

**Sunday Worship**  
**October 8, 2023**  
**Time After Pentecost**



Look down from heaven, O God;  
behold and tend this vine.

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church  
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## **WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP CELEBRATION!**

Thanks for coming to be with us at Zion Lutheran Church. If you are visiting with us for the first time, will you please fill out a visitor card, available in the pew rack in front of you, and drop it in the offering plate. Whether this is your first visit or you worship here regularly, we are delighted that you chose to share with us. We worship together on Saturday at 5:00 p.m. and Sunday at 10:00 a.m. If you have a “prayer request” or a “praise report”, please let the pastor know. God bless you on your journey of faith.

## **INTRODUCTION**

*In today's gospel reading, Jesus tells a vineyard parable, which serves as an image of Israel, the prophets' mission, and Christ's death. For Christians, the vineyard also speaks of God's love poured out in the blood of Christ, given to us for the forgiveness of sin. Grafted onto Christ the vine at baptism, we are nourished with wine and bread so that we may share Christ's sufferings and know the power of his resurrection.*

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **PRELUDE**

*My Song is Love Unknown*

Arr. Burkhardt

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

**P:** Blessed be God, the One who forms us **+** Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

**C:** **Amen.**

**P:** Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**P:** Steadfast and faithful God,

**C:** **You have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow You. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering.**

**We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others.**

**For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us.**

**For the unjust demands we place on others and Your creation, forgive us.**

**For the ways we turn away from You and our neighbor, forgive us.**

**Lead us back to You and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

- P: Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.  
God's compassion is beyond compare.  
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.  
In † Christ, you are already and always forgiven
- C: **Amen.**

**HYMN Red hymnal #803**

*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

**GREETING / PRAYER OF THE DAY**

- P: The grace of Jesus Christ our Savior, the reconciling love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C: **And also with you.**
- P: Let us pray . . .
- C: **Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

**KYRIE Red hymnal #120**

- P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- C: **Lord, have mercy.**
- P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
- C: **Lord, have mercy.**
- P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
- C: **Lord, have mercy.**
- P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
- C: **Lord, have mercy.**
- P: Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C: **Amen.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE Red hymnal #121**

- C: **Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory. Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. Glory to God in the highest, and**

peace to God's people on earth. For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord, You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen. Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

**CHANCEL CHOIR** Director Bill Jones *The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve*  
Music: Robert A. Hobby Text: Delores Dufner

### THE WORD

#### **FIRST READING: Isaiah 5:1-7**

R: <sup>1</sup>Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. <sup>2</sup>He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. <sup>3</sup>And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. <sup>4</sup>What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? <sup>5</sup>And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. <sup>6</sup>I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. <sup>7</sup>For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

R: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

#### **PSALM: Psalm 80:7-15**

R: <sup>7</sup>Restore us, O God of hosts; let Your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

**C: <sup>8</sup>You have brought a vine out of Egypt; You cast out the nations and planted it.**

R: <sup>9</sup>You cleared the ground for it; it took root and filled the land.

**C: <sup>10</sup>The mountains were covered by its shadow and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.**

R: <sup>11</sup>You stretched out its tendrils to the sea and its branches to the river.

**C: <sup>12</sup>Why have You broken down its wall, so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?**

R: The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.

**C:** <sup>14</sup>**Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven;**

**R:** <sup>15</sup>behold and tend this vine; preserve what Your right hand has planted.

## **SECOND READING: Philippians 3:4b-14**

**R:** [Paul writes:] <sup>4b</sup>If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup>circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup>as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. <sup>7</sup>Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. <sup>8</sup>More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup>and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. <sup>10</sup>I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup>if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. <sup>12</sup>Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. <sup>13</sup>Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

**R:** The Word of the Lord

**C:** **Thanks be to God**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Red Hymnal #401**

**C:** **Gracious Spirit, heed our pleading, fashion us all anew. It's Your leading that we're needing, help us to follow You. Come, come, come Holy Spirit come. Come, come, come Holy Spirit come. Come to teach us, come to nourish those who believe in Christ. Bless the faithful, may they flourish, strengthened by grace unpriced. Come, come, come Holy Spirit come. Come, come, come Holy Spirit come.**

## **HOLY GOSPEL**

**P:** The Gospel according to **Matthew 21:33-46**

**C:** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the people:] <sup>33</sup>"Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a

watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. <sup>34</sup>When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. <sup>35</sup>But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. <sup>36</sup>Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. <sup>37</sup>Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' <sup>38</sup>But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' <sup>39</sup>So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. <sup>40</sup>Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" <sup>41</sup>They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time." <sup>42</sup>Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'?" <sup>43</sup>Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. <sup>44</sup>The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls." <sup>45</sup>When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. <sup>46</sup>They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**SERMON** Pastor Dale Schaefer

**HYMN** Red Hymnal #826

*Thine the Amen*

## **RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD**

### **APOSTLE'S CREED**

P: Let us confess our faith.

C: **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe 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 to the  
dead. On the third day He rose again; He ascended into heaven, He  
is seated at the right hand of the Father, and He will come again to  
judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion**

of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**PRAYERS** (*Response after each petition*)

P: Lord in your mercy,

C: **Hear our prayer . . .**

**OFFERING—Invitation—God’s Work Continues**

**OFFERTORY SONG #674** *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

**Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy: bread is broken, the wine is poured, Christ is spoken and seen and heard. Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound! Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!**

**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYERS WITH WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION** (*All who confess Jesus as their Lord and Savior and believe in the real presence of Christ in the sacrament are invited to receive Holy Communion.*)

**BLESSING**

P: The God of glory, **+** Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever

C: **Amen.**

**HYMN Red hymnal #323**

*God Loved the World*

**DISMISSAL**

P: What is the mission of Zion Lutheran Church?

C: **The mission of Zion Lutheran Church is:  
“Serving Christ through serving others.”**

P: Go in peace. God is at work in you.

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

*All Who Love and Serve Your City*

*The altar flowers are given to the honor and glory of God  
by Felicia Young & Wayne Fronczak in celebration of their October birthdays.*

*Prayer concerns for Zion's prayer chain may be submitted  
using a 'Prayer Request' card from the pew rack.*

### In Helpful Service

Pastor	Dale Schaefer
Communion Assist	Brad Kennedy
Reader	Lilian Nichols
Ushers	Judy & Ken Bailey
Greeter	Lois Davis

**ATTENDANCE 9/30 & 10/1:** 97  
**Unified Giving 9/30 & 10/1:** \$5,515.00

**Sunday School:** Adult 13  
Youth 3 Kids 5

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **MISSION OF THE MONTH: OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD**

*Operation Christmas Child* collects shoeboxes—filled with school supplies, hygiene items, fun toys and notes of encouragement—and delivers them to children in need around the world to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way.

Please pick up an empty box (or two) and a "How to Pack a Shoebox" brochure located in the narthex (or you can use a regular shoebox or buy a container.)

If you want to help out but are unable to shop or prefer not to you can also help by making a donation to help with gifts and shipping.

Any questions contact Deb Keppel.

### **VOLUNTEER BREAKFAST: Saturday, October 28th, 9:00 am - Noon**

If you have volunteered at Zion in any capacity, you are invited to enjoy breakfast by Chris Cakes. Happy the Clown will be here to provide entertainment and music. Our way of saying thanks for giving of your time! A sign-up sheet is in the fellowship hallway.

### **WOMEN'S DAY RETREAT: Saturday, November 4th, 9:00 am - 3:15 pm**

Come enjoy a day of women's fellowship and learning. Our topic is the "Freedom of God's Grace", led by Kristen Zimmann. There is no fee but please register on the sign-up sheet in the fellowship hallway coming soon. Friends and family are welcome. Lunch will be provided.









