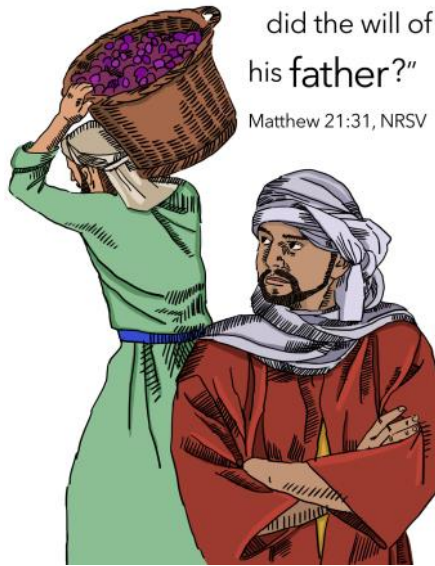


Zion Lutheran Church

"Which of the two
did the will of
his father?"

Matthew 21:31, NRSV



October 1st, 2023
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost



[Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church & Preschool!](#)

Thank you for joining us in worship of the Lord. We would love to get to know you, and for you to learn more about our church family at Zion. Please stop by our welcome table as you leave worship. We cordially invite you to talk with Pastor Grimenstein, our Elders, or any of our church members to learn more about our fellowship. At our website -- zlc.org -- you can find out more about the many worship, Christian education, and fellowship opportunities at Zion.

Communion Statement

We believe that in the Lord's Supper, Christ's physical body and blood are present in the bread and wine (1 Cor. 11:23-25). We also believe receiving the Lord's Supper is an act of church fellowship. Scripture cautions that those who receive without recognizing Christ's body and blood will bring judgment upon themselves (1 Cor. 11:27-29). Therefore, out of love to our guests, we invite to our altar to receive the Lord's Supper those who are baptized, confirmed, repentant members of Lutheran Church -- Missouri Synod congregations or sister congregations. If you are visiting us today from another Christian denomination, we welcome you to come to the altar to receive a baptismal blessing. Please signify by crossing your arms over your chest upon kneeling.

In preparation to receive the Lord's Supper in a worthy manner please consider reading "Christian Questions with their Answers" on Page 329-330. If you are interested in exploring membership, please talk with Pastor Grimenstein or call the church office.

Our Worship

Our worship services are based on traditional church liturgies in which God speaks to us in His Word and we respond to Him. These liturgies were used by the early church almost 2000 years ago and are rich in scriptural meaning, connecting us to our past -- and future -- in Christ Jesus. There is a depth to Lutheran worship that can take time to appreciate, thus you may find that you don't understand everything that is happening the first week you visit. That's OK, we encourage you to keep visiting!

Opening Hymn -- O Holy Spirit, Enter In

#913



1 O Ho - ly Spir - it, en - ter in, And in our hearts
 2 Give to Your Word im - pres - sive pow'r, That in our hearts
 3 O might - y Rock, O Source of life, Let Your dear Word,



Your work be - gin, Your dwell - ing place now make us.
 from this good hour As fire it may be glow - ing,
 in doubt and strife, In us be strong - ly burn - ing



Sun of the soul, O Light di - vine, A - round and in
 That in true Chris - tian u - ni - ty We faith - ful wit -
 That we be faith - ful un - to death And live in love



us bright - ly shine, To joy and glad - ness wake us
 ness - es may be, Your glo - ry ev - er show - ing.
 and ho - ly faith, From You true wis - dom learn - ing.



That we may be Tru - ly liv - ing, To You giv - ing
 Hear us, cheer us By Your teach - ing; Let our preach - ing
 Your grace and peace On us show - er; By Your pow - er



Prayer un - ceas - ing And in love be still in - creas - ing.
 And our la - bor Praise You, Lord, and serve our neigh - bor.
 Christ con - fess - ing, Let us see our Sav - ior's bless - ing.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Service of the Word

Introit – Psalm 147:1–5; antiphon: v. 6



P The LORD lifts up the | humble;
he casts the wicked | to the ground.

C **Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises | to our God;
for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is | fitting.**

**The LORD builds up Je- | rusalem;
he gathers the outcasts of | Israel.**

**He heals the broken- | hearted
and binds | up their wounds.**

**He determines the number | of the stars;
he gives to all of | them their names.**

**Great is our Lord, and abun- | dant in power;
his understanding is beyond | measure.**

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son
and to the Holy | Spirit;**

as it was in the be- | ginning,
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

P The LORD lifts up the | humble;
he casts the wicked | to the ground.

Kyrie



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, You exalted Your Son to the place of all honor and authority.

Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading -- Ezekiel 18:1–4, 25–32

The word of the LORD came to me: “What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, ‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge’? As I live, declares the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die. . . .

“Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just?

“Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading -- Philippians 2:1-4; 14-18

If there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from rivalry or

conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. . . .

Do all things without grumbling or questioning, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



C These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter

When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus answered them, "I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I

do these things. The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?" And they discussed it among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'From man,' we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' And he answered, 'I will not,' but afterward he changed his mind and went. And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, 'I go, sir,' but did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did not afterward change your minds and believe him."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life † everlasting. Amen.

Hymn of the Day -- Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

#655



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in Your Word; Curb those who
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, Your pow'r make known, For You are
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, Send peace and



by de - ceit or sword Would wrest the king - dom from Your
Lord of lords a - lone; De - fend Your ho - ly Church that
u - ni - ty on earth; Sup - port us in our fi - nal



Son And bring to naught all He has done.
we May sing Your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
strife And lead us out of death to life.

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

P ... Lord in your mercy.

C ... Hear our prayer.

Gathering of Offerings

Offering plates are located on the tables at the main and side entrances to the sanctuary.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

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 Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

C 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.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei



1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Distribution

If you are visiting us today from a Christian denomination outside the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, we welcome you to come to the altar to receive a baptismal blessing. Please signify by crossing your arms over your chest upon kneeling.

Distribution Hymns

Renew Me, O Eternal Light	#704
Jesus Comes Today with Healing	#620
Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way	#857

Nunc Dimittis



1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All



part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

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.

Closing Hymn -- Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng #813



1 Re - joi - ce, O pil - grim throng! Re - joi - ce, give
2 With voice as full and strong As o - cean's
3 With all the an - gel choirs, With all the
4 Yet on and on - ward still, With hymn and



thanks, and sing; Your fes - tal ban - ner
surg - ing praise, Send forth the stur - dy
saints on earth Pour out the strains of
chant and song, Through gate and porch and



wave on high, The cross of Christ your king.
hymns of old, The psalms of an - cient days.
joy and bliss, True rap - ture, no - blest mirth.
col - umned aisle The hal - lowed path - ways throng.

Refrain



Re - joi - ce! Re - joi - ce! Re - joi - ce, give thanks, and sing!

- 5 Still lift your standard high, 6 At last the march shall end;
Still march in firm array, The wearied ones shall rest;
As pilgrims through the darkness wend The pilgrims find their home at last,
Till dawns the golden day. Refrain Jerusalem the blest. Refrain

△ 7 Praise Him who reigns on high,
The Lord whom we adore:
The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
One God forevermore. Refrain

Prayer Requests for Family & Friends

The Church:

-**For our homebound members:** Millie Thielet, Florence Boehme, Ron Valentino, Ted & Marian Siek.

-**Healing & Strength for:** Michelle Hopkins (sister of Mark Killinger), Pam Riley (friend of Bobbie Hoelle), Tom & Kim Erbrecht, Mary Lou Neill, Dante (cousin of Maryann McClure), Pastor Ernest Knoche, Jim and Lisa Kress, Jen Fitzgerald, Barbara & Kara Koski, Mike Wallace, Joanne Garloff, Richard Hultman, Rita Sheldon, Dennis & Esther Finney, Eva Bukovitz, Judy Graziano, Alyssa Mance, Shannon Mance, Dave Hutula, and Mabel Granke.

-**For our missions/missionaries,** especially Rev. Phil & Deaconess Rachel Jaseph and The Siberian Lutheran Mission Society.

-For the ministry of Zion Lutheran Sunday School and Preschool.



The World:

-For peace in Ukraine.

-For an end to abortion and human trafficking.

-For the youth in our community.

Our Nation:

-For our leaders and government officials.

-For those in foster care and those looking to adopt.

-For the disabled, unborn and aged.

Service Participants

Pastor:	Rev. Dr. Edward Grimenstein
Music Director:	Mark Killinger
Organist:	Sandy Quinlan
Elders:	Sam Garloff & Mike Wallace (8:00) Bill Bishop & Jim Neill (10:30)
Acolytes:	Elder (8:00); Lizzie Lemonovich (10:30)
Ushers:	Ron Meier, Noah Wallace, Gene Koop, Brian Pasquini (8:00) Dan & Tracey Harris, Jack & Sam Bishop (10:30)
Altar Guild:	Janet & Marian Oelschlager

ALTAR FLOWERS are given by Chuck & Debbie LaJeunesse in celebration of their granddaughter's 3rd birthday; and by Andy Weldon in memory of his grandparents.

ETERNAL LIGHT is given by Alice Miller in memory of her husband Dale.

COLLEGE CARE PACKAGE COORDINATOR -- We are looking for someone to coordinate the sending of small care packages with devotionals to Zion's college students **twice** a year. The coordinator would reach out to others to assist with the purchasing/packing ... a small team has assisted in the past. Currently we have 6 young men and women from Zion attending college. It's important for them to know that their church family loves and remembers them while they're away at college. Please contact the church office with questions, or to volunteer!



Last Week in Worship

Sunday Worship Attendance (9/24) -- 53 (8 am); 83 (10:30 am)

Mid-Week Worship Attendance (9/27) -- 14 (2 pm)

Plate Offerings (9/24) -- \$2373 Online Offering -- \$16,755

Online giving is available on Zion's website at www.zlcb.org/donate



This Week at Zion

SUN 10/1	8:00 AM -- Worship 9:00 AM -- Adult/Teen Bible Study & Sunday school 10:30 AM -- Worship
MON 10/2	6:00 PM -- 1st Year Confirmation 6:30 PM -- Faith Bell Choir 7:00 PM -- 2nd Year Confirmation
TUE 10/3	6:30 PM -- Grace Bell Choir 7:30 PM -- Choir
WED 10/4	2:00 PM -- Mid-Week Worship/Bible Study
THU 10/5	6:00 PM -- Adult Confirmation Class 7:00 PM -- Elders Meeting
FRI 10/6	
SAT 10/7	
SUN 10/8	8:00 AM -- Worship 9:15 AM -- Adult/Teen Bible Study & Sunday school 10:30 AM -- Worship



Donations are Urgently Needed!

Zion is a church partner of the Bridgeville Community Food Bank (BCFB), which is operated out of Bethany Presbyterian Church on Washington Rd. in Bridgeville. The food bank distributes non-perishable food and hygiene products to needy families within the Chartiers Valley and South Fayette communities. A yearly Christmas toy drive is also conducted for Food Bank recipient families.

Barb Oechslein is Zion's volunteer Food Bank coordinator. Barb takes the items contributed by Zion members each month to the BCFB for distribution to needy families. In our monthly Zion newsletter you will find a reminder of the "item of the month" (although you can donate any non-perishable item you choose!) and when the items will be taken to the BCFB each month. Simply bring donated items to church and place them in the tall wicker basket in the narthex.



Please consider supporting the Food Bank with your donations and volunteer service!

Many families in our area are in need due to the increased cost of grocery items!



Zion's 3rd Annual

REFOR-FEST!

Join us for...

Sunday October 29th

Noon - 3:00PM

Rain or shine!

Catered German Meal!

Beer & Root Beer!

Guessing Jars!

Pastor's Famous Bingo!

Steelers vs. Jaguars on the big screen!

Advance Tickets Required!

Adults - \$18 Kids (4-10yrs.) - \$8 3 & under - FREE
Purchase your tickets in the Narthex after Sunday services!

Questions? Contact events@zlecb.org

RSVP by October 6th to Tevia if interested -- grmnstns@live.com

Pittsburgh Zone LWML Fall Rally

Zion Lutheran Church-Lawrenceville

237 37th St, Pittsburgh, PA 15201
Parking lot just below the church

October 14, 2023

Registration begins at 10:00 AM

Meeting starts at 10:30 AM

Cost \$10

To Register contact Mary Lehocky

724-601-2744 or

Marylehocky@hotmail.com

by October 8

Speaker: Dee Grzyb, LWML Eastern District President: "What's Your Why" and "The Treasure Hunt for LWML Resources"

Lunch followed by Zone business meeting and Eastern District 2024 convention meeting.

Ingathering:

Heritage Community Initiatives

classroom supplies: crayons, markers, colored pencils, glue sticks, tape; diapers 6 weeks to toddler; boys' and girls' underwear and socks for 2-5-year-olds

KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE



What do we call the room near the sanctuary?

The room near the sanctuary is called the "sacristy." See if you can find the door to the sacristy in your church. The use of sacristies became common over 1500 years ago. In most churches you will find the sacristy beside or behind the altar area (called the chancel).



What is it used for?

The sacristy is the storage place for the sacred items used in God's house. For example, the vessels and utensils used for Holy Communion are stored there, as well as extra candles, oil and banners. Keeping them in a separate room helps to ensure they are not broken, misplaced or disturbed in any way. Some churches may have two kinds of sacristies. One is the "clergy sacristy" where the pastor keeps his vestments (the clothes he wears during the service). The other is the "altar guild sacristy" where the people who help keep the chancel looking nice store their supplies.



Parents: Before or after the service, allow your children to go into the sacristy to get a better look. Instruct them to be careful. The items there are set aside for use in the service. Help them to remember why the church uses a sacristy.

