



**4th Sunday After Pentecost – June 21, 2026  
10 a.m. Worship at Zion's Lutheran Church**

**Welcome Friends and Guests:** God does not promise that the path of the disciple will be easy. Jeremiah feels the pain of rejection from those who do not want to hear what he has to say. Jesus declares that his words may bring stark division. Even so, we need not be afraid for God accounts for each hair on our heads. Though we may experience rejection, frustration, division, and death, God's grace and love make us a new creation each day. Marked with the cross and filled with holy food, we are sent from worship to witness to Christ in the world.

**Serving this Sunday:**

Worship – Pastor Lisa Rygiel, Mike McNeil & Tracy Wahl  
Musicians – Mark Nelson & Sharon Sorenson  
Ushers – David Novey & John Rygiel  
Communion – T.M. Garner & Terri Watson



**ReconcilingWorks**  
LUTHERANS FOR FULL PARTICIPATION

**Worship & Music:** 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 Come back and worship each Sunday at 10 a.m.

Large print bulletins are available from the ushers. We use both the cranberry Lutheran Book of Worship and the purple *All Creation Sings* hymnals as indicated in the bulletin.

**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 tray) are available.

**Other:** Restrooms are in the Fellowship Hall; our ushers can direct you.

**Fellowship:** Please join us after worship today in the Fellowship Hall for coffee and conversation. All are welcome!

***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**

There is no hope like you, O God!

**Hope for those who cry out from the deserts of their lives.**

There is no grace like you, O God!

**Grace for those rejected, ignored, and cast aside by the world.**

There is no love like you, O God!

**Love for those who have known days of trouble and nights of loneliness.**

There is no one like you, O God!

**No one! No one! No one!**

**Confession & Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who looks upon us in compassion, forgives our sin, and heals our lives. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Have mercy, O God, **against you, you alone, we have sinned. In your compassion, cleanse us from our sin and take away our guilt. Create in us a new heart and give us a steadfast spirit. Do not cast us away but fill us with your Holy Spirit and restore your joy within us. Amen.**

As tender as parent to child, so deep is God's compassion for you.

As high as heaven is above earth, so vast is God's love for you.

As far as east is from west, so far God removes your sin from you, renewing your life through Jesus Christ. Blessed be God who crowns us with mercy and love. **Blessed be God forever.**

**Gathering Hymn: #798 (cranberry hymnal) Will You Come and Follow Me**

**Greeting**

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

**Kyrie**

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

## **Prayer of the Day**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

~Word~

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

### **First Reading: Jeremiah 20:7-13**

<sup>7</sup> O Lord, you have enticed me, and I was enticed;  
you have overpowered me, and you have prevailed.  
I have become a laughingstock all day long; everyone mocks me.

<sup>8</sup> For whenever I speak, I must cry out; I must shout, "Violence and destruction!" For the word of the Lord has become for me a reproach and derision all day long.

<sup>9</sup> If I say, "I will not mention him or speak any more in his name,"  
then within me there is something like a burning fire shut up in my bones;  
I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot.

<sup>10</sup> For I hear many whispering: "Terror is all around!  
Denounce him! Let us denounce him!"  
All my close friends are watching for me to stumble.  
"Perhaps he can be enticed, and we can prevail against him  
and take our revenge on him."

<sup>11</sup> But the Lord is with me like a terrifying warrior;  
therefore my persecutors will stumble, and they will not prevail.  
They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed.  
Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten.

<sup>12</sup> O Lord of hosts, you test the righteous; you see the heart and the mind;  
let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.

<sup>13</sup> Sing to the Lord; praise the Lord! For he has delivered the life of the needy  
from the hands of evildoers.

God's Word invites us into life. **Thanks be to God!**

### **Responsive Reading: Psalm 69:7-10, 16-18**

<sup>7</sup> Surely, for your sake I have suffered reproach, and shame has covered my face.

<sup>8</sup> **I have become a stranger to my own kindred, an alien to my mother's children.**

<sup>9</sup> Zeal for your house has eaten me up; the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.

<sup>10</sup> **I humbled myself with fasting, but that was turned to my reproach.**

<sup>16</sup> Answer me, O Lord, for your love is kind; in your great compassion, turn to me.

<sup>17</sup> **Hide not your face from your servant; be swift and answer me, for I am in distress.**

<sup>18</sup> Draw near to me and redeem me; because of my enemies deliver me.

**Second Reading:** Romans 6:1b-11

<sup>1b</sup> Should we continue in sin in order that grace may increase? <sup>2</sup> By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? <sup>3</sup> Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup> Therefore, we were buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life.

<sup>5</sup> For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup> We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, so we might no longer be enslaved to sin. <sup>7</sup> For whoever has died is freed from sin. <sup>8</sup> But if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup> We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. <sup>10</sup> The death he died, he died to sin once for all, but the life he lives, he lives to God. <sup>11</sup> So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

God's Word invites us into life. **Thanks be to God!**

**Gospel Acclamation**

Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

*Repeat alleluia*

**Gospel:** Matthew 10:24-39

The holy gospel according to Matthew chapter 10. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the twelve:] <sup>24</sup> "A disciple is not above the teacher nor a slave above the master; <sup>25</sup> it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

<sup>26</sup> "So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. <sup>27</sup> What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. <sup>28</sup> Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, fear the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell. <sup>29</sup> Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. <sup>30</sup> And even the hairs of your head are all counted. <sup>31</sup> So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

<sup>32</sup> "Everyone, therefore, who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven, <sup>33</sup> but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

<sup>34</sup> "Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace but a sword.

<sup>35</sup> For I have come to set a man against his father,  
and a daughter against her mother,

and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law,

<sup>36</sup> and one's foes will be members of one's own household.

<sup>37</sup> “Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me, <sup>38</sup> and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. <sup>39</sup> Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”

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

**Sermon:** Pastor Lisa Rygiel

**Hymn of the Day:** #1097 (purple hymnal) Ten Thousand Reasons

### **Statement of Faith**

**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. Amen.**

### **Prayers of the People**

Life-giving God, you have called your people to lose their lives for Jesus’ sake. Strengthen your church to follow you in the face of difficulty. God of Compassion, **hear us when we call.**

Creator God, you know every sparrow that falls to the ground. Protect migrating birds, endangered species, and their natural habitats. Empower us to care for your creation. God of Compassion, **hear us when we call.**

Sovereign God, you call us to act justly and love mercy. Protect those with marginalized identities to whom we have not shown the abounding love of Jesus. Bring an end to oppression and bigotry in all forms. God of Compassion, **hear us when we call.**

Sustaining God, you promise to provide for us. Help those living with disability. Comfort those experiencing any sort of illness or suffering...God of Compassion, **hear us when we call.**

Empowering God, strengthen us to live out our diverse callings. We pray especially for fathers and father figures, that they show your compassion and care. We pray for all for whom this day is difficult or painful. God of Compassion, **hear us when we call.**

Faithful God, we give thanks for saints who have claimed their baptismal promises. May we follow their example of faith and service. God of Compassion, **hear us when we call.**

Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior. **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](https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/1334741)*

**Offertory: #167** (cranberry hymnal) Now the Feast and Celebration, v. 2

**Offering Prayer**

Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and your creation provides us with an abundance of what we need. May our gifts of all kinds and our labor contribute to the building of a blessed community which welcomes all people, that sees all people, and that works for justice for all people. **Amen.**

**Great Prayer of Thanksgiving**

God is here! **Immanuel is with us!**

Lift up your hearts! **We lift them to our God!**

Let us give thanks to our God, the One who sees us! **It is right to give our thanks and praise to God!**

God of Rainbow promises... with all the creatures of the earth and heavens:

**Holy, Holy, Holy**

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

**Thanksgiving at the Table**

We praise you, all-holy God...And so, we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

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

We pray for your Holy Spirit...all-holy God, the Creator, the Son, the Holy Spirit, today, tomorrow, and forever. **Amen.**

**Lord's Prayer**

**Heavenly God, giver of life, holy is your name, your blessed community 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 you reign in power and glory now and forever. 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 Song: 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.

**Communion Hymn: #810 (cranberry hymnal) O Jesus, I Have Promised**

**Table Blessing**

May the body & blood of Jesus Christ, strengthen us, preserve us, and unite us in Love. **Amen.**

**Communion Song: Thank the Lord & Sing His Praise**



**☞ 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**

**God of all queerness, you gathered us into one through this holy meal. Grant that we might go out into the world filled with your grace and love so that we yourself might serve others. In your many names we pray, Amen.**

*~Sending~*

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

**Announcements & Special Blessings**

**Benediction**

May the Creator of all embolden us to be fiercely and authentically human. May the Holy Protector guide us as we continue to discover the fullness of who we are. And may the Spirit of Truth and Wisdom guide us to seek justice for all. **Amen.**

**Sending Hymn: #543 (cranberry hymnal) Go My Children, with My Blessing**

**Dismissal**

Go forth with courage, loving God and serving neighbors.

**Thanks be to God.**

~Announcements~

- ✦ **Fellowship:** Join us after worship today in the Fellowship Hall for coffee & conversation. All are welcome.
- ✦ **Wednesday Book Club:** Book Club sessions focusing upon *What if Jesus was Serious – A Visual Guide to the Teachings of Jesus We Love to Ignore*, are at 10:30 a.m. each Wednesday in the Fellowship Hall. The next session is Wednesday, June 17. You can join at any time, so if you haven't been able to attend before now, why not consider doing so.
- ✦ **Time of Prayer and Coffee:** We are invited to join our siblings in Christ from the Methodist church for a time of prayer and coffee at 10:30 a.m. each Thursday at Kangaroo Coffee -in the Marketplace on Commercial Street.
- ✦ **5-Loaves Volunteers Needed:** Our next 5-Loaves delivery is Saturday, June 27. We are seeking volunteers to assist with deliveries that day, as well as with preparations on Friday morning. If you can assist, please let Norine Hazen, Jo Moss, or Terri Watson know.
- ✦ **Summer Supper Gatherings:** At 5:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each summer month, we will gather in the Fellowship Hall for food and fun. The next evening of food and fun is scheduled for at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 8. Other dates are Aug. 12 and Sept. 9. There is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall for food and activities. If you have questions, please let Julie Wersal or Jo Moss know.
- ✦ **Worship Assistance Lists:** We are updating the worship assistance list for July and August. If you are willing to help with ushering, communion preparation and clean up, or lector, please let Pr. Lisa or Jo Moss know.
- ✦ **Annual Garage Sale:** The annual Zion's Garage Sale will be Saturday, Aug. 1. If you have items to donate, please let Julie Wersal know. We will begin accepting drop offs beginning July 24. Please be aware that while Zion's can accept most items for the sale, we **cannot** accept electronic or computer items and we do not accept clothing and shoes either.
- ✦ **We're Here for You:** For pastoral care, call Zion's at 719-846-7785 or send an email: zionsluth@gmail.com.

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