

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 8, 2024



God's work. Our hands.



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

James tells us to stop showing favoritism in the assembly, treating the rich visitor with more honor than the poor one. Jesus himself seems to show partiality in his first response to the Syrophoenician woman in today's gospel. Was he testing her faith in saying Gentiles don't deserve the goods meant for God's children? Or was he speaking out of his human worldview, but transcended those limits when she took him by surprise with her reply? Either way, the story tells us that God shows no partiality. Everyone who brings a need to Jesus is received with equal honor as a child and heir.



ZION
Ministries Under the Cross

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Welcome to Zion!

“Then Jesus said to his disciples, ‘The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.’” (Matthew 9:37-38)

Welcome – whether this is your home congregation or your first visit, we’re glad you’re here!

We welcome all people in the name of Christ to experience God’s goodness and grace in Word, water, and meal. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, there is a place for you to belong at Zion.

Get Connected at Zion

The best ways to stay connected are to visit our website, follow us on social media (@zionchurchdfb on Facebook and Instagram), and subscribe to our weekly newsletter.

Children in Worship

Children are God’s gift to our church! They are not the future of our church; they are the right now. The way we welcome children here directly affects the way they respond to the Church, to God, and to one another.

We welcome children and their families to sit near the Playground at the front of the sanctuary. There are coloring activities, puzzles, books, and a toolbox to engage in our worship together.

Giving

We appreciate your stewardship of treasure, talent, and time at Zion. You may leave your offerings in the offering plates or give online via our website or this QR code.



Livestreaming

Zion livestreams all our services on Facebook and YouTube. Any person present gives consent to being filmed or photographed.



Zion is a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) community, and extends God's radical welcome to all people, because we're all created in God's image.

We Gather

GATHERING HYMN

Hymn #726

“Light Dawns on a Weary World”

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

KYRIE

ELW pp. 184-185

The assembly joins with the refrain and the Cantor sings the verses.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together... **Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. Amen.**

We Hear & Respond to God’s Word

FIRST READING

Isaiah 35:4-7a

...The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

SECOND READING

James 2:1-17

...The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Hymn #172

“Halle, Halle, Hallelujah”

GOSPEL

Mark 7:24-37

Before the reading: The Holy Gospel according to Mark...

Glory to you, O Lord.

After the reading: These are the words of our Lord. They are true and can be trusted. **Praise to you, O Christ!**

GOD’S MESSAGE FOR ALL

HYMN OF THE DAY

“God’s Work, Our Hands”

ANOIDTING FOR SERVICE

“Will You Let Me Be Your Servant”

Hymn #659

“Shine, Jesus, Shine”

Hymn #671

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & SHARING OF PEACE

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

OFFERING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

We Feast at the Lord’s Table

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING & PREFACE

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn...

SANCTUS (“HOLY, HOLY”)

Hymn #525

“You Are Holy”

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

SHARING THE MEAL

Jesus welcomes you to this table. Come, here is God!

We Are Sent into the World

BLESSING FOR STRENGTH

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ comfort, strengthen, and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together...**Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

BLESSING

Just as God's Word was sent into the world to heal and redeem, so God sends you into the world this day to be light and love, healing and hope. Go now to be light for the world! And may the grace and peace of God – Father, Son ✠, and Holy Spirit – come upon you this day and remain with you always. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Hymn #538

“The Lord Now Sends Us Forth”

DISMISSAL

The worship has ended. Now the service begins. Go in peace.
Serve the Lord—and have fun doing it! **Thanks be to God!**

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WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We are looking for
neighbors to volunteer
at Nina's Place.

Day	Time	Details
Monday Tuesday Wednesday Friday	12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.	Helping to unload truck with Publix & Walmart items
Thursday	9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.	Helping to unload FSF truck, pack boxes, and stock shelves <i>We text the What'sApp group when the truck arrives.</i>
Saturday	8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.	Helping across Nina's Place, from registration to restocking to cleanup. Sign up at www.ninasplacedfb.org

Text Kurt at (954) 913-2125 with your name and
number to be added to the Adult Volunteers
What's App group.



Today's Readings

Sunday, September 8, 2024

16th Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer of the Day

Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading

Isaiah 35:4-7a

Say to those who are of a fearful heart,

"Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you."

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be
opened,

and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing
for joy.

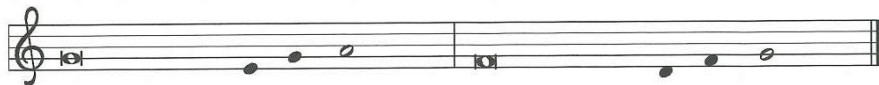
For waters shall break forth in the
wilderness,

and streams in the desert;

⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water.

Psalms

Psalms 146; tone 1



Hal-¹lelujah!

Praise the LORD, ¹O my soul!

²I will praise the LORD as long ¹as I live;
I will sing praises to my God
while I ¹have my being.

³Put not your ¹trust in rulers,
in mortals in whom there ¹is no help.

⁴When they breathe their last,
they re-¹turn to earth,
and in that day ¹their thoughts perish.

⁵Happy are they who have
the God of Jacob ¹for their help,
whose hope is in the ¹LORD their God;

⁶who made heaven and earth, the seas, and
all that ¹is in them;
who keeps promis-¹es forever;

⁷who gives justice to those
who are oppressed,
and food to ¹those who hunger.

The LORD sets the ¹captive free.

⁸The LORD opens the eyes of the blind;
the LORD lifts up those
who ¹are bowed down;

the LORD ¹loves the righteous.

⁹The LORD cares ¹for the stranger;
the LORD sustains
the orphan and widow,
but frustrates the way ¹of the wicked.

¹⁰The LORD shall ¹reign forever,
your God, O Zion, throughout
all generations. ¹Hallelujah!

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? ²For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, ³and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," ⁴have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? ⁷Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

⁸You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ⁹But if you

show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. [¹¹For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. ¹²So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. ¹³For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.]

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

Gospel

Mark 7:24-37

[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, ²⁵but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁸But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." ²⁹Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." ³⁰So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." ³⁵And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

TODAY'S READINGS September 8, 2024 (Lectionary 23)

Volume 55, Number 4

Next Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 116:1-9; James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38.

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