

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

**The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost - July 11 2021
Setting Four - 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 Anishnabewaki and Algonquin People.

Introduction

When Amos reports his vision of God judging Israel for its mistreatment of the poor, he becomes a threat to the power of the priests and the king. John the Baptist also speaks truth to power, and Herod has him killed. In Herod's fear that Jesus is John returned from the dead, we may hear hope for the oppressed: all the prophets killed through the ages are alive in Jesus. We are called to witness to justice in company with them, and to proclaim God's saving love.

Confession & Forgiveness – Page 94

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

Gathering Hymn #645 ELW “Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation”

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, from you come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading: Amos 7:7-15

Amos is not the kind of prophet attached to temples or royal courts. Rather, he is an ordinary farmer from Judah (the southern kingdom) called by God to speak to Israel (the northern kingdom). God's word of judgement through Amos conflicts with the king's court prophet Amaziah, whom Amos encounters at Bethel.

⁷This is what [the Lord GOD] showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. ⁸And the LORD said to me, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb line." Then the Lord said, "See, I am setting a plumb line in the midst of my people Israel; I will never again pass them by; ⁹the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste, and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword." ¹⁰Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. ¹¹For thus Amos has said, 'Jeroboam shall die

by the sword, and Israel must go into exile away from his land.’” ¹²And Amaziah said to Amos, “O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; ¹³but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king’s sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom.” ¹⁴Then Amos answered Amaziah, “I am no prophet, nor a prophet’s son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, ¹⁵and the LORD took me from following the flock, and the LORD said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’”

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

Psalm 85:8-13

⁸I will listen to what the LORD God is saying; for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.

⁹**Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you, that your glory may dwell in our land.**

¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

¹¹**Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth, and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

¹²The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will yield its increase.

¹³**Righteousness shall go before the LORD and shall prepare for God a pathway.**

Second Reading – Ephesians 1:3-14

In Jesus, all of God’s plans and purposes have been made known as heaven and earth are united in Christ. Through Jesus, we have been chosen as God’s children and have been promised eternal salvation.

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us.

With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

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

KIDS' MESSAGE

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – Page 142

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

GOSPEL: Mark 6:14-29

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁴King Herod heard of [the disciples' preaching,] for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him." ¹⁵But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." ¹⁶But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised." ¹⁷For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. ¹⁸For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." ¹⁹And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, ²⁰for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. ²¹But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. ²²When his

daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." ²³And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." ²⁴She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer." ²⁵Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." ²⁶The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. ²⁷Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, ²⁸brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. ²⁹When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

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

Sermon - Ephesians: "Who am I? I am chosen!" Ephesians 1:3–14

How would you complete the statement: "I am _____"? The world tries to answer this question for us. It attempts to fill in the blank. "I am [my profession]" is a common answer. When someone asks us, "Hi, I'm so in so, who are you?" We respond, "Hi, I'm Scott, I'm a pastor." Or "I'm a teacher," "I'm a nurse," "I'm a farmer," "I'm a homemaker." Another common answer is something we enjoy doing: "I'm an avid photographer," "I'm a historian." The letter to the Ephesians is a book about identity. This letter addresses the question: "Who am I?" St Paul, in writing to the church in Ephesus (modern day Turkey), tells us how to complete the statement: "I am _____." Surprisingly our identity has nothing to do with anything inside ourselves. It has nothing to do with what we do. Instead, who we are has everything to do with what God does, and what God says.

As a child, I would dread recess. We would often play team sports and we would select two captains who would choose their team one by one. The first captain would say, "I'll take Bob." The second would say, "I choose Mark." And so on. I would often be picked near the end. It didn't feel very nice to be ignored, overlooked, and not wanted. Have you experienced these feelings? This can lead us to ask, "Am I worthless? Where do I get my worth? Who am I?"

Paul begins his letter by telling us we are chosen. 'God chose us to belong to Christ before the world was created.' (Ephesians 1:4). You are chosen by

God. To help us understand what this means, let's put on our detective hats and ask: who? what? when? why? how?

Who did God choose?

We tend to think about ourselves first, but it's important to remember that, firstly, God chose Jesus. The voice from the cloud at Jesus' transfiguration says, "This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him." (Luke 9:35). Jesus has the title "Christ" or "Messiah" which means "Chosen One." Jesus is God's firstborn son. Secondly, God chose you plural, you collective, you the church. It's like God is the team captain, he deliberately points at you, and says, "I choose you." God gathers us together as his team. Lastly, God chose you individually. A team always consists of individuals. God unites us individuals into a team — the church, the body of Christ.

What does it mean to be chosen?

Being chosen means you are made part of God's family. St Paul uses the word picture of adoption. Through adoption, God becomes your heavenly Father, Jesus your brother, and the Holy Spirit is the seal or mark guaranteeing your adoption.

Being chosen by God means being adopted into his family. As newly adopted sons and daughters of God, he controls our life now. This may sound oppressive to our modern ears, but it's not meant to be.

Being chosen means you are given a new name — God's name. The word 'chosen' literally means 'to name.' God is saying, "I name you as my child and heir." Being chosen means you inherit the family property— the spiritual blessings, heaven itself becomes yours. 'God raised us up with Christ. He has seated us with him in his heavenly kingdom because we belong to Christ Jesus.' (Ephesians 2:6). Being chosen means you have a new home, a new family, a new future, a place to belong.

When were you chosen?

We might think we were chosen when we made some kind of decision to follow Jesus. Or we might think we were chosen at our baptism. Or we might even say God chose us when we were born. But no! St Paul writes, 'God chose us before the world was created.' (Ephesians 1:4). God has chosen you since before time itself! God is not some chess player responding to his opponent after each move. God has the whole game in hand. Before the first piece was even moved, God knew everything that would happen until now, and the next step, and the next, all the way until the game ends with his victory.

Why were you chosen?

Let's go back to the example of the team captain in sports class. If you were the captain, how would you choose your team? You might look for the tallest or fastest or strongest. But God is not that sort of captain. And we are not those sort of players anyway. 'The LORD did not set his affection on you and choose you because you were more numerous than other peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples.' (Deuteronomy 7:7). God doesn't choose you because you're the biggest or best. There is nothing you did, no quality that makes you worthy to be chosen. Elsewhere St Paul writes that God chooses the foolish, the weak, the lowly (1 Corinthians 1:27–29). And I think even that's being generous. I think it is more like you are sitting on the bench with a broken leg, and yet Captain Jesus points his finger at you and says, "I choose you." Who would pick the player with the broken leg?! Foolishness! Yet God does. Why? That's the type of person he is. He loves you. 'As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him.' (Psalm 103:13). He did it because of what Jesus has done. He did it to bring praise to his glory.

How were you chosen?

St Paul says, 'Through his blood our sins have been forgiven.' (Ephesians 1:7). The how is accomplished through the blood of Jesus. Jesus' death is the payment for your adoption. God chose us because of and through what Jesus has done on the cross.

What does all this mean?

Tomorrow when you wake up, what difference will it make to know that God has chosen you? Firstly, you have security. No matter what happens tomorrow or the day after or the day after, nothing can change the fact that God has chosen you. You are his adopted child. Nothing you do can change this status. Nothing anyone else does can change who you are. You are and will always be chosen in Christ. Secondly, it means your old life is gone, your old father has no authority over you anymore. That's done with. You belong to a new family now. This means you are in training to act like your new family. To become like God, like Christ. This is why St Paul says, 'He chose us to be holy and without blame in his eyes.' (Ephesians 1:4). You are being made holy and blameless, like your adopted father+

Hymn of the Day - #818 ELW "O Master Let Me Walk With You"

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

Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

A brief silence.

Holy parent, you welcome your people into one family and gather all things to yourself. Bestow your grace upon your beloved church, lavish your wisdom upon us, and redeem us from our faults, that by our witness all might praise your glory. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Awesome Creator, you steadfastly tend to the smallest of seeds and the mightiest of sycamore trees. Spring up green growth from the earth, nourish the growth of fruit, grain, and other crops, and bless the work of farmers and laborers. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of the oppressed, turn the ears of those who are in power to the voices of prophets in our own day. Protect those who speak difficult truths when it is risky to do so. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of strength, you are near to those who endure difficulty. Comfort all who are survivors of violence, guard the refugee and the immigrant, and protect all those who are victims of prejudice and discrimination. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of love, we pray for this holy house and all those who worship here. We pray especially for those whose efforts behind the scenes often go unnoticed; for the custodian(s) and maintenance workers, for our office staff, the technical crew, the church council, and for all of our volunteers. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We thank you, God, for the saints, martyrs, and prophets who have died in the faith. We remember those in this community who have recently died. United with them as God's children, assure us that we are yours forever. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace.
Amen.

THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be always with you

C: And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

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

OFFERTORY PRAYER

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 honour and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

Music during Communion

Post Communion Prayer Page 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.

SENDING SONG 825 ELW “You Servants of God”

DISMISSAL (ELW p. 146)

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, Heather Miller, Vince Rabishaw, Aileen Roesler, Robert Schoof, Flora Schrie, Dorian Verch, Ryan.

RE-OPENING FOR IN-PERSON SERVICE.

We are excited to announce that Zion is holding in-person services again. We are now limited to 25% capacity (which means that you no longer need to pre-register if you plan to attend the weekly church services.)

WEBSITE UPDATE

It's time to update our pictures for the website....our church family during the pandemic....please email them to jan.scheidt21@gmail.com or call 613-732-8792 so that we can make arrangements to come take your picture! Thank you!

SERVICE BROADCAST ON COGECO

Cogeco Community Channel is now broadcasting Zion's services at 9:00 a.m. and 12:30pm on Sunday mornings a week later.

UPDATES FROM CHURCH COUNCIL

We would like everyone to know that Pastor Scott will be available at the church office during regular office hours – Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00am to 12:00 noon. If possible please call in advance of coming into the office to ensure that he is available to see you. 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: Pastor Sue Neville

Projectionist: Rick Gerundin

Recorder: Ellen Vandersleen

Sound Board Operator: Murray Sell

Credit Researcher: Diane Hammel

Today's Scheduled Worship Leaders

Counters: Lisa Campitelli, Karen Gauthier, David Lehman

Ushers: Cindy Thrasher, Debbie Wegner

Sexton: Don Boldt

This Week at Zion – July 12 - 18

Monday

7 p.m.

Pastor Scott on Holidays Until July 18th

Council Mtg.

Tuesday

7 p.m.

Narcotics Anonymous

Sunday

10 a.m.

Pentecost 8 Worship Service with Holy Communion