Zion Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

520 E Main St Pierce NE 68767 ✢ 402-329-4313 ✢ ZionLutheranPierce.com

October 18, 2026 – The Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

WELCOME – ANNOUNCEMENTS – INSTRUCTIONS

"HOLY SPIRIT"

There's nothing worth more that could ever come close.
No thing can compare, You're our living hope!
Your presence, Lord!

I've tasted and seen of the sweetest of loves,
where my heart becomes free and my shame is undone.
Your presence, Lord!

Chorus
Holy Spirit, You are welcome here!
Come flood this place and fill the atmosphere.
Your glory, God, is what our hearts long for.
To be overcome by Your presence, Lord. Your presence, Lord!

There's nothing worth more that could ever come close.
No thing can compare, You're our living hope!
Your presence, Lord!

I've tasted and seen of the sweetest of loves,
Where my heart becomes free and my shame is undone.
Your presence, Lord! ***(Repeat Chorus)***

Bridge
Let us become more aware of Your presence!
Let us experience the glory of Your goodness!
Let us become more aware of Your presence!
Let us experience the glory of Your goodness!
Let us become more aware of Your presence!
Let us experience the glory of Your goodness!

The Rite of Holy Baptism

INVOCATION

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

C **Amen.**

The Pastor addresses the baptismal group and the congregation:

Our Lord Jesus commanded Baptism, saying to His disciples…

Pastor: In order to implore the blessing of our Lord Jesus Christ upon the gathering of these children into the family of our Father, let us with all the family pray the prayer He gave us.

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

Pastor: The Lord preserve your coming in and your going out from this time forth and even forevermore.

C: Amen.

The Pastor says:

Serenity, I am about to ask a series of questions which give testimony of the Christian faith that the Holy Spirit has worked in your heart. Together with asking you, I also ask these questions to little Harper.

Because this child cannot answer for themself, we shall all, together with you Serenity, the congregation, the sponsors and parents, faithfully speak on their behalf in testimony of the forgiveness of sin and the birth of the life of faith which God our Father gives in and through Baptism.

Pastor: Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?

ALL: I do renounce them.

P: Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

A: Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son?

A: Yes, I 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 there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

P: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

A: Yes, I 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.

P: How are you named?

P: ***Serenity Dawn Heil***, I baptize you in the Name of the Father and of the ✢ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: How is this child to be named?

P: ***Harper Wren Peters***, I baptize you in the Name of the Father and of the ✢ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, the 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. Peace be with you!

C: Amen

The Baptismal Candle…

P: Through Baptism God has added **Serenity Dawn Heil, and Harper Wren Peters** to His own people to declare the wonderful deeds of our Savior, who has called us out of darkness into his marvelous light.

ALL: We welcome you into the Lord's family! We receive you as fellow members of the body of Christ, children of the same heavenly Father, to work with us in His kingdom.

P: And you, **Serenity, and Harper**, the Lord bless you in all your ways from this time forth and even forevermore.

C: Amen!

Reprise

Let us become more aware of Your presence.
Let us experience the glory of Your goodness.
Let us become more aware of Your presence.
Let us experience the glory of Your goodness.
Let us become more aware of Your presence.
Let us experience the glory of Your goodness.

CCLI# 118383

EXPECTATIONS OF WORSHIP

P By choosing to come together and worship God here today, you have chosen a good thing! He is about to bless us with His gifts that we may know Him and His love more deeply. What do you hope to receive here today?

C I know that I will receive God's gifts of love, mercy and grace. In response I want to offer Him my worship and praise; I join God's family here in praying before His throne.

CONFESSION OF SIN

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.

(We quietly confess our sins to God…)

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, I confess that I am in my flesh sinful and unclean. I have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what I have done and by what I have left undone. I have not loved You with my whole heart; I have not loved my neighbors as myself. I justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on me. Forgive me, renew me, and lead me, so that I may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

FORGIVENESS

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. Upon your heartfelt and sincere confession 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.

SONG — *"OFFERING"*

The sun cannot compare to the glory of Your love.
There is no shadow in Your presence.
No mortal man would dare to stand before Your throne,
before the Holy One of heaven.
It's only by Your blood - and it's only through Your mercy, Lord, I come.

Chorus

I bring an offering of worship to my King.
No one on earth deserves the praises that I sing.
Jesus, may You receive the honor that you're due.
O Lord, I bring an offering to You. I bring an offering to You.

The sun cannot compare to the glory of Your love.
There is no shadow in Your presence.
No mortal man would dare to stand before Your throne,
before the Holy One of heaven.
It's only by Your blood and it's only through Your mercy, Lord, I come.

(Repeat Chorus)

CCLI# 1183834

PRAYER

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

"MIGHTY FORTRESS"

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing.
A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing.

He won't abandon, He won't deceive,
He won't desert us, He won't ever leave.
He'll never forsake us, He won't ever run,
He'll never reject us, the faithful One.
His love will remain, His love will remain.

Chorus 1

A mighty fortress is our God, a tow'r of strength never failing.
The name of Jesus, true and strong, no other pow'r could ever save us.
You are good, You are good, Mighty Fortress.

You won't abandon, You won't deceive,
You won't desert us, You won't ever leave.

You'll never forsake us, You won't ever run,
You'll never reject us, the faithful One.
Your love will remain, Your love will remain. ***(Repeat Chorus 1)***

Bridge

Yesterday and today and forever Your love will remain.
Nothing has the power to sever Your love.
You are good, You are good, and Your mercy endures.
You are good, You are good, mighty fortress.

Chorus 2

A mighty fortress is our God, a tow'r of strength never failing.
The name of Jesus, true and strong, no other pow'r could ever save us.
A mighty fortress is our God, a tow'r of strength never failing.
The name of Jesus, true and strong, no other power could ever save us.
You are good, You are good, Mighty Fortress.
You are good, You are good, and Your mercy endures.
You are good, Your are good, mighty fortress.

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing.
A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing.

CCLI# 1183834

FIRST READING *Isaiah 45:1-7*

[1]Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped,
to subdue nations before him and to loose the belts of kings, to open doors before him
that gates may not be closed: [2]"I will go before you and level the exalted places, I will
break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, [3]I will give you the
treasures of darkness and the hoards in secret places, that you may know that it is I, the
Lord, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. [4]For the sake of my servant Jacob,
and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I name you, though you do not know me.
[5]I am the Lord, and there is no other, besides me there is no God; I equip you, though
you do not know me, [6]that people may know, from the rising of the sun and from the
west, that there is none besides me; I am the Lord, and there is no other. [7]I form light
and create darkness, I make well-being and create calamity, I am the Lord, who does all
these things."

SECOND READING *1 Thessalonians 1:1-10*

[1]Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and
the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. [2]We give thanks to God always for all of
you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, [3]remembering before our God and

Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. [4]For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, [5]because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. [6]And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, [7]so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. [8]For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. [9]For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, [10]and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

GOSPEL READING *Matthew 22:15-22*

[15]Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle [Jesus] in his talk. [16]And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone's opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. [17]Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" [18]But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? [19]Show me the coin for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. [20]And Jesus said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" [21]They said, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." [22]When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away.

MESSAGE

BLESSING

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 **Amen.**



"<u>WE BELIEVE</u>"

In this time of desperation, when all we know is doubt and fear.
There is only one foundation; we believe, we believe!
In this broken generation, when all is dark You help us see.
There is only one salvation, we believe, we believe!

Chorus

We believe in God, the Father. We believe in Jesus Christ.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, and He's givin' us new life.
We believe in the crucifixion. We believe that He conquered death.
We believe in the resurrection, and He's comin' back again.
We believe!

Let our faith be more than anthems; greater than the songs we sing!
And in our weakness and temptations, we believe, We believe!
(Repeat Chorus)

Bridge

Let the lost be found and the dead be raised!
In the here and now let love invade!
Let the church live loud; our God we'll say:
"We believe! We believe!"
And the gates of hell will not prevail
for the pow'r of God has torn the veil!
Now we know Your love will never fail!
We believe! We believe! ***(Repeat Chorus)***

He's comin' back again! He's comin' back again! We believe! We believe!

CCLI# 1183834

