## Welcome to Zion's Lutheran Church

## 25th Sunday after Pentecost

November 10, 2024

Pastor Caitlin M. Kurtz

Every Week at Zions: @ 10:30 Worship, 9:15 Sunday School

Wednesday night activities 5:30 meal, 6:15 Rejoicing Spirits worship, 6:50 Bible Study

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, our refuge, our delight, our beginning and our end. C: Amen.
- P: Let us come in truth before the one who loves us and has freed us from our sin.

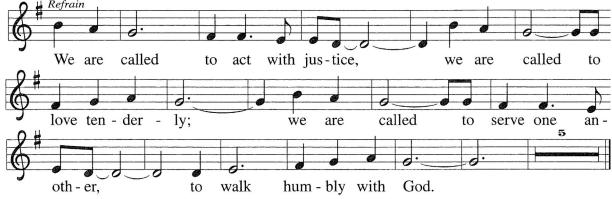
Silence is kept for reflection

- P: Eternal One, robed in majesty and mercy,
- C: we confess that sin has taken hold of us and we are complicit in its power. We are disturbed in spirit and our hearts cannot rest. Unbind us and set us free. Lead us again to the waters of rebirth, that we may live just and generous lives for the good of your world and the care of our neighbors, following in the servant way of Jesus. Amen.
- P: These words are trustworthy and true: Christ bore our sins once, for all, on the cross, swallowing up death forever. For his sake, you are forgiven and God remembers your sin no more. Let your heart be glad again, and rejoice in your salvation. **C:** Amen.

\*Opening Hymn: ELW 720 We Are Called

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





Text: David Haas, b. 1957 Music: David Haas Text and music © 1988 GIA Publications, Inc. WE ARE CALLED Irregular

## \*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.

## \*Hymn of Praise



#### \*Prayer of the Day

P: O God, you show forth your almighty power chiefly by reaching out to us in mercy. Grant us the fullness of your grace, strengthen our trust in your promises, and bring all the world to share in the treasures that come through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** 

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 17:8-16 (pg. 282 in pew Bible)

Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, 'Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there; for I have commanded a widow there to feed you.' So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, 'Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink.' As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, 'Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.' But she said, 'As the Lord your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die.' Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son. For thus says the Lord the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the Lord sends rain on the earth.' She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord that he spoke by Elijah.

After the Reading: Congregation: Thanks be to God.

**PSALM:** Psalm 146 (pg. 507 in pew Bible, next) (read responsively)

Leader: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

Congregation: I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

L: Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help.

C: When their breath departs, they return to the earth; on that very day their plans perish.

L: Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God,

C: who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith for ever;

L: who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets the prisoners free;

C: the Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.

L: The Lord watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

C: The Lord will reign for ever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the Lord!

**SECOND READING:** Hebrews 9:24-28 (pg. 976 in pew Bible)

For Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgement, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

After the Reading: Congregation: Thanks be to God.

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

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

#### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



\*Gospel: Mark 12:38-44 (pg. 825 in pew Bible)

Before reading: P: The Holy Gospel According to St. Mark, the 12th Chapter. C: Glory to you, O Lord. As he taught, he said, 'Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the market-places, and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honour at banquets! They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.' He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, 'Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.'

After the reading: P: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

## **SERMON**

\*HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW 695 As Saints of Old



## **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 you mercy," respond: Hear our Prayer)

(after hearing the final petition, "We offer our prayers to you, gracious God, trusting in your boundless love for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ our Savior." C: Amen)

## \*SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

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

#### 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



#### \*OFFERING PRAYER

P: Lord Jesus, our portion and our cup, you offered yourself in love for the world, and in this meal you nourish us with your life. Fill us with your abundance, that we may feed the hungry and welcome the stranger, trusting in your name. **C: Amen.** 

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please stand as you are able.

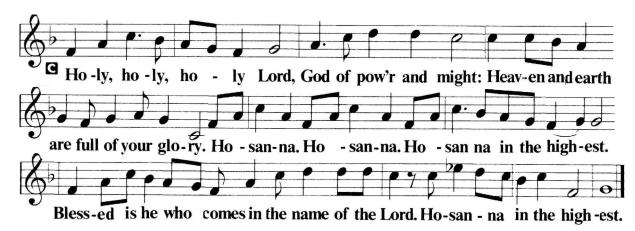
P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

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: Holy, mighty and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus 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

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C: Amen

## \*LORD'S PRAYER

of me.

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: Behold, God is making all things new. Take your place in the new creation.

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)



**DISTRIBUTION HYMNS:** (WOV - blue book)

#699 Blessed Assurance #778 O Christ the Same

#744 Soon and Very Soon

#### \*Post Communion Prayer

P: Faithful God, you have spread before us a feast of rich food and drink in the body and blood of your Son. Now send us out to labor with you, in service to the world you have made, and among the people you have made your home, in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** 

### \*BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. **C: Amen.** 

\*SENDING HYMN: WOV 721 Go, My Children, with My Blessing (next page)

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.





Text: Jaroslav Vajda, b. 1919 Music: Welsh Text © 1983 Jaroslav J. Vajda AR HYD Y NOS 8 4 8 4 8 8 8 4

## \*DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Encourage one another in 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 worshiping 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: Kelly, Stephen, Miriam, Dean, Jeff, Peggy, Val, Brooke, Chris, Jeanne, Randy, Andy Bomberger, Nancy Winklebleck, Pastor Ted Hummel, hurricane victims and all victims of violence.

## This Week at Zions:

- Nov. 11, Monday @ 6:30 pm Worship & Music committee meeting
- Nov. 12, Tuesday @ 9:00 am Quilting
- Nov. 13, Wednesday @ 5:30 community meal, 6:15 pm Rejoicing Spirits worship, 6:50 Bible Study

## **Next Week at Zions:**

- Nov. 18, Monday @ 6:30 pm Church Council meeting
- Nov. 19, Tuesday @ 9:00 am Quilting AND Nov. 19, Tuesday @ 10:00 am Preschool event
- Nov. 20, Wednesday @ 10:30 NL Ministerium meeting
- Nov. 20, Wednesday @ 5:30 community meal, 6:15 pm Rejoicing Spirits worship, 6:50 Bible Study,
- Nov. 22, Friday @ 10:00 am Preschool event
- Nov. 23, Saturday @ 9:00 am Babies & Bibles meets

#### Other News from Zions:

In addition to the "Prayer List" which is printed in the weekly bulletin and read aloud as part of the Prayers of Intercession, Zion's also has a "Prayer Chain" which operates via email. Prayer Chain emails are sent out as requested and includes prayer requests for members of our community and their immediate family members. If you would like to be added to the list of people who receive these email updates occasionally OR have someone you'd like to request prayers for via the Prayer Chain, please email Maryann Guldin (ma.guldin@gmail.com). If you'd like someone's name included as part of the Prayer List on Sunday morning, please email Bonny (zions@comcast.net)

Thrivent Action Team reminder: If you are a Thrivent member with access to Action Team cards, please remember that they have a "use it or lose it" policy--2024 Action Team cards need to be applied for by December 31, and you can only apply for one at a time (most eligible members have access to two cards per year). These cards can be used for a wide variety of projects that serve the community, and can be a great way to respond to the many needs you hear of this time of year. If you have cards and need help coming up with a project, please talk with Pastor Caitlin or Jim Gill!

Thank you for your generosity! We have received 35 Generosity Cards towards our goal of 41, and we are grateful for your support! If you'd like to help bring us across the finish line, extra Generosity Cards are available in the windowsill, or you can use this QR code. We appreciate your help as we live our guiding principle "Always growing as disciples".

**Newsletter from our Young Adult in Global Mission** Most year's Zion's sponsors a Young Adult in Global Mission, through the ELCA. Carolina is serving in Cambodia. You can read her latest newsletter on the bulletin board outside the church office.

**Touching Tomorrow Endowment Fund**: It's that time of year! We are grateful to share that we have over \$40,000 available to distribute from our Touching Tomorrow Endowment Fund. Applications can be found on our website or on the bulletin board outside the Church Office. Completed applications are due by December 1 and can be submitted via email to <a href="mailto:zions@comcast.net">zions@comcast.net</a>, snail mail, or by placing your application in Jim Gill's "Endowment" mailbox, located outside the Church Office. More information on how these monies can be used is included on the application.

The Kitchen/Pastor's Office Roof Replacement has been completed! On October 20, the congregation approved spending up to \$25,000 from the Capital Fund to replace this 60+ year old roof that was riddled with leaks. We're grateful that we had the funds available to do this work immediately, and now ask for your help replenishing the Capital Fund. Gifts can be made through Simply Giving, PayPal, or marked 'Capital fund' on your offering checks. Thank you!

The NL Clothing Closet could use your time! We are open seven days a week, and in particular need for volunteers on Thursday evenings (3:30 - 7 PM) and Saturday morning (9:30-1 PM) Volunteers help process and sort, stock new clothing, maintain shelves and racks in shopping areas, launder donations, perform shopper intake, assist shoppers *and best of all: meet new friends as you serve our neighbors!* If you are interested in learning more, please contact the volunteer coordinator, Joan Lehman 717-450-6767 or <a href="lehman.joan51@gmail.com">lehman.joan51@gmail.com</a>

**Weekly Sunday School** is in session! Classes begin at 9:15 AM each Sunday morning, for children as young as three, up through adults. See Pastor Caitlin for more information about the different classes.

**Youth choir** will meet after church in the sanctuary on for practice. There are no age restrictions to participate. Contact Joanna Guldin (<u>joanna.guldin@gmail.com</u> or 717-228-9846) for information.

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

**LARGE PRINT bulletins** are now available with the elevette bulletins and the ushers.

**Need a study Bible?** We have a brand new paper back copy of the Lutheran Study Bible, and we'd love to give away! We used to give these to our Confirmation students but have found that they don't always hold up to their use, so now we give them hardback versions. In addition to scripture, these Bibles are full of informational tidbits and devotional questions. Pick up one today in the Gathering Area!

**Free Piano** We have an extra piano in the Social Hall that we no longer need. If you, or someone you know, could put it to good use, we'd love to give it to you. Please see Pastor Caitlin if you're interested.

Serving at Zion's		Today	Next Sunday	
Lector		Linda Wenrich	Leah Wolfe	
Prayer		Kerri Price	Deb Reiner	
Children's sermon		Tracy Hoy	Noel Strattan	
Comm. Assts.		Deb Long, Ed Ludwig	Linda Wenrich	
Greeter		Elaine Ludwig	Joanna Guldin-Noll	
Acolyte		Madelyn Rittle	Greyson McQuaide	
Crucifer		Daryl Hess	Rob McQuaide	
Altar Guild		Strattan/Wenrich	Merkel family	
Elevette		Tom Frey	Ann Kulp	
Ushers	Nov: G	Nov: Georgetta Wolfe, Jim Fowler, Luke Hiester		

MUSICIAN: Maryann Guldin
PASTOR: Caitlin M. Kurtz
ZION'S OFFICE: 717-865-2848

VIDEOGRAPHER: James Cascarino
PASTOR'S OFFICE: 717-865-3652
zions@comcast.net

SOUND: Houser family
pastorckurtz@gmail.com

**Poinsettias**: Zion's will be decorating with red poinsettias, from Pine View Greenhouse on route 343, for Christmas. If you would like to sponsor a poinsettia in a 6 1/2 inch pot, please pick up and fill out a form which can be found outside the back of the sanctuary doors on the window sills. **Return the form and \$6.50 per plant before November 24** with your payment to the church, or place in the offering plate. Poinsettias may be taken home after the Christmas Eve service.

Everyday, Zion's ministries impact the lives of people near and far -- embodying God's love and hope in a weary world. What follows is a testimony about the difference God is making through our congregation. We are grateful for your support that makes these ministries possible, and we look forward to worshiping, learning, & serving with you!

# "Without the influence of the church growing up, I would have a different perspective on life and how to treat people."

I am a musically driven engineering student finishing my degree at the University of Pittsburgh. My passion is in playing the piano and making music and I am using my engineering skills to explore these areas technologically.

Growing up in the church and singing in the choirs were foundational pieces for not only discovering how I could spread God's love in my life, but also for building my evolving passion in music and knowledge of the Bible. Without the influence of the church growing up, I would have a different perspective on life and how to treat people.

In middle school, my Confirmation project was to play the service for Youth Sunday, choose the hymns for it, and explain what each hymn meant to me and why I selected it. Since having this simple but powerful experience, playing church services has developed my confidence in my skills to spread God's love, strengthened my faith through exploring different Christian communities, and also helped provide for me.

Whatever happens next in my life and wherever I go in the world, making music in the church will open up a future for me to spread the peace and joy I have found through the ministries of Zion's congregation which gave me a comfortable environment in which to explore both my music and faith.

The thing I appreciate most is the willingness of Zion's people to go out of their way to always put other people first and exceed the needs of the people asking for help. Simple acts that take little effort can be life changing. I hope that future generations at Zion's continue to transform the church into something that stretches into many different communities. I hope that Zion's continues to move toward a non-judgmental, welcoming approach to all people so that we continue to spread peace and love all over the world.

--Max Ludwig