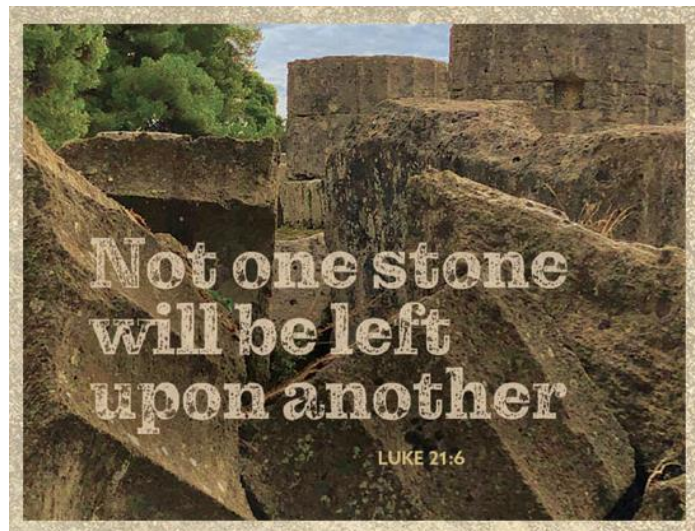




23rd Sunday After Pentecost -- Nov. 16, 2025
10 a.m. *Worship at Zion's Lutheran Church*

Welcome Friends and Guests: The end is near. There is no doubt about it. The warnings are dire. The tone of today's texts is ominous. But the baptized know how to live in the meantime. The baptized are strengthened for the living of these days in word and sacrament. The baptized rally around the invitation of the apostle: "Do not be weary in doing what is right."

Serving this Sunday:

Worship – Pastors John & Charlotte Strecker-Baseler, Sharon Sorenson
Musicians – Connie Pallone & Mark Nelson
Ushers – Brittany Cook & Cristy Street
Communion – Kathy Humphrey & Vickie Rienks

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 for food and fellowship. 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 Pastor 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.

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

Gathering of Prayers & Call to Worship

Holy God, in reverent awe, we come to worship you!

We gather to honor and glorify God's almighty name.

Righteous God, we rejoice as we come to worship you!

We gather to celebrate God's power over the forces of evil.

Faithful God, with thankfulness, we come to worship you!

We gather to sing praises to the God in whom we trust. Amen.

Confession & Forgiveness

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

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

God of all mercy and consolation...into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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

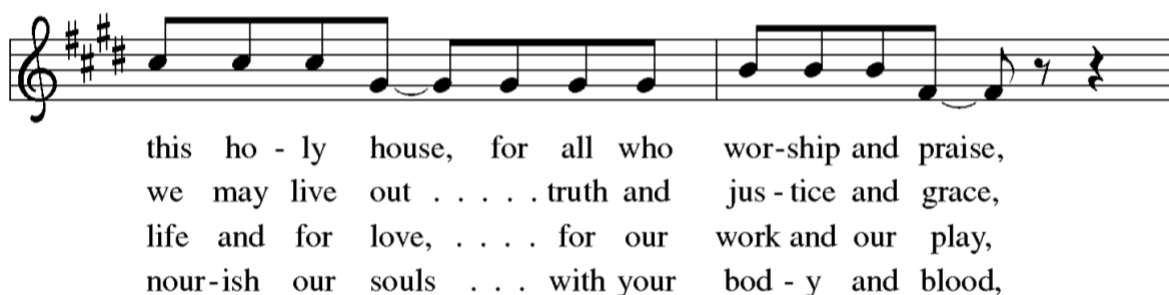
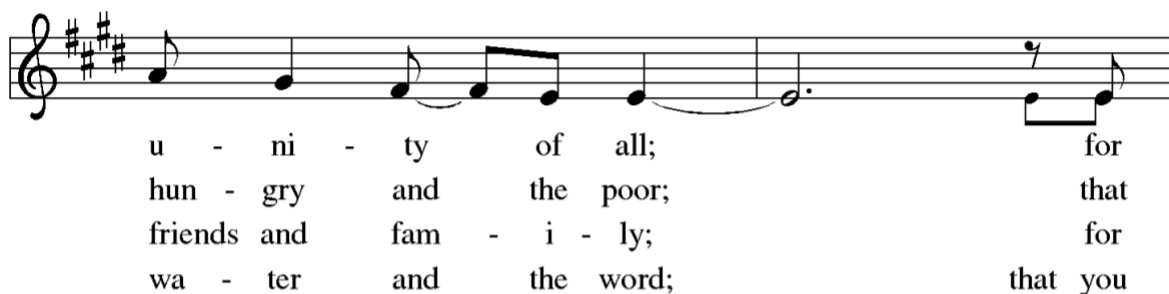
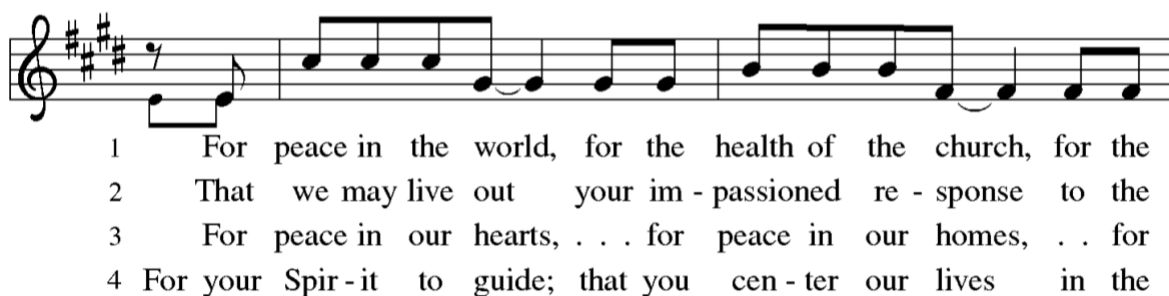
Gathering Hymn: #597 My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

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.

Kyrie



Canticle of Praise

Refrain



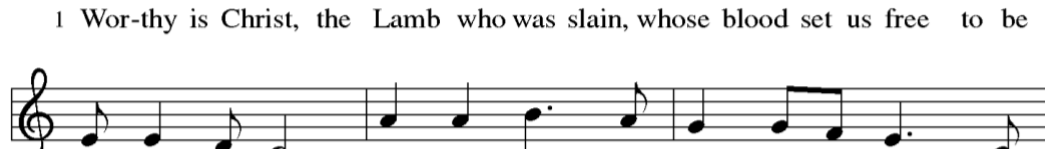
This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



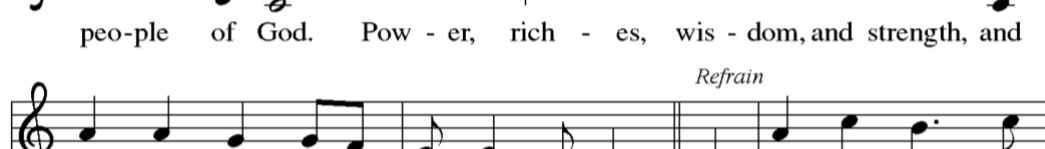
Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



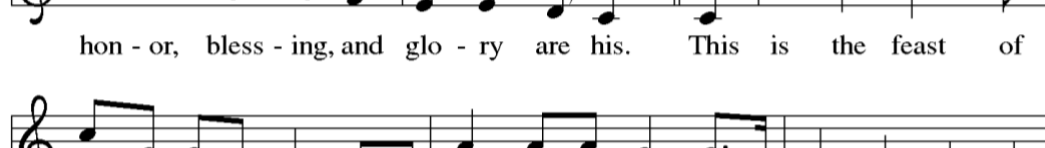
1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be



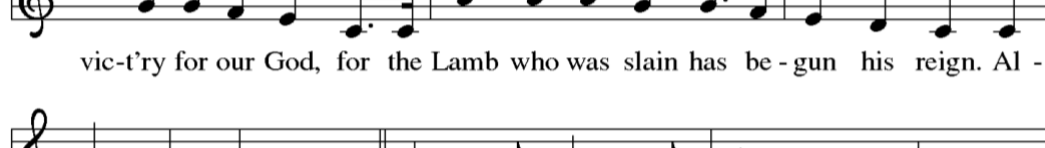
peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and



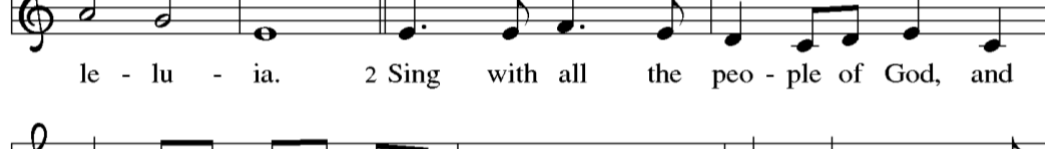
Refrain
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of



vic - t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al -



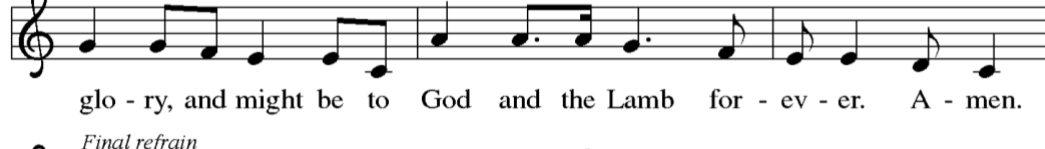
le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



Final refrain
This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

~Word~

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

First Reading: Malachi 4:1-2a

¹ See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. ^{2a} But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

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

Responsive Reading: Psalm 98

¹ Sing a new song to the Lord, who has done marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

² **O Lord, you have made known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

³ You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁴ **Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

⁵ Sing to the Lord with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.

⁶ **With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before the king, the Lord.**

⁷ Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein.

⁸ **Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before
the Lord, who comes to judge the earth.**

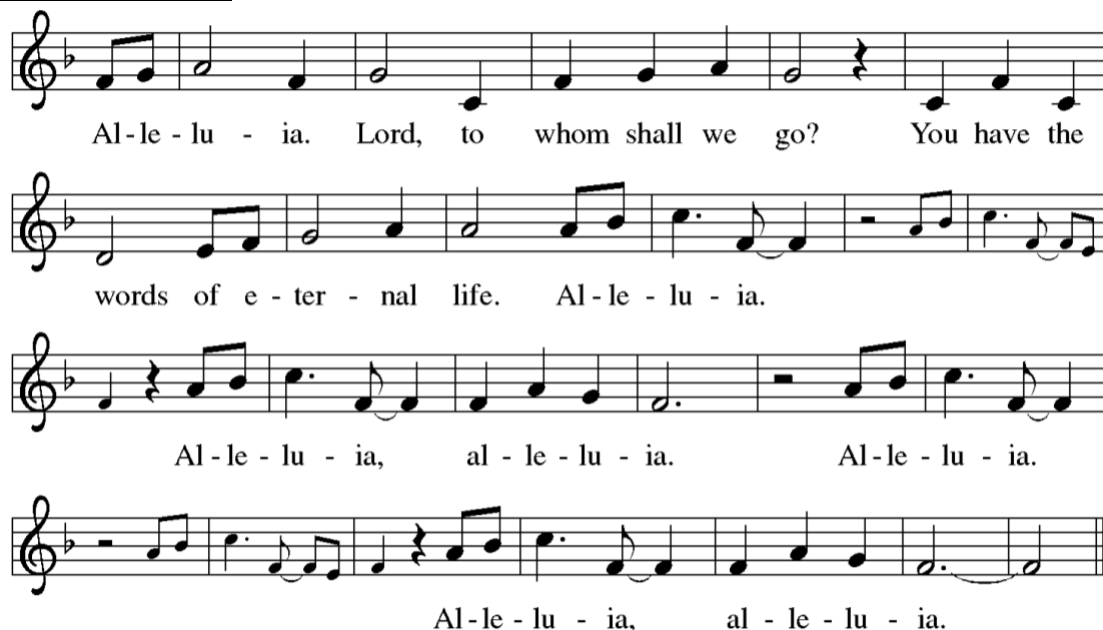
⁹ The Lord will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

⁶ Now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from every brother or sister living irresponsibly and not according to the tradition that they received from us. ⁷ For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not irresponsible when we were with you, ⁸ and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day so that we might not burden any of you. ⁹ This was not because we do not have that right but in order to give you an example to imitate. ¹⁰ For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: anyone unwilling to work should not eat. ¹¹ For we hear that some of you are living irresponsibly, mere busybodies, not doing any work. ¹² Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

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

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel: Luke 21:5-19

The holy gospel according to Luke chapter 21. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

⁵ When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, ⁶ "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down." ⁷ They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" ⁸ And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and 'The time is near!' Do not go after them. ⁹ "When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately."

¹⁰ Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; ¹¹ there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven. ¹² "But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. ¹³ This will give you an opportunity to testify. ¹⁴ So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance, ¹⁵ for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶ You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. ¹⁷ You will be hated by all because of my name. ¹⁸ But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹ By your endurance you will gain your souls."

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

Sermon: The Rev. John Strecker-Baseler

Hymn of the Day: #769 If you but Trust on God to Guide You

The 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 the People

God of roots and branches, defend the leaders of your church as they proclaim the gospel using discernment, wisdom, and brave testimony. Keep all of the baptized on righteous paths in response to Christ's call.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of roaring seas, in a world of earthquake, storms, famine, and plague, use your mighty power to nurture the land and all that lives upon it. Restore peoples and places experiencing natural disasters. Strengthen organizations who provide aid to any in crisis.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of victory, among quests for power, guide those in government, courts, law enforcement, and the military. Turn them from war and violence to actions of care that build up the common good.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of healing, where injustice and exploitation result in populations that are marginalized or underserved, accompany those abandoned by friends, hurt by family, and harmed by violence or oppression. Care for all who are ill, anxious, or in pain of any kind Especially today we pray for...:

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of new songs, in a congregation of faithful believers, energize us for compassionate service and delight us through worship and inspired prayer. Encourage your people in building equitable community where all are valued.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of every generation, we remember the saints with steadfast love and faithfulness. Confident in Christ's victory over death, may we be inspired by the example of the faithful.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **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: #1032 Lift Up Your Head, vs. 3

Offering Prayer

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Great Prayer of 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...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, 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

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears...we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we await the day when Jesus shall return to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death. Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen...**Amen.**

Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate, to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world. Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen...**Amen.**

Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age, that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection, we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, Creator God, now and 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.

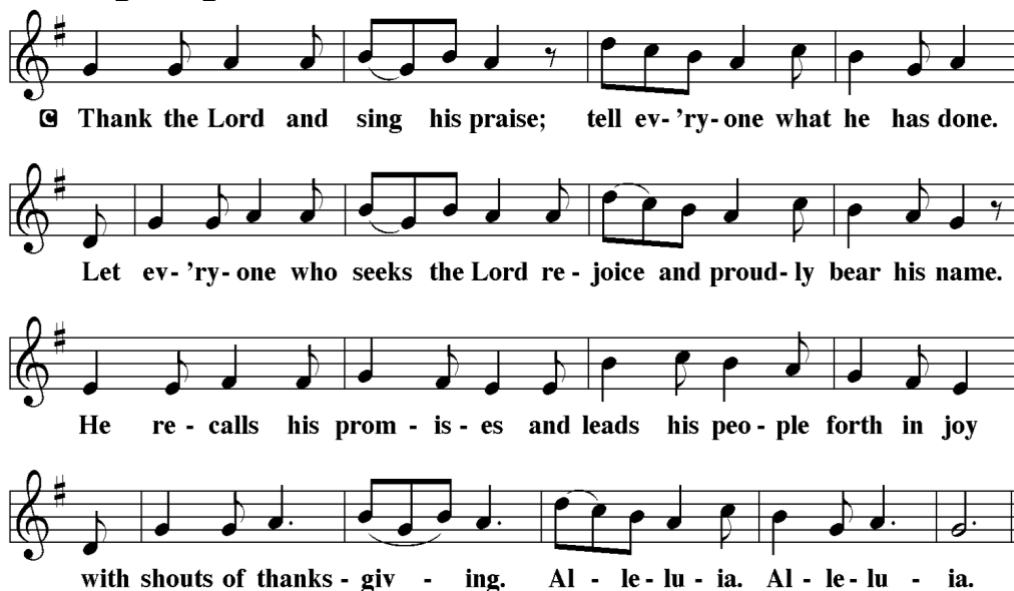
Invitation to Communion

*God's love is wide. God's table is big. No one is excluded.
Taste and see that the Lord is Good.*

*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.*

Communion Hymn: #723 Canticle of Turning

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

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

~Sending~

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

Announcements

Benediction

Now, go out into the world as God's people! **We will not be afraid to trust in God's future.**

Now, go out as followers of Jesus! **We will not falter in bringing justice and hope to all.**

Now, go out as those gifted by the Spirit! **We will not fear but will journey into the days ahead.**

Sending Hymn: #439 Soon and Very Soon

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

~Announcements~

- **Fellowship Time:** Join us after worship for coffee and conversation. All are welcome.
- **The Way Ministry:** At 1 p.m. each Sunday, Zion's welcomes the Way ministry to our fenced lower yard as they offer food and worship to the unhoused and others in need.
- **Children's Choir:** Children's Choir is at 3 p.m. each Sunday, through Nov. 30, in the Fellowship Hall.
- **Yoga:** At 5:30 p.m. Friday, join Cora Gardiner for yoga in the Fellowship Hall.
- **Weekly Christian Education Studies:** Our weekly study, *By What Authority* concludes next week with sessions at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 20, and repeated at 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 22.
- **Thanksgiving:** Our annual community Thanksgiving Dinner is just around the corner. We need help with food preparation, packaging, serving, delivery, set-up, and clean-up. Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. We also are identifying delivery drivers, kitchen help, servers, and people to set up and clean up, among other tasks. Monetary donations are welcome. If you have questions, contact Norine Hazen. Remember, we have cancelled We are Turkey Fryday on Nov. 22 and now need additional help with cooking.
- **Winter Coat Drive:** Again, Zion's will partner with The Way to provide coats, socks, mittens, knit hats, scarves, blankets, etc. to those who need them most. During November, you can bring new or lightly used items to the Fellowship Hall. Place the donations on the stage and they will be collected and given to Pastor Clay & Mary Mason to redistribute to those in need of additional winter warmth.
- **Toys for Tots:** Terri Watson again will be the Marine Corp representative for Toys for Tots in Las Animas County. She has placed a collection box in the Fellowship Hall for new, unwrapped toys. Monetary donations also are welcome. The donations deadline is Dec. 8. Terri says that baby toys (infant to 3 yoa) are particularly needed.
- **A Celebration of Life:** We will be having a celebration of life service for Peggy Gustafson at 11 a.m. on Nov. 29 with a luncheon in the fellowship hall to follow.

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Call to Worship: *written by Joan Stott, based on Psalm 98. Posted on The Timeless Psalms at [http://www.thetimelesspsalms.net/w_resources/pentecost25\[33\]c_2010.htm](http://www.thetimelesspsalms.net/w_resources/pentecost25[33]c_2010.htm). Used with permission.*

Benediction: by Thom Shuman and posted on *Lectionary Liturgies* at <https://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/>. (c) Thom M. Shuman, used with permission.