



9th Sunday After Pentecost, August 10, 2025
A Service of the Word
10 a.m. *Worship at Zion's Lutheran Church*

Welcome Friends and Guests: In today's text Jesus tells us that it is God's "good pleasure to give you the kingdom." It is God's promise from the beginning — to Abraham, to the early church, and to the "little flock" of which we are a part in today's assembly. Faith, God's baptismal gift, trusts the promises of God. Have no fear.

Serving this Sunday:

Worship – Vicar Lisa Rygiel, Julie Wersal & Tracy Wahl
Musicians – Connie Pallone & Becky McNeil
Ushers: Mike McNeil & 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.*

Service of the Word: Our weekly celebration of the Lord's Supper is our norm here at Zion's; however, a Service of the Word of God is celebrated occasionally as we do today. May your hearts readily receive God's Word!

Fellowship: At 1 p.m., today, after worship, Zion's will be celebrating the Ordination & Installation of Vicar Lisa Rygiel as Zion's next Pastor. A reception and fellowship time will immediately follow that special service of worship. All are welcome.

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.

Introduction to Our Service of the Word

Gathered by the Holy Spirit, we hear and proclaim the saving word of God for all the world. We give thanks for that word and all the gifts of God, who sends us to share the good news we have received and to care for those in need. Today, we celebrate the Service of the Word, which is derived from the Service of Holy Communion.

Our weekly celebration of the Lord's Supper is our norm here at Zion's; however, a Service of the Word of God is celebrated occasionally as we do today.

May your hearts readily receive his Word!

Gathering of Prayers & Call to Worship

This day is a gift from God;

A day to reflect, to offer thanks, to seek the good.

This time is a pause from the fever of life;

A time to be with one another, knit into community by God.

So let us sing, and listen, and pray, and feast.

And let us worship God.

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: #764 Have No Fear Little Flock

Confession & Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. Let us open our hearts and minds to the truth of our lives and let us 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.**

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. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, 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.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our
salvation. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood, you delivered Noah and his family.

Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By water and your Word, you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

~Word~

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

First Reading: Genesis 15:1-6

¹After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ²But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir."

⁵He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them."

Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶And he believed the Lord, and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsive Reading: Psalm 33:12-22

¹²Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord!

Happy the people chosen to be God's heritage!

¹³**The Lord looks down from heaven,
and sees all humankind.**

- ¹⁴ God sits firmly enthroned and watches
all who dwell on the earth.
- ¹⁵ **God fashions all their hearts
and observes all their deeds.**
- ¹⁶ A king is not saved by the size of the army,
nor are warriors rescued by their great strength.
- ¹⁷ **The horse gives vain hope for victory;
despite its great strength it cannot save.**
- ¹⁸ Truly, your eye is upon those who fear you, O
Lord, upon those who wait for your steadfast love,
- ¹⁹ **to deliver their lives from death,
and to keep them alive in time of famine.**
- ²⁰ Our innermost being waits for you, O Lord,
our helper and our shield.
- ²¹ **Surely, our heart rejoices in you,
for in your holy name we put our trust.**
- ²² Let your lovingkindness, O Lord, be upon us,
even as we place our hope in you

Second Reading: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

- ¹ Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.
- ² Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.
- ⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰ For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God.
- ¹¹ By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered him faithful who had promised.
- ¹² Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."
- ¹³ All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴ for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵ If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

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

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel: Luke 12:32-40

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

[Jesus said:] ³²"Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

³³Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. ³⁵"Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves. ³⁹"But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

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

Children's Time: Mary McKenna

Homily: Vicar Lisa Rygiel

Hymn of the Day: #802 Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

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

Keep the heart of your church set firmly in you so that, with lamps lit and attentive to Christ's call at any time or place, your people are ready to respond with faithful action for the sake of the world.

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

Worlds were prepared by your word. Speak healing and protection upon the earth, especially where life and habitats are threatened including wildfires. Guide the work of astronomers and all who teach us about the stars and galaxies.

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

You know the actions and deeds of the nations. Turn humanity away from instruments of war and violence. Fashion the hearts of world leaders to work for peace and inclusion.

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

Let your loving kindness be on those in need we especially pray for...Assure all who are afraid or experiencing great uncertainty that your promises are sure.

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

Calm the fears of migrants and refugees who set out, not knowing where they go or what the future holds. Provide shelter, sustenance, protection from harm, and welcome. Bless the work of Global Refuge, CORN, and other means of support and advocacy.

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

We celebrate the ancestors in the faith who built their lives on your promises and died having seen them only from a distance. Sustain us in our hope of things unseen.

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. 1

Offering Prayer

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Canticle of Thanksgiving

Salvation belongs to our God and to Christ the Lamb forever and ever. Great and wonderful are your deeds, O God of the universe; just and true are your ways, O Ruler of all the nations.

Who can fail to honor you, Lord, and sing the glory of your name? Salvation belongs to our God and to Christ the Lamb forever and ever. For you alone are the Holy One and blessed is the one whose name is the Word of God. All praise and thanks to you, holy God! Salvation belongs to our God and to Christ the Lamb forever and ever.

Thanksgiving for the Word

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. **Amen.**

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.

~Sending~

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

Announcements & Special Blessings

Benediction

We are, people of the Word, written into our very beings, coursing through our veins, and showing up in action — to love. Beloved community may that love burn in you, may it be a light to the world. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn: #768 God, Lead Me, Guide Me

Refrain

Lead me, guide me, a - long the way;
for if you lead me, I can - not stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with thee.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

1 I am weak and I need thy strength and pow'r
2 Help me tread in the paths of righ - teous - ness,
3 I am lost if you take your hand from me,

to help me o - ver my weak - est hour.
be my aid when Sa - tan and sin op - press.
I am blind with - out . . . thy light to see.

Help me through the dark - ness thy face to see.
I am put - ting all . . . my trust in thee.
Lord, just al - ways let me thy ser - vant be.

Refrain

Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Dismissal

Go in peace and hope, knowing you are not alone. **Thanks be to God.**

~Announcements~

- **Ordination & Installation:** Vicar Lisa Rygiel will be ordained and installed as Zion's next pastor at 1 p.m. on Sunday. A reception in Lisa's honor will immediately follow this special worship service. All are welcome.
- **Fellowship:** At 1 p.m., today, Zion's will celebrate the Ordination & Installation of Vicar Lisa Rygiel as Zion's next Pastor. A reception and fellowship time will immediately follow that special service of worship. However, there will be not fellowship time after morning worship, as the Fellowship Hall is being prepared for the ordination reception. All are welcome.
- **Garage Sale:** A huge "Thank You" to all who donated items, unpacked, organized (and re-organized), helped shoppers fill boxes, delivered furniture, and cleaned up after the Garage Sale. Most of the "leftovers" went to PALS and Goodwill in Pueblo with some items packed up and saved for next year. A special thank you goes to Julie Wersal, who coordinated the garage sale, and to Terri Watson, who headed the food sales.
- **Church Council:** The Zion's church council will meet next after worship on Sunday, Aug. 17.
- **Special Thanks:** We are grateful to Kathy Humphrey for donating a new air conditioner to Zion's. The new unit replaces the aging, noisy, and inefficient swamp cooler.
- **God's Work Our Hands Sunday:** Our traditional God's Work Our Hands Worship will be at 10 a.m. on Sunday, Sept. 7, at Round Up Park.
- **God's Work Our Hands (GWOH) Service Project:** For its 2025 GWOH service project, Zion's will be building a ramp at the home of Doris & Terry Blalock. John Rygiel is heading the project. To volunteer to help, or for more information, please contact John. We will coordinate with the Blalocks as to the exact project date.

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Call to Worship: *Written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, 'Hold Fast to What Is Good'. Used with permission.*

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Benediction: based upon the writings of Pastor Leanne Rose, Emmanuel United Church of Christ, Oconomowoc, WI, at <https://seeyouonsunday.org/written-on-your-heart-jeremiah-361-8-21-23-27-28/>