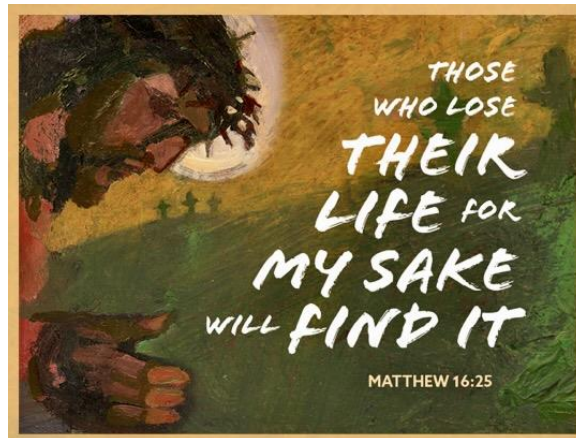




14th Sunday After Pentecost – August 30, 2026
10 a.m. Worship at Zion's Lutheran Church

Welcome Friends and Guests: The prophet Jeremiah speaks of the incurable wound of his suffering yet finds in God's words the delight of his heart. When Peter doesn't grasp Jesus' words about suffering, Jesus tells the disciples they will find their lives in losing them. Such sacrificial love is described by Paul when he urges us to associate with the lowly and not repay evil with evil. In worship we gather as a community that we might offer ourselves for the sake of our suffering world.

Serving this Sunday:

Worship – Pastor Lisa Rygiel, Steve Hanson & Coralie Lashbrook

Musicians – Connie Pallone & Sharon Sorenson

Ushers – Mary McKenna & Jo Moss

Communion – Carol Hanson & Jody Alford



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 as we combine our fellowship time with a Celebration of Life for Marla Morris. Luncheon follows, and 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

You call us to turn away from our own selfish interests, to take up our cross, and to follow after You – to find our lives by giving them up to Your greater purpose.

**So, we come before You this morning with open hearts and open hands,
eager to hear Your Word, and eager to know Your will.**

Through the power of Your Holy Spirit, move within us and among us as we worship.

Open our eyes to Your presence; open our ears to Your call, open our hearts to one another.

And then send us back out into the world, to live and work as Your faithful disciples. Amen.

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: #1043(purple hymnal) Spirit, Open My Heart

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.**

Watch over your church, Lord...one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

~Word~

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

First Reading: Jeremiah 15:15-21

¹⁵ O Lord, you know;
remember me and visit me,
and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.

In your forbearance do not take me away;
know that on your account I suffer insult.

¹⁶ Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart,
for I am called by your name, O Lord, God of hosts.

¹⁷ I did not sit in the company of merrymakers,
nor did I rejoice;
under the weight of your hand I sat alone,
for you had filled me with indignation.

¹⁸ Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable, refusing to be healed?
Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail.

¹⁹ Therefore thus says the Lord:
If you turn back, I will take you back,
and you shall stand before me.
If you utter what is precious and not what is worthless,
you shall serve as my mouth.
It is they who will turn to you,
not you who will turn to them.

²⁰ And I will make you to this people
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you,
but they shall not prevail over you,
for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the Lord.

²¹ I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

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

Responsive Reading: Psalm 26:1-8

¹ Give judgment for me, O Lord, for I have lived with integrity;
I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.

² **Test me, O Lord, and try me;**
examine my heart and my mind.

³ For your steadfast love is before my eyes;
I have walked faithfully with you.

⁴ **I have not sat with the worthless,**
nor do I consort with the deceitful.

⁵ I have hated the company of evildoers;
I will not sit down with the wicked.

⁶ **I will wash my hands in innocence, O Lord,**
that I may go in procession round your altar,

⁷ singing aloud a song of thanksgiving
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

⁸ **Lord, I love the house in which you dwell**
and the place where your glory abides.

Second Reading: Romans 12:9-21

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer.

¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all.

¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord.” ²⁰ Instead, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

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 16:21-28

The holy gospel according to Matthew chapter 16. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²¹ From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised.

²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷ “For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: Pastor Lisa Rygiel

Hymn of the Day: #798 (cranberry hymnal) Will You Come and Follow Me

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

For the church in every land, that its mission and ministry is anchored in the love of Christ. When threats or challenges arise, teach us to take up our cross and follow you in faith. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For the well-being of your creation, that all that lives and grows on the earth may thrive. Bring relief to areas ravaged by droughts, floods, fires, storms, and other disasters. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For the nations and all in authority, that they seek to live in peace with one another. Bless the work of international and diplomatic organizations and all who work to bring peace and fairness to a world scarred by violence. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For all those in need, that they be satisfied. Ensure all your children have safe access to food, water, shelter, and medical care. Bring healing to all who bear wounds in body, mind, and spirit Today we pray especially for...Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For the congregation gathered here to serve you, that they remain strong in faith and united in purpose. Guide our council, committees, study groups, and other meetings toward honesty and humility, always seeking genuine love. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For the faithful departed, that their witness continues to strengthen and guide the church. Renew our hope in your promises in this life and the life to come. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, 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. Our 5th Sunday offering benefits the victims of the Aspen Acres fire by supporting Team Rubicon which is playing a key role in helping affected communities recover from the devastation.

Offertory: #692 (cranberry hymnal) We Are an Offering, v. 1

Offering Prayer

God of goodness and growth...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...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, our maker...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: #659 (cranberry hymnal) Will You Let me be Your Servant

Communion Song: Thank the Lord & Sing His Praise

Communion Prayer

We thank you, O God, that you have strengthened our hearts through this feast of life and salvation. Shine the light of Christ on our path, that we may do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you, now and forever. Amen.

~Sending~

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

Announcements & Special Blessings

Benediction

May the Lord Jesus Christ, who died on the cross for you, give you, in partnership with one another, the courage to take up your cross and follow after him. Now, may the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep your hearts and your minds in ☩ Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn: #710 (cranberry hymnal) Let Streams of Living Justice

~Announcements~

- + **Flowers:** Flowers for worship today are given in honor of Marla Morris.
- + **Fellowship:** Following worship today, we combine our fellowship time with a Celebration of Life for Marla Morris followed by a luncheon. All are welcome.
- + **5-Loaves Help Thanks:** **Thank you to everyone who helped with 5-Loaves meals this month. We were able to serve more than 280 meals.**
- + **Summer Supper Gatherings:** Our final summer supper is at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 9. We look forward to seeing you there.
- + **Be Aware of the Bears:** Mama Bear “Katerina” and her three growing cubs have taken up residence in our lower lawn and in the pine tree between the back of the Sanctuary and the Fellowship Hall, use caution when walking between the buildings, and do not provoke the bears. The game warden has tagged all four bears and is aware of their presence. Our goal is to keep one another, as well as the bears, safe.
- + **Worship Assistance:** We are preparing the worship assistance list (ushers, lectors, communion set up/clean up) for September and October. If you are able to help or can help only on specific Sundays, please let Pr. Lisa or Jo Moss know.
- + **Zion’s Book Club:** Will resume on Tuesdays, beginning at 10:30 a.m. on Sept. 15.
- + **Save the Date:** *God’s Work Our Hands* Sunday for Zion’s will be Sept. 13. The plan is for a special GWOH worship and fellowship at Zion’s before a sing-along at the Legacy. We also will assemble hygiene kits for the unhoused, which will be distributed through Keep Trinidad Safe. We are grateful to Jody Alford who already has procured 30 toothbrush/toothpaste packets. Please review the lists below for items needed. For more information, talk to Pr. Lisa.
 - Basic Hygiene Kits include toothbrush & toothpaste, shampoo, body soap, razors (men and women), combs, mini deodorant, alcohol-free hand sanitizer, band aids, cleansing towelettes, ChapStick, nail clippers.
 - Feminine Kits include those items as well as tampons, mini and full-size pads, and feminine wipes.
 - One-Gallon plastic zip bags.
- + **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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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.

Call to Worship: by Christine Longhurst, Assistant Professor of Worship and Music, Canadian Mennonite University and posted by the Church of Scotland at <https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/worship/weekly-worship/weekly-worship-2026-august/30-august-fourteenth-sunday-after-pentecost-year-a>

Prayer of the Day & Dismissal: the Lutheran Church of Australia Worship Planning for Proper 17 at <https://www.lca.org.au/worship/wpp/>.

Benediction: from The Church of Scotland (Scottish Charity Number SC011353), at <https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/worship/weekly-worship/weekly-worship-2026-august/30-august-fourteenth-sunday-after-pentecost-year-a>. Copyright © The Church Of Scotland, 2026. All Rights.