

Zion Lutheran Church



Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

5:30 p.m. September 13, 2025

9:00 a.m. September 14, 2025

The grumbling of the religious leaders in today's gospel is actually our holy hope: This Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. That our God seeks and saves the lost is not only a holy hope, it is our only hope. As the writer of 1 Timothy reminds us, "The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Thanks be to God.

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 Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

C **Amen.**

P Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Merciful and loving God,

C **we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.**

P Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of ☩ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

C **Amen.**

HYMN:

"Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

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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



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



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



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



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.



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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

C **O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

The assembly is seated

Exodus 32:7-14 *While Moses is on Mount Sinai, the people grow restless and make a golden calf to worship. Today's reading shows Moses as the mediator between an angry God and a sinful people. Moses reminds God that the Israelites are God's own people, and boldly asks for mercy for them.*

⁷ The Lord said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; ⁸ they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!' " ⁹ The Lord said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. ¹⁰ Now let me alone so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, and of you I will make a great nation."

¹¹ But Moses implored the Lord his God and said, "O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹² Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. ¹³ Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.' " ¹⁴ And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

R Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 51:1-10 (read responsively)

¹ Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

² **Wash me through and through from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin.**

³ For I know my offenses, and my sin is ever before me.

⁴ **Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.**

⁵ Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness, a sinner from my mother's womb.

⁶ **Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me, and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

⁷ Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

⁸ **Let me hear joy and gladness; that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

⁹ Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my wickedness.

¹⁰ **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.**

1 Timothy 1:12-17 *The letters to Timothy and Titus are called the pastoral epistles because they contain advice especially intended for leaders in the church. Here the mercy shown to Paul, who once persecuted the church, is cited as evidence that even the most unworthy may become witnesses to the grace of God.*

¹² I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, ¹³ even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴ and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶ But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷ To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

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.

Luke 15:1-10 *Jesus tells two stories that suggest a curious connection between the lost being found and sinners repenting. God takes the initiative to find sinners, each of whom is so precious to God that their recovery brings joy in heaven.*

P The holy gospel according to Luke.

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

¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

³ So he told them this parable: ⁴ “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵ And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. ⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.’ ⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸ “Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹ And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ ¹⁰ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

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:

“Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling”

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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: **Receive our prayer.**

P We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

C Amen.

PEACE

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

C And also with you.

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 "For the Fruit of All Creation" (vs. 1 & 2)



1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.

For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.

For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,

fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional

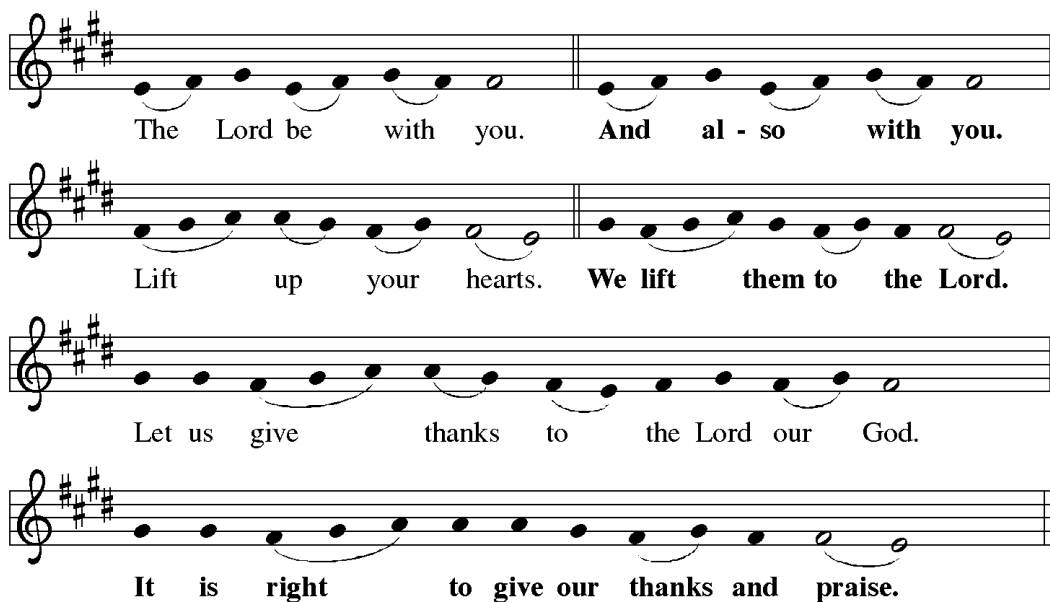
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OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray. **Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING



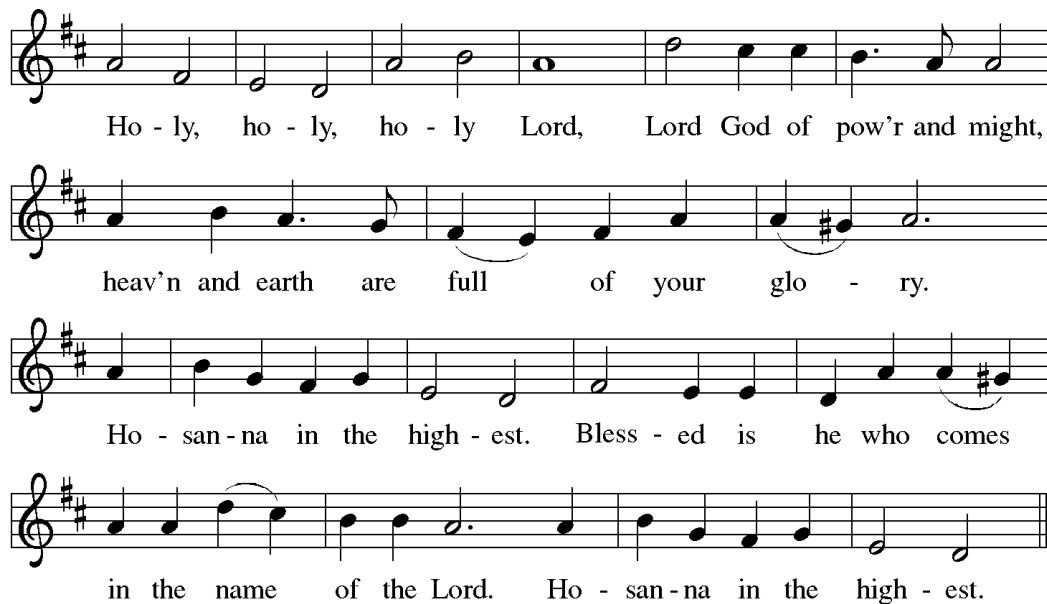
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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.

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, Lord God of pow'r and might,

heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. 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 Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

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.



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.

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. **O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

BLESSING

P The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, ✠ bless you now and forever.
C **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN:

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

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DISMISSAL

P Go in peace! Do not lose heart!
C **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

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WORSHIP LEADERS

5:30 pm

9:00 am

Presiding Minister:

Pastor Barbara Hayden

Pastor Barbara Hayden

Organist:

Donica Vonderohe

Donica Vonderohe

Worship Assistant:

Diane Honeywell

Jeanne Crow

Communion Servers:

Marsha Smith & Linda Shaff

Willard Larsen & Andrea Barnett

Greeters:

Cathy Layton-Johnson

Jim Richter & Barb Widder

ALTAR FLOWERS this weekend are provided by Kristi & Erin Montgomery in memory of Marilyn & Lyle Lockard.

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end - less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good - ness prove.
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–1790, alt.

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling



1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for
2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for
3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for



you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,
you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,
you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

Refrain



watch - ing for you and for me.
mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!"
par - don for you and for me.



You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,



Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

Text: Will L. Thompson, 1847–1909

Music: THOMPSON, Will L. Thompson

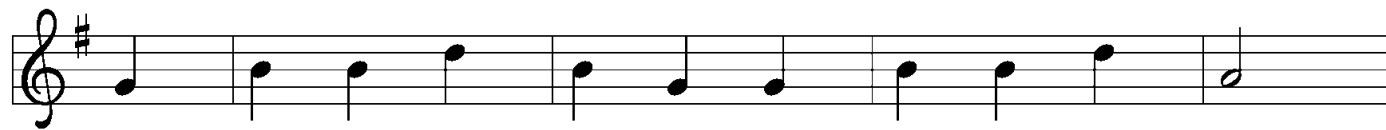
Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise



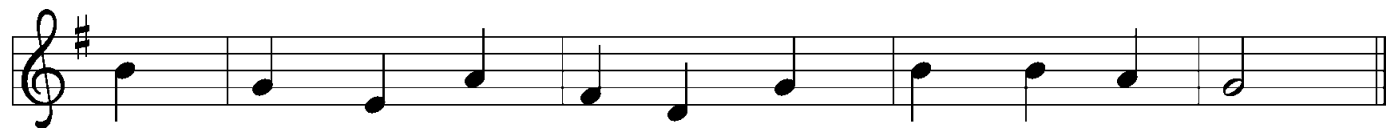
1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
 we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
 all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!
 thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt.

Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional

THE RADIO BROADCAST this Sunday is sponsored by Ardyce Adams in memory of her son Jeff.

PORK & SAUERKRAUT SUPPER: Sign-up sheets for those who are willing to help with this year’s Pork & Sauerkraut Supper are now in the narthex. There is also a sign-up sheet for those who can donate a pie or chocolate cake for desserts. Thank you to everyone for considering these opportunities!

“MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE TO THE LORD” PSALM 100:1

Sometimes our joyful noises come from our singing & playing. Sometime it’s from our jokes & laughter. The bells and choir would love you to join our noise! Bells rehearse from 5:45-6:45 on the organ balcony and Choir rehearses from 6:45-7:45 upstairs in the choir room. Whether you can join us for only a month or want to come through May, all are welcome!

BLOOD DRIVE: Zion will be holding a blood drive on Monday, October 13th, from 3:00 - 6:30 pm. Appointments are recommended. You may sign up by contacting Deb Vath or at www.bloodcenter.org. If you have any questions or would like to sign up, please contact Deb Vath at 563-243-5333.

EWALU 55+ RETREAT: Ewalu Camp and Retreat Center will be having a fall retreat just for seniors October 13th –15th. There will be featured speakers, time for reflection and renewal. Optional hiking and chair yoga, and simple relaxation while being able to see all the beautiful fall colors. More information on this retreat is available on a flyer in the column located in the Gathering Space.

HAPPENING AT ZION THIS WEEK:

- Tuesday, September 16th: 5:30 pm– Boy Scouts
6:00 pm– Congregation Council
- Wednesday, September 17th: 9:00 am– **NO** Morning Prayer/Bible Study
5:15 pm– Faith FUNdations/Confirmation
5:45 pm– Bells Rehearsal
6:45 pm– Choir Rehearsal
- Thursday, September 18th: 4:00-7:00 pm– Sauerkraut Supper
- Saturday, September 20th: 5:30 pm– Worship
- Sunday, September 21st: 9:00 am– Worship

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Saturday, September 6th 5:30 attendance	43
Sunday, September 7th 9:00 attendance	<u>70</u>
Total Weekend In-Person Attendance	113

Zion Lutheran Church's Pork & Sauerkraut Supper

Thursday, Sept. 18th, 2025

4:00 - 7:00 pm



Drive-Thru

****Deliveries are available,
please call 563-242-7391**

**Tickets are on sale at:
Zion Lutheran Church
Clinton Printing
Sweetheart Bakery
D-lectable D-lites**

Cost: \$15.00

(in advance and at door)

The meal consists of:

**Pork Loin, Sauerkraut, Potatoes & Gravy,
Green Beans, Applesauce, a Roll & Dessert.**

*** Due to feedback, each meal will contain more sauerkraut than
last year.**

**Any questions, please call the church office
at (563) 242-7391.**