



September 27, 2026

8:30 AM

MT.ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
HISTORICAL VILLAGE OF CHURCHTOWN
BOILING SPRINGS PA 17007

WELCOME!

The members of Mt. Zion extend a warm welcome to all visitors. Please sign the guest register in the main entrance of the church. If you do not have a church home and are seeking one, we would love to have you join us. Please speak to the Pastor or to any of our members if you would like to learn more about our community of faith.

All are invited to the communion table. Bread and wine are used as the elements of this meal. Grape juice is also available for those who do not drink wine. There is also a gluten free choice. Children who do not commune may receive a blessing.

About today's lesson:

Jesus' parable about two sons who don't do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God. In the reading from Ezekiel the people claim the ways of the Lord are unfair, while God offers repentance and new life. Paul urges us to look to Christ as a model of humility, putting the interests of others above our own. Nourished by the broken bread and shared cup, we offer our lives for the sake of our needy world.

P: Pastor. A: Assisting Minister L: Leader C: Congregation

Pastor Rev. Jennifer Toburen
Pastorjenn.clc.duncannon@gmail.com
Cell 734-576-2025
Church 717 258 3039
mtzionluth.org
mtzionluth@gmail.com
Organist Judy Schrack
Assisting Minister Michael McCullough

MT. ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
325 Old Stonehouse Road
Boiling Springs PA 17007

September 27, 2026 Holy Communion
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost Service 8:30 AM

SILENT PRAYER:

Lord, graciously hear us, for we seek you alone. Calm our bodies and minds with the peace which passes understanding, and make us radiant with joy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

PRELUDE:

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Please stand as able.

CALL TO WORSHIP

P We gather in the name of the living Christ to worship
 God.
C **Surely, God is in this place**
P God calls us to worship in spirit and in truth.
C **May we be renewed by the Holy Spirit.**
P God's love is for you and for all people everywhere.
C **Let us share God's love and life.**
P The living Christ is with us.
C **Praise the Lord!**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who pours
love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

C Amen.

P Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Compassionate God,

C we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

P Hear this good news: We have peace with God through **✝** Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C Amen.

GATHERING SONG: *At The Name of Jesus* #179
(LBW Green Hymnal)

GREETING:

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

C **And also with you.**

KYRIE:

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let
us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being
of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us
pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For this holy house, and for all who offer here their
worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C **Amen**

HYMN OF PRAISE:



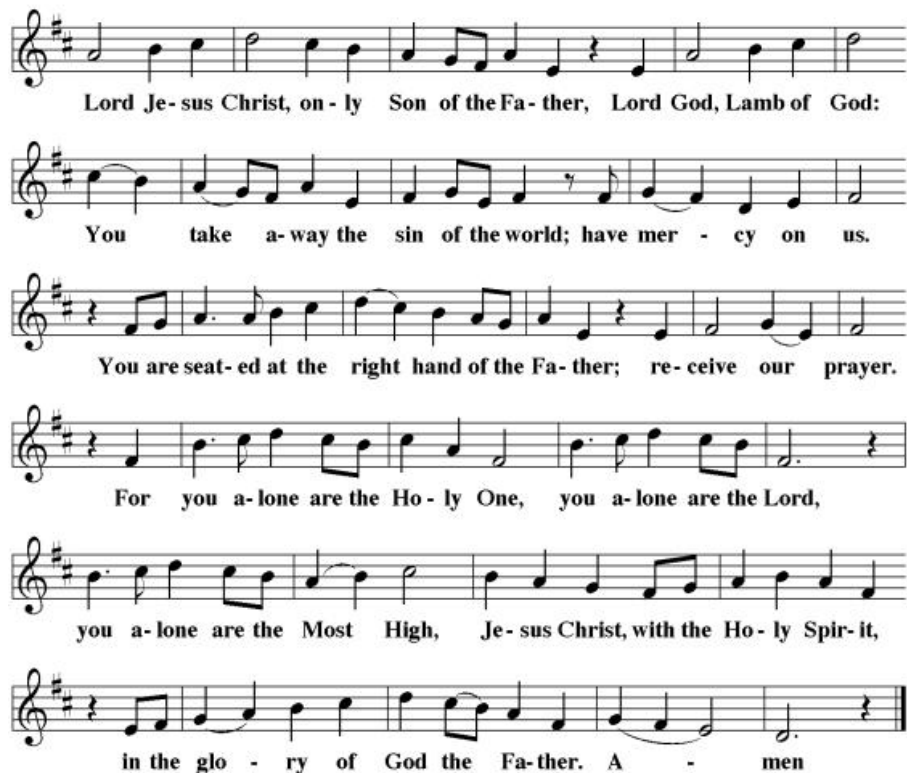
A Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.



G Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa-ther:



We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



PRAYER OF THE DAY:

- P Let us pray.
- C **God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Please be seated.

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

¹ The word of the LORD came to me: ² What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s

teeth are set on edge”? ³ As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴ Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins who shall die. ²⁵ Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶ When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed, they shall die. ²⁷ Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸ Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹ Yet the house of Israel says, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ³⁰ Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹ Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³² For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God

PSALM: Psalm 25:1-9 (Read Responsively)

¹ To | you, O LORD, I lift | up my soul.

² **My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be | put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph | over me.**

³ Let none who look to you be | put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous.

⁴ **Show me your | ways, O LORD,**

and teach | me your paths.

⁵ Lead me in your | truth and teach me, for you are the
God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all | the
day long.

⁶ **Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,
for they are from | everlasting.**

⁷ Remember not the sins of my youth and | my
transgressions; remember me according to your
steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O
LORD.

⁸ **You are gracious and upright, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners | in your way.**

⁹ You lead the lowly in justice
and teach the lowly your way.

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:1-13

¹ If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation
from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection
and sympathy, ² make my joy complete: be of the same
mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one
mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit,
but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let
each of you look not to your own interests but to the
interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in
Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he existed in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God as something to be
grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave,
assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance
as a human, ⁸ he humbled himself and became obedient to
the point of death—even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God
exalted him even more highly and gave him the name that is
above every other name, ¹⁰ so that at the name given to
Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and
under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue should confess that

Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. ¹²
Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me,
not only in my presence but much more now in my absence,
work on your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for
it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will
and to work for his good pleasure.

A The word of the Lord. C **Thanks be to God**

Please stand as able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION :



GOSPEL:

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 21st
chapter.
C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Matthew 21:23-32

[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. ² After agreeing with the laborers
for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³
When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others
standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴ and he said to them, ‘You
also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is
right.’ So they went. ⁵ When he went out again about noon
and about three o’clock, he did the same. ⁶ And 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?' ⁷ They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' ⁸ When 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.' ⁹ When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰ Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹ And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹² saying, '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.' ¹³ But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius? ¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' ¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

P The Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

SERMON:

Please stand as able.

HYMN OF THE DAY:

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word #230
(LBW Green Hymnal)

P Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:

P Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

A brief silence.

After each portion of the prayers.

A Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

P Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

C **Amen.**

PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

P Let us share the peace with one another.

Please stand as able.

The Lord's table is prepared.

Offering brought forward.

OFFERING PRAYER:

P God of creation,

C you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING:

P The Lord be with you.

C And also 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

PREFACE:

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; 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 the Church on earth and

the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join
their unending hymn:

SANCTUS:



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.

P 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. Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

P Now let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION:

P Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast! For those who will commune in your place. This is the body of Christ, given for you. This is the blood of Christ, shed for you.

Please be seated.



☞ 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.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION We will be communing by tables. Please follow the instruction of the usher. Communion hymn of meditation is played until

everyone has communed.

Please stand as able.

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C **Amen.**

COMMUNION PRAYER:

P Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy
and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this
table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of
your liberation, healing, and love, following the way
of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C **Amen.**

BLESSING:

P 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.

C **Amen**

SENDING HYMN: *O Master, Let Me Walk with You*
(LBW Green Hymnal) **#492**

DISMISSAL:

P Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

C **Thanks be to God.**

THE POSTLUDE:

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This week’s bulletin given to the Glory of God by Sue Sunday.

ATTENDANCE

September 20, 2026	23
Last Year	25
Online September 13, 2026	27
Last Year	57

STEWARDSHIP

September 20, 2026	\$ 1980.00
Last Year	\$ 643.10
Includes Noisy Offering	\$ 28.10

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MUSIC AT THE SPRING presents *ESSENCE OF JOY*
Sunday, September 27, 2026, a 3:00 PM at Trindle Springs
Lutheran Church. Information on bulletin board downstairs.

ELCA SOCIAL STATEMENT Pastor Jenn will be
offering a five-week study session to review and discuss the
ELCA Social Statement: Human Sexuality - Gift and
Trust. The ELCA is currently engaged in a discernment
period on possible changes to the statement and seeks
feedback from church members like us. A study guide will
be provided. We will meet on Wednesdays from 6:00 -
8:00, beginning on September 30.

September 30 @ Christ Lutheran

October 7 @ Mt. Zion

October 14 @ Christ Lutheran

October 21 @ Mt. Zion

October 28 @ Christ Lutheran

FINE ARTS AT FIRST 2026-2027 The Baltimore consort
October 26 at 3:00 PM. Hershey Handbell ensemble April
24, 2027 at 7:00 PM. Brochure on bulletin board
downstairs.

BIBLE STUDY on Lectionary Reading Tuesday online
1:00 PM.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL -Information from Pastor
Jenn. We will begin our new study on Martin Luther's
Small Catechism.

THE BULLETINS To sign up the chart to sponsor
bulletins, (\$25), is located on left bulletin board inside
church doors. As this is part of our budget please sign up.

WALKING WORSHIP will continue to meet at 2:00 PM at Spring Meadows Park, (address 640 West First Street Boiling Spring.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES ARE NOW ON SALE here are the list of supplies we will be needing for the School and Personal Care kits. Lists are on back table. We will be assembling the kits after Worship Service on October 11.

School Kits

- Spiral Bound Notebook (70 Pages)
- Scissors (Blunt)
- Erasers (2 inch)
- Pencil Sharpeners
- Ruler (Centimeter & Inch)

Personal Care Kits

- Towels (27 x 52 Dark)
- Nail Clipper
- Toothbrush
- Soap (4 or 5 oz)
- Wide tooth combs
- (No Pics)

NEW HOPE’S DILLSBURG CENTER SPECIFIC

NEEDS: Canned chicken, tuna or beef stew, Canned fruit and fruit cups, Canned vegetables, Peanut Butter, Juice and juice boxes, Ketchup and mustard, Diapers, wipes, diaper cream, Feminine hygiene products, Laundry detergent, Shampoo, Toilet paper, paper towels, Tooth Paste.

PLAN AHEAD

September 27	Lite Breakfast	8:00 AM
	Worship Service	8:30 AM
	Sunday School for children	(after Service)
	Music at the Spring	3:00 PM
	Adult Sunday School (Online)	7:00 PM
September 29	Bible Study (Online)	1:00 PM
September 30 @ Christ Lutheran		6:00 -8:00 PM
October 1	Walking Worship	2:00 PM
October 3	Community Dinner	5:00 - 6:30 PM
October 4	Lite Breakfast	8:00 AM
	Worship Service	8:30 AM
	Sunday School for children	(after Service)
	Adult Sunday School (Online)	7:00 PM
October 6	Bible Study (Online)	1:00 PM
October 7 @ Mt. Zion		6:00 -8:00 PM
October 8	Walking Worship	2:00 PM
October 11	Lite Breakfast	8:00 AM
	Worship Service	8:30 AM
	Assembling LWR Kits after service	
	Adult Sunday School (Online)	7:00 PM
October 13	Bible Study (Online)	1:00 PM
	Music and Worship Meeting	2:30 PM
October 14 @ Christ Lutheran		6:00 -8:00 PM
October 15	Walking Worship	2:00 PM
	Council Meeting	7:00 PM
October 18	Lite Breakfast	8:00 AM
	Worship Service	8:30 AM
	Sunday School for children	(after Service)
	Adult Sunday School (Online)	7:00 PM
October 20	Bible Study (Online)	1:00 PM
October 21 @ Mt. Zion		6:00 -8:00 PM
October 22	Walking Worship	2:00 PM