

**Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
454 Miller Street Pembroke, Ontario
Office (613)732-8792 Pastor Scott Schellenberger (705)313-0333**

**The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost –August 15, 2021
Setting Three - Evangelical Lutheran Worship p. 147**

**All page numbers are found in the front part of the hymnal and hymns
are found in the back.**

Prelude

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Land Acknowledgment

We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional unceded territory of the Anishnabeg and Algonquin People.

Introduction

Wisdom prepares a feast, sets her table, and invites all to come and eat her bread and drink her wine. The first chapter of John's gospel owes much to the biblical tradition that imagined Wisdom as existing before anything was created and having a role in the work of creation. Christ, the wisdom of God (1 Cor. 1:24), today invites us to eat his flesh and drink his blood. John's gospel includes no account of the institution of the Lord's supper, but here we can't help hearing Jesus' words as an invitation to the meal of bread and wine we share.

Gathering Hymn #769 ELW – *“If You But Trust in God to Guide You”*

Greeting - Page 138

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– Page 138

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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.

Lord have mercy.

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

Lord have mercy.

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

Amen.

Canticle of Praise – Page 140

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Prayer of the Day

Ever-loving God, your Son gives himself as living bread for the life of the world. Fill us with such a knowledge of his presence that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life to serve you continually, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading: Proverbs 9:1-6

¹Wisdom has built her house, she has hewn her seven pillars. ²She has slaughtered her animals, she has mixed her wine, she has also set her table. ³She has sent out her servant-girls, she calls from the highest places in the town, ⁴“You that are simple, turn in here!” To those without sense she

says, ⁵“Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed. ⁶Lay aside immaturity, and live, and walk in the way of insight.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 34:9-14

⁹Fear the LORD, you saints of the LORD, for those who fear the LORD lack nothing.

¹⁰**The lions are in want and suffer hunger, but those who seek the LORD lack nothing that is good.**

¹¹Come, children, and listen to me; I will teach you reverence for the LORD.

¹²**Who among you takes pleasure in life and desires long life to enjoy prosperity?**

¹³Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from lying words.

¹⁴**Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.**

Second Reading—Ephesians 5:15-20

¹⁵Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, ¹⁶making the most of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, ²⁰giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Children’s Sermon:

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – Page 142

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

GOSPEL: John 6:51-58

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said,] ⁵¹“I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.” ⁵²The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” ⁵³So Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; ⁵⁵for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.”

The gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon : Wisdom and Grace, John 6:51-58 – Ben Helmer

Two old friends recently met at a school reunion. They had not seen each other for 35 years. During that time they had each married, raised children, worked to support their families and, they discovered, been active members of their churches. As they walked into dinner, one looked at the other and said, “We’ve aged well, but our hair has gotten gray, and we’re sagging in places. What have we got to say for ourselves?” His friend smiled and said, “Wisdom!”

A local Rotary club was having a hard time getting a major fundraiser off the ground. People were distracted and nobody was volunteering for the jobs that needed to be done. The organizers were both discouraged when they met with their club president, an older woman. As they talked over lunch, their president had many suggestions for how to move forward, and all of them involved giving precise tasks to people and asking them if they would do a certain job, rather than a general asking for volunteers. At the next meeting all the tasks were assigned and the activity was a success.

These two stories illustrate something we all know: maturity and experience are valuable traits in our culture. They are in our churches as well.

From the earliest times of our ancestral faith, wisdom has always been upheld as a part of spiritual growth and development. As we grow in knowledge and love of God, we should expect to see changes in ourselves. Our tent should become bigger, not smaller. Our generosity of spirit should

broaden and deepen. And we should see elders among us as gifts of wisdom and grace, especially in times of difficulty.

A church was having a conflict over worship times. There were those who wanted one service, and those who preferred an early service without music. As the discussion went on and became more divisive, one member said, "But we've never had an early service." An elder stood up and replied, "Oh yes we have. I can remember ..." and her explanation and tone changed the whole focus of the discussion. Elders are often sources of wisdom, and they carry the corporate history of a congregation.

But there is another side to all of this talk of wisdom: it comes in today's gospel reading from John. Jesus says, "I am the living bread. ... Whoever eats of this bread will live forever." It seems that wisdom alone does not grant us participation in the kingdom. Wisdom is rather a doorway to spiritual living that includes the Eucharist as part of our regular practice. The Eucharist feeds us with the living bread that sustains us, helps us grow in Christ, and brings us peace and maturity of life, at whatever age we may be.

As we watch Jesus dealing with the people who come to him, some pleading, some confronting, others curious, we see him over and over again answering their questions with simplicity, kindness and great power. He cannot be trapped by the powers of this world, except by his own choice; he cannot be bought or tempted by the devil; and he is not compromised.

Our Christian wisdom should direct us to act in terms of our Baptismal Covenant, seeking and serving Christ in all persons. Our spiritual maturity should energize us to work to see the Christ in all persons. Our spiritual wisdom should help us know that does not mean we have to give others what they want, but what they need. Our combined maturity and wisdom should lead us to remember our own need for Sabbath, the rest that restores and renews us.

Finally, the living bread that sustains us should always be our quest: Jesus, whose prayer, mind and deeds show us what to do, Jesus whose flesh and blood instill new life within us, Jesus who lives in us that we might live forever. Amen.

Hymn of the Day #482 ELW – *"I Come With Joy"*

Apostles' Creed– Page 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

Rooted in Christ and sustained by the Spirit, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

God of wisdom, enlighten your church. Guide theologians, biblical scholars, authors, and seminary professors as they seek greater knowledge and invite others into deeper understanding. Teach us to ask faithful questions and open our minds to new ideas. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of creation, mend the earth. Cool warming oceans and preserve melting ice caps. Increase our awareness of changing climate patterns and reveal new approaches to the ecological challenges we face. Shield those in the path of hurricanes or tropical storms (*especially*). God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of all nations, direct our leaders. Grant them courage to lay aside political grudges and renew their determination to address difficult conflicts. Guide them in the work of reconciliation. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of compassion, tend to the wounded. Rescue those tormented by mental illness or mired in addiction. Ease the anxiety of those struggling with dementia. Come quickly to help all who are grieving and all those who suffer; especially, Florence, Jason, Richard, Stanley, Heather, Vince, Aileen, Robert, Kaitlyn, Dorian, Ryan. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of beauty, inspire artists. Bless those whose visual and musical gifts enliven this assembly (*especially*). Bless the creative work of poets, hymn writers, composers, painters, sculptors, and others that enrich our worship and daily life. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of resurrection, bring us to new life. Give us the living bread from heaven through which we abide in your love, and on the last day raise us with (*Mary, mother of Jesus, name/s, and*) all the saints to eternal life. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be always with you

C: And also with you.

Offering

Please place offerings on the plate as you leave the church or feel free to drop off your envelopes at the church and you can also e-transfer offerings.

Offertory Hymn 884 ELW Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow

OFFERING PRAYER (ELW p. 144)

Let us pray.

Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

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. 144)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE (ELW p.145)

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.

You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,

and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p.145)

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.146)

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 146)

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.**

**Communion Hymns #488 ELW – “Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness”
#460 ELW – “Now the Silence”**

Post Communion Prayer (ELW p. 146)

Let us pray.

O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body of blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Benediction

May the Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. May the Lord + look upon you with peace.
Amen.

Hymn #537 ELW – “On Our Way Rejoicing”

Sending

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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News and Announcements:

Please Pray for Those Who are Ill, in Hospital, or Requested Special Prayers: Florence Felske, Jason Godin, Richard Hubert, Stanley Kubiseskie, Heather Miller, Vince Rabishaw, Aileen Roesler, Robert Schoof, Kaitlyn Vaillancourt, Dorian Verch, Ryan.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING!

We will be holding a short congregational meeting on Sunday August 15th immediately following the service. We have been approached by the St. Joseph's Food Bank to consider selling them a piece of our property where they will relocate the food bank. Before any further discussion can happen the congregation will need to approve these discussions. We will need a quorum of 50 members in attendance. Please set aside Sunday August 15th for this important meeting. Susan Dupuis Church Council Chairperson

RE-OPENING FOR IN-PERSON SERVICE – SINGING AGAIN!

Zion has been worshipping in-person for the last number of weeks maintaining social distancing of 2 metres. **Entering Phase 3 we can sing again!** Masks must be worn while singing.

INSTALLATION SERVICE OF PASTOR SCOTT

Please mark the afternoon of September 26 as busy on your calendar as we will be gathering for the official installation of Pastor Scott as called Pastor to serve Zion Lutheran Church Pembroke. The time will be announced soon.

GARAGE SALE

We are still planning to have our garage sale this fall sometime so if you have anything to donate please save it for us. If you want you can bring your donations over during office hours and Jean or Kevin can show you where to put them. The tentative date is Saturday, October 16, 2021.

SERVICE BROADCAST ON COGECO

Cogeco Community Channel is now broadcasting Zion's services at 9:00 a.m. and 12:30pm (if it is not on at 12:30, it will be on at 1:30pm) on Sunday mornings a week later.

UPDATES FROM CHURCH COUNCIL

Pastor Scott will be available at the church office during regular office hours – Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00am to 12:00 noon. Pastor Scott is available for backyard visits too. The church office phone number is 613-732-8792 or call Pastor Scott's cell phone at 705-313-0333

CAMP LUTHERLYN SUNDAYS

We are excited to announce that we will be holding our Rally Sunday morning service at Camp Lutherlyn on Sunday, September 12, 2021.

Today's Video Has Been Brought To You By Zion Lutheran Church's Production Crew:

Presider: Pastor Scott Schellenberger

Musician: Blaine Sack

Worship Assistant/Reader: Susan Dupuis

Projectionist: Ellen Vandersleen

Recorder: Ty Phannenhour

Sound Board Operator: Todd Phannenhour

Credit Researcher: Diane Hammel

Today's Scheduled Worship Leaders

Counters: Diane Hammel, Pam Duplessis, Wilmer Verch

Ushers: Vince & Emma Rabishaw

Sexton: David Lehman

This Week at Zion –August 16 - 22

Tuesday **7p.m.** Narcotics Anonymous

Thursday **7pm** Music Healing Vets

Friday **6pm** **Wedding Rehearsal**

Saturday **4pm** **Marriage of Courtney Harrigan & Wesley**

Renaud

Sunday **10am** Pentecost 13 Worship Service with Holy

Communion