

**Zion Lutheran Church**  
Mascoutah, Illinois  
August 6, 2023  
*Ninth Sunday after Trinity*



*In the Name of Christ Jesus our Lord, we bid you a warm welcome to this worship service. May your experience of worship and fellowship this morning be spiritually refreshing and ready you for the week ahead.*



**Pastor: Rev. Kirk Clayton**  
**Church Secretary: Robin Phillips**  
**Choir Director Team: Josh and Nancy Peterson**

---

**Church Office Phone: 618-566-7345**  
**Pastor Clayton Cell: 618-447-1306**  
**Office Hours: 8:00 am to 12:00 pm**  
**Email: [ChurchOffice@ZionMascoutah.org](mailto:ChurchOffice@ZionMascoutah.org)**  
**Pastor Clayton email: [Pastor@ZionMascoutah.org](mailto:Pastor@ZionMascoutah.org)**  
**Web site: [www.ZionMascoutah.org](http://www.ZionMascoutah.org)**  
**Find us at @ZionMascoutah on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram**

## Electronic Devices

Please TURN OFF all cell phones, pagers, electronic devices, apps and games when entering the sanctuary for worship so those around you may focus on the Word of God without electronic distraction. Thank you.

## Prayer to Begin Worship

Heavenly Father, to whom belongs the wisdom of the ages, guide us to decisions that comfort us, but more than any other, guide us to Yourself, lest having great comfort here we forfeit the glory to come; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who with You and the Holy Spirit are one God with dominion over us forever.

# DIVINE SERVICE I

## LSB p. 151

## Confession and Absolution

### Prelude

The congregation will select the hymns.

## Holy Baptism

*(Due to the fact that this is a worship service, held in God's House, conducted before His Altar, we respectfully request that no flash photographs be taken during the Baptism. Thank you for respecting the reverence of worship.)*

*Stand*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Dearly beloved, Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." In the last chapter of Mark our Lord promises, "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved." And the apostle Peter has written, "Baptism now saves you."

The Word of God also teaches that we are all conceived and born sinful and are under the power of the devil until Christ claims us as His own. We would be lost forever unless delivered from sin, death, and everlasting condemnation. But the Father of all mercy and grace has sent His Son Jesus Christ, who atoned for the sin of the whole world, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

*The pastor addresses the candidate:*

**P** How are you named?

**R** *Aurora Layne and Brielle Renae Merritt.*

*The pastor makes the sign of the holy cross upon the forehead and heart of the candidate while saying:*

**P** Aurora Layne and Brielle Renae Merritt, receive the sign of the holy cross both upon your ✠ forehead and upon your ✠ heart to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, according to Your strict judgment You condemned the unbelieving world through the flood, yet according to Your great mercy You preserved believing Noah and his family, eight souls in all. You drowned hard-hearted Pharaoh and all his host in the Red Sea, yet led Your people Israel through the water on dry ground, foreshadowing this washing of Your Holy Baptism. Through the Baptism in the Jordan of Your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, You sanctified and instituted all waters to be a

blessed flood and a lavish washing away of sin.

We pray that You would behold Aurora Layne and Brielle Renae Merritt according to Your boundless mercy and bless them with true faith by the Holy Spirit, that through this saving flood all sin in them which has been inherited from Adam and which they themselves have committed since, would be drowned and die. Grant that they be kept safe and secure in the holy ark of the Christian Church, being separated from the multitude of unbelievers and serving Your name at all times with a fervent spirit and a joyful hope, so that, with all believers in Your promise, they would be declared worthy of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C Amen.**

**P** From ancient times the Church has observed the custom of appointing sponsors for baptismal candidates and catechumens. In the Evangelical Lutheran Church sponsors are to confess the faith expressed in the Apostles' Creed and taught in the Small Catechism. They are, whenever possible, to witness the Baptism of those they sponsor. They are to pray for them, support them in their ongoing instruction and nurture in the Christian faith, and encourage them toward the faithful reception of the Lord's Supper. They are at all times to be examples to them of the holy life of faith in Christ and love for the neighbor.

*The pastor addresses the sponsors.*

**P** Is it your intention to serve Aurora Layne and Brielle Renae Merritt as sponsors in the Christian faith?

**R** Yes, with the help of God.

**P** God enable you both to will and to do this faithful and loving work and with His grace fulfill what we are unable to do.

**C Amen.**

**P** Hear the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

They brought young children to Jesus that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them. But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it." And He took them up in His arms, put His hands on them, and blessed them.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

*The pastor places his hand on the heads of the candidates, and the congregation joins in praying:*

**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.**

**P** The Lord preserve your coming in and your going out from this time forth and even † forevermore.

**C Amen.**

*Sit*

*When a candidate for Baptism is too young to answer the following questions, the child's parents and sponsors faithfully answer the questions addressed to the child on behalf of the one under their care:*

**P** Aurora Layne and Brielle Renae Merritt, do you renounce the devil?

**R** Yes, we renounce him.

**P** Do you renounce all his works?

**R** Yes, we renounce them.

**P** Do you renounce all his ways?

**R** Yes, we renounce them.

**P** Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?

**R** Yes, we believe.

**P** Do you 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, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father

Almighty; from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead?

**R** Yes, we believe.

**P** Do you 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?

**R** Yes, we believe.

**P** Aurora Layne and Brielle Renae Merritt do you desire to be baptized?

**R** Yes, we do.

*The pastor pours water three times on the heads of the candidates while saying:*

**P** Aurora Layne Merritt, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Brielle Renae Merritt, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

*The pastor places his hand on the heads of the newly baptized while saying:*

**P** The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life † everlasting.

**C** Amen.

*The pastor may place a white garment on the newly baptized while saying:*

**P** Receive this white garment to show that you have been clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness that covers all your sin. So shall you stand without fear before the judgment seat of Christ to receive the inheritance prepared for you before the foundation of the world.

*The pastor may light a baptismal candle from the paschal candle and give it to the newly baptized while saying:*

**P** Receive this burning light to show that you have received Christ who is the Light of the world. Live always in the light of Christ, and be ever watchful for His coming, that you may meet Him with joy and enter with Him into the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which shall have no end.

**P** In Holy Baptism God the Father has made you members of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and heirs with us of all the treasures of heaven in the one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We receive you in Jesus' name as our sisters in Christ, that together we might hear His Word, receive His gifts, and proclaim the praises of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

**C** Amen. **We welcome you in the name of the Lord.**

*Stand*

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God and Father, we thank and praise You that You graciously preserve and enlarge Your family and have granted Aurora Layne and Brielle Renae Merritt the new birth in Holy Baptism and made them members of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and heirs of Your heavenly kingdom. We humbly implore You that, as they have now become Your children, You would keep them in their baptismal grace, that according to Your good pleasure they may faithfully grow to lead a godly life to the praise and honor of Your holy name and finally, with all Your saints, obtain the promised inheritance in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

**P** Peace † be with you.

**C** Amen.

*All return to their places*

# Service of the Word

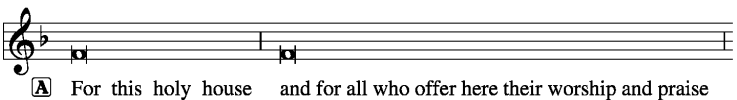
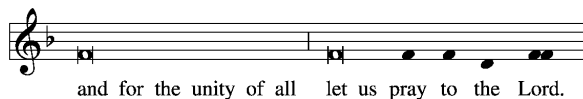
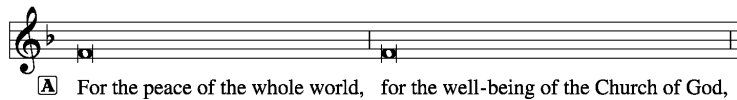
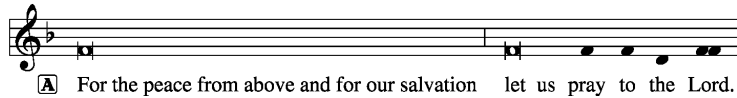
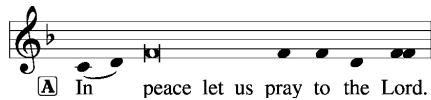
## Introit

*Ps. 54:1–3, 7; antiphon: Ps. 54:4–5*

- P** Behold, God is my helper;  
**C** **the Lord is the upholder of my life.**  
**P** He will return the evil to my enemies;  
**C** **in Your faithfulness put an end to them.**  
**P** O God, save me, by Your name,  
**C** **and vindicate me by Your might.**  
**P** O God, hear my prayer;  
**C** **give ear to the words of my mouth.**  
**P** For strangers have risen against me; ruthless men seek my life;  
**C** **they do not set God before themselves.**  
**P** For He has delivered me from every trouble,  
**C** **and my eye has looked in triumph on my enemies.**  
**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.**  
**P** Behold, God is my helper;  
**C** **the Lord is the upholder of my life.**  
**P** He will return the evil to my enemies;  
**C** **in Your faithfulness put an end to them.**

## Kyrie

*LSB 152*



*Kyrie continues on the next page.*

let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.

**C** A - men.

### Hymn of Praise -- This Is the Feast

LSB 155

*Refrain*

**C** This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 — Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and  
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and  
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to  
 5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*  
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*  
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*  
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*  
 gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

*Final Refrain*

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray. Let Your merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of Your humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions, make them to ask such things as shall please You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

Sit

The congregation will select the hymns.

### Old Testament Reading

2 Samuel 22:26–34

“With the merciful You show Yourself merciful; with the blameless man You show Yourself blameless; with the purified You deal purely, and with the crooked You make Yourself seem tortuous. You save a humble people, but Your eyes are on the haughty to bring them down. For You are my lamp, O LORD, and my God lightens my darkness. For by You I can run against a troop, and by my God I can leap over a wall. This God—His way is perfect; the word of the LORD proves true; He is a shield for all those who take refuge in Him. “For who is God, but the LORD? And who is a rock, except our God? This God is my strong refuge and has made my way blameless. He made my feet like the feet of a deer and set me secure on the heights.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Gradual

Ps. 8:1

**P** O LORD, our Lord,

**C** how majestic is Your name in all the earth!

**P** You have set Your glory

**C** above the heavens.

### Epistle

1 Corinthians 10:6-13

Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.” We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and He will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation He will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

### Common Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156

**C** 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.

### Holy Gospel

Luke 16:1-13

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 16<sup>th</sup> chapter.

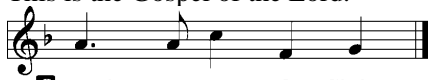
**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

[Jesus] also said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. And he called him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.’”

And the manager said to himself, 'What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He said, 'A hundred measures of oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.' Then he said to another, 'And how much do you owe?' He said, 'A hundred measures of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and write eighty.' The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.

"One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**G** Praise to You, O Christ.

*Sit*

### Children's Lunchbox Devotion

The congregation will select the hymns.

Sermon

The Generous Nature of God

Offering

*[Please fill out a sheet in the attendance book. Visitors, please include your address. If you have a prayer request for the church prayer chain, please write it at the top of the sheet.]*

*Stand*

Offertory

LSB 159



**G** What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to



me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-

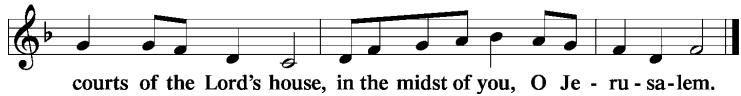


va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the





### Prayer of the Church

- P** O Lord, our Light and Salvation, You are the Stronghold of our life.
- C** **With You as our God, we face the world without fear.**
- P** As the heavens are high above the earth, so Your ways are higher than our ways and Your thoughts higher than our thoughts.
- C** **We behold Your beauty in the midst of Your sanctuary and dare to bring our petitions before You.**
- P** We readily admit, O Lord, that our manner of life has not always been worthy of the Gospel.
- C** **We have not always stood firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for faith.**
- P** We have failed to work diligently in Your vineyard and have too readily adopted the standards of the world in desiring.
- C** **For our lack of zeal to work in Your vineyard, forgive us, O Lord.**
- P** For begrudging Your favors to those who have worked less than we,
- C** **we ask Your forgiveness.**
- P** For forgetting that You have already paid us with the gift of salvation,
- C** **forgive us, O Lord.**
- P** That we may be more enthusiastic about carrying out Your wishes, send us Your Holy Spirit.
- C** **Help us to see the opportunities to do Your work, and according to Your mercy, grant success to our labors.**
- P** Grant righteousness and peace to our nation and to the nations of the world.
- C** **Use us to comfort the lonely and bring hope to the sick and discouraged.**

### WE GO TO THE LORD IN PRAYER FOR

- † Abigail Benner, Alan Kneschke, Karen Harstick, Angie Twenhafel, David Hutchinson, Sarah Hutchinson, and Cheryl Sax, as they celebrate their baptismal anniversaries this week.
- † Aurora and Brielle Merritt, as they are baptized today.
- † Zion's President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.
- † Faithfulness in Christian Worship.

- P** Help us to feed the hungry and clothe the needy.
- C** **This we ask in the name of Jesus.**

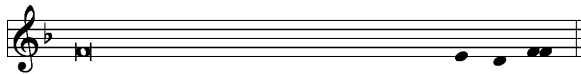
### Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- 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.**

### Benediction

LSB 166



- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you  
and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.



- C** A - men.

**The congregation will select the hymns.**

## **Postlude**

### **Acknowledgments**

Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.

## **LIFE AND LIVING ITEMS AT ZION**



### **WE WELCOME AURORA LAYNE AND BRIELLE RENAE MERRITT**

Congratulations to Daniel and Abigail Merritt on the birth and rebirth in Baptism of Aurora Layne and Brielle Renae Merritt. Aurora and Brielle's sponsors are their aunt and uncle, Allison and Lane Hawkins Welcome, Aurora and Brielle!

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE AUGUST VOTER'S MEETING – THIS THURSDAY**

Join us for the August Voter's Meeting this Thursday, August 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. We will have a short business meeting and then will discuss the upcoming budget and plans for the lot across the street. If you are a voting member, please make plans to join us so that we can meet our quorum.

### **YOUTH GROUP MUM SALES – FINAL DAY TO ORDER**

You can use your phone's camera to scan the QR code on the flyer or see a youth group member to order. The mums are from Ahner's and are 9"; available in white, yellow, bronze/orange, pink/purple, and red. They are \$12 each and will arrive in September. This fundraiser supports Zion's youth group for conference attendance. Thanks in advance!

### **LADIES OF ZION: JOIN US TO SING TO THE NURSING HOME/ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENTS!**

On Thursday, August 17, we will meet at Zion at 5PM to carpool to sing hymns at these homes. After we finish singing, we will join together to eat at Mascoutah Steakhouse around 6:30. Every year, this evening is so meaningful to both the residents and us, the singers! Please sign up to help us bring **JOY** to our "seniors".

### **CHOIR & HAND CHIME CHOIR INFO**

It's almost choir season again! But first, the pre-season! We will sing a simple anthem on August 13<sup>th</sup>. All singers are invited to rehearse in the choir loft that Sunday morning at 9:30 in order to prepare the music for the morning's service. And regular season -- choir rehearsals will begin on Wednesday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 PM in the choir loft. We welcome enthusiastic singers (adults and teens) of all voice parts. Hand chime rehearsals will begin on Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>. This fun group is seeking two new members. Youth (about 6th grade or older) and adults with some music reading experience should consider this opportunity. Please contact Nancy Peterson if you are interested.

### **YOUTH POOL PARTY – AUGUST 27<sup>th</sup>**

Come enjoy the summer sun! All youth grades 5<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> come take a plunge for the Splash Bash. You're invited to a pool party at Dan and LaVonne Evers house, 505 West Poplar on August 27<sup>th</sup> from 1 PM-3PM. Bring your suits and towels. A taco and nacho bar will be provided along with games. There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex. Please feel free to bring a guest. The pool is calling! Any questions, please contact LaVonne Evers at 618-477-2080.

### **LISTEN TO WORLDWIDE KFUE AM850**

KFUE Radio, the broadcast voice of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere on KFUE.org via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. Find programs on demand at kfue.org and wherever you get your podcasts! Find us on social: @KFUEradio on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUE AM850 & kfue.org: Study Ecclesiastes 3-5 on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m.), study Acts 11-14 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m.) and dig into Confession in the Augsburg Confession on Concord Matters (8/12 at 10:00 a.m.). Find your favorite programs on demand at kfue.org or the KFUE Radio app!

**SOLID, SERIOUS, SUBSTANTIVE...**

Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's topics include: The Old Testament & Baptism; Denying Jesus' Divinity; Seminex & the Supernatural; No-Fault Divorce and more. You can tune in live weekdays from 3-5 p.m. on KFUE, 850 AM in St. Louis. You can also listen at your convenience at [issuesetc.org](http://issuesetc.org), the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.



# YOUTH GROUP MUM FUNDRAISER

SCAN THE CODE OR VISIT THE  
LINK TO ORDER. OR ASK A YOUTH  
MEMBER TO PLACE YOUR ORDER.



<https://bit.ly/zionmums>

SUPPORTS ATTENDANCE AT  
ANNUAL YOUTH GATHERINGS



**THE FLOWERS ON THE LORD'S ALTAR**

The flowers on the Lord's altar are given to the glory of God in honor and celebration of the baptisms of Aurora and Brielle Merritt.

**THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY**

Proclaimer: Rev. Kirk Clayton  
Organist: Nancy Peterson  
Sound Tech: Nathaniel Clayton  
Acolytes: Lily McDaniel & Brady Twenhafel  
Elder of the Month: Jeff Fick

**THOSE WHO SERVE NEXT WEEK, AUGUST 13**

Proclaimer: Rev. Kirk Clayton  
Organist: Nancy Peterson  
Sound Tech: Nathaniel Clayton  
Acolytes: Isaiah Clayton & Chloe Pannier  
Altar Guild: Karen Eldridge  
Elder of the Month: Jeff Fick

**THINGS WE ARE DOING AT ZION**

Sun.	Bible Class	8:45 AM
	Sunday School & Youth Bible Class	8:45 AM
	Worship DS I n/communion	10:00 AM
Tues.	Evangelism	7:00 PM
Thurs.	Voter's Meeting	7:00 PM
Fri.	Senior Meal Delivery	10:30 AM
Sun.	Bible Class	8:45 AM
	Sunday School & Youth Bible Class	8:45 AM
	Worship DS II w/communion	10:00 AM
	Men's Club	6:00 PM

**ATTENDANCE JULY 30:** Sunday: 122

Adult Bible Class: 20 High School: 5 Sunday School: 24