke or Kandie Wilz for any questions.

Linwood Community will be holding their last summer concert series today at 2:00 p.m. It will be the Voice of Peace gospel band. The address for Linwood Community is 425 N. Linwood Ave. Please plan on attending & bring a lawn chair.

THIS WEEK AT ZION

Sunday, September 24 Choir Rehearsal 8:00 am Jonah 3:10-4:11; Ps 145:1-8; Phil 1:21-30; Matt 20:1-16 Baptism of Alya Mae Strube Worship Service 9:00 am Followed by Coffee Hour Sunday School & Confirmation	Pastor Jake Assisting Minister: Wendy Sachs Reader: Jo Schiedermeyer Acolyte: Lily Gryselle Musician: William Surtees Opens: Peg McCarthy Closes: Gwen and Fellowship Crew
Monday, September 25	Office Volunteer: Lynn Walter Music Team Meeting
Tuesday, September 26	Staff Meeting, 10:30 am - 12:00 pm
Wednesday, September 27	Handbell Rehearsal, 4:15-5:15 Worship and Music Meeting, 6:00 pm
Sunday, October 1 Choir Practice at 8:00 am Ezek 18:1-4, 25-32; Ps 25:1-9; Phil 2:1-13; Matt 21:23-32 Worship Service 9:00 am 3rd Graders receive their Bibles followed by Coffee Hour Sunday School & Confirmation	Pastor Jake Assisting Minister: Wendy Sachs Acolyte: Alexa Rusch Musician: William Surtees Gene Wiese opens Jim Schley closes
Calendar Submission Deadline: November 2023	