

Zion Lutheran Church



Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

5:30 p.m. August 2, 2025

9:00 a.m. August 3, 2025

Today's texts offer instruction and encouragement for all who are occasionally overwhelmed by the "unhappy business" of life. Jesus urges us to take care and be on guard against all kinds of greed. We who have died with Christ in holy baptism have also been raised with him and are encouraged to elevate our thinking, seeking the "things that are above." To that end we seek the sustenance of the Lord's supper and the encouragement of God's word.

Welcome

Welcome to worship at Zion Lutheran Church. May this time honor God and inspire you.

Worship details: In this bulletin, **bold print** indicates the congregation's responses. **Assisted listening devices**, which are cleaned, disinfected, and have earpads replaced after each service are available in the narthex; ask an usher. **Hospitality details:** **A family restroom** is located in the hallway next to the sanctuary. **If you are visiting today**, please feel free to sign the Guest Registry located in the narthex. We ask that ALL members, regular visitors, and guests **sign the pew pad sheet**, so that we can better get to know each other.

PRELUDE

RINGING OF BELL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The assembly may stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C **Amen.**

P Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Merciful God,

C **You free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.**

You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.

You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right.

In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life.

Amen.

P You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of ☩ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

C **Amen.**

HYMN:

"Making Their Way"

ACS # 979



1 Mak-ing their way down through the a - ges, sin - ners and saints have
 2 Mak-ing their way all the world o - ver, Chris - tians as - sem - ble
 3 Mak-ing our way sea - son by sea-son, pil - grims, we jour - ney



heard God's call: wealth - y and poor, pow - er - ful, low - ly,
 on this day, hear - ing the Word, shar - ing the Ban - quet,
 till life's end, trav - el - ing light, shar - ing the rich - es,



Je - sus' dis - ci - ples, one and all. Gath - ered for wor - ship, of - fer - ing thanks,
 learn - ing to walk in Je - sus' way. Mem - bers of Christ, u - nit - ed in love,
 car - ing for strang - er as for friend, till in the joy of long - ing ful - filled,



the great - est with the least have come to share this feast.
 they seek our God to know, and so to - geth - er grow.
 to - geth - er we will come to our e - ter - nal home.

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: KOMT NU MET ZANG, A. Valerius, *Nederlandsch Gedenckclank*, 1626

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GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and



peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you

Refrain



for your glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high-



est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat-ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and



peace to God's peo - ple on earth. 3 For you a -



lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the



Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.



A - men. A - men. A - men.



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and peace to God's



peo - ple on earth. Glo - ry to God in the high -



est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

C **Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

The assembly is seated

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23 *The teacher of wisdom who wrote Ecclesiastes sees that working for mere accumulation of wealth turns life into an empty game, a “vanity of vanities.” Nevertheless, he asserts in the next verse, it is good to find enjoyment in one’s work because such enjoyment is a gift from God.*

² Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

¹² I, the Teacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem. ¹³ I applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to humans to be busy with. ¹⁴ I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun, and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

^{2:18} I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to my successor, ¹⁹ and who knows whether he will be wise or foolish? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰ So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹ because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²² What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? ²³ For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

R Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 49:1-12 (read responsively)

¹ Hear this, all you peoples;
give ear, all you who dwell in the world,

² **you of high degree and low,
rich and poor together.**

³ My mouth shall speak of wisdom,
and my heart shall meditate on understanding.

⁴ **I will incline my ear to a proverb
and set forth my riddle upon the harp.**

⁵ Why should I be afraid in evil days,
when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,

⁶ **the wickedness of those who put their trust in their own prowess,
and boast of their great riches?**

⁷ One can never redeem another,
or give to God the ransom for another's life;

⁸ **for the ransom of a life is so great
that there would never be enough to pay it,**

⁹ in order to live forever and ever
and never see the grave.

¹⁰ **For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stupid they perish
and leave their wealth to those who come after them.**

¹¹ Their graves shall be their homes forever, their dwelling places from generation
to generation,
though they had named lands after themselves.

¹² **Even though honored, they cannot live forever;
they are like the beasts that perish.**

Colossians 3:1-11 *Life in Christ includes a radical reorientation of our values. Just as the newly baptized shed their old clothes and put on new garments, so Christians are called to let go of greed and take hold of a life shaped by God's love in Christ.*

¹ So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, ³ for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

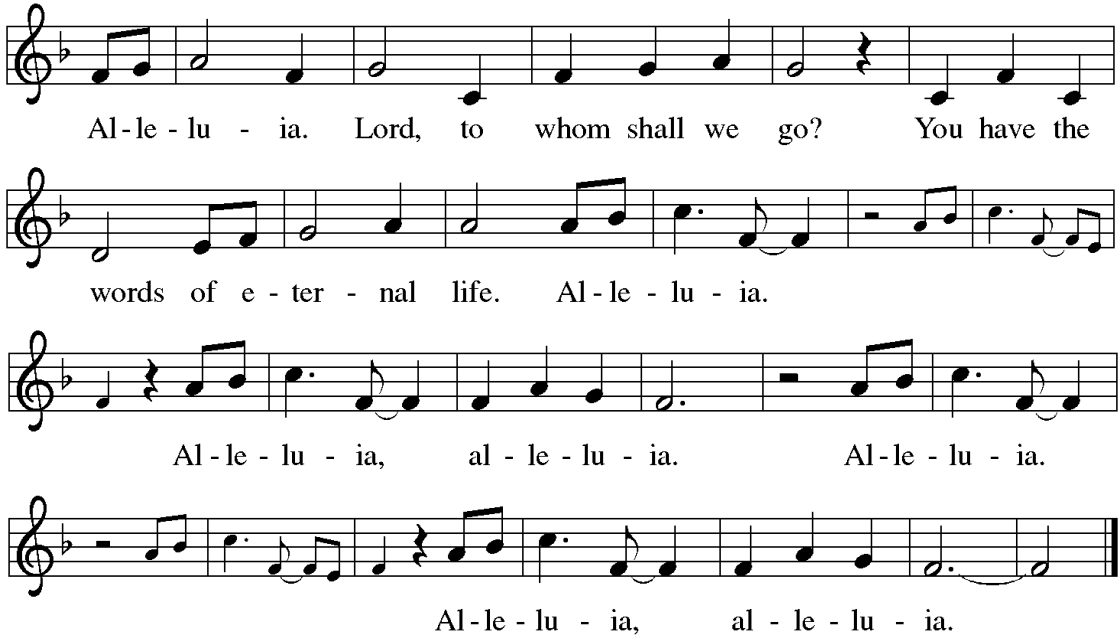
⁵ Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). ⁶ On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. ⁷ These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. ⁸ But now you must get rid of all such things: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. ¹¹ In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, enslaved and free, but Christ is all and in all!

R Word of God, word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

The assembly may stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:



Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al-le - lu - ia.
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Luke 12:13-21 *In God's reign, the "rich will be sent away empty." Jesus uses a parable to warn against identifying the worth of one's life with the value of one's possessions rather than one's relationship with God.*

P The holy gospel according to Luke.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹³ Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." ¹⁴ But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" ¹⁵ And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." ¹⁶ Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷ And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' ¹⁸ Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' ²⁰ But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' ²¹ So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

P The Gospel of the Lord

C **Praise to you, O Christ**

The assembly is seated
CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON:

Pastor Barbara Hayden

The assembly may stand

HYMN OF THE DAY:

"Faith Begins By Letting Go"

ACS # 1004



1 Faith be - gins by let - ting go, giv - ing up what had seemed sure,
2 Faith en - dures by hold - ing on, keep - ing mem-'ry's roots a - live
3 Faith ma - tures by reach - ing out, stretch - ing minds, en - larg - ing hearts,



tak - ing risks and press - ing on, though the way feels less se - cure:
so that hope may bear its fruit; prom - ise - fed, our souls will thrive,
shar - ing strug - gles, liv - ing prayer, bind - ing up the bro - ken parts;



pil - grim - age both right and odd, trust - ing all our life to God.
not through mer - it we pos - sess but by God's great faith - ful - ness.
till we find the com - mon - place ripe with wit - ness to God's grace.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: RATISBON, J. G. Werner, *Choralbuch*, 1815

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APOSTLES' CREED

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

Each petition ends with: God of grace.

Please respond with: **Hear our prayer.**

P Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always. **C** And also with you.
We share Christ's peace with one another.

The assembly is seated.

NOISY OFFERING Gifts received in the Noisy Offering will be split between
ELCA World Hunger and local food pantries

(Offering plates will not be passed during the service, but are available at the sanctuary entrance.)

The assembly may stand.

OFFERING RESPONSE "Goodness is Stronger than Evil" (*Sung twice*)



Good -ness is stron - ger than e - vil; love is stron - ger than hate;



light is stron-ger than dark - ness; life is stron-ger than death; vic-t'ry is



ours, vic-t'ry is ours, through God who loves us. Vic-t'ry is



ours, vic - t'ry is ours, through God who loves us.

Text: From *An African Prayer Book*, Desmond Tutu, b. 1931

Music: GOODNESS IS STRONGER, John L. Bell, b. 1949

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OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray. **Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

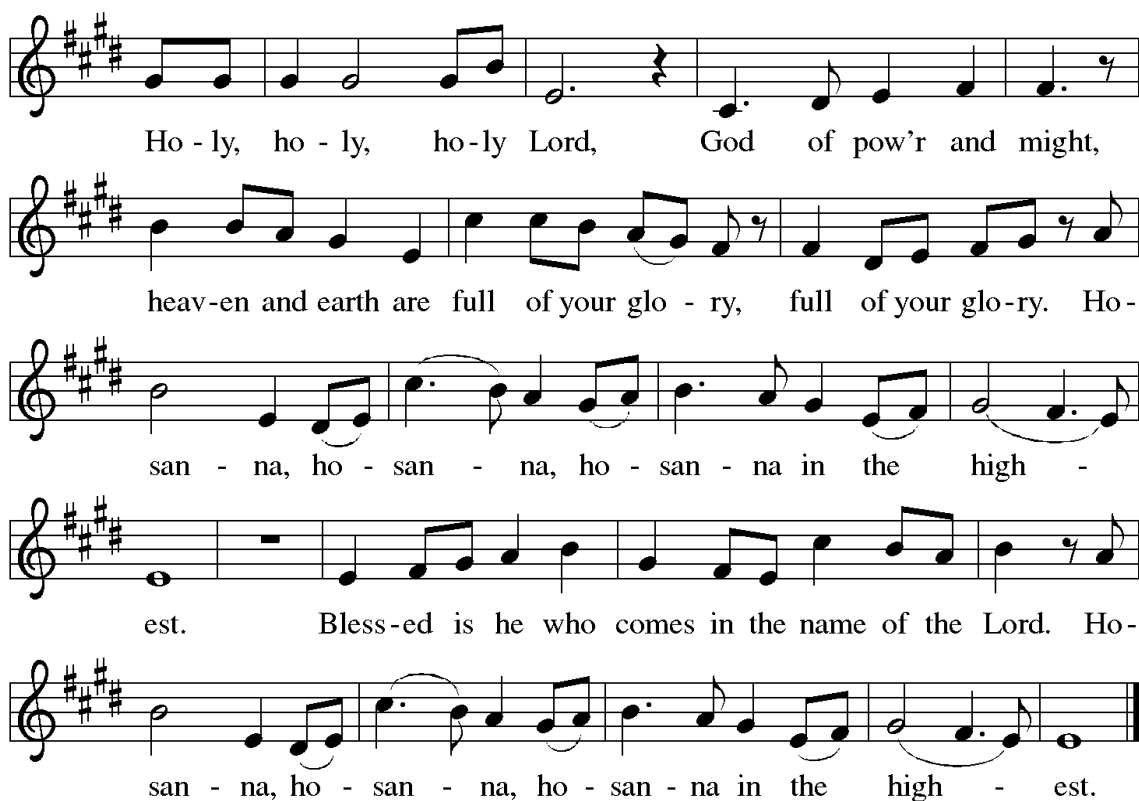
P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise... ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER

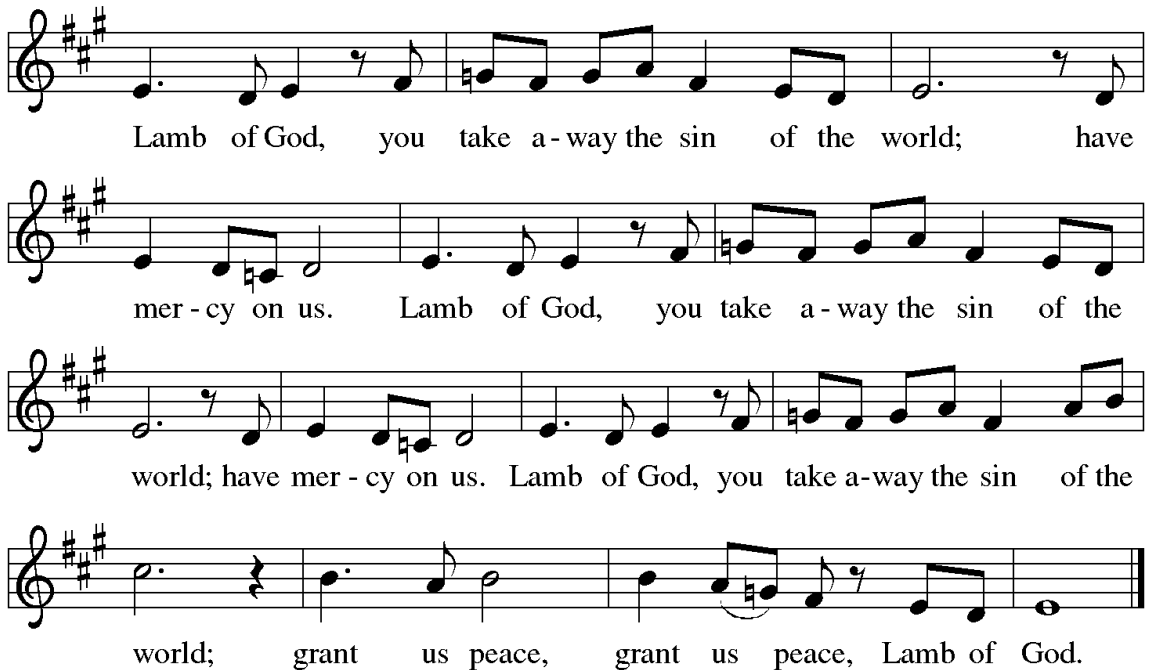
C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Come, for all things are now ready.

The assembly is seated. All who trust that Christ is truly present in the sacrament are welcome to partake of this meal. All are welcome to come forward as the ushers direct you. However, you are also welcome to remain in your pew and the Lord's Supper will be brought to you; simply let the usher know your desire when they come to your pew.

Wine, grape juice and gluten-free options are available. The grape juice is the light colored liquid in the center ring of the trays. Place your empty glass in the receptacle available as you head back to your seat via the side aisle.



The musical notation is written on four staves in G major (one sharp, F#) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God."

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have

mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the

world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

The assembly may stand

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C **Amen.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A Let us pray. **Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. Amen.**
The Spirit of God goes with you. Amen.

SENDING OF HOME COMMUNION

BLESSING

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN:

"Be Thou My Vision"

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DISMISSAL

P Go in peace! Christ is with you!
C **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

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Be Thou My Vision



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
 4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
 Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
 thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
 great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931
 Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

WORSHIP LEADERS

Presiding Minister:

Pianist:

Worship Assistant:

Communion Servers:

Greeters:

5:30 pm

Pastor Barbara Hayden

Donica Vonderohe

Joel Hansen

Dennis & Judy Andersen

Helen Steen

9:00 am

Pastor Barbara Hayden

Donica Vonderohe

Jeanne Crow

Linda Flikkema & Jolene Burnett

Jim & Barb Rhoades

TRANSITION DETAILS

On August 1, Pastor Barb Hayden began serving as Zion's interim pastor, with Pastor Paul Holmer providing some pulpit supply and teaching Confirmation. As Pastor Julie has completed her service with our congregation, she is not available to conduct or even participate in such events as funerals, weddings, hospital calls, emergency calls, or any other functions normally carried out by a pastor in a congregation. Any such questions should be addressed to Pastor Barb.

Advice for Parishioners: Don't ask. It is awkward for both the new and the former pastor. Honor Pastor Julie by respecting her transition into retirement. Show respect and regard to Pastor Barb and Pastor Paul (and Zion's next called pastor) by allowing them to perform their pastoral duties.

While this is one of the more difficult things for both pastors and congregation members, it is so important for the integrity of the congregation's ministry and for the ability of the new pastor (whether a new interim or a new called pastor) to be involved in these significant moments in members' lives. When one pastor leaves, it is normal for many people to grieve. And a healthy transition to a new leader depends on the congregation and the former pastor both being gracious about these limits.

Below is a table that outlines the responsibilities of Pastor Barb and Pastor Paul .

Pastor Barbara

- Weekend Worship
- In office one day per week
- Attend Executive Committee Meetings
- Attend All-Committee Night Meetings
- Attend Congregation Council Meetings
- Attend Childcare Board Meetings
- Primary contact for Emergency Calls
- Worship Planning
- Guide "Caring for Our Community" Committee
- Staff Supervision

Pastor Paul

- Weekend Worship
- Confirmation
- Secondary Contact for Emergency Calls

SAVE THE DATE!: Mark your calendars, Zion's Pork & Sauerkraut Supper will be held on Thursday, September 18th! More information will be coming soon.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS: School is about to start, and it is time for the Blessing of the Backpacks! We encourage all students, teachers, administrators, coaches or anyone who works in educating children to join us Saturday, August 23rd or Sunday, August 24th, for a blessing during the worship services. Please bring your backpacks, briefcases or whatever you carry to school, and we will offer a blessing of your backpack and a keychain as a reminder throughout the school year.

SACK LUNCH MINISTRY: Our next Sack Lunch Monday will be August 11. If you are willing to contribute something from our grocery list, or help prepare the lunches, check out the sign up in the Narthex on August 9th & 10th! THANK YOU!!

SHARING A MEAL- VBS 2025: This year we over 50 children and their families gathered nightly at Zion to participate in a fun-filled VBS! THANK YOU, Zion family, for your participation by being a shepherd, providing food, serving on the Kitchen or Music Team and/or praying for our event. We had so much fun and appreciate your support. We value our partnership with St. Paul Church to provide a faith based, fun week of learning for children from both congregations and those within the community. Look for pictures on Zion’s Facebook page.

CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE. The August *Courier* announced that the call committee interviewed a pastor in mid-July. Subsequently, the committee decided not to move forward with that candidate. The call committee has since received paperwork about another prospective candidate and is trying to schedule around vacation and family commitments to meet and discuss our next steps. We ask for continuing prayers from the congregation.

HAPPENING AT ZION THIS WEEK:

- Monday, August 4th: 5:30 pm– Eliabeth Circle
- Tuesday, August 5th: 5:00 pm– Executive Committee
5:50 pm– All-Committee Night
- Wednesday, August 6th: 9:00 am– Morning Prayer/Bible Study
- Saturday, August 9th: 5:30 pm– Worship
- Sunday, August 10th: 9:00 am– Worship

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Saturday, July 26th 5:30 attendance	51
Sunday, July 27th 9:00 attendance	<u>122</u>
Total Weekend In-Person Attendance	173



**Zion Lutheran Church
439 Third Avenue South
Clinton, IA 52732**

Zion Contact Information

***Rev. Julie Higgs, Pastor
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***Kelly Bork, Child Care Director
zioncc-ps@hotmail.com***

***Amanda Deuermeyer, Office Administrator
officeadministrator@zionlutheranclinton.org***

***Donica Vonderohe, Music Director
music@zionlutheranclinton.org***

Patrick Hoffman, Custodian

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439 3rd Ave S.
Clinton, IA 52732
Phone: 563-242-7391***

***Child Care Address
430 3rd Ave S
Clinton, IA 52732
Phone: 563-243-9393***

***The 9:00 am worship service will be broadcast on
KROS, 1340 AM and 105.9 FM, at 10:30 am
Facebook Live at 9:00 am on Sundays
www.facebook.com/zionlutheranchurchclinton***