

Historic Zion Lutheran Church

DIVINE SERVICE FOR THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

9:00 am Sunday, August 31, 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 of the Day



[Antiphon] *It is God who executes | judg-__ ment, || putting down one and | lift- ing up a- | no- ther. || All the horns of the wicked I | will cut off, || but the horns of the righteous | shall be lift- ed | up.*

Verse 1: **We give thanks to | you, O God; || we give thanks, | for your name is | near__.** || **We recount your | won- drous deeds. || “At the set time that I appoint I will | judge with eq- ui- | ty.”**

Verse 2: *For not from the east or | from the west || and not from the wilder- | ness comes lift- ing | up__.* || *But I will declare | it for- •ever•; || I will sing praises | to the God of | •Jacob•.*

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

[Antiphon] **It is God who executes | judg-__ ment, || putting down one and | lift- ing up a- | no- ther. || All the horns of the wicked I | will cut off, || but the horns of the righteous | shall be lift- ed | up.**

Kyrie



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



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

Gloria



Glo-ry be to God on high: And on earth peace, good will •toward• men.



We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor-ship Thee, we



glo-ri - fy Thee, we give thanks to Thee for Thy great glo - ry



O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God _ the Fa - ther Al - might - y.



O Lord, the on - ly be - got - ten Son, Je - sus Christ, O Lord God,



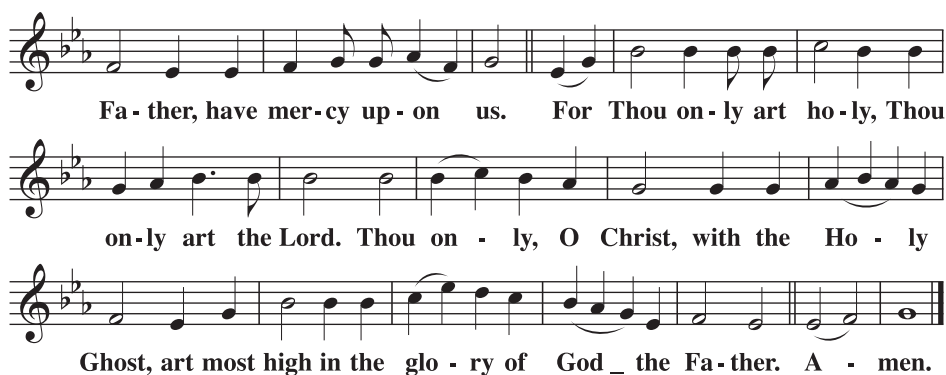
Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther, that tak - est a - way the sin of the



world, have mer-cy up - on _ us: Thou that tak - est a - way the sin of the



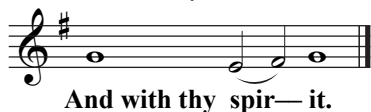
world; re - ceive our prayer Thou that sit - test at the right hand of God the



Fa-ther, have mer-cy up-on us. For Thou on-ly art ho-ly, Thou on-ly art the Lord. Thou on-ly, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Ghost, art most high in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

Salutation

The Lord be with you.



And with thy spir—it.

Collect for the Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost: *O Lord of grace and mercy, teach us by Your Holy Spirit to follow the example of Your Son in true humility, that we may withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds avoid ungodly pride; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*



A—men!

[Be Seated]

+ The Office of the Word of God +

Old Testament Reading..... Proverbs 25:2-10

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

Epistle of the Day Hebrews 13:1-17

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

[Rise]

Alleluia Sequence

[Deacon] *Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! "For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted." Alleluia!*

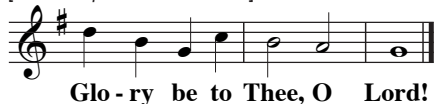


Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

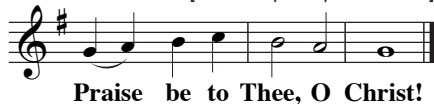
Holy Gospel St. Luke 14:1-14

[The Gospel is announced.]

[The Gospel is proclaimed.]



Glo-ry be to Thee, O Lord!



Praise be to Thee, O Christ!

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 of the world to come. Amen!

[Be Seated]

Hymn of the Day Son of God, Eternal Savior Burgundy Hymn 842

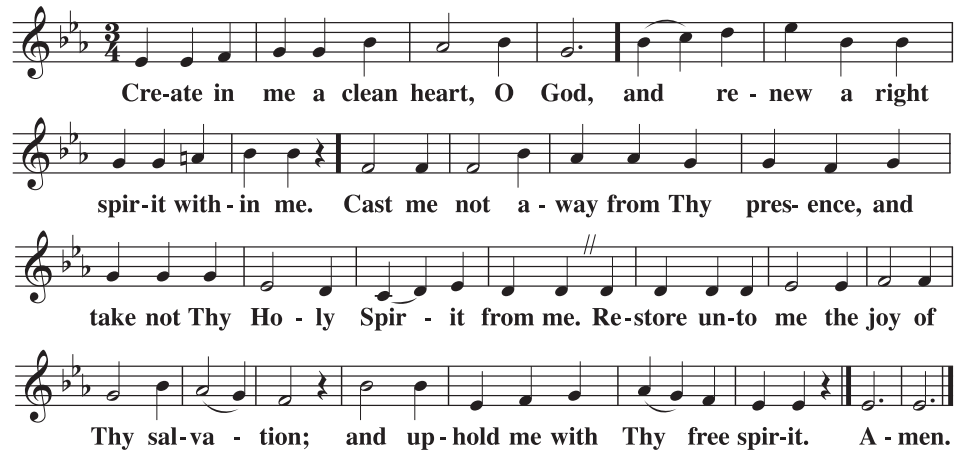
Sermon

[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.

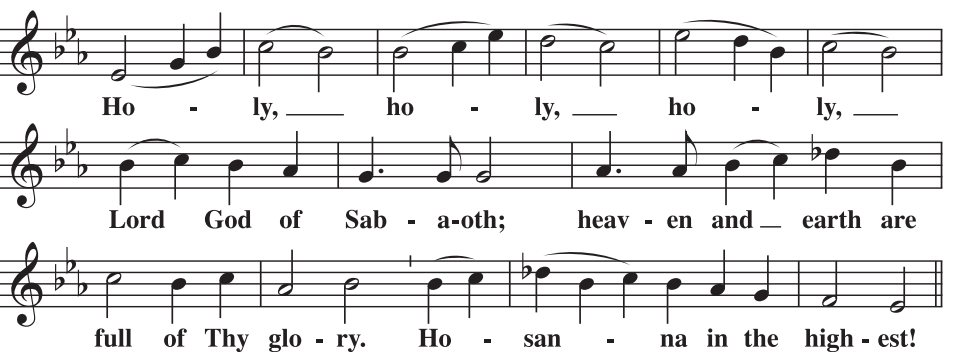
Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.



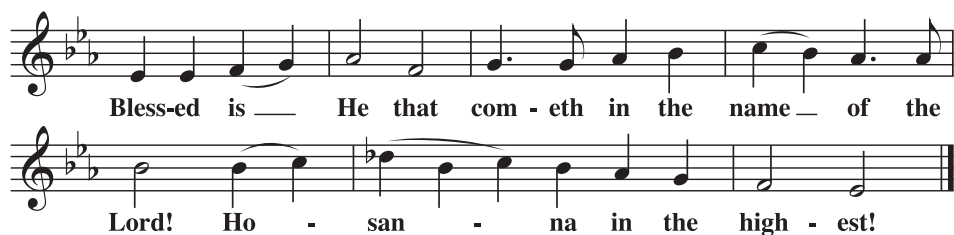
It is meet _ and right so _ to do. _

Common Preface, Sanctus

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

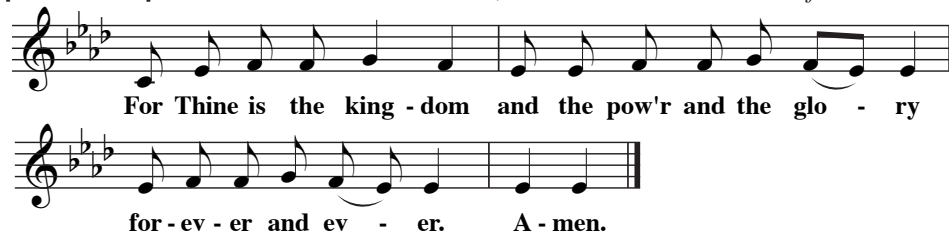


Ho - ly, _ ho - ly, _ ho - ly, _
Lord God of Sab - a - oth; heav - en and _ earth are
full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!



[Kneel] **Lord's Prayer**

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

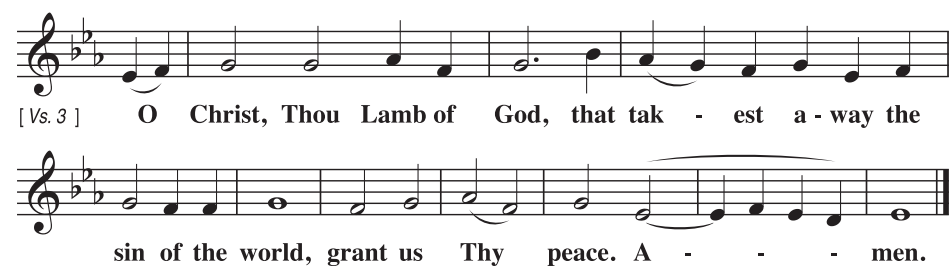
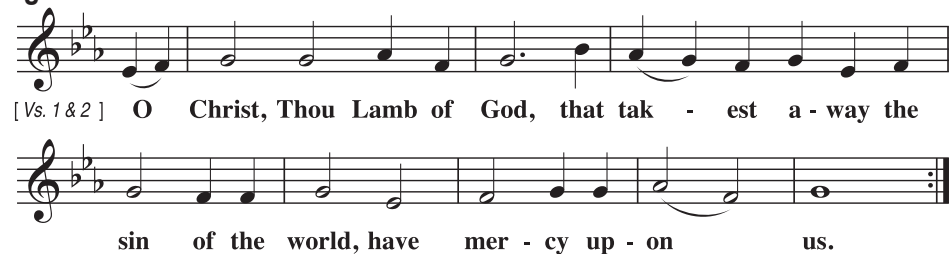


Words of Institution, Pax Domini

The peace of the Lord be with you always!



Agnus Dei



[Be Seated]

Distribution Hymns Lord Jesus Christ Burgundy Hymn 623

Wide Open Stand the Gates..... Burgundy Hymn 639

[Rise]

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.



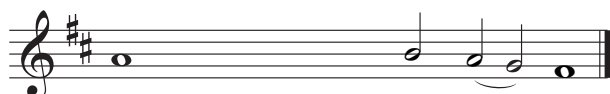
4. Glo—ry____ be to the
Father, and to____ the____ Son, and to the Ho-ly Ghost.



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.



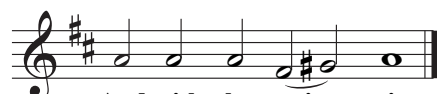
And His mercy endureth for — ev — er.

Prayer of Thanksgiving ...*now and forever.*



A — men.

The Lord be with you.



And with thy spir — rit.

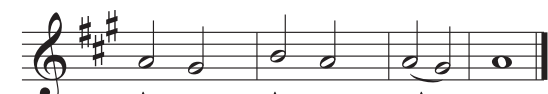
Bless we the Lord.



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 Lord of All Nations Burgundy Hymn 844

Postlude

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Readings for the Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

The Old Testament Reading is Proverbs 25:2-10

It is the glory of God to conceal things,
but the glory of kings is to search things out.
As the heavens for height, and the earth for depth,
so the heart of kings is unsearchable.
Take away the dross from the silver,
and the smith has material for a vessel;
take away the wicked from the presence of the king,
and his throne will be established in righteousness.
Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence
or stand in the place of the great,
for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.
What your eyes have seen
do not hastily bring into court,
for what will you do in the end,
when your neighbor puts you to shame?
Argue your case with your neighbor himself,
and do not reveal another's secret,
lest he who hears you bring shame upon you,
and your ill repute have no end.

The Epistle is Hebrews 13:1-17

Let brotherly love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body. Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous. Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." So we can confidently say, "The Lord is my helper I will not fear what can man do to me?"

Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings, for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited those devoted to them. We have an altar from which those who serve the tent

have no right to eat. For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the holy places by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. Therefore let us go to him outside the camp and bear the reproach he endured. For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come. Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Obeys your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

The Gospel is Luke 14:1-14

One Sabbath, when [Jesus] went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. And behold, there was a man before him who had dropsy. And Jesus responded to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?" But they remained silent. Then he took him and healed him and sent him away. And he said to them, "Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?" And they could not reply to these things.

Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, "When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, and he who invited you both will come and say to you, 'Give your place to this person,' and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

He said also to the man who had invited him, "When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just."

Hymns for the Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

LSB842 Son of God, Eternal Savior

Somerset T. C. Lowry

1. Son of God, eternal Savior, Source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us Hallows all our human race,
You our Head, who, throned in glory, For Your own will ever plead:
Fill us with Your love and pity, Heal our wrongs, and help our need.
2. As You, Lord, have lived for others, So may we for others live.
Freely have Your gifts been granted; Freely may Your servants give.
Yours the gold and Yours the silver, Yours the wealth of land and sea;
We but stewards of Your bounty Held in solemn trust will be.
3. Come, O Christ, and reign among us, King of Love and Prince of Peace;
Hush the storm of strife and passion, Bid its cruel discords cease.
By Your patient years of toiling, By Your silent hours of pain,
Quench our fevered thirst of pleasure, Stem our selfish greed of gain.
4. Son of God, eternal Savior, Source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us Hallows all our human race:
By your praying, by Your willing, That Your people should be one,
Grant, O grant our hope's fruition; Here on earth Your will be done.

LSB623 Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray

Henry E. Jacobs

1. Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray
That we may feast on You today;
Beneath these forms of bread and wine
Enrich us with Your grace divine.
2. Give us, who share this wondrous food,
Your body broken and Your blood,
The grateful peace of sins forgiv'n,
The certain joys of heirs of heav'n.
3. By faith Your Word has made us bold
To seize the gift of love retold;
All that You are we here receive,
And all we are to You we give.
4. One bread, one cup, one body, we,
Rejoicing in our unity,
Proclaim Your love until You come
To bring Your scattered loved ones home.

5. Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray:
O keep us steadfast till that day
When each will be Your welcomed guest
In heaven's high and holy feast.

LSB639 Wide Open Stand the Gates

J. K. Wilhelm Loehe

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1. Wide open stand the gates adorned with pearl,
While round God's golden throne
The choirs of saints in endless circles curl,
And joyous praise the Son!
They watch Him now descending To visit waiting earth.
The Lord of Life unending Brings dying hope new birth!
2. He speaks the Word the bread and wine to bless:
"This is My flesh and blood!"
He bids us eat and drink with thankfulness
This gift of holy food.
All human thought must falter—Our God stoops low to heal,
Now present on the altar, For us both host and meal!
3. The cherubim, their faces veiled from light,
While saints in wonder kneel,
Sing praise to Him whose face with glory bright
No earthly masks conceal.
This sacrament God gives us Binds us in unity,
Joins earth with heav'n beyond us, Time with eternity!

LSB844 Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace

Olive Wise Spannaus

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1. Lord of all nations, grant me grace
To love all people, ev'ry race;
And in each person may I see
My kindred, loved, redeemed by Thee.
2. Break down the walls that would divide
Thy children, Lord, on ev'ry side.
My neighbor's good let me pursue;
Let Christian love bind warm and true.
3. Forgive me, Lord, where I have erred
By loveless act and thoughtless word,

Make me to see the wrong I do
Will grieve my wounded Lord anew.

4. Give me the courage, Lord, to speak
Whenever strong oppress the weak.
Should I myself the victim be,
Help me forgive, rememb'ring Thee.
5. With Thine own love may I be filled
And by Thy Holy Spirit willed,
That all I touch, where'er I be,
May be divinely touched by Thee.

The Twelfth 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),

Rachel Wiegman (3rd), John Fink (2nd), Hannah Fink (1st), Michelle Madden (K),

Natalie Reynolds (Art), Elisa Sawall (Music), Lee Buxton (PE), Cathie Wakeland (Literacy Coach),

Arianna Case (LSEM), Melissa White (FWCS) & Sarah Wheaton (EACS) (Title I Tutors)

The Support Staff

Organist and Director of Parish Music:

Michael Hollman, MM

Church Office Manager:

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 teachers as they start 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 or nearing death, especially Chrys Caragounis
- + For the ill, distressed, and those suffering affliction, including Debra Busche, Frank Jackson, Earl Marcel Sisson, Richard Lammert, Phyllis Lattimore, Nate Demlow, 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
- + For the gift of life and for length of days, especially for the healthy birth of Bishop Reid Muehl, for David Seifert, and for pregnant mothers Jennifer Wessel and Marie Bahr
- + 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 Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost. The Cross Bowl is given in celebration of the 54th birthday of David Seifert by his wife DaVanna Seifert and family. 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 31, 2025 thru September 6, 2025

SUN.	9:00 AM	Divine Service	Church
	10:45 AM	Adult Bible Study	Bauer Hall
MON.		Office closed — Labor Day	
TUES.	9:00 AM	Weekday Bible Study	Bauer Hall
WED.	5:30 PM	Wednesday Divine Service	Church
THURS.			
FRI.			
SAT.	11:00 AM	Private Confession	Church
	12 NOON	Diaper Give-a-way	Parking Lot

September 7, 2025

SUN.	9:00 AM	Divine Service	Church
	10:45 AM	Adult Bible Study	Bauer Hall
	10:45 AM	Adult/Teen Class	Conference Room

ZION ANNOUNCEMENTS

EDUCATION HOUR: Dr. Voelz continues today in the Gospel according to St. Mark, in Bauer Hall. Our alternate adult/teenage class will begin again on September 7. Men of Zion Bible study will start back on September 10 at 9:30 AM.

DIAPER DRIVE: if you are able this Saturday, September 6 at 12 NOON and want to help pass out diapers to the community, please let TruLaine know by contacting her at 260-615-1873. Thanks to everyone that helped package diapers on Friday, and to everyone that supported the diaper drive with donations. We collected over 5000 diapers to pass out to the community.

CALLING ALL persons who know how to knit, sew, or crochet. For our last community project of the year, the ladies of Zion would love to give wheel chair residents at Lutheran Life Villages (LLV) 36x36 lap blankets. This length assures that it will clear the wheels and not cause a fall. If you would like to help out, please contact Melvia or DaVanna for more information or if you need supplies.

MITE BOXES are used to collect money for missions. Please pick up one from the table and return it back once it's full. All donations are turned in to the LWML society to further God's kingdom through the 31 mission grants selected by delegates at district and national conventions. There are bookmarks on the round table that shows where the money is going.

MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE: Isaiah 41:10—"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." Last week's verse was James 5:16.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE: The fall 40 Days campaign opening rally is on September 23, 2025 at 5:30 PM, opening prayer given by Pastor David Reed. Pastor Mike Bahr has coordinated our participation date, which is October 1st 8AM-8PM, and is now calling for volunteers to pray for life. Information and sign up sheets are on the round table in the Great Hall. *"I have set before you life and death ... choose life"* (Deut. 30:19).

RLNI: National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children is September 13th, 2:00-3:00pm. Join us at the Catholic Cemetery on 3500 Lake Ave in Fort Wayne for a memorial to remember the babies from Northeast Indiana who lost their lives to abortion. Please join us also at RLNI's Fall Banquet on Tuesday, October 14th at 5:30 pm at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum with **keynote speaker Kirk Cameron!** We are celebrating our 51st year as an organization. Tickets are available for purchase. This event is expected to be another record-breaker. **Pastor Bahr has reserved a table for Zion. The cost is \$50 per person. If interested, see Pastor Bahr or make your check out to Zion and put RLNI in the memo line.**

BIG NEWS FROM CLHS! Groundbreaking has been set for Sept. 23rd (1 PM). The **A Bold Step** capital campaign, renovating the academic building and auditorium, has reached a major milestone with financing secured and construction on Project 1 set to begin after Labor Day. But we're not done yet: campaign fundraising continues so that Project 2, the auditorium renovation, can be included in this historic effort. In the coming weeks, Concordia will host public meetings in congregations and community venues to share how this campaign will bless generations to come, and your attendance and participation will make the difference—pray, attend, and spread the word!

WE CAN FACE COMPETING PRIORITIES when we think about planning our estates. Am I giving things away or am I trying to control how things will be used? Control would indicate our absolute ownership of things. Our faith instructs us that everything belongs to God and He calls us to manage His things well. The reluctance we might face toward giving away everything probably stems from that awkward sense to control what we think we own. A Christian estate plan acknowledges that "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows." (James 1). In Christ, everything is a gift. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can help you focus on Jesus in your plans. Contact Mark Muehl at 260-241-4845 or mark.muehl@lfind.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

Luke 14:1-14

Ephesians 1:1-23

Ephesians 2:1-22

Ephesians 3:1-21

Ephesians 4:1-24

Ephesians 4:25-5:14

Ephesians 5:15-33

DAILY LECTIONARY

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Evening Prayer

Proverbs 25:1-8

1 Kings 18:1-19

1 Kings 18:20-40

1 Kings 19:1-21

2 Kings 2:1-18

2 Kings 2:19-25; 4:1-7

2 Kings 4:8-22, 32-37

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!**

[T] 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

The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Philemon 1-21

Luke 14:25-35



What Doctor Luther Says:

About the Vainglory of Boasting in One's Humility

48. *For He has regarded the low estate of His handmaiden. For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed.*

The word “low estate” has been translated “humility” by some, as though the Virgin Mary referred to her humility and boasted of it; hence certain prelates also call themselves humiles [footnote: Apparently Luther is referring to the “Humiliati,” a medieval penitential order that arose in the eleventh or twelfth century and was banned in 1571]. But that is very wide of the mark, for no one can boast of any good thing in the sight of God without sin and perdition. In His sight we ought to boast only of His pure grace and goodness, which He bestows upon us unworthy ones; so that not our love and praise but His alone may dwell in us and may preserve us. Thus Solomon teaches us to do (Prov. 25:6, 7): “Do not put yourself forward in the king’s presence or stand (that is, pretend to be something) in the place of the great; for it is better to be told, ‘Come up here,’ than to be put lower in the presence of the prince.” How should such pride and vainglory be attributed to this pure and righteous Virgin, as though she boasted of her humility in the presence of God? For humility is the highest of all the virtues, and no one could boast of possessing it except the very proudest of mortals. It is God alone who knows humility; He alone judges it and brings it to light; so that no one knows less about humility than he who is truly humble.

Luther’s Works, 21:312-11.



**Beginning September 7,
CHOIR REHEARSALS
RESUME ON:**


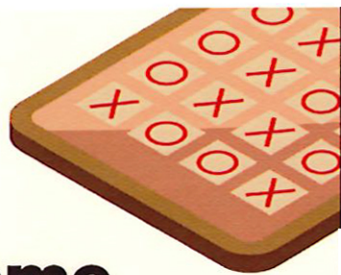
**SUNDAYS
AT 8:05 am**

**In the church balcony.
All are welcome.**

Zion Lutheran Church

Invite you to our... family game night!

Fun • Laughter • Teamwork



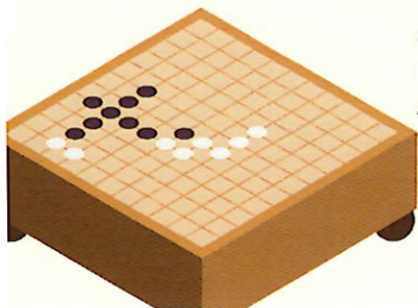
**12 September, 2025
AT 05:30 pm**

What's This All About?

- Trivia & Puzzles
- Classic Board Games
- Friendly Competitions
- Food for Everyone!

**Great for kids, teens,
parents & grandparents!**

Admission: FREE!



LSUS NOTES

Praying for You!

Please pray for these students/staff:

Kindergarten

1st Grade

2nd Grade

3rd Grade

4th Grade

5th Grade

6th Grade

7th Grade

8th Grade

Teachers

Staff



1st Annual LSUS Golf Outing: A Hole-in-One!

Our first-ever LSUS Golf Outing was a huge success! This 18-hole Florida Scramble brought together 10 teams of 4 players, 12 amazing sponsors, and raised \$3,000 for the LSUS Sports Program!

We're already looking forward to next year!



- Winning Team – Dan Fink, Adam Plummer, Tim Webb, and Matthew Erb – who generously donated their winnings back to the school!
- 2nd Place – Dean & Rod Rodenbeck, Dennis Herman, and Mark Neubacher
- Closest to the Pin (Men) – Bob Michael
- Closest to the Pin (Women) – Hannah Fink
- Longest Drive (Men) – Adam Plummer
- Longest Drive (Women) – Erin Martin

A huge THANK YOU to:

- Our dedicated staff for serving a great meal catered by Melvia Culpher
- McMillen Golf Course for hosting
- All our hole and cart sponsors for making this event possible





September Event Schedule

FACEBOOK: BRIDGE 20/30 GROUP FT. WAYNE

2

SEPT 2025

🌙 PORCH NIGHT: SERIES ON VANITY: A STUDY OF
THE BOOK OF ECCLESIASTES
7 PM THE GARDEN
3308 N. ANTHONY BLVD

9

SEPT 2025

DEVOTION ANCHOR NIGHT: "FAILURE ISN'T FINAL"
WITH BRIAN LOESEL FOLLOWED BY CARDS & GAMES
7 PM THE GARDEN
3308 N. ANTHONY BLVD

16

SEPT 2025

SAND VOLLEYBALL FREE PLAY-CASH BAR
7-9 PM EMPOWERED SPORTS CLUB
12124 LIMA RD

23

SEPT 2025

MEETUP
7 PM HOP RIVER BREWING COMPANY
1515 N HARRISON ST.

30

SEPT 2025

MEETUP: LIVE MUSIC
7 PM THE CLUB ROOM @ THE CLYDE
TODD HAROLD BAND

LIFE NEWS—SEPTEMBER 2025



LUTHERANS
FOR LIFE

lutheransforlife.org



Life Newsbytes

Tiny premature twin babies who were born at only 29 weeks gestation have defied the odds thanks to a life-saving twin cot. Marcus and Macie Lee, from Glasgow, were born prematurely after their mother, Jennifer Prior, developed complications during her pregnancy at 20 weeks gestation. Hospital staff warned that the children were likely to be stillborn. However, fortunately, this was not the case, and the tiny babies were born weighing only 1lb 3oz and 2lb. Even though they had made it safely out of the womb, they had to spend the first ten weeks of their lives in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) of Glasgow Children's Hospital. Thankfully, after receiving round-the-clock care from medical staff, Marcus and Macie were able to leave the hospital after three months. "As time went on they thrived more and more with very little complication," Jennifer said. "Being told the worst was likely to happen ... then for the complete opposite, felt like a miracle. I'll never forget the feeling of thinking I wouldn't leave without my babies. I was there day and night ... hoping someone would give me some hope and confirmation they would survive." The newborn twins were the first to use the hospital's new co-sleeping cot, which medics believe "made a massive difference to their progress." (Read more: lifenews.com/2025/08/19/twin-premature-babies-born-at-29-weeks-defy-the-odds.)

Speaking up For Life

"Let us never forget and continue to trust in God as our only resource when we face difficult life issues. Continue to pray for our country as some leaders continue to pursue making laws that jeopardize precious lives and challenge God's plan for life. Let us put our trust in God, not man." *Virginia Flo, Director of Volunteer Relations, Lutherans For Life*

"I pray that you will recognize and value those people in your life who were blessed by God so they could be a blessing to you! I especially pray that you will then use the blessings God has bestowed on you to bless those around you and to pass these blessings on to your own descendants to a thousand generations. Now is the time to pass on the gift. Now is the time to pass the baton to the next runner in the race! To God be all the glory!" *Barbara Lane Geistfeld, Lutherans For Life*

"When we engage in the political process, we as Christians rightfully assert these rights, knowing that in doing so we are defending not only or even primarily ourselves, but our neighbors ... By asserting the right to life, and to other natural rights, we are in fact confessing God's given order." *Rev. Dr. Peter Scaer, Concordia Theological Seminary*
lutheransforlife.org/resources/life-quotes



LFL National Conference • September 24-26, 2025

Fearfully **REGISTER TODAY!** and Wonderfully Made



Great Wolf Lodge | Colorado Springs, Colorado

"I praise you, LORD, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made" (Psalm 139:14).

Get equipped to deal with life issues with Gospel-motivated speakers at the **Great Wolf Lodge in Colorado Springs** during this three-day national event! The sweeping views of Pike's Peak from the conference center will inspire us as we hear testimonials from courageous For Life speakers. *This family-friendly venue offers the largest indoor water park in Colorado, along with dozens of engaging activities for children of all ages.*

Registration includes access to all conference sessions, as well as breakfasts and dinners at the conference hotel. *Note: Lunches and afternoons will be on your own to explore the area!*

Keynote Speakers

Jim Daly | Focus on the Family
Jack Phillips | Masterpiece Cakeshop
Judge Ruth Neely | Retired Wyoming Judge
Joy Pullman | The Federalist
Rev. Dr. Aric Fenske | LFL

Registration Fees | lutheransforlife.org/conferences

Adult: \$150

Students and Youth, 13 years old through college-age: \$25

Children, 12 years old and under: FREE





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/)

