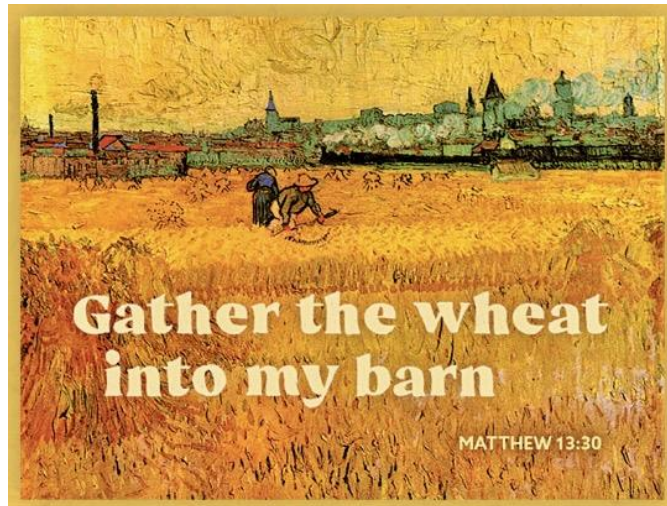




**8th Sunday After Pentecost – July 19, 2026
10 a.m. Worship at Zion's Lutheran Church**

Welcome Friends and Guests: It is an age-old question: why is there evil in the world? In the parable of the wheat and the weeds Jesus suggests that both grow together until the harvest. With Paul, we long for the day that all creation will be set free from bondage and suffering. Having both weeds and wheat within us, we humbly place our hope in the promises of God, and from the Lord's table we go forth to bear the fruit of justice and mercy.

Serving this Sunday:

Worship – Pastor Lisa Rygiel, Jo Moss & DeWayne Harris

Musicians – Connie Pallone & Mark Nelson

Ushers – Steve Hanson & Mark Moss

Communion – Carol Hanson & Jo Moss



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!

~Gathering~

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

Gathering of Prayers & Call to Worship

We worship the God who inhabits our world and indwells our lives.

We need not look up to find God; we need only to look around:

within ourselves, beyond ourselves, into the eyes of another.

We need not listen for a distant thunder to find God, we need only listen to the music of life,

the words of children, the questions of the curious, the rhythm of a heartbeat.

We worship the God who inhabits our world and who indwells our lives.

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, 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...Blessed be God who crowns us with mercy and love.
Blessed be God forever.

Gathering Hymn: #679 (cranberry hymnal) For the Fruit of All Creation

Kyrie

The image shows three staves of musical notation for a Kyrie hymn. Each staff is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff has the lyrics "Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy." The second staff has the lyrics "Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy." The third staff has the lyrics "Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy." The music consists of a simple melody with a final cadence on the third staff.

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

Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

~Word~

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

First Reading: Isaiah 44:6-8

⁶ Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel,
and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts:

I am the first, and I am the last; besides me there is no god.

⁷ Who is like me? Let them proclaim it;
let them declare and set it forth before me.

Who has announced from of old the things to come?
Let them tell us what is yet to be.

⁸ Do not fear or be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it? You are my witnesses!
Is there any god besides me? There is no other rock; I know not one.

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

Responsive Reading: Psalm 86:11-17

¹¹ Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth;
give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

¹² **I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart,
and glorify your name forevermore.**

¹³ For great is your love toward me; you have delivered me from the pit of death.

¹⁴ **The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent people seeks my life;
they have not set you before their eyes.**

¹⁵ But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.

¹⁶ **Turn to me and have mercy on me;
give your strength to your servant, and save the child of your handmaid.**

¹⁷ **Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be put to
shame;
because you, Lord, have helped me and comforted me.**

Second Reading: Romans 8:12-25

¹² So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh — ¹³ for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us.

¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, ²⁰ for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

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 13:24-30, 36-43

The holy gospel according to Matthew chapter 13.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁴ [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field,²⁵ but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away.²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well.

²⁷ And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’²⁸ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’

²⁹ But he replied, ‘No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them.³⁰ Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’”

³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.”³⁷ He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man;³⁸ the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one,³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels.⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age.⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers,⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

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

Children’s Message: Mary McKenna

Sermon: Pastor Lisa Rygiel

Hymn of the Day: #952 (purple hymnal) The Reign of God, like Farmer’s Field

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 our source, protect your church from those who sow weeds among the wheat. Where we trade grace for judgment, restore us, and where we get lost among the complexities of life, guide us. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our creator, sustain creation in places not easily seen; the depths of oceans, microscopic plants and animals, galaxies beyond our own. May we share earth's dedication to hope for what we do not yet see. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our soil, we yearn to live on your lands and waters with justice and in righteousness. Renew the hearts of all in authority, that our leaders guide wisely toward the flourishing of all. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our rock, be a source of constancy for those whose lives have been uprooted by war, eviction, homelessness, global climate change, unemployment, harassment, false witness to their character, or illness or injury. Today we pray especially for...God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our teacher, guide and provide for all summer camp staff and campers, daycare professionals, librarians, summer school educators and coaches, teachers preparing for the coming academic year, and youth everywhere. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our hope, the message of your salvation is planted among us in all times and places. We give you thanks for the witness of all the saints who shine like the sun in your presence. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus. **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 by check or cash (mail to 510 Pine Street), or online at:

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

This Sunday, we are collecting a special for the purchase of a freezer for the Soup Kitchen, after both of their freezers failed.

Offertory: #686 (cranberry hymnal) We Give Thee But Thine Own, v. 3

Offering Prayer

God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is sure. Word and water, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Receive the gifts we bring and nourish us to proclaim your abiding love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. **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

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, your breath, your fire, your wisdom.

Nourish us with the body and blood of Christ, inspire your people for service, and renew the world with your mercy, with your healing, your justice, and your peace. We praise you, all-holy God, the Creator, the Son, the Holy Spirit, today, tomorrow, 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 Song: Lamb of God

Communion Hymn: #474 (cranberry hymnal) Bread of Life From Heaven

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

Living God, as the disciples ate and drank with their risen Lord, we have been nourished with the very presence of Christ. Through this meal may we be strengthened to keep your word and to proclaim the power of your love in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

~Sending~

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

Announcements & Special Blessings

Benediction

As you go from here into the week ahead, with whatever joys and challenges it holds, do not be discouraged or disheartened. Remember the glory that awaits you as a child of God. Hold on to that truth; live in that hope.

And may the peace of God, the blessing of Jesus Christ, and the presence of the Holy Spirit ☩ be with you and among you.

Sending Hymn: #984 (purple hymnal) May the God of Hope go With Us

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.
- + **Special Offering:** This Sunday, we will be collecting a special offering to replace the commercial grade freezer used by the Trinidad Soup Kitchen. Their older freezer failed and cannot be repaired.
- + **Wednesday Book Club:** Book Club meets at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, July 22. You can join at any time, why not consider doing so now.
- + **Summer Supper Gatherings:** At 5:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each summer month, we gather in the Fellowship Hall for food and fun. The next supper is at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 12. 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.
- + **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. Remember that, while Zion's can accept most items for the sale, we **cannot** take electronic or computer items and we do not accept clothing and shoes.
- + **Save the Date:** *God's Work Our Hands* Sunday for Zion's will be Aug. 30 details will follow in E-Formation, the Bulletins, and the Newsletter.
- + **We're Here for You:** For pastoral care, call Zion's at 719-846-7785 or send an email: zionsluth@gmail.com.

A Special Congregational Meeting is called for Sunday, August 2, 2026, to authorize the Church Council to withdraw \$11,000.00 from Zion's Lutheran's trust fund. This \$11,000 amount is needed to pay for materials and labor to replace the Fellowship Hall's carpeting with new, skid-resistant Commercial Grade Luxury Vinyl Plank flooring & trim.

The meeting will be held in the Sanctuary immediately following Sunday's service. During discussion, all points of view, whether for, against, or neutral, will be provided an opportunity to be heard.

As defined in our constitution (Chapter 8), voting members are confirmed members of Zion's who, during the current or preceding calendar year, shall have communed in this congregation and shall have made a contribution of record.

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Call to Worship: *posted on the Presbyterian Church USA*

website. https://www.pcusa.org/site_media/media/uploads/peacemaking/pdf/mlk-resources.pdf

Thanksgiving at the Table: Adapted from *Pray, Praise, and Give Thanks: A Collection of Litanies, Laments, and Thanksgivings at Font and Table* by Gail Ramshaw, copyright © 2017 Augsburg Fortress.

Benediction: from re:Worship at <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/search/label/Proper%2011%20A>.