

Zion Lutheran Church

Mascoutah, Illinois

September 10, 2023

14th Sunday after Trinity

Friendship Sunday



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

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Web site: 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.

A Prayer to Begin Worship

Gracious God, who in grace and mercy supplies our temporal needs, give us faith to await Your gifts and a spirit of thanksgiving whether they come or not, for by Your wisdom we have been chosen to live eternally; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who with You and the Holy Spirit are one God with dominion over us forever.

DIVINE SERVICE II WITH COMMUNION

LSB p. 167

Confession and Absolution

Prelude

Variations on ‘Canonbury’

Cheryl Albrecht

Hymn

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

LSB 791

- 1 All people that on earth do dwell, Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.
Him serve with mirth, His praise forthtell; Come ye before Him and rejoice.**
- 2 Know that the Lord is God indeed; Without our aid He did us make.
We are His folk, He doth us feed, And for His sheep He doth us take.**
- 3 O enter then His gates with praise; Approach with joy His courts unto.
Praise, laud, and bless His name always, For it is seemly so to do.**
- 4 For why? The Lord our God is good: His mercy is forever sure.
His truth at all times firmly stood And shall from age to age endure.**

Stand

- 5 To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, The God whom heav'n and earth adore,
From us and from the angel host Be praise and glory evermore.**

Text: Public domain

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

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

C Amen.

Exhortation

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

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession with Absolution

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**
- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

Service of the Word

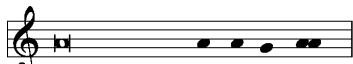
Introit

Ps. 84:1–2a, 4, 10b, 11b; antiphon: Ps. 84:9–10a

- P** Behold our shield, O God; look on the face of Your anointed!
- C** **For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.**
- P** How lovely is Your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts!
- C** **My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the LORD.**
- P** Blessed are those who dwell in Your house,
- C** **ever singing Your praise!**
- P** I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God
- C** **than dwell in the tents of wickedness.**
- P** The LORD bestows favor and honor.
- C** **No good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly.**
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 our shield, O God; look on the face of Your anointed!
- C** **For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.**

Kyrie

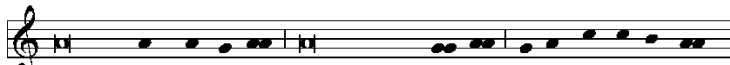
LSB 168



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



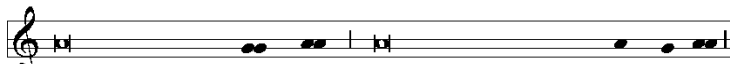
C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a - bove and for our sal - va - tion let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,

and for the uni - ty of all let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise

let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.

C A - men.

Hymn of Praise -- This is the Feast

LSB 171

A This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

C Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,

whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.

Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and strength and

hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are His.

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

lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:
 Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be to
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.
 This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,
 for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun His reign.
 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.

O Lord, keep Your Church with Your perpetual mercy; and because of our frailty we cannot but fall, keep us ever by Your help from all things hurtful and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; 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

Old Testament Reading

Proverbs 4:10–23

Hear, my son, and accept my words, that the years of your life may be many. I have taught you the way of wisdom; I have led you in the paths of uprightness. When you walk, your step will not be hampered, and if you run, you will not stumble. Keep hold of instruction; do not let go; guard her, for she is your life. Do not enter the path of the wicked, and do not walk in the way of the evil. Avoid it; do not go on it; turn away from it and pass on. For they cannot sleep unless they have done wrong; they are robbed of sleep unless they have made someone stumble. For they eat the bread of wickedness and drink the wine of violence. But the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, which shines brighter and brighter until full day. The way of the wicked is like deep darkness; they do not know over what they stumble. My son, be attentive to my words; incline your ear to my sayings. Let them not escape from your sight; keep them within your heart. For they are life to those who find them, and healing to all their flesh. Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.

- L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Choir

A Song of Joy

Allen Pote

Epistle

Galatians 5:16-24

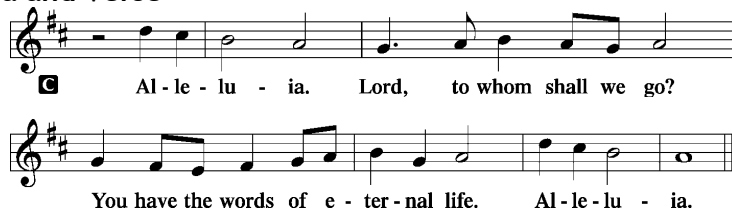
But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

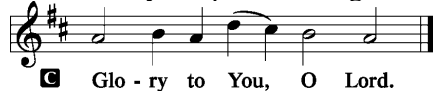


C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 17:11:19

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 17th chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

On the way to Jerusalem [Jesus] was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. And as He entered a village, He was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." When He saw them He said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving Him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus answered, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was not one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" And He said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Hymn

When to Our World the Savior Came

LSB 551

- 1 When to our world the Savior came The sick and helpless heard His name,
And in their weakness longed to see The healing Christ of Galilee.
- 2 That good physician! Night and day The people thronged about His way;
And wonder ran from soul to soul, "The touch of Christ has made us whole!"
- 3 His praises then were heard and sung By opened ears and loosened tongue,
While lightened eyes could see and know The healing Christ of long ago.

- 4 Of long ago: yet living still, Who died for us on Calv'ry's hill;
Who triumphed over cross and grave, His healing hands stretched forth to save.
- 5 His sov'reign purpose still remains Who rose in pow'r, and lives and reigns;
Till ev'ry tongue confess His praise, The healing Christ of all our days.

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Sermon

Very Varied Fruit

Stand

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life \dagger of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

P Lord God, heavenly Father, we come before You with thanksgiving.

C We praise You for Your mighty works which exceed anything we can think or do.

P With a mighty hand You delivered Your chosen people from the shackles of slavery.

C With an even mightier hand You raised Your Son Jesus Christ from the dead.

P Through Him we, who trust in Him as our Savior, have the hope of eternal life.

C For this, the mightiest of all works, we give You humble and hearty thanks.

P As we thank and praise You, O Lord, we realize how thankless and ungrateful we have often been in the past.

C We have been like the nine lepers who went on their way, enjoying Your merciful gifts but forgetting to give You thanks.

P The leprosy of sin still clings to us, O Lord, and prevents us from giving You the perfect praise due Your most holy name.

C Imperfect though it be, accept our thanks for delivering us from the internal consequences of this leprosy.

P In the name of Jesus Christ we beg Your forgiveness; in Your mercy, make us whole.

C Send us Your Holy Spirit that He may strengthen our faith and help us to accept Your forgiveness through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

P May our lives constantly reflect our gratitude for Your great mercy.

C Give us the courage to witness to our faith in Christ that others may obtain life in His name.

WE GO TO THE LORD IN PRAYER FOR

- † Johnathan Clayton, Nathan Schreiber, and Alaina Gryga, as they celebrate their Baptismal Anniversaries this week.
- † Tom Heck, as he recovers from surgery.
- † Zion’s President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.
- † Faithfulness in Christian Worship.

P May Your mighty power, as revealed in Your Word, be a source of healing power to the sick.

C Accept our praise and thanksgiving in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Sit


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 176



C 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
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je-ru - sa - lem.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 177



P The Lord be with you.

C And al-so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface (Full)

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 178

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of
 pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your
 glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is He who comes in the name
 of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 178

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood

as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✝ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✝ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

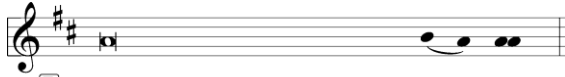
P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Pax Domini

LSB 180



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei

LSB 180



C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;



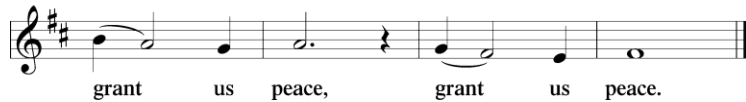
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of



God, You take a - way the sin of the world;



Sit

Distribution

During the Distribution, the camera will be focused on the cross at the front of Zion to allow for privacy for those who commune.

Zion Lutheran practices the policy of close communion, communing only those who share our common Biblical view of the Lord's Supper. If you are not a confirmed LCMS Lutheran, please confer with the pastor before communing.

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.
Amen.

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.
Amen.

Hymn

Salvation unto Us Has Come

LSB 555

- 1 Salvation unto us has come By God's free grace and favor;
Good works cannot avert our doom, They help and save us never.
Faith looks to Jesus Christ alone, Who did for all the world atone; He is our one Redeemer.**
- 2 What God did in His Law demand And none to Him could render
Caused wrath and woe on ev'ry hand For man, the vile offender.
Our flesh has not those pure desires The spirit of the Law requires, And lost is our condition.**
- 3 It was a false, misleading dream That God His Law had given
That sinners could themselves redeem And by their works gain heaven.
The Law is but a mirror bright To bring the inbred sin to light That lurks within our nature.**
- 4 From sin our flesh could not abstain, Sin held its sway unceasing;
The task was useless and in vain, Our guilt was e'er increasing.
None can remove sin's poisoned dart Or purify our guileful heart—So deep is our corruption.**
- 5 Yet as the Law must be fulfilled Or we must die despairing,
Christ came and has God's anger stilled, Our human nature sharing.
He has for us the Law obeyed And thus the Father's vengeance stayed Which over us impended.**
- 6 Since Christ has full atonement made And brought to us salvation,
Each Christian therefore may be glad And build on this foundation.
Your grace alone, dear Lord, I plead, Your death is now my life indeed, For You have paid my ransom.**
- 7 Let me not doubt, but truly see Your Word cannot be broken;
Your call rings out, "Come unto Me!" No falsehood have You spoken.
Baptized into Your precious name, My faith cannot be put to shame, And I shall never perish.**

Hymn continues on the next page.

- 8 The Law reveals the guilt of sin And makes us conscience-stricken;
But then the Gospel enters in The sinful soul to quicken.
Come to the cross, trust Christ, and live; The Law no peace can ever give, No comfort and no blessing.
- 9 Faith clings to Jesus' cross alone And rests in Him unceasing;
And by its fruits true faith is known, With love and hope increasing.
For faith alone can justify; Works serve our neighbor and supply The proof that faith is living.

Stand

- 10 All blessing, honor, thanks, and praise To Father, Son, and Spirit,
The God who saved us by His grace; All glory to His merit.
O triune God in heav'n above, You have revealed Your saving love; Your blessed name we hallow.

Text: Public domain

Sit

Hymn O Lord, We Praise Thee *LSB 617*

- 1 O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and adore Thee, In thanksgiving bow before Thee.
Thou with Thy body and Thy blood didst nourish Our weak souls that they may flourish:
O Lord, have mercy! May Thy body, Lord, born of Mary,
That our sins and sorrows did carry, And Thy blood for us plead
In all trial, fear, and need: O Lord, have mercy!
- 2 Thy holy body into death was given, Life to win for us in heaven.
No greater love than this to Thee could bind us; May this feast thereof remind us!
O Lord, have mercy! Lord, Thy kindness did so constrain Thee
That Thy blood should bless and sustain me. All our debt Thou hast paid;
Peace with God once more is made: O Lord, have mercy!
- 3 May God bestow on us His grace and favor That we follow Christ our Savior
And live together here in love and union Nor despise this blest Communion!
O Lord, have mercy! Let not Thy good Spirit forsake us;
Grant that heav'nly-minded He make us; Give Thy Church, Lord, to see
Days of peace and unity: O Lord, have mercy!

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Hymn Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior *LSB 619*

- 1 Thy body, giv'n for me, O Savior, Thy blood which Thou for me didst shed,
These are my life and strength forever, By them my hungry soul is fed. Refrain
- ref Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood Be for my soul the highest good!
- 2 With Thee, Lord, I am now united; I live in Thee and Thou in me.
No sorrow fills my soul, delighted It finds its only joy in Thee. Refrain
- 3 Who can condemn me now? For surely The Lord is nigh, who justifies.
No hell I fear, and thus securely With Jesus I to heaven rise. Refrain

4 **Though death may threaten with disaster, It cannot rob me of my cheer;
For He who is of death the master With aid and comfort e'er is near. Refrain**

5 **My heart has now become Thy dwelling, O blessed, holy Trinity.
With angels I, Thy praises telling, Shall live in joy eternally. Refrain**

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Stand

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

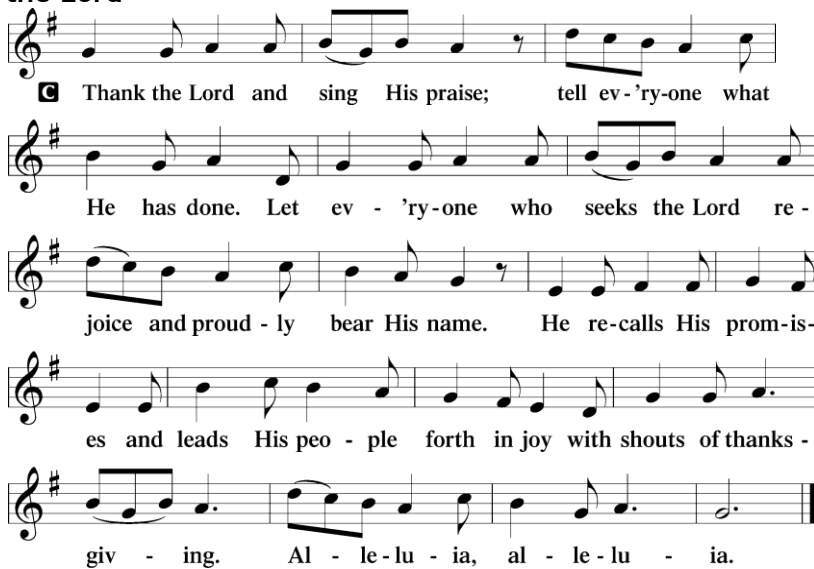
The Dismissal

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

C Amen.

Thank the Lord

LSB 181



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what
He has done. Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-
joice and proud-ly bear His name. He re-calls His prom-is-
es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks-
giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

Post-Communion Collect

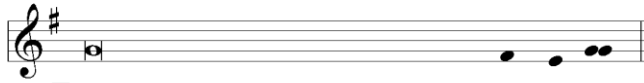
P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction

LSB 183



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.

Sit

Hymn

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

LSB 528

- 1 Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing My great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King, The triumphs of His grace!**
- 2 My gracious Master and my God, Assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad, The honors of Thy name.**
- 3 Jesus! The name that charms our fears, That bids our sorrows cease;
'Tis music in the sinner's ears, 'Tis life and health and peace.**
- 4 He breaks the pow'r of canceled sin; He sets the pris'ner free.
His blood can make the foulest clean; His blood avails for me.**
- 5 Look unto Him, ye nations; own Your God, ye fallen race.
Look and be saved through faith alone, Be justified by grace.**
- 6 See all your sins on Jesus laid; The Lamb of God was slain.
His soul was once an off'ring made For ev'ry soul of man.**
- 7 To God all glory, praise, and love Be now and ever giv'n
By saints below and saints above, The Church in earth and heav'n.**

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Postlude

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

arr. Jeffrey Blersch

Acknowledgments

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LIFE AND LIVING ITEMS AT ZION



FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY -- TODAY, SEPTEMBER 10th

Zion's Board of Elders are hosting Friendship Sunday today, September 10, 2023. After the Divine Service, this will include a meal and various outdoor games, weather permitting. The Elders will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, and brats. Please bring a side dish, salad, or dessert to share. If the weather is good, the meal will be in Maple Park, across the street from Zion's gym. (If the weather is bad, the meal will be moved inside to the gym.) After the meal, we can join together in outdoor games such as bags and washers. Come and enjoy time together with your church family!

YOUTH CONFIRMATION RESUMES TODAY

Calling all 5-8th Grade Members of Zion (and their parents)! We will be starting Youth Confirmation Classes in September. Lori Clayton will be leading the 5-6th Grade Class in a review of the stories and content of the Bible. Pastor Clayton will be leading the 7-8th Grade Class in working through Luther's Small Catechism, including the 10 Commandments and the Apostles Creed this year. (The Lord's Prayer, the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, The Office of the Keys and Confession, and the Sacrament of the Altar were covered last year, and will be again next year, so that each student in 7-8th Grade works through the entire catechism in depth one time over the two years.) We look forward to seeing all Confirmation students for classes starting today, September 10 at 8:30 AM.

NEW ADDRESS FOR PAT MEIER

Pat Meier has been moved to Texas to be near her family there. Here is her new address if you would like to send her cards or letters.

Brookdale Hollywood Park
Pat Meier, Room 9
16911 San Pedro
San Antonio TX, 78232

MEMBERS NEEDS FUND

Many of us are blessed with opportunities of good fortune and the ability to tithe at our choosing. If able, the Elders ask that you prayerfully consider a possible giving to the "Member's Needs Funds" via the small brown envelopes in the pews. This fund is maintained in strict confidentiality of the Elders, and your generous contributions to this fund directly assist our congregation and their families during unfortunate and often unplanned times of need. Your thoughtful and continued considerations are always appreciated (please note that 100% of the donated funds are utilized to help our members and families during their times of need). Please contact any of the Elders if you would like to discuss this further. Thank you!

BABY SHOWER FOR THE LAIRDS – THIS SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16th

We are having a baby shower for Seminarian Rob and Annie Laird this Saturday, September 16th, from 10:30 AM-1:00 PM, as they added a sweet little baby boy to their family of four girls! We will serve chicken salad and ham sandwiches and would like to have side dishes of salad, veggies, or dessert brought. We are also asking if anyone would like to do some light decorations. Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex. If the Lairds have any specific items they could use, they will be listed on the sheet. Hope to have you join us.

SPECIAL VOTER'S MEETING – NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17th

There will be a special voters meeting following the service on September 17th. We will need to take a vote on the new property which will be to allow the house to stay there for another year to be moved in 2025 or later or request to have it moved in 2024. We will also use this meeting to accept new voting members. If you wish to become a voting member, please talk to someone on the church council.

LADIES! JOIN US FOR AN INSPIRING AND FUN MEETING - THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21st

The Ladies Aid will resume their meetings after being off for the summer. Our devotion will be "Got Food?" by Candy Andres. We will have a short business meeting. We will also have a **surprise auction** after the meeting. This involves gift-wrapped packages (birthday, Christmas, brown paper...) to be auctioned off still wrapped! You may bring any kind of baked goods (cookies, cake, pie, etc.), or any other gift item you would like to share. The fun is in finding out what gift you have bid on! There are lots of laughs and a few jokes thrown in for entertainment. All proceeds go toward our mission gifts we give throughout the year and at Christmas. Plan to attend and see what we are all about as we praise the Lord with our gifts and service.

CHURCH DIRECTORY PICTURES

If you were not able to get a picture taken at the session last October and wanted to submit a family picture, please contact Mike Twenhafel at 618-363-1955. If you submitted one previously, please verify with Mike that we have it.

ZION FALL FEST – OCTOBER 1st

Save the Date! Our annual Fall Fest will be held on the afternoon of Sunday, October 1st. We have a Bounce House reserved and other fun things planned. Details will be coming soon.

WANTED: SOUND/VIDEO TECHS

With Nathaniel Clayton leaving for college in mid-August, we are looking to recruit new sound/video techs to help with the soundboard and Facebook Live recording at Zion. Gadge Corey will be offering a general training session on Sunday, September 24, 2023, from 11:15-12:15, right after church. He will also be offering "on-the-job training" today. We hope to have at least 8-10 people trained, so that you will be on duty about every other month. If you are interested in learning these positions, please sign up on the sheet in the narthex. Thanks in advance for your engagement to serve in this way!

SAVE THE DATE FOR OCTOBER 7th APOLOGETICS WORKSHOP

Do you, or people you know, sometimes have questions about the Christian faith? Apologetics is the effort to provide answers to those questions, and to address the challenges people pose to Christianity. Zion Mascoutah will host an Apologetics Workshop on Saturday, October 7, 2023, from 9:00-3:00. Topics to be addressed include "The Who, What, Where, Why, and When of Apologetics," "The Word They Still Shall Let Remain: The Reliability of Scripture," "Literature and Apologetics: A Bridge to Conversation," and "The Reality of the Resurrection: Nothing Else Really Matters." The registration fee is \$15 for the workshop to cover the cost of lunch, which will be provided. Mark your calendars now to attend this Apologetics Workshop at Zion Mascoutah on Saturday, October 7.

OPEN DISCUSSION EVENING ABOUT COMMUNION FREQUENCY

As the Elders at Zion seek the best way to serve the people of God and offer God's blessings to his people, we want to hear from you in person regarding the frequency of communion. We have offered a survey which yielded a tremendous turnout and very helpful results and comments, and we have hosted two targeted discussion sessions, but now we would like to hold an open discussion session to hear from all voices in the congregation, those who would like more frequent Communion, and those who have concerns or reservations about the frequency of Communion. All are invited, and we want all voices to be heard, by the Elders, and by each other. This open discussion will be held on Tuesday, October 10, 2023, at 7:00 PM in the church basement. Thanks for joining in this discussion process!

ZION'S "HELPING HANDS" NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

We need volunteers to help with our "Helping Hands". If you would be available to help our church members occasionally with small tasks, please sign up to be a "helper". We are looking for people who may be able to provide rides to the doctor or to the grocery store, or perhaps help with very light housekeeping, etc. We need to update our "helper" list, so even if you signed up before, please sign up again. Become a volunteer by contacting Linda Hoskins at 618-210-6987. Thank you.

VOCATIO RETREAT FOR PERSPECTIVE CHURCH WORKERS

Have you considered serving full-time in a church work profession? Are you interested in a distinctively Lutheran retreat that provides the space to rest in God's Word, time to spend in prayer and the opportunity to learn from some of the brightest theologians in the church? Concordia Seminary, St. Louis invites you to attend Vocatio: Retreat — a three-day retreat geared toward college students and second-career men and women who are considering serving as a pastor, deaconess, missionary, or chaplain. This event will be held at Concordia Seminary on October 22-24, 2023. Registration is free and includes lodging and meals. To register, visit csl.edu/vocatio-retreat or Google "Vocatio: Retreat Concordia Seminary."

LCMS SINGERS NEEDED

Calling all LCMS singers in the St. Louis metro area who can come to three rehearsals in October: Let's fill the balcony at the Chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus for Reformation Choral Vespers at Concordia Seminary. This year's theme is "Each Life a High Doxology," and it is going to be a happening! Come sing in a service that includes a children's choir directed by Matthew Janssen, festival brass, and Laudamus (the seminary's touring choir). To maximize convenience for area choir members, we've got two rehearsal tracks lined up. So, you could come on Tuesdays (Oct. 3,10,17) or Thursdays (Oct. 5,12,19) for 6:45pm rehearsals in the chapel. Then, both tracks come together for a final practice, with instruments, on Saturday morning, October 28, at 9:30am. That's four rehearsals, you say. Yes, we'd love for you to do "3+1," but it's OK for you to miss one. We just ask you to commit to three practices. Please contact Phillip Magness, Interim Associate of Music Arts, at the seminary for more details and/or to let him know you are coming so that we can have a folder ready for you and know which section in which to seat you. You can respond here or contact him via email (MagnessP@csl.edu) or phone (314-505-7118). Please spread the word. Even if YOU can't come, you may have friends in your congregation's choir who can and would love the experience. SOLI DEO GLORIA

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS PRO-LIFE DINNER – SEPTEMBER 12th

Please join us for our annual Pro-Life Dinner. This year's event will be held Tuesday, September 12th, at the Regency Conference Center, 400 Regency Dr., O'Fallon, IL. (Please note the different location from previous years.) Registration and social time begin at 6 PM. The dinner and program will be from 7:00 – 9:00 PM. The cost for the dinner is \$50 (\$15 is tax deductible). You may register at www.vitaefoundation.org, by calling Vitae at 573-634-4316, or by sending a check or money order to Vitae Foundation, 1731 Southridge Dr., Suite D, PO Box 791, Jefferson City, MO 65109.

LISTEN TO WORLDWIDE KFUE AM850

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KIDS HAVE QUESTIONS SERIES...

Have your children or grandchildren ever asked you questions about Science & Faith; The Problem of Evil & Suffering; Sexuality & Identity; Heaven, Death & Dying; Relationships, Life Issues and Mental Health? Issues, Etc., a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL, has a series that can help you answer those questions. You can listen to the entire series on-demand at issuesetc.org/kidshavequestions.

THE FLOWERS ON THE LORD'S ALTAR

The flowers on the Lord's altar are given to the glory of God by Cary Robinson, in celebration of Jon Robinson's 50th birthday.

THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY

Proclaimer: Rev. Kirk Clayton
Lector: Sem. Rob Laird
Organist: Nancy Peterson
Sound Techs: Gadge Corey, Isaac Robinson, & Blake Twenhafel
Acolytes: Rosemary Peterson & Lucy Laird
Altar Guild: Joyce Hendrix & Becky Wachtman
Elder of the Month: Joe Bloomquist

THOSE WHO SERVE NEXT WEEK, SEPTEMBER 17

Proclaimer: Sem. Kyle Moellenhoff
Liturgist: Rev. Kirk Clayton
Lector: Sem. Rob Laird
Organist: Nancy Peterson
Sound Tech: Abigail Clayton & Phoebe Corey
Acolytes: Brady Twenhafel & Trey Harris
Elder of the Month: Joe Bloomquist

THINGS WE ARE DOING AT ZION

Sun.	<i>Friendship Sunday</i>	
	Confirmation Class	8:30 AM
	Bible Class	8:45 AM
	Sunday School & Youth Bible Class	8:45 AM
	Worship DS II w/communion	10:00 AM
	Friendship Sunday Meal & Games	11:15 AM
	Men's Club	6:00 PM
Mon.	LifeLight	7:00 PM
Tues.	Evangelism	7:00 PM
Wed.	New Member Class	6:00 PM
	Choir Rehearsal	7:00 PM
	Hand Chime Rehearsal	8:00 PM
Fri.	Zion Preschool Parent's Morning Out	9:00-11:30 AM
	Senior Meal Delivery	10:30 AM
Sat.	Baby Shower for the Lairds	10:30 – 1:00 PM
Sun.	Confirmation Class	8:30 AM
	Bible Class	8:45 AM
	Sunday School & Youth Bible Class	8:45 AM
	Worship Matins	10:00 AM
	Special Voter's Meeting	11:15 AM

ATTENDANCE SEPTEMBER 3: Sunday: 127

Adult Bible Class: 14 High School: 2 Sunday School: 9