

Historic Zion Lutheran Church

DIVINE SERVICE FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

9:00 am Sunday, July 6, 2025

RECEIVING OF THE LORD'S SUPPER AT ZION

As intended by Christ and as practiced by the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church throughout her history, "Closed Communion" is observed in this congregation, in which the Lord's Supper is distributed only to those:

- (a) who have been **baptized** in the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit;
- (b) who have been **instructed** in the truth of Holy Scripture as taught in the Lutheran Confessions, who have been **confirmed** in this Lutheran faith, and who now confess the same doctrines that are taught in this congregation, holding membership in a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod;
- (c) who **believe that in this sacrament the real body and blood of Christ are truly distributed to them and orally received by them**, bestowing on them the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation;
- (d) who **sincerely repent** of all their sins, and desire to receive God's forgiveness in this holy meal.

Guests at our services, before receiving the sacrament, are requested to affirm these facts with one of our pastors. Thank you for honoring our practice. If you are looking for a church home, would like to be a member of Zion, or would like to learn more about the Christian Faith, please speak to one of our pastors about our membership classes.

✠ = *appropriate to make the baptismal sign of the cross*
When "rise" or "kneel" is indicated, it is appropriate to sit if needed

Greeting And Announcements: *The Lord be with you! And also with you!*

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen!

The Office of Confession of Sins and Absolution

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

[*Kneel*]

Our help is in the name of the Lord Who made heaven and earth.
I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord. And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen!

The Congregation rises, turns towards the entrance of the nave, and faces the Cross of Christ, the reminder of Christ's promise to come and dwell among His people as they are gathered in His name.

Introit



[Antiphon] *The heavens declare the | •glory• of God, || and the sky above pro- | claims his hand- i- | work. || Day to day | pours out speech, || and night to | night re- veals__ | •knowledge•.*

Verse 1: **Their measuring line goes out through | all the earth, || and their words to the | end__ of the | world. || In them he has set a tent | for the sun, || which comes out like a bridegroom | leav- ing his__ | •chamber•,**

Verse 2: *And, like a strong man, runs its | course with joy. || Its rising is from the | end__ of the | •heavens•, || and its circuit to the | end of them, || and there is nothing | hid- den from its | heat.*

Gloria: **Glory be to the Father and | to the Son: || and | to the Ho- ly | •Spirit•; || As it was in the be- | •ginning•, is now, || and will | be for- •ever• A- | men!**

[Antiphon] *The heavens declare the | •glory• of God, || and the sky above pro- | claims his hand- i- | work. || Day to day | pours out speech, || and night to | night re- veals__ | •knowledge•.*

Kyrie

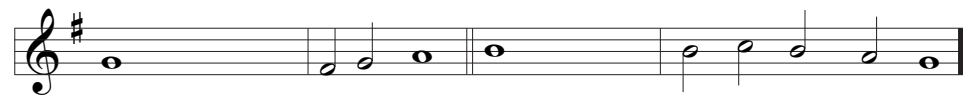


Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have



mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

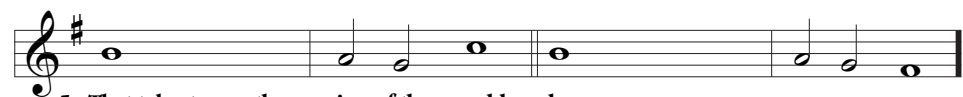
Gloria



1. *Glory be to God on high: And on earth . . . peace good will •toward• men*
2. *We praise Thee, we we glorify Thee,
bless Thee, we wor-ship Thee, we give thanks to | Thee, for Thy great •glory•.*



3. *O Lord God, heav'n- ly King, God, the Fa- ther Al-__ •mighty•,*
4. *O Lord, the only- O Lord God,
begotten Son, Je- sus Christ; Lamb of God, . . . Son__ of the •Father•,*

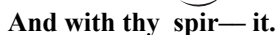


5. *That takest away the . . sin •of the• world, have mercy up - - - - - on__ us.*
6. *Thou that takest away the sin •of the• world, re - - - - - ceive our •prayer•*
7. *Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the •Father•, have mercy up - - - - - on__ us.*

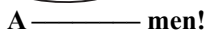


8. *For Thou •only• art •holy• Thou on - - ly art the Lord.*
9. *Thou, only, O art most
Christ, with the . . . Ho - - ly Ghost; high in the | •glory• of God the •Father• A-men.*

The Lord be with you.



Collect for the Fourth Sunday after Pentecost: *Almighty God, You have built Your Church on the foundation of the apostles and prophets with Christ Jesus Himself as the cornerstone. Continue to send Your messengers to preserve Your people in true peace that, by the preaching of Your Word, Your Church may be kept free from all harm and danger; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*



[*Be Seated*]

+ The Office of the Word of God +

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 66:10-14

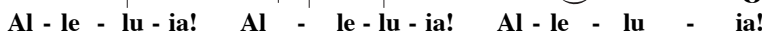
[After the reading] *This is the word of the Lord.* **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle of the Day Galatians 6:1-10, 14-18

[After the reading] *This is the word of the Lord.* **Thanks be to God.**

[*Rise*]

[Deacon] *Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! 'Peace be to this house!' 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' Alleluia!*



Holy Gospel St. Luke 10:1-20

[*The Gospel is announced.*]

[*The Gospel is proclaimed.*]



I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven

[Bow] **And was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, And was made man;**

And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven, And sits at the right hand of the Father; And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; Whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe in one Holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, And I look for the resurrection of the dead, And the life $\frac{1}{2}$ of the world to come. Amen!

[*Be Seated*]

Hymn of the Day Jesus Has Come and Brings Burgundy Hymn 533

Sermon

[Rise] Prayer of the Church

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs: [After each petition]:..., Lord, in Your mercy: Hear our prayer.
[After the final prayer]:..., one God, now and forever Amen.

[Be Seated] Offerings, Voluntary

[Rise] OffertoryCreate in Me a Clean Heart, O God

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir-it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from Thy pres - ence, and
take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store un-to me the joy of
Thy sal - va - tion; and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

+ The Office of the Sacrament of the Altar +

Preface

The Lord be with you. Lift up your hearts.

And with thy spir - it. We lift them up un-to the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

It is meet and right so to do.

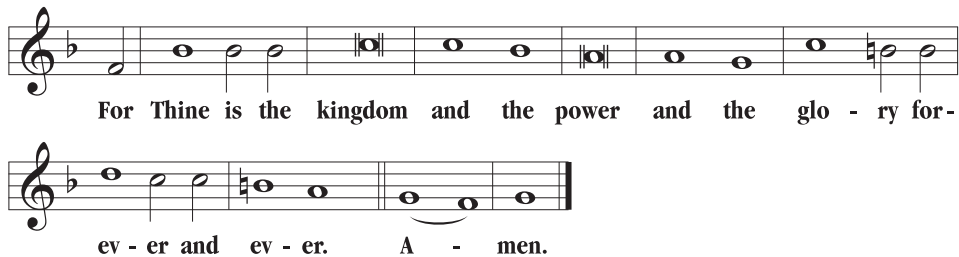
Common Preface, Sanctus

It is truly meet, right and salutary ever more praising You and saying:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry; Ho - san-na Ho - san-na, Ho -
san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is He, Bless-ed is He, Bless-ed is He that
com-eth in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na, Ho - san-na, Ho-san-na in the highest.

[Kneel] Lord's Prayer

[Pastor chants:] *Our Father who art in heaven; but deliver us from evil.*



For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glo - ry for -
ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

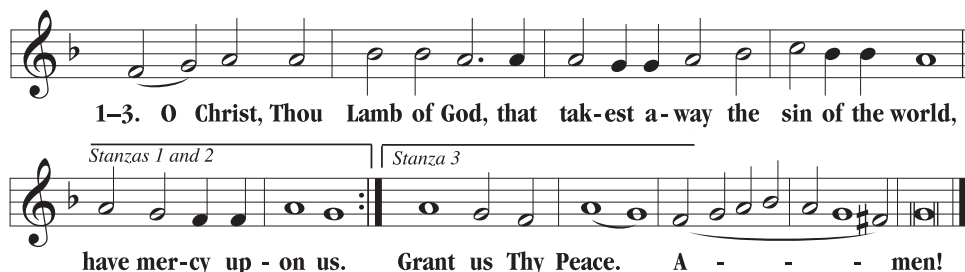
Words of Institution, Pax Domini

The peace of the Lord be with you always!



A - men.

Agnus Dei



1-3. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world,
have mer-cy up - on us. Grant us Thy Peace. A - - - - men!

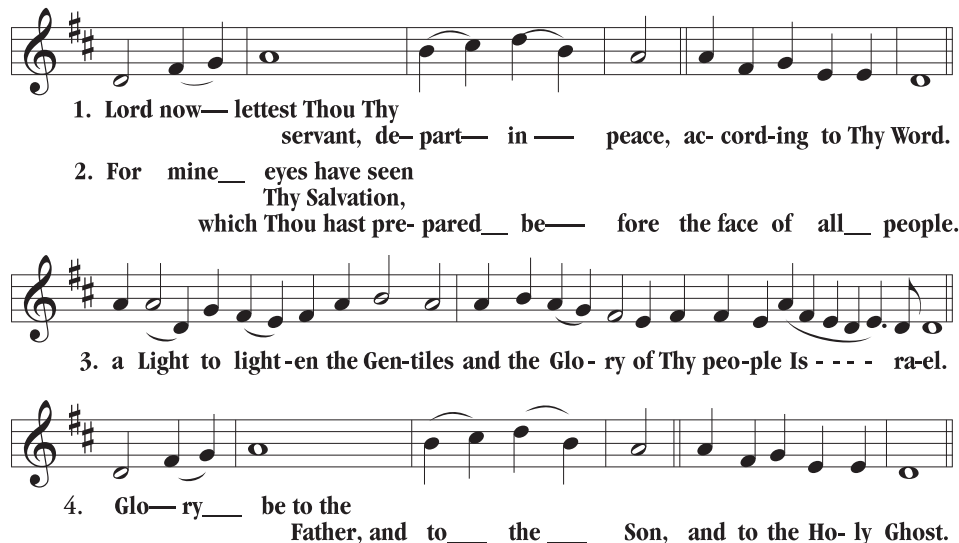
[Be Seated]

Distribution Hymns **God of the Prophets** **Burgundy Hymn 682**
Spread the Reign of God **Burgundy Hymn 830**

Eucharistic Benediction

The Body and Blood of your Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting! ✠ Depart in Peace! Amen!

Post-Communion Canticle The Nunc Dimittis



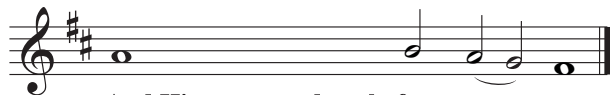
1. Lord now— lettest Thou Thy
servant, de- part— in — peace, ac- cord-ing to Thy Word.
2. For mine__ eyes have seen
Thy Salvation,
which Thou hast pre- pared__ be— fore the face of all__ people.
3. a Light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the Glo- ry of Thy peo-ple Is - - - - ra-el.
4. Glo— ry__ be to the
Father, and to__ the __ Son, and to the Ho- ly Ghost.



5. As it — was in the beginning, is now, and e-ver shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post Communion Rite

Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.



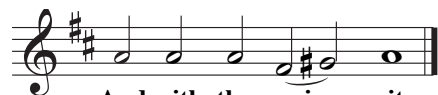
And His mercy endureth for — ev — er.

Prayer of Thanksgiving ... now and forever.



A — men.

The Lord be with you.



And with thy spir — rit.

Bless we the Lord.



Thanks be to God.

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



A - men, A - men, A - men.

During the Recessional, the Congregation turns and faces the Processional Cross, the symbol of Christ's promise to remain with and lead His people as they now go and live in the world in His name.

Recessional Hymn Before You, Lord, We Bow Burgundy Hymn 966

Postlude

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Psalm Tone for Introit and Alleluia: from The Anglican Chant Psalter, copyright © 1987 by The Church Hymnal Corporation; used by permission.

PRAYERS FOR TODAY

- + For the church, especially those bearing the cross of persecution, including Bishop Juhana Pohjola and Dr. Päivi Räsänen
- + For those who serve our Lord at home and abroad, especially our teachers nearing the end of another academic year, our fieldworker Nate Demlow, and vicars Matthew Harrison and Paul Mroczenski (Paul vicaring in Puerto Rico)
- + For our nation; for our leaders; for our military, including James Hall
- + For our schools, especially Lutheran South Unity School, Concordia Lutheran High School, and Concordia Theological Seminary
- + For those who travel
- + For the aged and the homebound
- + For those who are on hospice care
- + For the ill, distressed, and those suffering affliction, including Frank Jackson, Earl Marcel Sisson, Richard Lammert, Phyllis Lattimore, Nate Demlow, Debra Busche, Carl Albersmeyer, Connie Houser, Estella Ramirez, Bill Weinrich, Dwight Bieberich, Willodean Bates, Dick Hollman, Elaine Seifert, Bob Ockree, Joe Harrison, Louisa Porter, Marlow Hogan, Marissia White, Gary Phillips, David Groth, Gary Castle, Ron Rastl, Robert & Jenny Hobby
- + For God's blessing on all godly marriages, especially Marty & Judy Thomas
- + For the gift of life and for length of days
- + For the gift of rebirth by water and the Spirit
- + For those who mourn the death of loved ones
- + In remembrance of the faithful departed, including Jill Stokes, David & Savannah Stokes
- + For our communicants and for a fruitful use of the most Blessed Sacrament of our Lord's Body and Blood

IN THE SERVICE TODAY

Today is the Divine Service for the Fourth Sunday after Pentecost. The Cross Bowl is given in celebration of the 30th wedding anniversary of Marty & Judy Thomas, which was on July 1st. The Altar Vases are given in loving memory of Jill Stokes birthday and in memory of David & Savannah Stokes by Bo Stokes. Please complete an attendance communion card, including the names of all children, and indicate if you are communing. Non-members, please read the back of the card.

CALENDAR

July 6, 2025 thru July 12, 2025

SUN.	9:00 AM Divine Service	Church
	10:45 AM Adult Bible Study	Bauer Hall
MON.		
TUES.	9:00 AM Weekday Bible Study	Bauer Hall
WED.		
THURS.	7:00 PM Elders Meeting	Conference Room
FRI.		
SAT.	Private Confession	Church
	1:00 PM Adult Catechesis this week	Conference Room

July 13, 2025

SUN. 9:00 AM Divine Service	Church
10:45 AM Education Hour	

ZION ANNOUNCEMENTS

EDUCATION HOUR: Dr. Voelz continues in the Gospel according to St. Mark, in Bauer Hall. Because Pastor Punke is going to be gone all of July, our alternate adult/teenage class is being suspended until after school starts back up (exact date tbd).

FYI: Marge, Keiko & I will be gone for the whole month of July. If you need anything please call the office, and Melvia will have one of the elders get back to you.

2:11 image, please call him or go to the home phone or say if you need anything please call the office, and Maria will have one of the elders get back to you.
THANKS TO THESE SERVANTS who have already stepped in or will step in to lead the Divine Service in Pastor's absence (Rev. Michael Bahr – July 6, Rev. Dr. Jim Voelz – July 13, Rev. Michael Bahr – July 20, Rev. Dr. Roland Ziegler – July 27); and to Benjamin Wessel who is stepping in to teach Adult Catechesis July 12 & 19.

SOMETHING NEW A decades-long weekday Bible class, originally sponsored by St. Paul's, has moved several times and had several dedicated teachers over the years. Started Tuesday, June 17, it will meet in Bauer Hall each Tuesday at 9:00 AM. Pastor Jim Teasdale has kindly offered to teach the class, following a decade of service by Pastor Geoff Robinson from the Indiana District office. Lutheran adults—both men and women—from any congregation are most welcome; we have recently had regular attendees from five area congregations.

REMINDER: we are using email to notify you of important events (i.e, funerals, closings, etc). Please make sure that Melvia has a current email address for you. Your giving statements are ready please stop by Julie's table to receive them.

BRAND SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE: The Education Council will meet today after Divine Service to consider the Brand Scholarship applications and make its recommendations to the Admin Council. Any additional applications need to be turned in by the end of July.

MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE: John 15:5—"I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. " Last week's verse was Proverbs 3:5-6.

WE CAN FACE COMPETING PRIORITIES when we think about planning our estates someday. Will my plans preserve what I have gathered or give it away? Estate planning can be a bit unsettling as it punctuates the finite number of days here in this life. Yet our life in Jesus is eternal, without end. How will decisions in your estate plan keep the focus on things that matter eternally? Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can help you find that eternal focus. Contact Mark Muehl at 260-241-4845 or mark.muehl@lfnd.org.

RLNI: join in for their pro-life seminar discussing Medical Aid in Dying (MAiD) on July 28th, from 6:30-8:00 pm at the RLNI Training Center (3106 Lake Ave, Fort Wayne, IN 46835). MAiD refers to the practice of a healthcare professional providing a terminally ill patient with the means to end their life. Come learn how to address this end-of-life issue, as a Christian who professes that God alone is the Author of Life. RSVP at ichooselife.org/seminar or email abigail@ichooselife.org. Light refreshments will be served. Also, You're invited to join Right to Life of Northeast Indiana on Tuesday, October 14th at 5:30 pm at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum for the Fall Banquet with **keynote speaker Kirk Cameron!** Come celebrate our 51st year, as an organization tickets are available for purchase. This event is expected to be a record-breaking size.

OUR LITTLE PRAISERS are looking for a Director. We're seeking the right person to step into this meaningful role; someone gifted in leadership, passionate about early childhood, and grounded in love and faith. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions to Jennifer J. Johnson, Executive Director, Praise Lutheran Church, Office: 260-490-7729 ext 304 or Cell: 260-298-9098

WYNEKEN MEMORIAL LUTHERAN SCHOOL is seeking a school teacher (4th grade and/or 5th grade) for the 2025-2026 academic year. Individuals who have LCMS synodical and theological training as well as an Indiana teaching license are preferred. In addition, Wyneken has an opening for a part-time teacher's aide. Those interested are asked to submit a resume and cover letter. For additional information, please contact Andrew Gavrun at 260-639-6177 or principal@wyneken.org.

For the family of God's Priestly People at Zion

God calls His own people a "Royal Priesthood." God makes us kings and queens, princes and princesses who are bound together by the Holy Spirit in Baptism for the Christian benefit of each other. Priests **PRAY** — They talk to God about their neighbor! Priests **TEACH** — They talk to their neighbor about God! Priests **OFFER SACRIFICES** — They offer to God the sacrifice of broken and contrite hearts; they offer their bodies and work as holy services to God for their neighbors. Join in this priestly work of prayer with your fellow members.

Morning Prayer	DAILY LECTIONARY	Evening Prayer
Luke 10:1-20	The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost	Isaiah 66:10-14
Acts 13:13-41	Monday	Judges 2:6-23
Acts 13:42-52	Tuesday	Judges 3:7-31
Acts 14:1-18	Wednesday	Judges 4:1-24
Acts 14:19-15:5	Thursday	Judges 6:1-24
Acts 15:6-21	Friday	Judges 6:25-40
Galatians 1:1-24	Saturday	Judges 7:1-23

THE DAILY PETITIONS OF THE CHURCH

- [Daily] **O Lord, have mercy upon us. O Christ, have mercy upon us. O Lord, have mercy upon us.** Let us pray:
- [S] For the joy of the Resurrection among us; for true and godly worship throughout the world; for diligent preaching and hearing of God's Word of Law and Gospel; for our pastors; for the teachers and students of our Sunday School; for our Bible Class leaders and their students; for our catechumens; Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**
- [M] For workers; for the unemployed; for farmers; for seasonable weather; for businesses small and large; for our leaders, federal, state and local; for the economic welfare of the nations on earth; for peace in our world; Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**
- [T] For the tempted; for the addicted and despairing; for the tortured and oppressed; for the lonely; for the sick, the hospitalized, and the needy; Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**
- [W] For fathers, mothers, and families; for those adults who must rear their children alone; the teachers and students of Lutheran South Unity School and Concordia Lutheran High School; Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**
- [E] For the Church and her pastors; for the training of ministers of the Word; for missionaries of the Church; for the leaders of the Church, including Matthew, our elected president, and

[1] For the Church and her pastors; for the training of ministers of the word; for missionaries of the Church; for the leaders of the Church, including Matthew, our synod president, and Richard, our district president; for those who have not heard the Gospel; for the fruitful use of the blessed Sacrament of the Lord's Body and Blood; Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**

[F] For the preaching of the Cross; for those persecuted for the sake of Gospel; the confession of the orthodox Lutheran faith in our community; Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**

[Sat] For faithfulness unto life's earthly end; for the revival of those who have withered in the faith or fallen away; for the dying; Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer. Amen!

[Daily] **The Our Father**

TO PREPARE FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Leviticus 18:1-5; 19:9-18

Colossians 1:1-14

Luke 10:25-37

The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

2313 Hanna Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46803 | 260-744-1389

pastor@zionfw.org, church@zionfw.org | website: www.zionfw.org

Zion Lutheran Church is the body of Christ at Hanna and Creighton in Fort Wayne, Indiana that:

- Receives Christ's gifts in Word and Sacraments; and
- Responds to God's love in Christ by
 - Reaching out to those who do not know His love; and
 - Revealing His love in acts of kindness and mercy.

The Pastoral Ministry at Zion

Senior Pastor: Rev. Douglas D. Punke, MDiv (341-5397)

Field Workers: Nathaniel Demlow

The Teaching Staff at Lutheran South Unity

Principal: Amber Bahr (744-0459; www.lsusfw.org)

Teachers: Yvonne Schwantz (8th, MS ELA), Michael Cullen (7th, MS Science),
Chase Mertz (6th, MS Social Studies), Danielle Ramsey (5th), Abbey Kohler (4th),
Tiffany Scheurich (3rd), John Fink (2nd), Hannah Fink (1st), Rachel Wiegman (K-A),
Michelle Madden (K-B), Natalie Reynolds (Art), Open Position (Music),
Lizzy Hoham (Progress Partners Coach), Cathie Wakeland (Literacy Coach), Lee Buxton (PE)

The Support Staff

Organist and Director of Parish Music: Michael Hollman, MM

Church Office Manager: Melvia Culpher

Readings for the Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

The Old Testament Reading is Isaiah 66:10-14

“Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her,
all you who love her;
rejoice with her in joy, all you who mourn over her;
that you may nurse and be satisfied
from her consoling breast;
that you may drink deeply with delight
from her glorious abundance.”

For thus says the LORD:

“Behold, I will extend peace to her like a river,
and the glory of the nations like an overflowing stream;
and you shall nurse, you shall be carried upon her hip,
and bounced upon her knees.

As one whom his mother comforts, so I will comfort you;
you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice;
your bones shall flourish like the grass;
and the hand of the LORD shall be known to his servants,
and he shall show his indignation against his enemies.”

The Epistle is Galatians 6:1-10, 14-18

Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor. For each will have to bear his own load.

One who is taught the word must share all good things with the one who teaches. Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith. ...

But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. And as for all who walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God.

From now on let no one cause me trouble, for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers. Amen.

The Gospel is Luke 10:1-20

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go. And he said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. Go your way; behold, I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves. Carry no moneybag, no knapsack, no sandals, and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace be to this house!’

And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest upon him. But if not, it will return to you. And remain in the same house, eating and drinking what they provide, for the laborer deserves his wages. Do not go from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you. Heal the sick in it and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’ But whenever you enter a town and they do not receive you, go into its streets and say, ‘Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet we wipe off against you. Nevertheless know this, that the kingdom of God has come near.’ I tell you, it will be more bearable on that day for Sodom than for that town.

“Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. But it will be more bearable in the judgment for Tyre and Sidon than for you. And you, Capernaum, will you be exalted to heaven? You shall be brought down to Hades.

“The one who hears you hears me, and the one who rejects you rejects me, and the one who rejects me rejects him who sent me.”

The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!” And he said to them, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”

Hymns for the Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

LSB533 Jesus Has Come and Brings

Johann Ludwig Conrad Allendorf

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1. Jesus has come and brings pleasure eternal,
Alpha, Omega, Beginning and End;
Godhead, humanity, union supernal,
O great Redeemer, You come as our friend!
Heaven and earth, now proclaims this great wonder:
Jesus has come and brings pleasure eternal!
2. Jesus has come! Now see bonds rent asunder!
Fetters of death now dissolve, disappear.
See Him burst through with a voice as of thunder!
He sets us free from our guilt and our fear,
Lifts us from shame to the place of His honor.
Jesus has come! Hear the roll of God's thunder!
3. Jesus has come as the mighty Redeemer.
See now the threatening strong one disarmed!
Jesus breaks down all the walls of death's fortress,
Brings forth the pris'ners triumphant, unharmed.
Satan, you wicked one, own now your master!
Jesus has come! He, the mighty Redeemer!
4. Jesus has come as the King of all glory!
Heaven and earth, O declare His great pow'r,
Capturing hearts with the heavenly story;
Welcome Him now in this fast fleeting hour!
Ponder His love! Take the crown He has for you!
Jesus has come! He, the King of all glory!

LSB682 God of the Prophets, Bless the Prophets' Sons Denis Wortman

1. God of the prophets, bless the prophets' sons;
Elijah's mantle o'er Elisha cast.
Each age its solemn task may claim but once;
Make each one nobler, stronger than the last.
2. Anoint them prophets, men who are intent
To be Your witnesses in word and deed,
Their hearts aflame, their lips made eloquent,
Their eyes awake to ev'ry human need.

3. Anoint them priests, strong intercessors they,
For pardon and for love and hope and peace,
That, through their pleading, guilty sinners may
Find Jesus' mercy and from sin release.
4. Anoint them kings, yes, kingly kings, O Lord.
Anoint them with the Spirit of Your Son.
Theirs not a jeweled crown, a bloodstained sword;
Theirs, by sweet love, for Christ a kingdom won.
5. Make them apostles, heralds of Your cross;
Forth let them go to tell the world of grace.
Inspired by You, may they count all but loss
And stand at last with joy before Your face.

LSB830 Spread the Reign of God the Lord Jonathan Friedrich Bahnmaier

1. Spread the reign of God the Lord, Spoken, written, mighty Word;
Ev'rywhere His creatures call To His heav'nly banquet hall.
2. Tell how God the Father's will Made the world, upholds it still,
How His own dear Son He gave Us from sin and death to save.
3. Tell of our Redeemer's grace, Who, to save our human race
And to pay rebellion's price, Gave Himself as sacrifice.
4. Tell of God the Spirit giv'n Now to guide us on to heav'n,
Strong and holy, just and true, Working both to will and do.
5. Enter, mighty Word, the field; Ripe the promise of its yield.
But the reapers, oh, how few For the work there is to do!
6. Lord of harvest, great and kind, Rouse to action heart and mind;
Let the gath'ring nations all See Your light and heed Your call.

LSB966 Before You, Lord, We Bow

Francis Scott Key

1. Before You, Lord, we bow, Our God who reigns above
And rules the world below, Boundless in pow'r and love.
Our thanks we bring In joy and praise,
Our hearts we raise To You, our King!
2. The nation You have blest May well Your love declare,
From foes and fears at rest, Protected by Your care.
For this bright day, For this fair land—
Gifts of Your hand—Our thanks we pay.

3. May ev'ry mountain height, Each vale and forest green,
Shine in Your Word's pure light, And its rich fruits be seen!
May ev'ry tongue Be tuned to praise
And join to raise A grateful song.
4. Earth, hear your Maker's voice; Your great Redeemer own;
Believe, obey, rejoice, And worship Him alone.
Cast down your pride, Your sin deplore,
And bow before The Crucified.
5. And when in pow'r He comes, Oh, may our native land
From all its rending tombs Send forth a glorious band,
A countless throng, With joy to sing
To heav'n's high King Salvation's song!



What Doctor Luther Says:

About the Use of Figurative Language in Scripture

[D]o not doubt that “sin” is used in Scripture in a single very simple way, not in many different ones. Do not let those verbose sophists wrest this away from you. Indeed, sin is simply that which is not in accord with God’s law. The meaning of Rom. 7 [:7] stands firm, “Through the law comes the knowledge of sin” [Rom. 3:20], just as, conversely, through sin comes ignorance of the law. For sin is the darkness which is illuminated and revealed by the law in order that it may be recognized. Now we freely admit and rejoice that Scripture very often uses figures of speech such as synecdoche, ellipsis, metaphor, and hyperbole. Indeed, in no other writing is figurative language more common. Thus “heaven” is throughout Scripture a simple and univocal word which designates the vault of the sky, and yet it is used as a metaphor for the apostles in Ps. 19 [:1]. Everyone knows what the simple word “earth” signifies, but metaphorically it means the godless who are trampled under by vice and evil. ... Isaiah 17 [:7-8] reads, “In that day men will be inclined to their maker, and will not be inclined to their idols,” and Isa. 66 [:12], “Upon the knees shall they caress you”; while in contrast Isa. 6 [:10] has, “Shut their eyes.” ...

These things have been considered in order to show that Scripture is crammed with figurative language, so we ought not to make as many separate words and meanings as there are figurative expressions—for then what need would there be for such expressions? So, coming to the point of this discussion, we see that when Christ is offered up, he is made sin for us metaphorically, for he was in every respect like a sinner. He was condemned, abandoned, put to shame, and in nothing different from a true sinner, except that he had not done the sin and guilt which he bore.

Luther’s Works, 32:195, 199-200.



It's diaper drive time

FACTS: Diaper need can cause significant stress and anxiety for parents, potentially leading to mental health challenges

Zion is collecting diapers for the

community diaper give-a-way event on Sept 6th.

ALL size diapers are needed.

Just bring your diapers to the church and place them into the bassinet.

Last day to bring diapers will be August 24th.

***Last year we gave away 6500 diapers to the community, that's 205 families that got diapers from us.**

**For more information contact
TruLaine Starks 260-615-1873**

LIFE NEWS—JULY 2025



LUTHERANS
FOR LIFE

lutheransforlife.org



Life Newsbytes

64% of Americans Support Defunding Planned Parenthood

— When it comes to federal funding, Americans are speaking loud and clear: They don't want their tax dollars bankrolling gender ideology — or abortion, for that matter. A poll from Life Leadership Conference (LLC), first obtained by Breitbart, revealed 64% of registered voters oppose their hard-earned tax dollars going toward “an organization that provides puberty blockers, hormone therapy, and other gender transition treatments for minors.” Of those in opposition, 76% were Republicans, 71% were Independents, and Democrats were evenly split, 44% to 44%. The poll's findings gain added context from a recent Live Action investigation, highlighted by Breitbart, which alleged that Planned Parenthood —known as the nation's largest abortion business and second-largest distributor of gender transition drugs—has been offering hormone treatments to minors as young as 16 with minimal parental consent or medical oversight ... David Bereit, executive director of LLC, emphasized the public's stance, stating, “The overwhelming majority of Americans strongly oppose their tax dollars bankrolling organizations that target minors for irreversible, sterilizing sex-change treatments and abortions—especially without parental involvement or consent.” (lifenews.com/2025/06/26/64-of-americans-support-defunding-planned-parenthood)

Speaking up For Life

“Know that you, too, have been called to serve on behalf of life at such a time as this. God continually equips you, and you will be in awe of what He is able to do in and through you. The best part is He had it planned in the beginning (Jeremiah 1:5; Psalm 139:16; Ephesians 2:10). May you be blessed as you continue to serve life in His image!” *Jordan Killinger, President of Rice for Life*

“We are each created in God's image regardless of our abilities. He has called us to be His witnesses in the world. We are blessed for life—that we might be a BLESSING—glorifying Him in all we do. Because He has redeemed ME, my response to His everlasting love is to seek to do His will in all things and seek to serve. All His children, regardless of age (pre-born to wise with age), could seek to share God's love with each and every soul God has created.” *Lori Solyom, Director of Development, Voice of Care*

“Let's get back to the basics and drown out the ugly message that death is the solution to life issues. God loves life and His creation. He has no desire for any of us to take our own life or the life of someone else. Our days are in His hands, not our own. May your For Life work be blessed, and may you be filled with the joy that comes with doing the Lord's work as a faithful servant.” *Virginia Flo, Lutherans For Life*

lutheransforlife.org/resources/life-quotes

Every Life Is a Story

by Pastor Michael Salemink, former Executive Director of Lutherans For Life

The Holy Scriptures consist of more than one letter. Almighty God speaks creation in entire sentences. Human beings never occupy just a single moment. Every life is a story.

Every neighbor we encounter—no matter how that individual gets here—this one has meaning. Everything that person has done or won't do, however old or young, it has meaning. Whatever size and shape, she makes a difference, he brings blessings. Each of us amounts to more than assorted cells, isolated fluids, and random spasms. Human means—in every case—a character, with an emerging identity, disclosing a history, developing toward an intended destiny. Every life is a story.

Of course, all narratives have conflict. In fact, those complications give them their significance and their message. But none of us reduce to a mere impediment or obstacle. Not one of our kind represents just an accident or a threat. We all come—from the very first scribble (always a capital!) to the absolute last punctuation mark—as the handiwork and masterpiece of an Author in divine pride and delight. Every life is a story.



The disruptions and surprises actually testify to the intent. Even the earliest embryo carries trajectory, and even the most advanced ages embody momentum. Episodes become experiences and lessons. Mysteries blossom into discoveries and wonders. Interruptions turn out as transitions, seasons, and relationships. Always another page remains, one more chapter, and the circumstance that seems final in reality simply introduces the next possibility and the better opportunity. How sweet the inevitable resolution—after all, Christ is risen!—that more than makes up for the temporary troubles. Every life is a story.

We get to take part. We get to play roles. We get to witness front-row and participate firsthand.

Life issues constitute invitations.

Come share.

Come belong.

When the lights go out, get ready for the show to start.

Every life is a story!



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JULY EVENT SCHEDULE

FACEBOOK: BRIDGE 20/30 GROUP FT. WAYNE

1

JULY 2025

4TH OF JULY TRIVIA NIGHT

7 PM THE GARDEN
3308 N. ANTHONY BLVD

8

JULY 2025

DEVOTION ANCHOR NIGHT: "CONSISTENCY" WITH BRIAN LOESEL FOLLOWED BY CARDS & GAMES

7 PM THE GARDEN
3308 N. ANTHONY BLVD

15

JULY 2025

MEETUP

7 PM HOP RIVER BREWING COMPANY
1515 N HARRISON ST.

22

JULY 2025

SAND VOLLEYBALL FREE PLAY-CASH BAR

7-9 PM EMPOWERED SPORTS CLUB
12124 LIMA RD

29

JULY 2025

LINE DANCING LESSONS - ALL TYPES

7 PM THE FORT WAYNE BALLROOM
COMPANY - 3127 CARROLL RD
\$5/PERSON

Summary of meeting of the Council of Elders, June 12, 2025

(The following summary is being provided in accordance with the congregation's bylaws, §VIII)

Attendance:

Elders present: R. Lammert (chairman), A. Litke (secretary), W. Krause, K. Vlot.

Elders absent: F. Jackson, T. Muehl, J. Teasdale.

Pastor present: Pr. Punke.

Pastor Punke led the elders in a devotion by continuing the reading of Article V of the Apology of the Augsburg Confession.

In his pastor's report, Pastor Punke reported on Zion's field workers, on the reception of a new member, on adult catechesis, on the alternate Sunday morning Bible class, and on health and other issues among members and friends of Zion, Pastor Punke also reported on the upcoming Indiana District convention (at which Pastor will serve as chaplain), on his upcoming time away, on the CADDs survey, on the repairs necessitated by the lightning strike in April, on LSUS, and on CLHS.

The elders reviewed Pillar 1, Goal #1: "Starting April 1, 2025, Zion will experience a 10% increase in average worship attendance by June 30, 2025." Pastor Punke has not had the opportunity to prepare a list of the longer-term inactive members (those with an absence longer than four Sundays). When the list has been prepared, the elders will work with Pastor Punke to begin determining the best way of contacting these members with the goal of involving them again in the Word and Sacrament ministry of the congregation.

The elders reviewed Pillar 2, Goal #1: "In January of 2025, Zion will commence an annual opportunity for providing resources and training for members to gain confidence in inviting neighbors to Zion." This goal is currently on hold; the elders will schedule another *Every One His Witness* workshop for the fall.

Since the CADDs survey has been completed, the elders updated Pillar 2, Goal #4 to the following: "The Council of Elders will work through an ad-hoc committee with the Administrative Council and Education Council to determine whether to proceed and how to proceed to respond to the results of the CADDs survey, with a report by September 30, 2025." The CADDs survey closed on May 4, with 42 responses. The tallied results have been received by the congregation. The ad-hoc committee, with Frank Jackson acting as convener and chairman, will review the results and determine next steps. The two representatives of the Council of Elders on the ad-hoc committee are Frank Jackson and Kurt Vlot.

The meeting was closed by praying Responsive Prayer 1.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard A. Lammert, Chairman



Join us for a Men's Retreat!

September 26-28, 2025

Join us for Lutherhaven's Men's Retreat where faith, fellowship and friendly competition meet under the theme of Iron Sharpens Iron.

Callings for Life: God's Plan, Your Purpose

Dr. Jeffrey Leininger

"...brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship." Romans 12:1 (ESV)

What is God calling me to do? What is the one thing I was placed on this planet for? How can I discover it? What if I miss it? These questions plague us all, whether we're young and ambitious or retired and asking, "what's next." The truth is, however, there is not one thing that you're meant to do. We have multiple callings, and they are unfolding right now. Pastor Leininger will walk us through the theological teaching on vocation, and apply it to the issues affecting Christian men in an increasingly unchristian world.

Come for the food, fellowship, fun and faith that we share as we dive into a great Topic, Games for guys, engaging Sectionals, Free-time, a Cook Out, and time spent in God's Creation! **Other activities include:** Disc Golf, Basketball, Pickleball, Beach Volleyball, Boating, Self-Guided Hikes, A Game Room, and more.

Register & More Information at:

[LUTHERHAVEN.ORG/PROGRAMS/RETREATS/MEN/](https://lutherhaven.org/programs/retreats/men/)

