

WELCOME TO ZION'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

13th Sunday after Pentecost

August 18, 2024

Pastor Caitlin M. Kurtz

Every Week at Zions: @ 10:30 Worship

Sunday School and Wednesday night activities will resume in fall.

Zion's worship services are live-streamed and archived on YouTube. While the focus is always on the worship leaders and the sanctuary at large, your voice and image may be included as part of the recording. If you do not wish to appear on film, please sit in, or under, the balcony and ask an usher for communion to be brought to your seat. If you have any other questions, please speak with Pastor Caitlin. Thank you for your understanding and support in spreading the Gospel message!

**(Congregation please stand as able)*

Welcome and Announcements and Prelude

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy. **C: Amen.**

P: Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection

P: God, our provider,

C: help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

P: Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life. **C: Amen.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE

You are invited to face the rear of the sanctuary and turn towards the cross as it passes.

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high-est; glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God,
and peace to God's peo-ple on earth. Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa-
ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry. Glo-ry to God,
glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high-est; glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's
peo-ple on earth. Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you
take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us; you are seat-ed at the right hand

of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer. Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high-est; glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth. For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord, you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men. Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high-est; glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

***APOSTOLIC GREETING**

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

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Ever-loving God, your Son gives himself as a living bread for the life of the world. Fill us with such a knowledge of his presence that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life to serve you continually, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING: Proverbs 9:1-6 (*pg. 516 in pew Bible*)

Wisdom has built her house, she has hewn her seven pillars. She has slaughtered her animals, she has mixed her wine, she has also set her table. She has sent out her servant-girls, she calls from the highest places in the town, 'You that are simple, turn in here!' To those without sense she says, 'Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed. Lay aside immaturity, and live, and walk in the way of insight.'

After the Reading: **Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 34:9-14 (*pg. 441 in pew Bible, next*) (*read responsively*)

Leader: O fear the LORD, you his holy ones, for those who fear him have no want.

Congregation: The young lions suffer want and hunger, but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.

L: Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

C: Which of you desires life, and covets many days to enjoy good?

L: Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking deceit.

C: Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 5:15-20 (*pg. 952 in pew Bible*)

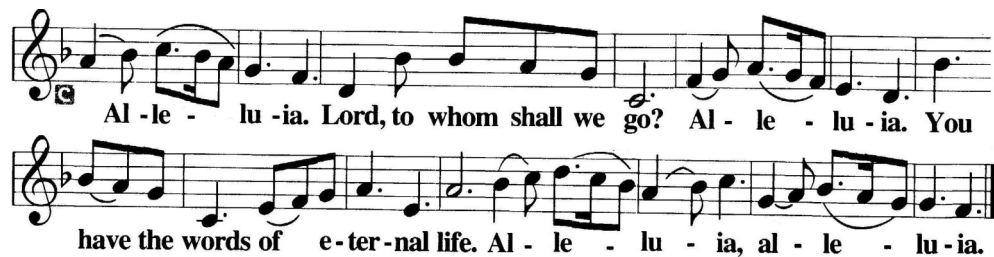
Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

After the Reading: **Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON as the children come forward, please join in singing:

My God is so great, so strong and so mighty! There's nothing my God cannot do! (clap, clap)
My God is so great, so strong and so mighty! There's nothing my God cannot do! (clap, clap)
The mountains are His, the rivers are His, the stars are His handiwork too, My God is so
great, so strong and so mighty! There's nothing my God cannot do! for you!

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? Al - le - lu - ia. You
have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

***GOSPEL:** John 6:51-58 (pg. 868 in pew Bible)

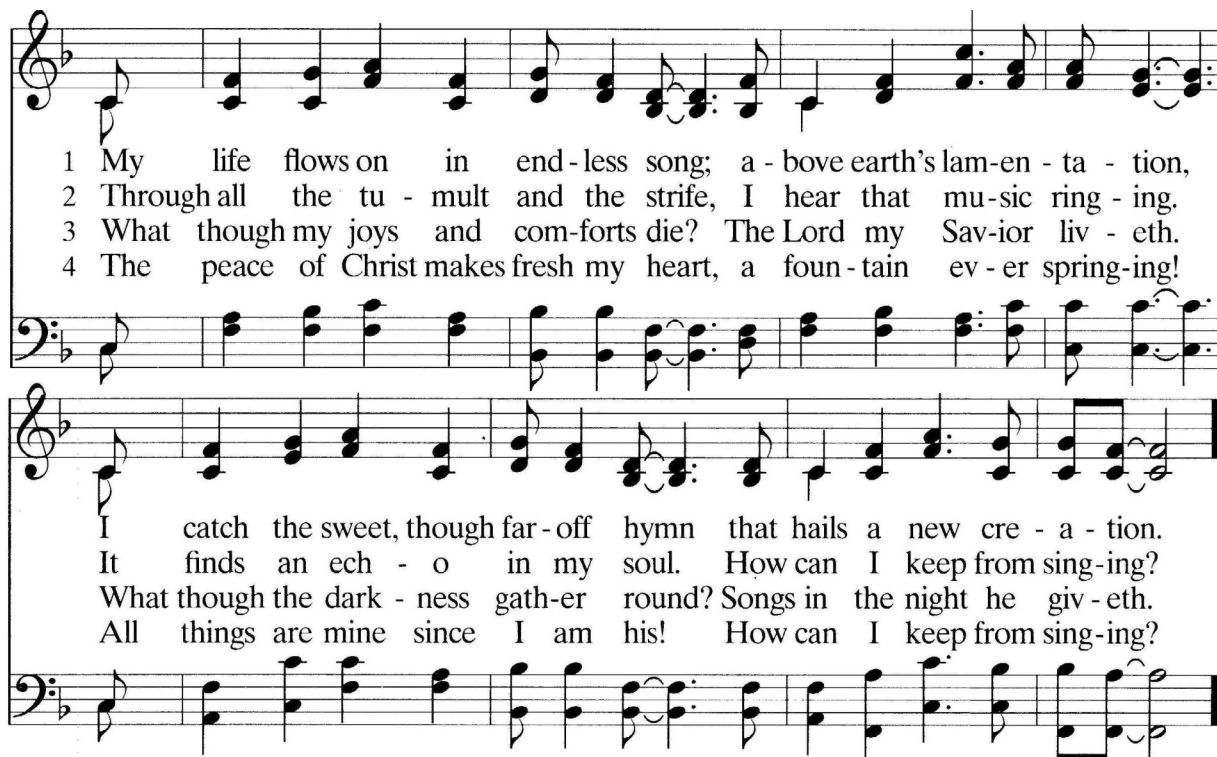
Before reading: P: The Holy Gospel According to St. John, the 6th Chapter. C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.' The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' So Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live for ever.'

After the reading: P: The Gospel of our Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY:** WOV 781 *My Life Flows On in Endless Song*



1 My life flows on in end-less song; a - bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion,
2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu-sic ring - ing.
3 What though my joys and com-forts die? The Lord my Sav-ior liv - eth.
4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev - er spring-ing!

I catch the sweet, though far - off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.
It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?
What though the dark - ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

Refrain

No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.

Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899 Music: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899, alt. HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING 8 7 8 7 and refrain

OUR OFFERINGS: OUR TRUST, PRAYERS & GIFTS

*APOSTLES' CREED

P: Let us confess our faith together, using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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.

Note: the word "catholic" here means the church around the world.

*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(after hearing, "Lord in your mercy," respond: **Hear our Prayer**)

(after hearing the final prayer petition, "We lift these prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them into your holy keeping." respond: **Amen**)

*SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you all. C: **And also with you.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

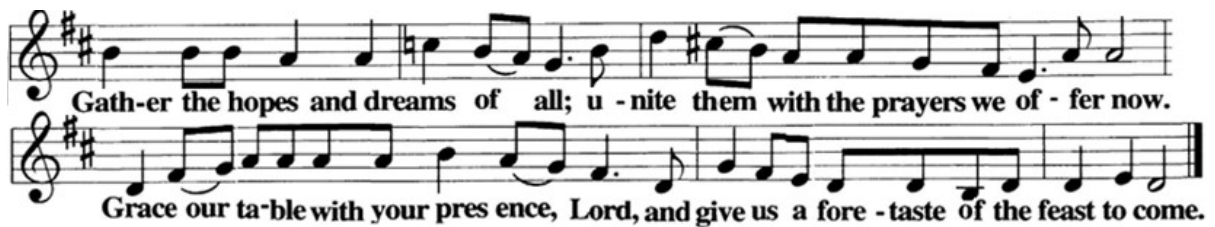
During this portion of the worship service, we offer to God a portion of what God has first given us, trusting that God will use these gifts to do God's work in the world. We offer thanks to God with financial gifts, song, and prayer. Or you can scan this QR code to go to our electronic giving website: <http://www.zionsjonestown.com/giving/>, where you can choose to give either through PayPal, or Simply Giving, which is our regular electronic offering service, offering both one-time, and regular, automatic options.



*OFFERTORY HYMN

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of bless-ing.

Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.



***OFFERING PRAYER**

P: Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. C: Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please stand as you are able.

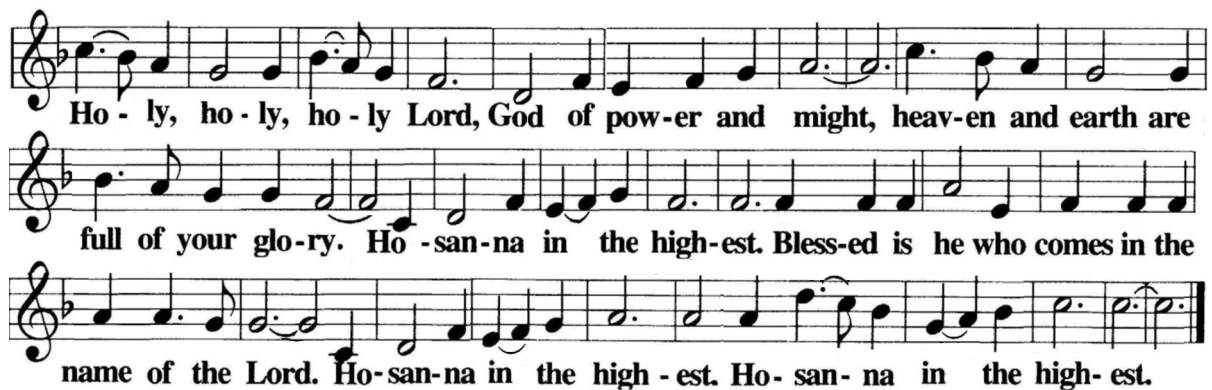
P: The Lord be with you. C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ, who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

P: Blessed are you, Lord our God, for creating us to live together in unity and for forgiving our failures in following your call.

Blessed are you, Abba Father, for sending your beloved Son and for adopting us to be your family of sisters and brothers. Lord we receive this good news. C: **Lord, we receive this good news.**

P: Blessed are you, Sovereign of mercy, for establishing your kingdom in Jesus the Messiah. He healed the sick and welcomed women and men, and taught the commandments.

Blessed is he, the Son of Man, who became a servant to all, and who overcomes the might of Satan until the end of time. Lord, we believe this good news. C: **Lord, we believe this good news.**

P: On the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread, and gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

We remember the good news of his life given for us, his death on the cross, and his rising from the tomb, and together we say:

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

P: By the power of your Spirit, hidden in the ministry of Jesus, reveal yourself to us here, hidden in this bread and cup. Do not forsake us, but save us in the time of trial. By this mystery of Christ's body and blood, cast out our demons, cleanse our hearts, and strengthen our service toward all in need. Lord, do not ever forsake us.

C: Lord, do not ever forsake us.

P: To you, Lord God, the Blessed One, and to your Son, coming at the end in glory, and to the Holy Spirit, descending on us now like a dove, be all our praise and thanksgiving, now and forever. Amen. **C: Amen.**

***LORD'S PRAYER**

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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**

P: Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

This is the Lord's table where all are welcome. At the ushers instruction, you are invited to come forward, pick up either a pre-filled grape juice cup, or empty communion cup, and kneel or stand at the communion railing. (gluten free wafers are available for those who need that, please let Pastor know when you are communing) Here, you will first receive the bread, and then either a blessing of your grape juice, or the wine poured into your glass. After consuming both elements, return to your seat by the side aisle, placing your empty glass in the tray.

*Those who are worshipping at home this morning are invited to **pray this prayer**, trusting that Christ's spiritual presence is with you at all times and places. If you would like Pastor Caitlin to bring communion to your home, call her at 717 865 3652 and she will be glad to do so.*

"Loving Jesus, since I cannot at this moment receive you in bread and wine according to your promise in the sacrament of Holy Communion, I ask you to come to me in Spirit. Feed me, for I am hungry; strengthen me, for I am weak; enliven and sanctify me with Your sacred Body and Blood. Deliver me from all sin and make me always obedient to Your commands. Let me never be separated from You, my Savior, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit live and reign one God forever and ever. Amen."

LAMB OF GOD (Based on Gospel of John 1:29)



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.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS: #207 *We Who Once Were Dead*
(LBW-green book) #126 *Where Charity and Love Prevail*
#359 *In Christ There Is No East or West*

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

P: Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. Grant comfort to all in need of healing, and strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. **C: Amen**

***BENEDICTION**

P: The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, be upon you now and forever.

C: Amen.

***SENDING HYMN: ELW 689 Praise and Thanksgiving**

As the cross is recessed, you are invited to turn your body towards the rear, symbolic of our desire to follow Christ out into the world.

1 Praise and thanks-giv-ing, God, we would of-fer for all things
 2 God, bless the la-bor we bring to serve you, that with our
 3 Fa-ther, pro-vid-ing food for your chil-dren, by Wis-dom's
 4 Then will your bless-ing reach ev-'ry peo-ple, free-ly con-

liv-ing, you have made good: har-vest of sown fields, fruits of the
 neigh-bor we may be fed. Sow-ing or till-ing, we would work
 guid-ing teach us to share one with an-oth-er, so that, re-
 fess-ing your gra-cious hand. Where you are reign-ing, no one will

or-chard, hay from the mown fields, blos-som and wood.
 with you, har-vest-ing, mill-ing for dai-ly bread.
 joic-ing with us, all oth-ers may know your care.
 hun-ger; your love sus-tain-ing show-ers the land.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-1984, alt. Music: Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version Text © Oxford University Press Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress BUNESSAN 5 5 4 D

***DISMISSAL**

L: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ. C: **Thanks be to God.**

We're glad you're here! Whether today is your first day at Zion's, or your thousandth, we're glad you're here, and we look forward to worshipping with you. If you're new, or it's been a while, we invite you to fill out one of the "We're glad you're here" white envelopes located in the pew back to ensure our records are correct, and so we can connect with you further. Completed cards can be placed in the offering plate. Thank you, and welcome!

This week we especially remember in our prayers: Lindsay, Traci, Pastor Ted Hummel, and the people of war-torn countries.

This Week at Zions:

- August 19, Monday @ 2:00 pm Christian Education committee meeting
- August 19, Monday @ 6:30 pm Mission Ministry meeting
- August 21, Wednesday @ 9:00 am Quilting
- August 24, Saturday *** Back to School Blessings ***

Next Week at Zions:

August 25, Sunday: Blessing of the backpacks

August 28, Wednesday @ 9:00 am Quilting

August 28 & 29, Wed. & Thur. @ 6:00 pm Preschool Open House

Other News from Zions:

Sunday, August 25: Blessing of Teachers and Students during worship Everyone who attends or works in a school (at any level) is invited to participate in the Children's Sermon on this day as we kick off a new school year with a word of blessing and special gift that reminds us to "Be loved. Be kind. Be you." Friends welcome!

Sunday, September 8: God's Work, Our Hands afternoon of service Zion's is joining the movement with hundreds of other ELCA congregations to participate in an afternoon of service at the beginning of September. After worship and lunch, we'll break into groups to pack college care packages, finish quilts for Lutheran World Relief, do yard work for two local seniors, and (children especially) make some stuffed fish for a "loaves and fishes" fundraiser that also begins off that day! There will be jobs for every age and ability, and we hope you'll be able to participate!

Now hiring: Wednesday Ministry Assistant We are grateful for Maddie Hess' faithful service as our Wednesday Ministry Assistant during the past year. Due to a new job, she needs to step back her position at the church, so we are now looking to hire her replacement. This person will be primarily responsible for the meal we serve before Rejoicing Spirits--either cooking meatballs or chicken nuggets, or arranging pot-luck contributions and preparing the salad and drinks. A complete job description is posted on the bulletin board outside the church office, or available at www.ZionsJonestown.com Resumes and cover letters should be emailed to pastorckurtz@gmail.com by Sunday, September 22. Please help spread the word!

THIS SATURDAY !! Back to School Blessings event, on Saturday, August 24! This event will be held at the Northern Education Center / former Jonestown Elementary building. This event, started by Zion's but now sponsored by the NL Ministerium, provides new sneakers, jeans, socks, underwear, school supplies, and a back to school outfit to children in our community who are in need. We anticipate serving at least 175 students. YOU can help by volunteering the day of the event (email adreiner74@gmail.com) or use this QR code: and/or by providing a financial contribution towards the event. Contributions of any amount are welcome, and can be made payable to the NL Ministerium or Zion's, marked for "Back to School". For reference, \$125 will fully sponsor an older student, \$100 will sponsor a younger student, \$30 will sponsor a filled backpack and \$10 will sponsor socks/underwear. THANK YOU!



Check out "August's Member to Remember" on the bulletin board! Philip Mohn is this month's star! You can read about his faith and favorite experiences at Zion's in the weekly e-mail, or on the bulletin board by the Church Office.

Council Highlights are available. You can pick up a copy from the large bulletin board in the gathering area.

Did you know? Due to new babies and changes in health, Zion's is looking for a few more CRUCIFERS. A crucifer is someone who carries a cross. At Zion's, this involves leading the procession at the beginning and end of the service. Symbolically, the procession indicates the Christian life, following Christ wherever he leads – into the sanctuary to worship and out into the world to serve. Our crucifer also helps serve communion by refilling the chalices (the wine cups) from the flagon (the large pitcher of wine) as needed. Any adult or confirmed youth who can carry the cross is eligible to be a crucifer. Crucifers serve one week at a time, scheduled around your availability. If you are willing to serve in this way, please contact the Church Office or call or text Michelle McQuaide at (330) 958-3399.

LARGE PRINT bulletins are now available with the ebulletins and the ushers. For now, we are printing a limited number and will adapt according to need. If this would be helpful for you, or a family member, PLEASE take one, and share feedback with Pastor Caitlin.

Friends of Spang Crest fall Chicken Bar-B-Que will be held Friday, Sept. 6, from 2:30-6:00 pm. \$11.00 includes 1/2 chicken, baked potato, roll & applesauce. See Leah Wolfe for tickets! Proceeds benefit the residents of Spang Crest.

An **USHER** sign-up sheet has been posted on the large bulletin board in the gathering area. If you can share your gifts as an usher, please sign-up! Positions are still available!!

*** **GREETERS ARE NEEDED** *** If you are able to serve in this way, please contact Noel Strattan, dns@telecommute.net or **Greeter sign-up** is available online.

MUSICIAN: Maryann Guldin SOUND: Houser family ZION'S OFFICE: 717-865-2848 zions@comcast.net	VIDEOGRAPHER: James Cascarino PASTOR: Caitlin M. Kurtz PASTOR'S OFFICE: 717-865-3652 pastorckurtz@gmail.com
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Serving at Zion's		Today	Next Sunday
Lector		Tracy Hoy	Terry Ludwig
Prayer		Kelly Rittle	John Mohn
Children's sermon		Ed Ludwig	Tracy Hoy
Comm. Assts.		Linda Wenrich	Noel Strattan Deb Long
Greeter		Elaine Ludwig	
Acolyte		Annabella Hess	Derek Wolfe
Crucifer		Logan Livingston	Madison Hess
Altar Guild		Merkel family	Strattan/Wenrich
Elevette		Tom Frey	Ann Kulp
Ushers	August- Rick Herr, Georgetta Wolfe, Jim Fowler		