# Zion Lutheran Church



November 19th, 2023

Twenty-Fifth Sunday ofter 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 -- zlcb.org – you can find out more about the many worship, Christian education, and fellowship opportunities at Zion.

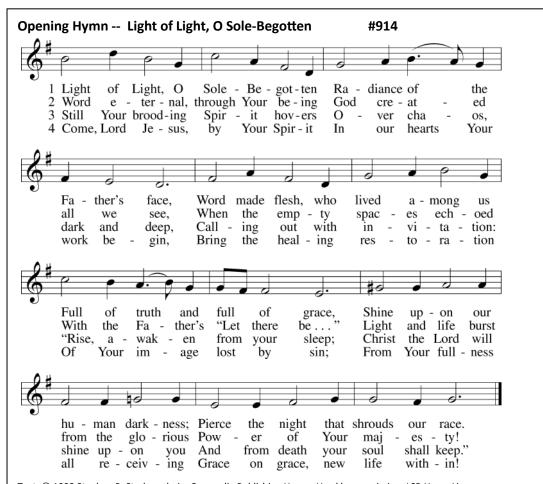
#### **Communion Statement**

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!



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- ${f P}$  In the name of the Father and of the f H Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and

eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

- 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 143:2, 5-6, 10-11; antiphon: v. 1



- P Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for | mercy! In your faithfulness answer me, in your | righteousness!
- **©** Enter not into judgment with your | servant, for no one living is righteous be- | fore you.

I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that | you have done;

I ponder the work | of your hands.

I stretch out my | hands to you;

my soul thirsts for you like a | parched land.

Teach me to do your will, for you | are my God!

Let your good Spirit lead me on | level ground!

For your name's sake, O LORD, pre- | serve my life!

In your righteousness bring my soul out of | trouble!

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son

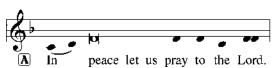
and to the Holy | Spirit;

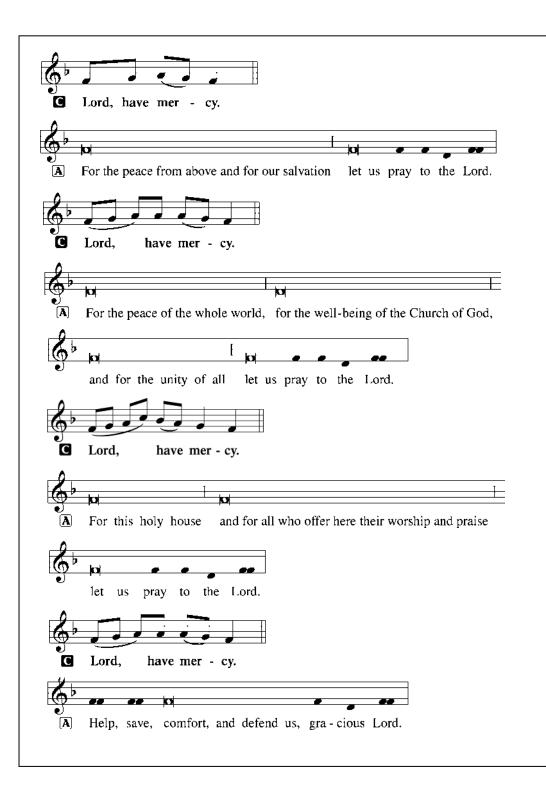
as it was in the be- | ginning,

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

P Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for | mercy! In your faithfulness answer me, in your | righteousness!

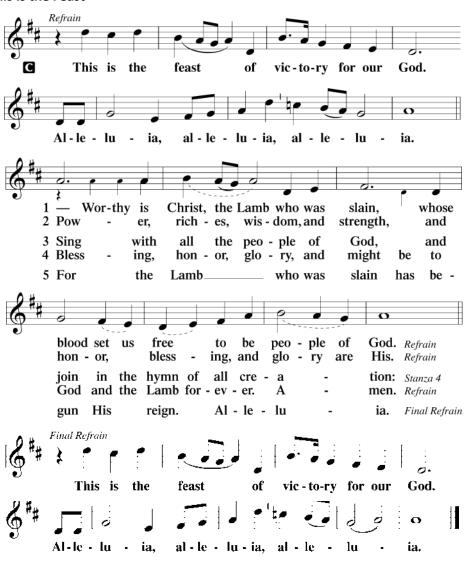
# **Kyrie**







#### This Is the Feast



#### Salutation and Collect of the Day



# **P** Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Dispel from us the works of darkness and grant us to live in the light of Your Son, Jesus Christ, that our faith may never be found wanting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



#### Old Testament Reading -- Zephaniah 1:7-16

Be silent before the Lord GoD!
For the day of the LORD is near;
the LORD has prepared a sacrifice
and consecrated his guests.
And on the day of the LORD's sacrifice—
"I will punish the officials and the king's sons
and all who array themselves in foreign attire.
On that day I will punish
everyone who leaps over the threshold,
and those who fill their master's house
with violence and fraud.
"On that day," declares the LORD,
"a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate,
a wail from the Second Quarter,

a loud crash from the hills.

Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar!

For all the traders are no more;

all who weigh out silver are cut off. At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the men who are complacent, those who say in their hearts, 'The LORD will not do good, nor will he do ill.' Their goods shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them." The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter; the mighty man cries aloud there. A day of wrath is that day, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Choir -- God of Grace (8 am)

# **Epistle Reading -- 1 Thessalonians 5:1–11**

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep

awake and be sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

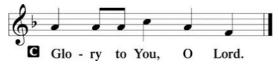
- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

#### Alleluia and Verse



# **Holy Gospel**

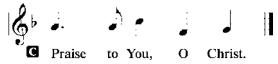
P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

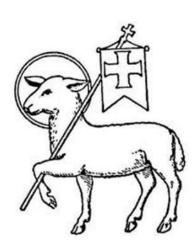


[Jesus said:] "For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two

talents; here I have made two talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed and gather where I scattered no seed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

# **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.





#### Hymn of the Day -- The Day is Surely Drawing Near #508

- The day is surely drawing near
   When Jesus, God's anointed,
   In all His power shall appear
   As judge whom God appointed.
   Then fright shall banish idle mirth,
   And flames on flames shall ravage earth
   As Scripture long has warned us.
- 2 The final trumpet then shall sound And all the earth be shaken, And all who rest beneath the ground Shall from their sleep awaken. But all who live will in that hour, By God's almighty, boundless pow'r, Be changed at His commanding.
- 3 The books are opened then to all, A record truly telling What each has done, both great and small,

When he on earth was dwelling, And ev'ry heart be clearly seen, And all be known as they have been In thoughts and words and actions.

- 4 Then woe to those who scorned the Lord
  - And sought but carnal pleasures, Who here despised His precious Word And loved their earthly treasures! With shame and trembling they will stand
  - And at the judge's stern command To Satan be delivered.
- 5 My Savior paid the debt I owe And for my sin was smitten; Within the Book of Life I know My name has now been written. I will not doubt, for I am free, And Satan cannot threaten me; There is no condemnation!
- 6 May Christ our intercessor be And through His blood and merit Read from His book that we are free With all who life inherit. Then we shall see Him face to face, With all His saints in that blest place Which He has purchased for us.
- O Jesus Christ, do not delay,
   But hasten our salvation;
   We often tremble on our way
   In fear and tribulation.
   O hear and grant our fervent plea:
   Come, mighty judge, and set us free
   From death and ev'ry evil.

#### Sermon

## **Apostles' Creed**

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.

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.

# **Prayer of the Church**

P ... Let us pray to the Lord.

C ... Lord have mercy.

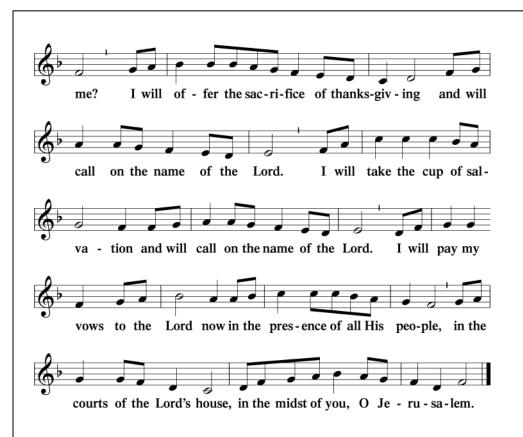
# **Gathering of Offerings**

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

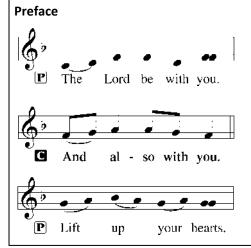
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

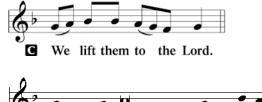
# Offertory

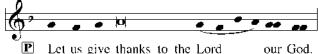


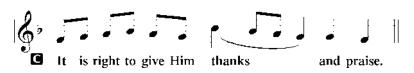


### **Service of the Sacrament**



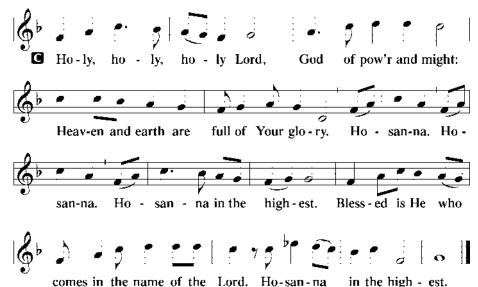






IP It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:





#### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

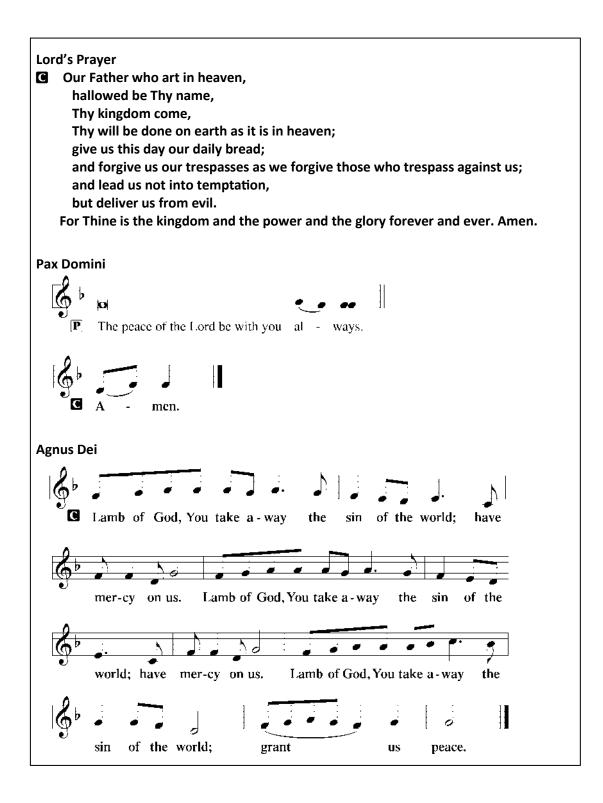
C Amen.

#### The Words of Our Lord

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."

- As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:



#### Distribution

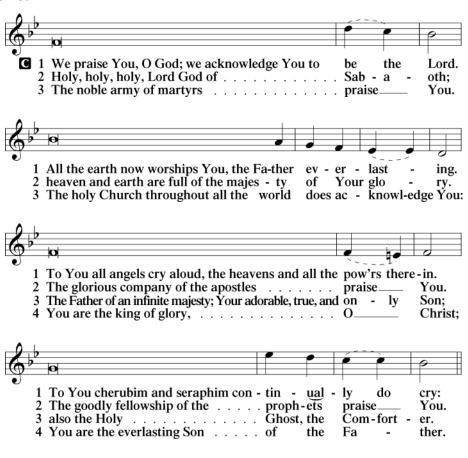
If you are visiting us today from a Christian denomination outside the Lutheran Church -- Missouri Synod, we welcome you to come to the altar to receive a baptismal blessing. Please signify by crossing your arms over your chest upon kneeling.

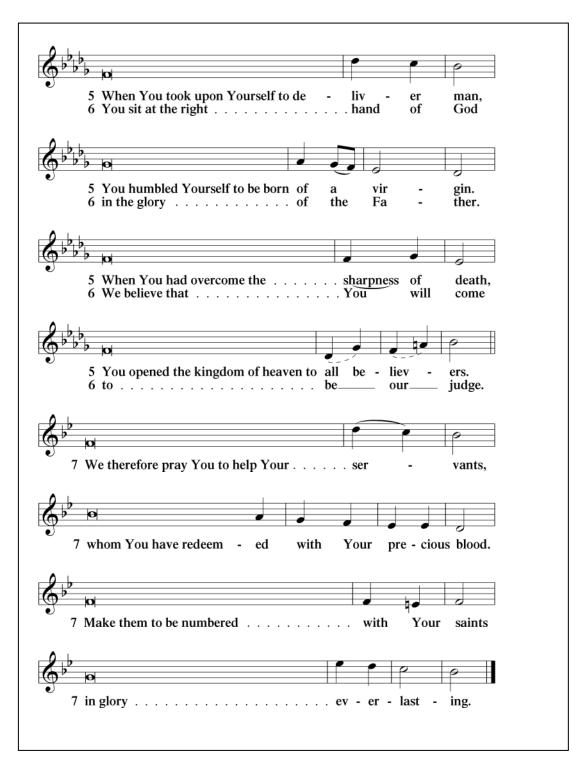
**Faith Bell Choir --** Savior Like a Shepherd (8:00 am)

#### **Distribution Hymns**

Fruitful Trees, the Spirit's Sowing #691
What Is the World to Me #730
Saints, See the Cloud of Witnesses #667

#### Te Deum





#### **Post-Communion Collect**



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.



#### **Benediction**



P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.



# Closing Hymn -- Lord of Our Life

1 Lord of our life and God of our salvation, Star of our night and hope of ev'ry nation: Hear and receive Your Church's supplication.

Lord God Almighty.

2 See round Your ark the hungry billows curling;

See how Your foes their banners are unfurling

And with great spite their fiery darts are hurling,

O Lord, preserve us.

#### #659

3 Lord, be our light when worldly darkness veils us:

Lord, be our shield when earthly armor fails us;

And in the day when hell itself assails us, Grant us Your peace, Lord:

4 Peace in our hearts, where sinful thoughts are raging,

Peace in Your Church, our troubled souls assuaging.

Peace when the world its endless war is waging,

Peace in Your heaven.

Text: Public domain

# **Prayer Requests for Family & Friends**

#### The Church:

- -For our homebound members: Florence Boehme.
- -Healing & Strength for: Natalie Cicioni (Ryan Cicioni's sister), 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, 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 the bereaved: Families of Millie Thielet and Roxanne Burgh.
- -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

Guest Pastor: Rev. James Oester

Music Director: Mark Killinger

Organist: Sandy Quinlan

Elders: Mike Kroeger & Bob Schmidt (8:00)

Bill Bishop & Roger Diederich (10:30)

Acolytes: Emily Trentini (8:00); Elder (10:30)

**Ushers:** Megan & Ava Pasquini; Barb & Wayne Oechslein (8:00)

John & Kari Gresh, Dwight & Andy Weldon (10:30)

Altar Guild: Janet & Marian Oelschlager

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given by Nancy & Paul Klemash in memory of Nancy's mother, Helen Sowinski.

ETERNAL LIGHT is given by Esther Finney in memory of her husband, Sidney.

**2023 MEMBER PICTORIAL DIRECTORIES** are now available in the back of the sanctuary! Please take one per family and put a check next to your family's name on the distribution list.

JOIN US WEDNESDAY at 2:00 & 7:00 for Thanksgiving Worship. All offerings



given will support the Save the Seminary Campaign of the Siberian Lutheran Mission Society. This will be Zion's fifth year of supporting this vital mission with our Thanksgiving offerings.

# Last Week in Worship

Sunday Worship Attendance (11/12) -- 50 (8 am); 95 (10:30 am)

Mid-Week Worship (11/15) --14 (2 pm)

Plate Offerings (11/12) -- \$4103 Online Offering -- \$3515

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



# This Week at Zion

SUN 11/19	8:00 AM Worship 9:15 AM Adult/Teen Bible Study & Sunday school 10:30 AM Worship 6:00 PM Youth Group Mtg./Holiday Goodies Decorating
MON 11/20	6:00 PM 1st Yr Conf 6:30 PM Faith Bell Choir 7:00 PM 2nd Yr Conf
TUE 11/21	6:15 PM Grace Bells 7:15 PM Choir
WED 11/22	2:00 PM Thanksgiving Eve Service 7:00 PM Thanksgiving Eve Service
THU 11/23	
FRI 11/24	
SAT 11/25	
SUN 11/26	8:00 AM Worship 9:15 AM Adult/Teen Bible Study & Sunday school 10:30 AM Worship

Join us & lend a hand!

# Zion Decorating Party

Saturday 12/2 @ 10 am
Enjoy Lunch & Hot Cocoa Bar

Sign Up in the Narthex!







# **Save the Seminary Campaign**

Siberian Evangelical Lutheran Church (a partner church of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)

www.siberianlutheranmissions.org www.facebook.com/siberianlutheranmissions



Zion will be designating all offerings at our Thanksgiving Eve Services to the Siberian Lutheran Mission Society's work of creating a seminary endowment. You may donate via check or cash in your envelope. Please make all checks payable to "Siberian Lutheran Mission Society." You may also mail your check to the church office or contribute online.

# **Zion Youth News & Events**

# Spare Change Sundays

Every bit — large and small — helps our fundraising efforts for the LCMS Nat'l Youth Gathering!

Today is the LAST Spare Change Sunday. Please return your take-home containers and empty them in the large collection jar. Thank you for your support!

# Soup Fundraiser

Get your quarts of homemade soup for eating or freezing! There are five delicious varieties to choose from. **See order form on the opposite page!** 

# Youth Group Meeting Schedule



Our November meeting is TONIGHT from 6-8 pm. We'll decorate (and sample) some Holiday goodies, enjoy a devotional, and share some news about the LCMS Youth Gathering. Join us!

# Youth in grades 8-12 sign-up for our GroupMe texts today!

We will be using this as our primary way to communicate with youth and parents



Scan QR code to sign up for GroupMe

# Youth Group Soup Sale!

Support the fundraising efforts of the youth group for the next youth gathering by purchasing soup. Each quart-sized container is \$10. Stock-up on a few varieties ... plastic containers make it easy to freeze what you don't use right away!

Fill out the order form below and place it in the collection box in the back of the sanctuary, or email your completed form to Megan Pasquini at <a href="mailto:meganpasquini@hotmail.com">meganpasquini@hotmail.com</a>.

The soups will be delivered on Sunday December 3<sup>rd</sup> at church.



Soup options:	Quantity:
Creamy Potato Leek w/ ham	
Sausage Corn Chowder	
Wedding Soup	
Sausage & Tortellini Soup	
Chicken Noodle Soup	
Name:	
Email address:	
Total Cost:	

# Twelfth Annual "Adopt a Grandparent"

During the Holiday season, I enjoy brightening the lives of residents in local assisted living and nursing home facilities in Allegheny County. Many of these people have few, if any, visitors and receive little, if anything, during



the Holidays. Last year, through the generosity of local businesses and friends, I helped deliver over 600 gifts to residents of John J Kane Regional Hospital, Scott Twp, several other nursing and assisted-living facilities, and shutins at Zion Lutheran Church and Good Shepherd Church. This year I hope to help deliver 600 + gifts again.

By partnering with me, your \$15 will provide each of two residents a fragrance-free hand cream and help them have a very Merry Christmas. These items are specifically requested by caregivers for the benefits the residents receive. The lotions will soothe their hands and bring joy, as well, by the simple "touch therapy" of applying them. They will be delivered in early December.

Please consider what a blessing this is for the men and women in these facilities who once lived and worked in our local communities. Let them know they are remembered! THANK YOU!

Make your check payable to Ginny Granke-Kimberland, or if you have questions about how you, your school, or your business can become a sponsor, please contact me at:

Ginny Granke-Kimberland 7082 Clubview Dr., Bridgeville, PA 15017 412-427-9013



As the Christmas season approaches, the Bridgeville Area Food Bank would like to bless the 40 registered children with gifts at the December distribution. Starting today you will have the opportunity to participate in purchasing a gift for a child in need. If you wish to participate, chose an angel gift tag marked with the child's age from the tree set up in the back of the church.

Please use the sign-up sheet to sign next to the number and age recorded on the angel. Then purchase a gift costing around twenty dollars. Return your unwrapped gift with the gift tag attached no later than Sunday, December 10.

In Christ's Service, Barb Oechslein, Bridgeville Area Food Bank Rep.



# What are "vestments"?

When you first see the pastor and his assistants in the Divine Service, what do you notice about them? They are wearing long robes and other unique garments. These are called "vestments." The word "vestment" comes from the Latin word vestimentum which means "garment of office." Vestments are garments worn by the pastor and the assistants during the Divine Service and other prayer offices.



# Why are vestments used?

A person's vestment tells us about who they are and their role during the Divine Service. If you have two or more pastors, one may be dressed in vestments that mark him as the presiding minister. The other pastors may be dressed in vestments that mark them as assisting ministers. Vestments help to keep the proclamation of the Gospel and administration of the Sacraments in good order. Did you know that God's people have been using vestments since Old Testament times? Wow! Vestments are great tools in the church!



Parents: Before the Divine Service, direct your child's attention to the pastor's vestments. What color are they? How are they different from what you are wearing? Be sure to let your child approach the pastor after church to ask him questions about the vestments.

