

7th Sunday After Pentecost, August 3, 2025 10 a.m. *Worship at Zion's Lutheran Church*

Welcome Friends and Guests: 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.

Serving this Sunday:

Worship – Vicar Lisa Rygiel, Jo Moss & John Strecker-Baseler
Musicians – Connie Pallone & Cristy Street
Ushers: Cherie Holder & Jody Alford
Communion: Kathy Humphrey & John Rygiel

Worship: In boundless diversity, we all are made in God's image! If you are visiting or new to our faith family, please sign our guest book and feel free to learn more about us. *Come back and worship each Sunday at 10 a.m.*

Communion: We celebrate open communion. This is Christ's table, all are welcome. You may come forward for the sacraments or cross your arms across your chest for a blessing. Our bread is gluten free and both wine and white grape juice (center of communion tray) are available.

Fellowship: Please join us after worship today in the Fellowship Hall for our First Sunday Potluck.

Other Information: Large print bulletins are available from the ushers. Restrooms are in the Fellowship Hall adjoining the sanctuary; our ushers can direct you. For pastoral care, call the Vicar Lisa at 719-846-7785 or send an email: zionsluth@gmail.com. Additional information about Zion's can be found on our website at: zionsluth.org.

Zion's Lutheran is a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) community.



ReconcilingWorks
LUTHERANS FOR FULL PARTICIPATION

~Gathering~
The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Dedication of New Hymnals

Creator God, we thank you for the gift of music and song, through which we express our praise, thanksgiving, and prayers. We are grateful for the hymns in the *All Creation Sings* hymnal, and for the authors, composers, and all who contributed to its creation. We are thankful for the many members of Zion's who have sponsored these new books. May these hymnals be an ongoing source of inspiration and blessing. May the words and melodies guide us in our faith and lead us to glorify your name. **Amen.**

Gathering of Prayers & Call to Worship

Children of God, we gather as people who have received new life in Jesus Christ.
We come to set our minds on Christ, who surrounds us in love.

The world tries to distract us with anxious rumors, worrisome lies, and misleading half-truths. **We come to set our minds on Christ, who surrounds us in love.**

In this place, we gather to remind, remember, and renew our commitment to dwell in the love of Christ. **We come to set our minds on Christ, who surrounds us in love.**

Children of God, come! Let us worship God, who clothes us in new life and renews us in grace.

Come, let us worship as we set our minds on Christ, who surrounds us in love.

Greeting

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

And also, with you.

Gathering Hymn: #1062 Build a Longer Table

Confession & Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God... offer that truth to God. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Gracious God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved...that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

Kyrie

Refrain



Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev'-ry day.



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the

2 That we may live out your im-passioned re-sponse to the

3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for

4 For your Spir-it to guide; that you cen-ter our lives in the



u-ni-ty of all; for
hun-gry and the poor; that
friends and fam-i-ly; for
wa-ter and the word; that you



this ho-ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus-tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod-y and blood,



Refrain
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Prayer of the Day

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.**

~Word~

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

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

¹²I, the Teacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem. ¹³I 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. ¹⁴I 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, ¹⁹and 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.

²⁰So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹because 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. ²²What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? ²³For 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.

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

Responsive Reading: Psalm 49:1-12

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

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

³My 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.**

⁵Why 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?**

⁷One 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,**

⁹in 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.**

Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-11

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.

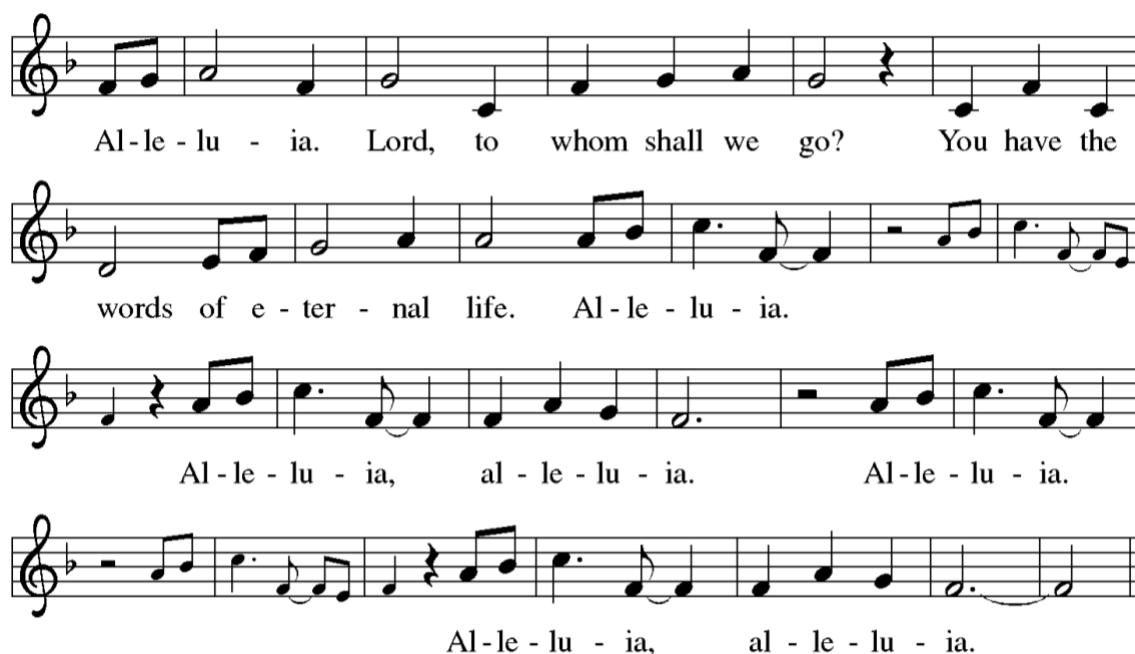
² Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth,
³ for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

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!

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

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.

Gospel: Luke 12:13-21

The holy gospel according to Luke chapter ten. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹³Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me."

¹⁴But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?"

¹⁵And 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."

¹⁶Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?'

¹⁸Then 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. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' ²⁰But 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?' ²¹So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

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

Children's Time

Sermon: Vicar Lisa Rygiel

Hymn of the Day: #1078 There is a Longing in Our Hearts

The New Creed

We are not alone; we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone.

Prayers of the People

Renew in your church a perspective of life beyond worldly pursuits. Build an enthusiasm to embrace life in Christ, so that Christ, the life of the world, is revealed to everyone. Provide guidance and support for the ELCA's newly elected bishop, the Rev. Yehiel Curry. Equip him with the discernment and courage needed for this vital post. Continue to bless outgoing Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, who is retiring as she embarks on a new chapter of her life.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Revitalize and protect the treasures of wild places. Teach all people to value the earth, winds, waters, trees, and animals, the gifts that make life possible on this planet.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Speak wisdom to any in positions of power, that they cease practices of divisiveness, insult, and oppression. Clothe all people in your image and establish equity and peace.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Reveal your loving presence in the lives of people suffering hunger and need, illness and grief, pain and fear, we especially pray for...Give strength to those who give care and equip them with compassion as they make your love known.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Store up in this congregation a full measure of gratitude and generosity. Guide the work of treasurers and all who attend to financial matters of this congregation. Support those whose work in our community is difficult and demanding; make us mindful of the toil that goes unnoticed.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Receive our thanks for the lives of your saints who now rest from their labors. Give us wisdom through their witness and encourage us in love as we continue our lives in the world.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

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

Peace

The spirit-filled peace of Christ be with you always! **And, also with you.**

~Meal~

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering

An offering is gathered for missions of the church. You can give using check or cash (mail to 510 Pine Street), or online at:

https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/1334741

Offertory: #680 We Plow the Fields and Scatter, vs. 3

Offering Prayer

As you have done with us, may we do for others, holding nothing back, but offering our treasures and lives that hope may be restored, that healing might touch the broken, that the suffering might be revived, and that all might know of your steadfast love in their lives. This we pray in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

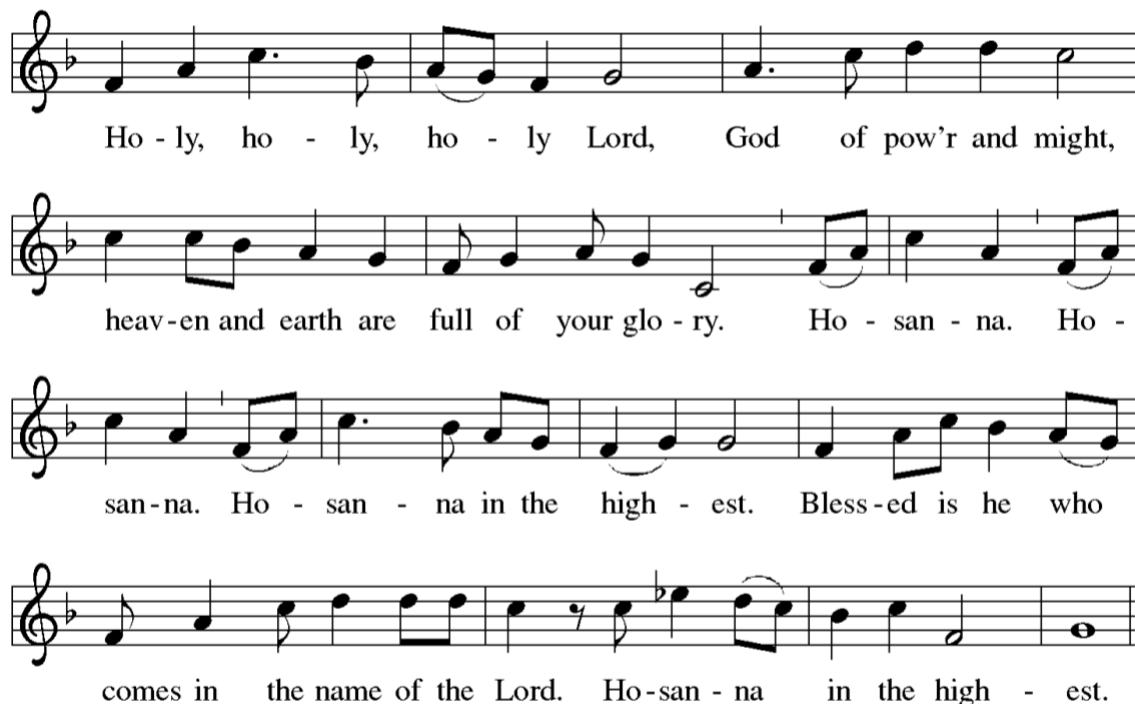
The Creator God be with you. **And also, with you.**

Prepare your hearts. **We prepare our hearts for God's bounty.**

Let us give thanks to the God of chosen family. **For this community, we give thanks.**

Holy One we give you thanks joyfully for the many ways you have blessed us... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are 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 in the high - est.

Thanksgiving at the Table

In the night in which he was betrayed...Do this for the remembrance of me.

Lord's Prayer

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

God's love is wide. God's table is big. No one is excluded.

Our bread is gluten free & both wine and white grape juice are available.

God comes to us in worship and song. God also comes to us in silence and stillness.

Please use the time before and after you commune for silent contemplation, openness to God's word, and to listen for the voice of God. Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Communion Hymn: #969 Welcome Table

Song of Thanksgiving



☐ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Communion Prayer

May we who have fed at Wisdom's table take her welcome out to where tables are reserved and doors are closed. May the Spirit drive us to break our bread on the altar of the world. Amen.

~Sending~

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Announcements & Special Blessings

Benediction

Children of God, receive this blessing: ✚ may the renewing grace of the Triune God surround you; may the steadfast love of the Triune God uphold you, and may the goodness of the Triune God entice you to set your mind on Christ that you may live as God's image-bearers and gospel-bringers wherever you go. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn: #1084 God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me

Dismissal

Go in peace and hope, knowing you are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

~Announcements~

- **Fellowship:** Join us after worship for our First Sunday Potluck. Bring your favorite dish and enjoy food, fellowship, and fun with us.
- **Church Council:** The Zion's church council will meet next after worship on Sunday, Aug. 17.
- **God's Work Our Hands (GWOH) Service Project:** We are looking for suggestions for a service project for GWOH. Do you know of an organization or an individual that could use an act of caring? If so, please let Vicar Lisa know.
- **New Hymnals:** A special thank you to everyone who donated for the new blue *All Creation Sings* hymnals. The cost of each of the 50 new books has been covered, thanks to those donors.
- **Five Loaves Assistance Thanks:** We are grateful to everyone who helped with 5-Loaves food deliveries this past weekend. Our next delivery will be Saturday, Aug. 30.
- **Zion's Garage Sale:** Thank you to everyone who helped make this year's garage sale a success, especially Julie Wersal who, again this year, coordinated the event.
- **Save the Dates:**
 - ❖ Vicar Lisa's installation will be at 1 p.m. next Sunday, Aug. 10.
 - ❖ God's Work Our Hands Service Project, Sept. 6
 - ❖ God's Work Our Hands Sunday Worship in the Park, Sept. 7.

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Call to Worship & Benediction: *Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, February 2025* and published at: <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/eighth-sunday-after-pentecost-year-c-lectionary-planning-notes/eighth-sunday-after-pentecost-year-c-liturgical-resources>. Used with permission.

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Offering Prayer: by Thom M. Shuman, Lectionary Liturgies. Posted at <https://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/>
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Eucharist Prayer: From the *Reconciling in Christ Sunday 2018: Dreams & Visions of the Church Re- Imagined* Service, originally written by Steven Shakespeare, *Prayers for an Inclusive Church*.