

**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH PEMBROKE
SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 17 2023
THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SETTING 10
SEASON OF CREATION**

**PRELUDE
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Call to Worship

“Listen carefully, I am about to do a new thing, now it will spring wilderness, rivers in the desert.” (Isaiah 43: 19)

We gather in the name of God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer of the Earth and all creatures! Amen.

GATHERING SONG *Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven* (ELW 864)

1 Praise, my soul, the God of heaven;
joyfully your tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
evermore God's praises sing.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praises everlasting ring!

2 God be praised for grace and favor
to our forebears in distress.
God be praised, the same forever,
slow to chide and swift to bless.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glorious is God's faithfulness!

3 Frail as summer's flow'r we flourish,
blows the wind and it is gone;
but, as mortals rise and perish,
God endures unchanging on.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise the great Eternal One!

4 Angels sing in adoration,
in God's presence, face to face.
Sun and moon and all creation,
all who dwell in time and space.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise with us the God of grace!

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793-1847; alt. Walter R. Bouman, 1927-2005. Text: Public Domain.

Praise be to the Holy Trinity! God is sound and life, Creator of the Universe, Source of all life, whom the angels sing; wondrous Light of all mysteries known or unknown to humankind, and life that lives in all.

(Hildegard of Bingen, 13th Century)

KYRIE (ELW p. 203)

Have mercy on us, Lord, and hear our solemn prayer.

We come to hear your living word; it saves us from despair.

Have mercy on us, Christ, and wash away our sin.

Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may begin.

Have mercy on us, Lord, make sin and shame depart.

Renew us with your saving pow'r; create in us new hearts!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Blessed are you, Creator of all to you be praise and glory forever as your dawn renews the face of the earth bringing light and life to all creation bring hope to your people.

May we rejoice in this day you have made open our eyes to behold your presence and strengthen our hands to work for justice for all of creation, that the world may rejoice together and give you praise. Amen.

(Adapted from Lancelot Andrewes, 1626)

Special Music - Because He Lives music by William J. Gaither

FIRST READING: Genesis 50:15-21

A reading from Genesis.

¹⁵Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13

⁸Lord, you are full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;

⁹**you will not always accuse us, nor will you keep your anger forever.**

¹⁰You have not dealt with us according to our sins, nor repaid us according to our iniquities.

¹¹**For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.**

¹²As far as the east is from the west, so far have you removed our transgressions from us.

¹³**As a father has compassion for his children, so you have compassion for those who fear you, O Lord.**

SECOND READING: Romans 14:1-12

A reading from Romans.

¹Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." ¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 205)

Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word.

Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.

Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL: Matthew 18:21-35

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹Peter came and said to [Jesus], "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²²Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *Where Charity and Love Prevail* (ELW 359)

1 Where charity and love prevail,
there God is ever found;
brought here together by Christ's love,
by love we thus are bound.

2 With grateful joy and holy fear,
God's charity we learn;
let us with heart and mind and soul
now love God in return.

3 Let us recall that in our midst
dwells Christ, God's holy Son;
as members of each body joined,
in him we are made one.

4 Let strife among us be unknown;
let all contentions cease.
Be God's the glory that we seek;
be his our only peace.

5 Let us forgive each other's faults
as we our own confess,
that we may love each other well
in Christian gentleness.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt. Text © 1960 World Library Publications. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
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CREED (ELW p. 105)

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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

Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

We pray for the church. Bless the missions and ministries of diverse congregations, that they uplift the good news of salvation in ways that can be understood. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We pray for creation. Send rain to lands experiencing drought and healing to rivers clogged with pollution. Enrich the soil for trees and plants. Protect the crops needed to feed those who hunger. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We pray for all who govern. Encourage those in positions of power to lead with empathy, practice forgiveness, and care for those who struggle. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We pray for our neighbors who face illness of any kind. For those strained financially; for all living with chronic pain, mental illness, the disease of addiction, or otherwise afraid or in harm's way. Protect all who cry out for mercy (*especially* Ann, Jason, Erna, Richard, Martha, Charlotte, Ella, Rhonda, Heather, Aileen, Douglas, Ruth, Anneliese, Kaitlyn, Vaughan, Joan, Denise, Mervin, Ty, Don, Jack, Gerry, Timothy, Leona, Karl). Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We pray for the people who grieve the loss of members who have recently died. Be with the family and friends of Elinor Clifton, Lloyd Graham, Margaret King and Jean Irving. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We pray for this congregation. Open our hearts to practice intentional invitation. Help us to forgive each other, practice patience, and choose welcome over judgment. Move us to care for those in our community seeking refuge and safety. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We give thanks for the saints who died in faith. Show us how to live faithfully, creatively, and lovingly in your church and world (*like Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen, whom we commemorate today*). Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* (ELW 884)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711. Text: Public Domain.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE (ELW p. 206)

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 our thanks and praise.

PREFACE (ELW p. 206)

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:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 207)

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

Lord God of pow'r and might:

Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal:
you we praise and glorify, you we worship and adore.

You formed the earth from chaos;
you encircled the globe with air;

you created fire for warmth and light;
you nourish the lands with water.
You molded us in your image,
and with mercy higher than the mountains,
with grace deeper than the seas,
you blessed the Israelites and cherished them as your own.

That also we, estranged and dying,
might be adopted to live in your Spirit,
you called to us through the life and death of Jesus.
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.
Together as the body of Christ,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Son,
the first-born of your new creation.
We remember his life lived for others,
and his death and resurrection, which renews the face of the earth.
We await his coming,
when, with the world made perfect through your wisdom,
all our sins and sorrows will be no more.
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, holy and merciful one, holy and compassionate,
send upon us and this meal your Holy Spirit,
whose breath revives us for life,
whose fire rouses us to love.
Enfold in your arms all who share this holy food.
Nurture in us the fruits of the Spirit,
that we may be a living tree, sharing your bounty with all the world.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Holy and benevolent God,
receive our praise and petitions,
as Jesus received the cry of the needy,
and fill us with your blessing,
until, needy no longer and bound to you in love,
we feast forever in the triumph of the Lamb:
through whom all glory and honor is yours, O God, O Living One,
with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 208)

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION (ELW p. 154)

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 208)

O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;

you suffered death our lives to save: have mercy now, we pray.

O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;

you set us free from guilt and grave: have mercy now, we pray.

O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;

eternal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

SONG AFTER COMMUNION *When We Are Living* (ELW 639)

Amen.

1 When we are living, it is in Christ Jesus,
and when we're dying, it is in the Lord.
Both in our living and in our dying,
we belong to God, we belong to God.

2 'Mid times of sorrow and in times of pain,
when sensing beauty or in love's embrace,
whether we suffer, or sing rejoicing,
we belong to God, we belong to God.

4 Across this wide world, we shall always find
those who are crying with no peace of mind;
and when we help them, or when we feed them,
we belong to God, we belong to God.

Text: st. 1, based on Romans 14:8; tr. Elise S. Eslinger, b. 1942; st. 2-3, Roberto Escamilla, b. 1931; tr. George Lockwood, b. 1946. tr. © 1989, The United Methodist Publishing House, admin. Music Services. All rights reserved. Used by permission. One License #A-728050.

SONG AFTER COMMUNION *In the Singing* (ELW 466)

1 In the singing, in the silence,
in the hands expectant, open,
in the blessing, in the breaking,
in your presence at this table,

Refrain

Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ,
be the wine of grace;
Jesus, Christ, Jesus Christ,
be the bread of peace.

2 In the question, in the answer,
in the moment of acceptance,
in the heart's cry, in the healing,
in the circle of your people, Refrain

Text: Shirley Erena Murray, b. 1931. Text © 1996 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Used by permission. One License: #A-728050.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (ELW p. 208)

Let us pray.

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING (ELW p. 209)

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 SONG *Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death* (ELW 452)

1 Awake, O sleeper, rise from death,
and Christ shall give you light;
so learn his love, its length and breadth,
its fullness, depth, and height.

2 To us on earth he came to bring
from sin and fear release,
to give the Spirit's unity,
the very bond of peace.

3 There is one body and one hope,
one Spirit and one call,
one Lord, one faith, and one baptism,
one God who made us all.

4 Then walk in love as Christ has loved,
who died that he might save;
with kind and gentle hearts forgive
as God in Christ forgave.

5 For us Christ lived, for us he died,
and conquered in the strife.
Awake, arise, go forth in faith,
and Christ shall give you life.

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DISMISSAL (ELW p. 209)

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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Portion of the Liturgy taken from Seasons of Creation Guild 2023 -seasonsofcreation.org.

THIS WEEK AT ZION: September 18 – 24

Monday:	10:00 am	Pastoral Care Mtg.
	1:00 pm	Senior Exercise Class
Tuesday:	7:00 pm	Narcotics Anonymous
	7:00 pm	RCLC Mtg.
Wednesday:	10:00 am	Morning Social
	1:00 pm	Senior Exercise Class
	7:00 pm	Men's Choir
	7:00 pm	Scottish Dancers
Thursday:	10:00 am	Worship at Pinewood
	7:00 pm	Healing Vets
	7:00 pm	Mixed Choir
Friday:	1:00 pm	Senior Exercise Class
	6:30 pm	Pulse Youth Group
Sunday:	10:00 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion New Member Sunday

TODAY'S SCHEDULED WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Presiding Minister:	Rev. Scott Schellenberger
Music Director:	Blaine Sack
Worship Assistant:	Michael Lange
Sexton:	Karen Gauthier
Projector Operator:	Zach Phannenhour
Video Recorder:	Ty Phannenhour
Sound Operator:	Todd Phannenhour
Counters:	Lisa Campitelli, Karen Gauthier, David Lehman
Altar Care:	Tanya Reid
Ushers:	Doug & Pauline Malliff

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please pray for those who are ill, in hospital, or requested special prayers: Ann Beech, Jason Godin, Erna Handke, Richard Hubert, Martha Kodzynski, Charlotte Layden, Ella Lehman, Rhonda Mau, Heather Miller, Aileen Roesler, Douglas Sperberg, Ruth Thom, Anneliese Trautrim, Kaitlyn Vaillancourt, Vaughan Rosien, Joan Lehman, Denise Schizkoske, Mervin Bimm, Ty Phannenhour, Don Markus, Jack Zadow, Gerry Vandersleen, Leona Waito, Timothy LeVoy, Karl.

Please pray for the family and friends of those listed below:

Elinor Margaret Clifton. There is no visitation. Funeral will be held Friday, September 15 at 11:00 am, lunch to follow.

Lloyd "Alfie" Graham. There will be a private graveside service as per his wishes.

Margaret Emma King. There will a funeral service on Saturday October 7 at 11:00am.

Jean Irving. There will be a funeral service on Tuesday, September 19 at 11:00 am, Murphy Funeral Home.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Years One and Two of Confirmation will be run together this year. An information meeting will be held today after worship.

EXERCISE CLASSES

Please join us on Monday Sept.18, Wednesday Sept.20, and Friday Sept.22 at 1:00 pm for our Senior Exercise classes.

MORNING SOCIAL

The next Morning Social with coffee, tea, refreshments and fellowship will be on Wednesday September 20th at 10:00 am in the Parish Hall. We hope to see you there!

CHOIR PRACTICES

Choir practices for the men's choir will be on Wednesday, September 20th at 7pm, and the mixed choir will be on Thursday, September 21st at 7pm. New singers are always welcome!

MIDWEEK WORSHIP SERVICE

Please join us on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 10:30 am for services with Holy Communion. Our next service will be September 27th at 10:30 am.

MESSY CHURCH

Messy Church is a program for families that runs every month 5:30 pm-7:30 pm. Our next Messy Church will be on **Monday October 2nd at 5:30 pm.**

ZLW

Our next Faith and Life Program will be on October 4th 2023, featuring CLWR Faith with Sandra Graham.

ZION YARD SALE

Please join us for our annual fall yard sale on October 14, 2023. Please tell your family and friends. We look forward to seeing you!

Any items you wish to donate to the yard sale please bring to the church 2 weeks prior to the sale.

GRACE LUTHERAN HARVEST DINNER

Grace Lutheran Church Eganville are hosting their Harvest Dinner on Saturday, September 30th from 3:30 pm – 7:00 pm. Dine in or takeout available. Adults \$18.00, Children (6-12) \$10.00, children under 5 free.

CAMP LUTHERLYN 150 FUNDRAISER

Please support the work at Camp Lutherlyn as the funds will help complete the Hoffman Beach Project. Donations can be made through e transfer, cheque or c.c. and through regular donation.

FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN OFFERING

The Fellowship of the Least Coin unites Christian women of the world. This fellowship and our commitment is for justice, peace and reconciliation. We are grateful for this offering. The offering will be collected as the loose offering on Sunday, September 24th. Thank you in advance for your generosity! Please include your envelope number and your information for credit. Mark your envelope “Fellowship of the Least Coin.”

140th Anniversary Worship Project

For the 140th Anniversary we will be purchasing the new ‘All Creation Sings’, supplement to the current ELW hymnal (2006). This new song and prayer collection, published in the spring of 2020, is purple in colour, and soft covered like our blue ‘With One Voice’. Songs and hymns from this new worship resource will be learned and shared in our Blended Worship Services, too. Please consider donating a copy of this new resource in memory of loved ones, birthdays, or celebrations. Cost per copy is \$20. We are looking to put three in each row of pews.

HOLD THE DATE! 140th CELEBRATION

Zion Lutheran Church is celebrating their 140th Anniversary! Sunday, November 26th 2023, Bishop Michael Pryce attending. There will be a service at 3:00 pm with a dinner to follow.

UPDATE from ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE:

Zion’s Anniversary Committee met twice over the summer; most recently on August 23rd. Good discussions and brainstorming have led to the planning of different celebratory events for the Fall. An Anniversary banner is also being designed for the lawn on the corner of Miller and Munroe Streets. Please speak to Committee members Lorraine MacKenzie, Kathy Nieman or Blaine Sack if you have any questions, ideas, or would like to join our planning team. Stay tuned for more information on special events as we roll into September.

ATTENDANCE

Sunday September 10 – 60