Historic Zion Lutheran Church Divine service for the eleventh sunday after pentecost

9:00 am ...... Sunday, August 4, 2024

#### **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.

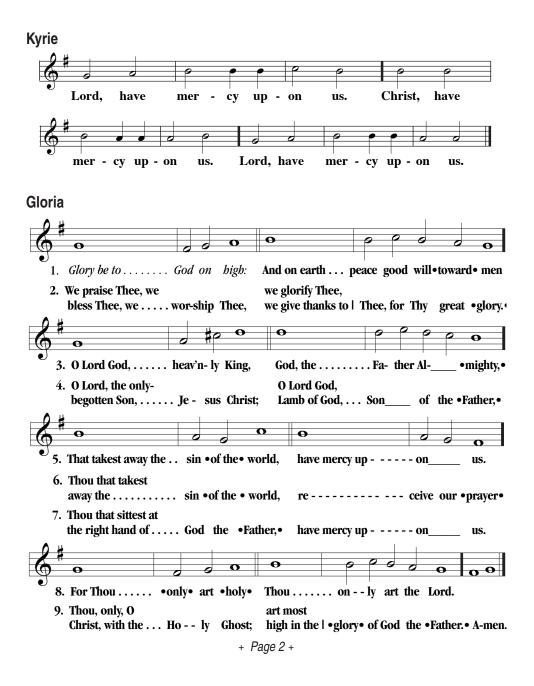
*O almighty God, merciful Father;* ....... I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless 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.



- [Antiphon] With upright heart he | shep- •herded• them || and guided them | with his skillful | hand.
- Verse 1: Yet he commanded the | skies a- bove || and | •opened• the doors of | •heaven•,
- *Verse 2: and he rained down on them* | *•manna• to eat* || *and gave* | *them the grain of* | *•heaven•.*
- Verse 3: Man ate of the bread | of the •angels•; || he sent them food | in a- bun-\_\_ | dance.
- 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] With upright heart he | shep- •herded• them || and guided them | with his skill- ful | hand.



#### Salutation



**Collect for the Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost:** *Merciful Father, You gave Your Son Jesus as the heavenly bread of life. Grant us faith to feast on Him in Your Word and Sacraments that we may be nourished unto life everlasting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.* 

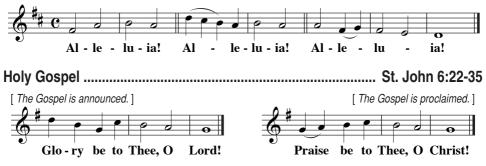


[ Be Seated ] + The Office of the Word of God +

Old Testament Reading	Exodus 16:2-15
[After the reading] This is the word of the Lord.	Thanks be to God.
Epistle of the Day	Ephesians 4:1-16
[After the reading] This is the word of the Lord.	Thanks be to God.

#### [ Rise ] Alleluia Sequence

[Deacon] Alleluia! Alleluia! I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. Alleluia!



#### Confession of Faith (The Nicene Creed)

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  $\pm$  of the world to come. Amen!

[ Be Seated ]

Hymn of the Day ...... Guide Me, O Thou ...... Burgundy Hymn 918

#### Sermon

#### The Rite of Confirmation

#### [ Rise ] Prayer of the Church

#### [ Be Seated ] Offerings, Voluntary



#### Preface

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.



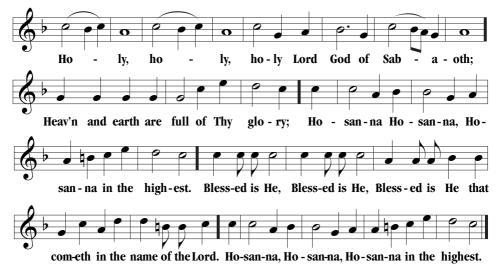
Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.



It is meet and right so to do.

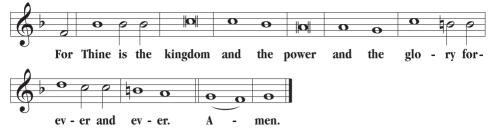
#### **Common Preface, Sanctus**

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



#### [Kneel] Lord's Prayer

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

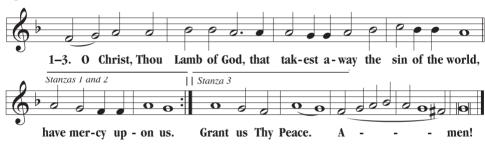


#### Words of Institution, Pax Domini

The peace of the Lord be with you always!



Agnus Dei



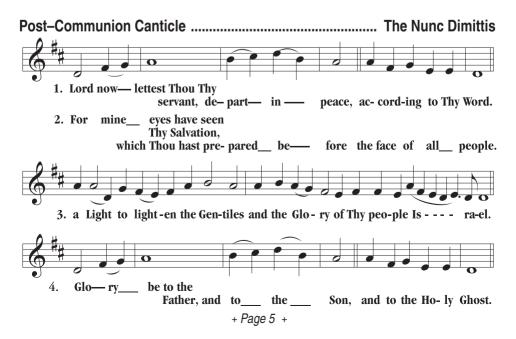
[ Be Seated ]

Distribution Hymn ...... At the Lamb's High Feast ..... Burgundy Hymn 633

[ All sing stanzas 1 & 2; Women alone sing stanzas 3 & 5;

Men alone sing stanzas 4 & 6; All sing stanzas 7 & 8. Rise for stanza 8. ]

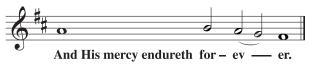
#### **Eucharistic Benediction**





#### Post Communion Rite

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

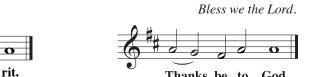


Prayer of Thanksgiving ... now and forever.



And with thy

The Lord be with you.



Thanks be God. to

#### 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.



spir

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 ..... Praise to You and Adoration .... Burgundy Hymn 692

#### 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.

#### **Readings for the Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost**

#### The Old Testament Reading is Exodus 16:2-15

[T]he whole congregation of the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness, and the people of Israel said to them, "Would that we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the meat pots and ate bread to the full, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Behold, I am about to rain bread from heaven for you, and the people shall go out and gather a day's portion every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in my law or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather daily." So Moses and Aaron said to all the people of Israel, "At evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your grumbling against the LORD. For what are we, that you grumble against us?" And Moses said, "When the LORD gives you in the evening meat to eat and in the morning bread to the full, because the LORD has heard your grumbling that you grumble against him—what are we? Your grumbling is not against us but against the LORD."

Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, 'Come near before the LORD, for he has heard your grumbling."" And as soon as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. And the LORD said to Moses, "I have heard the grumbling of the people of Israel. Say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread. Then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.""

In the evening quail came up and covered the camp, and in the morning dew lay around the camp. And when the dew had gone up, there was on the face of the wilderness a fine, flake-like thing, fine as frost on the ground. When the people of Israel saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat."

#### The Epistle is Ephesians 4:1-16

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it says,

"When he ascended on high he led a host of captives,

and he gave gifts to men."

(In saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip the saints, for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

#### The Gospel is John 6:22-35

On the next day the crowd that remained on the other side of the sea saw that there had been only one boat there, and that Jesus had not entered the boat with his disciples, but that his disciples had gone away alone. Other boats from Tiberias came near the place where they had eaten the bread after the Lord had given thanks. So when the crowd saw that Jesus was not there, nor his disciples, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum, seeking Jesus.

When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not labor for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on him God the Father has set his seal." Then they said to him, "What must we do, to be doing the works of God?" Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." So they said to him, "Then what sign do you do, that we may see and believe you? What work do you perform? Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat."" Jesus then said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always."

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst."

#### Hymns for the Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

#### LSB918 Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer

- Guide me, O Thou great Redeemer, Pilgrim through this barren land. I am weak, but Thou art mighty; Hold me with Thy pow'rful hand. Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, Feed me till I want no more; Feed me till I want no more.
- Open now the crystal fountain Whence the healing stream doth flow; Let the fiery, cloudy pillar Lead me all my journey through. Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer, Be Thou still my strength and shield; Be Thou still my strength and shield.
- When I tread the verge of Jordan, Bid my anxious fears subside; Death of death and hell's destruction, Land me safe on Canaan's side. Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to Thee; I will ever give to Thee.

#### LSB633 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing Latin, c. 5<sup>th</sup>-10 cent.

- 1. At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to our victorious King, Who has washed us in the tide Flowing from His piercèd side. Alleluia!
- 2. Praise we Him, whose love divine Gives His sacred blood for wine, Gives His Body for the feast Christ the victim, Christ the priest. Alleluia!
- W 3. Where the paschal blood is poured, Death's dread angel sheathes the sword; Israel's hosts triumphant go Through the wave that drowns the foe. Alleluia!
- M 4. Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Paschal victim, paschal bread; With sincerity and love Eat we manna from above. Alleluia!
- W 5. Mighty Victim from the sky, Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie; You have conquered in the fight, You have brought us life and light. Alleluia!
- M 6. Now no more can death appall, Now no more the grave enthrall; You have opened paradise, And Your saints in You shall rise. Alleluia!

#### William Williams

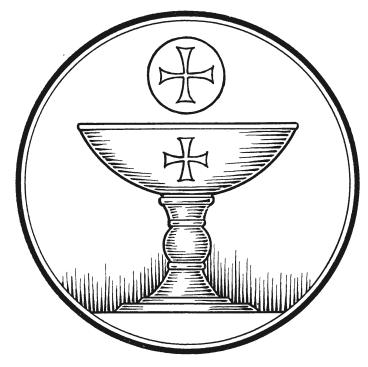
- Easter triumph, Easter joy! This alone can sin destroy; From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free, Newborn souls in You to be. Alleluia!
- △ 8. Father, who the crown shall give, Savior, by whose death we live, Spirit, guide through all our days; Three in One, Your name we praise. Alleluia!

#### LSB692 Praise to You and Adoration

#### Thomas Hansen Kingo

- Praise to You and adoration, Blessed Jesus, Son of God, Who, to serve Your own creation, Came to share our flesh and blood. Guide me that I never may From Your fold or pastures stray, But with zeal and joy exceeding Follow where Your steps are leading.
- Hold me ever in Your keeping; Comfort me in pain and strife. In my laughter and my weeping Be with me throughout my life. Give me greater love for You, And my faith and hope renew In Your birth, Your life, and passion, In Your death and resurrection.

The Elebenth Sunday after Pentecost



## Zion Hvangelical 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

Senior Pastor:

Field Workers:

- 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

Rev. Douglas D. Punke, MDiv (341-5397) Matthew Harrison

#### The Teaching Staff at Lutheran South Unity

Principal: Amber Bahr (744-0459; <u>www.lsusfw.org</u>) Teachers: Yvonne Schwantz (8<sup>th</sup>, MS ELA), Michael Cullen (7<sup>th</sup>, MS Science), Chase Mertz (6<sup>th</sup>, MS Social Studies), Danielle Ramsey (5<sup>th</sup>), Abbey Kohler (4<sup>th</sup>), Tiffany Scheurich (3<sup>rd</sup>), John Fink (2<sup>nd</sup>), Hannah Maresh (1<sup>st</sup>), Rachel Wiegman (K-A), Michelle Madden (K-B), Natalie Reynolds (Art), Open Position (Music), Lizzy Hoham (Progress Partners Coach), Cathie Wakeland (Literacy Coach), Gary Arrington (PE, AD)

#### The Support Staff

Organist and Director of Parish Music: Church Office Manager: Michael Hollman, MM Melvia Culpher

#### **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 fieldworker Matthew Harrison, and for Paul Mroczenski vicaring in Puerto Rico
- + For our nation; for our leaders; for our military, including James Hall; especially at this perilous time in our world
- + 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 MaryLou Graham, Carl Albersmeyer, Sarah Hollman, Estella Ramirez, Connie Houser, Kevin Leininger, Bill Weinrich, Janice Grim, Debra Busche, John Starks, Dwight Bieberich, Willodean Bates, Dick Hollman, Jerry & Elaine Seifert, Jane Porter Gresham, Bob Ockree, Joe Harrison, Louisa Porter, Marlow Hogan, Marissia White, Gary Phillips, Dwight Johnson, Ron Rastl, and Robert & Jenny Hobby.
- + For God's blessing on all godly marriages, especially Ed & Janice Grim
- + For the gift of life and for length of days, including Alyssa Seifert
- + 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
- + 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 Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost. The Cross Bowl is given in celebration of the  $23^{rd}$  birthday of Alyssa Seifert by her parents DaVanna & David Seifert. The Altar Vases are given in celebration of the  $67^{th}$  wedding anniversary of Ed & Janice Grim. 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**

August 4, 2024 thru August 10, 2024

SUN.	9:00 AM	Divine Service	Church
MON.	3:45 PM	Adult Bible Study on renovation hiatus Jr. Catechesis	Conference Room
TUES. WED.	5:30 PM	First day of school Wednesday Divine Service	LSUS Chapel
THURS. FRI.	5.50 1 141	weunesuay Divine Service	Chaper
SAT.	11:00 AM 1:00 PM	Private Confession Adult Catechesis	Church Conference Room
SUN.	9:00 AM	August 11, 2024 Divine Service	Church

#### **ZION ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**EDUCATION HOUR:** No Adult Bible Class. We're on break as we ready for the church renovations. Dr. Voelz will pick things back up in the Gospel according to St. Mark in the fall after the renovations are complete. Sunday School is on summer break, too.

**WE PRAISE GOD** today for the confirmation of Jaxon Patrick Lee Meyer, son of James and Kelly Meyer. Jaxon was baptized at Zion January 22, 2010. He was catechized at Emmaus Lutheran where he went to school. He was examined by Pastor Punke, and showed himself ready to begin his adult Christian life, receiving the Sacrament and working with us at Zion.

**FYI:** The City of Fort Wayne is having their Open Street event on August 18<sup>th</sup> meaning that Calhoun St from Pontiac to Superior will be closed off starting at 8AM until 4PM. Please keep that in mind when driving to church.

**THE COOKBOOKS** have arrived and have been placed at Julie's table in the Great Hall. For \$17, you can take yours home today. This mouth-watering cookbook has 300 recipes from past and present members, everything from appetizers to desserts.

LSUS: School is beginning. Please pray for the teachers, students, and families.

**DIAPER DRIVE:** We have only reached 37% of our goal of 7500 diapers at the end of July. We have 30 more days to collect the needed amount of diapers for our event. Please contribute as you are able. Thanks to everyone who has already contributed diapers.

**ATTENTION LADIES OF ZION:** Some of us are interested in getting involved again with the Lutheran Women's in Missionary League (LWML). If you are interested, please see DaVanna Seifert, Melvia Culpher or Yvonne Kirtz. Once we have the names of interested ladies, we will have a meeting with the South Zone President Dena Schult & Vice President Lisa Kanning on what to expect from LWML and Zion's contribution. Also, if you have a full Mite box, don't forget to exchange it for an empty one. A basket is on the round table in the Great Hall.

**VOLUNTEERS:** Do you like to work in the yard? If so, Zion needs you! The trustees need help to maintain Zion's flowerbeds and shrubs. If you can help, contact Kevin Leininger at 615-9896.

**HELP:** Bethlehem need help sorting for the Rummage sale – every Tuesday and Thursday 9am-12pm. Come when you can, leave when you must. Also, we need volunteers from Zion to help with this extra large rummage sale on September 26-28 If not sure if we are meeting, call the church office: 744-3229. Don't forget that you can drop off items Mon-Fri 9-3 at door #7.

**GIVING ONLINE:** platform provides a secure and user-friendly way to give to the church and we are confident that it will make giving more convenient for many members of our congregation. You can give by phone or computer by going to <u>www.zionfw.org</u> and click on the GIVE button. You can give as much as you want and as many times as you want.

**MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE:** Romans 15:13—"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope" Last week's verse was John 14:6.

**WORKING THROUGH THE GIFT PLANNING PROCESS** offers a solution for today's snapshot in time but creates a partnership for adjusting your plan as time changes. If there are ten, twenty or thirty more years until you expect to be with Jesus, you can expect that the gift plan within your estate plan will need to change, as life changes, families change, ministries change. Working with an LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor creates the partner with whom you can review your plan every 5 to 7 years. They will provide you with reminders for these opportunities to review. For assistance here in the Indiana District, contact Mark Muehl at 260-241-4845 or <u>mark.muehl@lfnd.org</u>

**EMMAUS LUTHERAN CHURCH AND PRESCHOOL** is looking for a Full-Time (36 hrs./week) Administrative Assistant to support the Pastor and Preschool Director in various office functions. In addition, this person will be working with the Preschool Director proficiency with Microsoft office (Word, Publisher, Excel). Please submit a resume with relevant job experience to revolsen@emmausfortwayne.org or call the church office at 260-459-7722 for a full job description and salary details.

#### 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
John 6:22-35	The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost	Exodus 16:2-15
Acts 28:1-15	Monday	1 Samuel 19:1-24
Acts 28:16-31	Tuesday	1 Samuel 20:1-23
1 Corinthians 1:1-25	Wednesday	1 Samuel 20:24-42
1 Corinthians 1:26-2:16	Thursday	1 Samuel 24:1-22
1 Corinthians 3:1-23	Friday	1 Samuel 25:1-22
1 Corinthians 4:1-21	Saturday	1 Samuel 25:23-44

#### 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:

[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!

[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!

[Daily]

#### The Our Father

#### TO PREPARE FOR NEXT SUNDAY

**The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost** Ephesians 4:17–5:2

John 6:35-51



## What Doctor Luther Says:

### About Trusting God and Not Our Works

[T]hat our works cease and that God alone works in us ... is accomplished in two ways. In the first place through our own effort; in the second, through the effort or urging of others.

Our own effort is to be made and directed in such a way that in the first place we resist and do not heed our flesh, senses, will, and thoughts when we see that they are tempting us,...

Here a man must make daily use of those prayers David prayed, "Lord, lead me in thy path, and let me not walk in my own ways" [Ps. 119:35,37], and many like prayers, which are all summed up in the prayer, "Thy kingdom come." For the desires are so many, so various, and besides, sometimes these desires appear in such an attractive, subtle, and desirable form through the suggestion of the evil one that it is not possible for a man to direct his own life. He must make a total commitment, commend himself to God's governance, and not trust his own reason at all, as Jeremiah says, "Lord, I know that the way of man is not in his own power" [Jer. 10:23]. That is demonstrated when the children of Israel went out of Egypt through the wilderness, where there was no road, no food, no drink, no help. Therefore, God went before them, by day in a bright cloud, by night in a fiery pillar, fed them from heaven with heavenly bread, and preserved their garments and shoes that they did not wear out, as we read in the books of Moses [Exod. 13:21; 16:4; Deut. 29:5]. For this reason we pray, Thy kingdom come; thou rule us and not we ourselves, for there is nothing more dangerous in us than our reason and will. The highest and first work of God in us and the best training is that we let our own works go and let our reason and will lie dormant, resting and commending ourselves to God in all things, especially when they appear spiritual and good. Luther's Works, 44:73-4.

Equipping Lutherans and their neighbors to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life

## LIFE NEWS-AUGUST 2024



#### lutheransforlife.org

#### Life Newsbytes

According to a new Pew study released this week, the percentage of adults under the age of 50 who say they probably won't ever have kids has skyrocketed in recent years, jumping a whopping 10 points in the last half decade alone. In 2023, the share of adults ages 18 to 49 who say they're now "unlikely to ever have kids" stood at a stunning 47 percent, up from 37 percent in 2018. In fact, the number of people who say they probably won't ever have children is practically even with those who say it's "likely" that they will have kids one day (50%), which begs the next logical question: Why are so many adults saying it's unlikely that they'll ever have kids? Is it the difficulty of finding a partner with whom to procreate? Is it the increasing expense of ... well, everything? Nope. According to the study, the most prevalent reason given by childless adults for why they probably won't have kids is that they simply "don't want to." In fact, a full 57% of those who say kids aren't in the cards say they just don't feel like having children, while 44% admitted they "want to focus on other things." Roughly 1 in 3 say they can't afford to raise a child, and 1 in 5 claim they just "don't really like children." (Brittany Hughes, LifeNews.com, 7/26/24: www. lifenews.com/2024/07/26/half-of-americanadult-say-theyre-unlikely-to-ever-havekids/



#### Speaking up For Life

"Be as patient with others as you know God is with you. In so doing, you will be keeping your head in all circumstances' (2 Timothy 4:5). You will find the resolve to remain calm and patient, even though ideologically you may become incensed. Theologically, you know what it means to be the object of perfect love. Let Christ be your role model." *Rev. Robert Fleischmann, Director of Christian Life Resource* 

"In Jesus there is healing; there is forgiveness. You, dear brother and sister in Christ, need not fear His wrath. For you, the words 'Christ is risen' are good words; they are the best words. They are words so good they should not be contained but shared with the world. They are pure Gospel." *Rev. Dr. Jason Broge, Guest Speaker on "The Lutheran Hour"* 

"The rainbow is a reminder that God's grace will always preserve you and this beautiful world in which you live until He raises you and takes you to heavenly glory. This is God's amazing grace, and His grace generates your life of genuine gratitude." *Rev. Peter Sulzle, Redwood Falls, Minnesota* 



#### **2024 Regional Conference Update** By Erika Peterson, Events Coordinator

#### II T n him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it" (John 1:4-5).

There is such hope in the Gospel message! With three regional conferences taking place this fallunder the theme Life Shines in Darkness-we'll be able to draw near to folks across the nation to share the Gospel of Life.

The first conference takes place on September 14 in the outskirts of Hartford, Connecticut, in Bristol, at Immanuel Lutheran Church. Rev. Evan McClanahan, author of our recently released biblical manhood resource, will present at all three conferences, presenting on the same subject. Our very own Rev. Scott Licht will share on the Gospel of Life among widows and orphans in India; our National Director of Y4Life, Michelle Bauman, will present on raising life-affirming kids; and Rev. Michael Salemink, our Executive Director, will also share the For Life message.

On October 12, at Hope Lutheran in Shawnee, Kansas, in the Kansas City Metro area, we'll hear again from Rev. McClanahan. As a complement to his presentation on biblical manhood, Deaconess Rose Adle of Concordia Theological Seminary Fort Wayne will present on Christian womanhood. Our Director of Volunteer Relations, Virginia Flo, will facilitate a panel with local Life Teams sharing their inspiring work. And wrapping up the conference, Rev. Dr. James Lamb, formerly of LFL and Lutheran Family Service, will shed light on Christian citizenship, especially in light of this election year.

Finally, rounding out the conferences on November 9, we will be in Winter Garden, Florida, just outside Orlando at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church. In addition to Rev. McClanahan and Rev. Licht presenting, we will also hear from the founder and owner of Skoog Dementia Support, Teri Skoog, on caring for those with dementia; and on the heels of our election day, author and current Vice President of External and Government Relations at Focus on the Family, Tim Goeglein, will share his thoughts on faith in the halls of power, exploring what is next for America in the Pro-Life movement.

We hope you will be able to join us at one or more of these conferences to be encouraged and equipped to continue on your Gospel-motivated For Life journey. For additional information on each conference, or to register, visit lutheransforlife.org/conferences or snap a photo of the OR code.

Special Note: Go to the conferences webpage to find out about a free Conference for Life on Friday, October 11, in Shawnee and about childcare at all three conferences.

## **REGISTER TODAY!**







## It's diaper drive time

FACTS: A baby uses 10 or more diapers per day.

Zion is collecting diapers for the community diaper give-a-way event on Sept 14th. NEWBORN to 7 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 18th.

\*Last year we gave away 10,620 diapers to the community

For more information contact TruLaine Starks 260-615-1873









# Rummage Sale

September 26-28, 2024

At Bethlehem Lutheran 3705 S. Anthony Blvd

Sale proceeds go to Lutheran South Unity School



Drop off new or gently-used items for sale to Bethlehem, Mon-Fri 9am - 3pm. Door 7 (Parking Lot, door by outside ramp). Ring Buzzer for entrance.



Help sort and price Tuesdays & Thursdays 9am-12pm Prep: Sept 23-25th



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## AN EVENING WITH KEITH & KRISTN KRISTN GETTY LIVE IN CONCERT



with special guests MATT BOSWELL & MATT PAPA MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2024

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL FORT WAYNE, IN

Tickets at gettymusic.com/tour

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