

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 21, 2025

God's work. Our hands.



**Do things for people not
because of who they
are or what they do in
return, but because of
who you are.**

Rabbi Harold S. Kushner

As we are invited today to consider what it means to be managers (rather than owners) of all that we have, it is crucial to recognize that we are bought with a price. "Christ Jesus, himself human, . . . gave himself a ransom for all." Apart from the generosity of God we have nothing—we are nothing. By God's gracious favor we have everything we need.



ZION
Ministries Under the Cross

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Welcome to Zion!

“The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

(Luke 10:2)

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 side of Katie Luther Chapel. There are coloring activities, puzzles, and books 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

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

“He is Exalted”

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN

ELW Hymn #781

“Children of the Heavenly Father”

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 Minister sings the verses.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together...**God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

We Hear & Respond to God’s Word

FIRST READING

Amos 8:4-7

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

SECOND READING

1 Timothy 2:1-7

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The Minister sings the verse. The assembly joins with the refrain:





GOSPEL

Luke 16:1-13

Before the reading: The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After the reading: The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!

GOD'S MESSAGE FOR ALL

HYMN OF THE DAY

ACS Hymn #1048

“Founded on Faith”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & SHARING OF PEACE

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

OFFERTORY HYMN & PRAYER

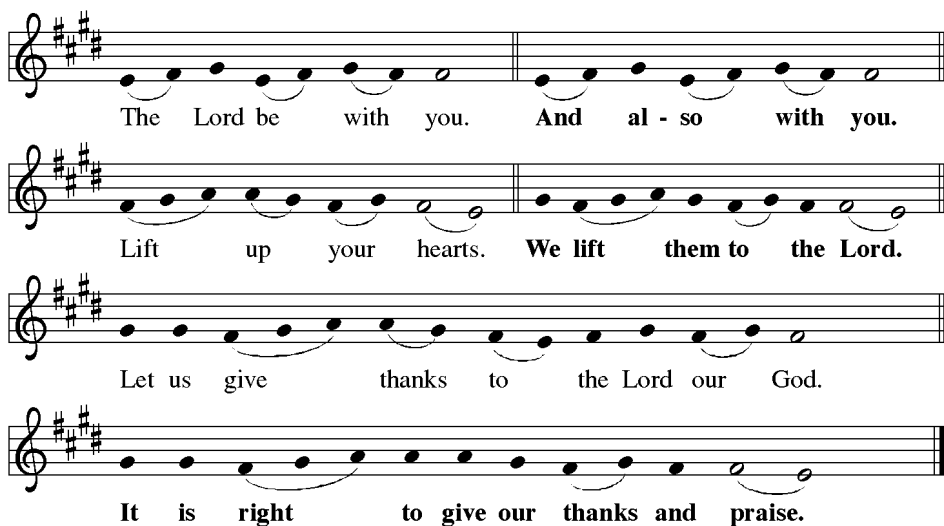
ELW Hymn #679

“For the Fruit of All Creation”

Let us pray together...**Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

We Feast at the Lord's Table

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



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")

ELW Hymn #525

"You Are Holy"

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray: **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

“Here Is Bread”

ELW Hymn #483

“Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup”

ELW Hymn #492

We Are Sent into the World

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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...**O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

ELW Hymn #538

“The Lord Now Sends Us Forth”

DISMISSAL

The worship has ended. Now the service begins.

Go in peace. You are strengthened to serve. **Thanks be to God.**

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Today's Readings

Sunday, September 21, 2025

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer of the Day

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Reading

Amos 8:4-7

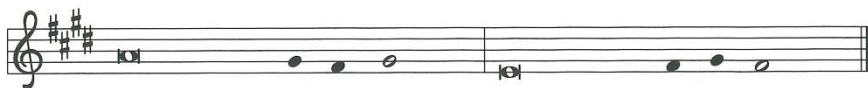
Hear this, you that trample on the
needy,
and bring to ruin the poor of the
land,
⁵saying, "When will the new moon be
over
so that we may sell grain;
and the sabbath,
so that we may offer wheat for sale?
We will make the ephah small and
the shekel great,

and practice deceit with false
balances,
⁶buying the poor for silver
and the needy for a pair of sandals,
and selling the sweepings of the
wheat."

⁷The LORD has sworn by the pride of
Jacob:
Surely I will never forget any of their
deeds.

Psalms

Psalms 113; tone 5



Hallelujah!
Give praise, you servants ¹ of the LORD;
praise the name ¹ of the LORD.

²Let the name of the
¹ LORD be blessed,
from this time forth
for- ¹ evermore.

³From the rising of the sun
to its ¹ going down
let the name of the
¹ LORD be praised.

⁴The LORD is high a- ¹ bove all nations,
God's glory a- ¹ bove the heavens.

⁵Who is like the ¹ LORD our God,
who sits en- ¹ throned on high,

⁶but stoops ¹ to behold
the heavens ¹ and the earth?

⁷The LORD takes up the weak
out ¹ of the dust
and lifts up the poor
¹ from the ashes,

⁸enthroning them ¹ with the rulers,
with the rulers ¹ of the people.

⁹The LORD makes the woman
of a ¹ childless house
to be a joyful mother of children.
¹ Hallelujah!

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, ²for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. ³This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵For

there is one God;
there is also one mediator
between God and
humankind,
Christ Jesus, himself human,
⁶who gave himself a ransom
for all

—this was attested at the right time.
⁷For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

Gospel

Luke 16:1-13

Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ²So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ ³Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ ⁵So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ ⁶He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ ⁷Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers

of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ ⁸And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

¹⁰“Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹²And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

TODAY'S READINGS September 21, 2025 (Lectionary 25)

Volume 56, Number 4

Next Sunday's Readings: Amos 6:1a, 4-7; Psalm 146; 1 Timothy 6:6-19; Luke 16:19-31.

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