

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

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost –August 29, 2021

Setting Three - Evangelical Lutheran Worship p. 138

**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

Jesus protests against human customs being given the weight of divine law, while the essence of God's law is ignored. True uncleanness comes not from external things, but from the intentions of the human heart. Last week Jesus told us "the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life" (John 6:63). Now James says God has given us birth by the word of truth. We who were washed in the word when we were born in the font return to it every Sunday to ask God to create in us clean hearts.

Gathering Hymn #853 ELW – *"When Morning Gilds the Skies"*

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

O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures.

Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

¹So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. ²You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you.

⁶You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and

discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" ⁷For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? ⁸And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today? ⁹But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

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

Psalm 15

¹LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? Who may abide upon your holy hill?

²**Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right, who speak the truth from their heart;**

³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends; they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

⁴**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the LORD. They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.**

⁵They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

Second Reading – James 1:17-27

¹⁷Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

¹⁹You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. ²¹Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. ²²But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were

like. ²⁵But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. ²⁶If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world. 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: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

The holy gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus], ²they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) ⁵So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” ⁶He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, ‘This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; ⁷in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.’ ⁸You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.” ¹⁴Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.” ²¹For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²²adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

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

Sermon of hope: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

I speak to you in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sometimes as a preacher, it is hard to turn and grapple with the gospel lesson for the Sunday. There are many reasons people choose to preach on the Old and New Testament lessons of the lectionary instead of the gospel. From my perspective the gospel is not calling me to preach as much as Song of Songs and Psalm 45 are.

This week I received two phone calls from Malcolm, Devitt and Binhammer's Funeral Home within an hour of each other. Two different people, Verla Handke, and Audrey Goldberg had died and their funerals needed to be arranged. Each were on Friday at 11:00am at Zion and Saturday at 10:30am at the Funeral Chapel respectfully. From the funeral on Sat morning I then took off to Katie Rutz and Mitch McGregor's wedding in Renfrew for 2:00pm. You know that game "Never have I ever..." Well, never have I ever raced around like that before. There have been several other events that have happened at Zion recently also: two baptisms within the last month, and a wedding last Saturday. Oh, and who can forget the birth of a first grandchild to the Vandersleens.

These funerals, weddings, baptisms and births are glorious. List them how you will in whatever order, all these “rites of passage” have one thing in common: the people involved are loved and precious children of God.

The Old Testament lesson from Song of Solomon, is a text I often will give to couples to consider using as they prepare for marriage. It is a poetic love song. Looking at it as poetry and not just a love song I cannot help but think of Jesus. Remember Jesus’ baptism? When Jesus was washed in the water, the skies opened and God said, “This is my Son, the Beloved with whom I am well pleased.”

This month and this week we experienced the love of God in many ways. The baptism of children only weeks apart...such a joyful occasion. A time to play in the waters of new life. A time for all of us to ponder questions of faith. A time to bless those being baptized with our love. A time to experience God’s love come down. A time to experience resurrection and new hope!

At the funerals of Verla Handke and Audrey Goldberg on Friday and Saturday we celebrated their lives and their commitment to faith. Although they may not have been able to get to church much anymore, they never forgot whose they were: God’s children.

When reading the Song of Solomon text, I imagine God calling them home and these words coming to life for them:

¹⁰ My beloved speaks and says to me:

“Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away; ¹¹ for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. ¹² The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land. ¹³ The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom; they give forth fragrance. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.

In other words, your life on this earth is complete. No more burdens. A beautiful life complete as it surrounds us, complete in God’s perfect creation. Arise my love, my fair one, and come away to be with me in God’s heavenly paradise.

Song of Songs or Solomon is a love letter from not only a female to a male but also too the world from God. Living in the completeness of the resurrection, God has chosen to come to us to experience new life and new hope.

God chooses you as he has created every life in his image, descends as the Holy Spirit at baptism, claim us as his children in the life passage of death, and resurrects us from death, and sin. Our God is good. May the blessings he grants to us be yours now and forever. Amen.

Hymn of the Day #806 ELW – “O God, My Faithful God”

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

Made children and heirs of God’s promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church, that it is a safe haven for all who seek your presence. Fill it with pastors, deacons, and leaders who echo your expansive and generous welcome. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for the whole of creation, that plants and animals have the habitat and resources to thrive and flourish. Inspire us to protect threatened habitats and ensure a sustainable future for generations to come. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for individuals in positions of authority (*national and local leaders may be named*). Raise up wise and discerning leaders in federal, state, and local governments and guide them to seek the benefit of every person. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for all who are in need. Support and encourage those who are unemployed, underemployed, or experiencing poverty. Bring food, shelter, clothes, and stability for daily life. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for this congregation, especially those beginning a new school year (*students, teachers, or others may be named here*). Empower teachers and school administrators. Guide students in their learning and development. Accompany parents, foster parents, and caregivers who provide encouragement and love. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give thanks for the faithful departed who showed us how to honor God with our heart. Inspire us by their example and renew our faith, trusting that we will be united with them in glory. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; 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.**

**Communion Hymns #465 ELW – “As the Grains of Wheat”
#484 ELW – “You Satisfy the Hungry Heart”**

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 #865 ELW – “Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”

Sending

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

Postlude

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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, Kaitlyn Vaillancourt, Dorian Verch, Ryan.

ZLW MEETING

Please join our ZLW this Wednesday, September 1st for the monthly meeting at 2pm. The program, presented by Brenda Dole, is entitled “Lead Me to a Gas Station.” Special offering is designated for Fellowship of the Least Coin. Everyone is welcome.

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.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Do you have children who are confirmation age (12-14)? A new confirmation class will be started in the fall. The confirmation program will include regular classes, fun youth activities, and a year end week-long camp experience with confirmands of other churches. If you or your children are interested, please contact the church office or Pastor Scott 705-313-0333 to talk more.

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 9:00 am 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 RALLY SUNDAY

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: Ellen Vandersleen

Projectionist: Krista Grosskleg

Recorder: Alex Hammel

Sound Board Operator: Krista Hammel

Credit Researcher: Diane Hammel

Today's Scheduled Worship Leaders

Counters: Doug & Pauline Malliff, Sandra Graham

Ushers: Doug & Pauline Malliff

Sexton: Don Boldt

This Week at Zion –August 30 – September 4

Monday **7pm** **Worship & Music Committee Mtg.**

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

Wednesday **2pm** **ZLW Mtg.**

Thursday **7pm** Music Healing Vets

Sunday **10am** Pentecost 15 Worship Service with Holy
Communion