

Sunday Worship

November 12, 2023



“Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

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

Today the prophet Amos calls for justice to roll down like waters. Paul urges us to encourage one another with the promised coming of the Lord. Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we celebrate Christ's coming in our midst in the word of life and the feast of victory—the marriage feast of the lamb.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Arr. Hobby

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 the holy Trinity, **+** one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved.

C: **Amen.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy One,

C: **we confess that we are not awake for you.**

We are not faithful in using your gifts.

We forget the least of our siblings.

We do not see your beautiful image in one another.

We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community.

Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.

P: Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us.

Through **+** Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice!

P: Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world.

C: **Amen.**

HYMN Red hymnal #438

My Lord, What a Morning

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: **O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, 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.**

THE WORD

FIRST READING: Amos 5:18-24

R: ¹⁸Alas for you who desire the day of the LORD! Why do you want the day of the LORD? It is darkness, not light; ¹⁹as if someone fled from a lion, and was met by a bear; or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall, and was bitten by a snake. ²⁰Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? ²¹I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. ²²Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon. ²³Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. ²⁴But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 70

R: ¹Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; O LORD, make haste to help me.

C: ²Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confounded; let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced.

R: ³Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me turn back because of their shame.

C: ⁴Let all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You; let those who love Your salvation say forever, "Great is the LORD!"

R: ⁵But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God. You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

R: ¹³We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. ¹⁵For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. ¹⁶For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are

alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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 25:1-13**

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

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' ⁷Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' ⁹But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' ¹⁰And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. ¹¹Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' ¹²But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' ¹³Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON Pastor Dale Schaefer

HYMN Red Hymnal #488

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

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 . . .

BLESSING OF OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOE BOXES

P: Loving God, we pray for your blessing of these shoeboxes for the mission of Samaritan's Purse "Operation Christmas Child."

C: Loving God, we ask for your blessing.

P: We pray for the hurting children and their families whose lives will be impacted by these boxes and the contents we've packed with love.

C: Loving God, we pray for your loving touch.

P: We pray especially that through these gifts the hearts of the children and their families will be opened to your love and the message of your grace through Jesus Christ.

C: Loving God, we pray for your grace to be made known.

P: We pray also for the children and their families who are suffering in the desperate circumstances of poverty, sickness or war, that you will meet their physical needs.

C: Providing God, we pray for your bounty.

P: We pray also that these shoeboxes will be useful tools to open doors for the proclamation of the gospel.

C: Providing God, we pray for open doors.

P: We pray, also for all those who are participating in some way to the mission of Operation Christmas, and for the process of collecting, processing, transporting and delivering of the boxes to their rightful destinations.

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!

EUCHARISTIC 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: May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad!

C: **Amen.**

HYMN Purple hymnal #949 *Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning*

DISMISSAL

P: What is the mission of Zion Lutheran Church?

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

P: Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

We Plow the Field and Scatter

Arr. Burkhardt

*The altar flowers are given to the honor and glory of God
by Ruth White, Loren Brockert & Deanna Rockwell in memory of Bob White &
Carolyn & Dick Brockert*

*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
Acolyte	Alex Garvic
Communion Assist	Kervyn Mach
Reader	Gary Groth
Greeter	Co Holley

ATTENDANCE 11/4 & 5: 109
Unified Giving 11/4 & 5: \$5,442.00

Sunday School: Adult 15
Youth 2 Kids 8

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSION OF THE MONTH: **ADOPT-A-FAMILY**

A Christmas tree, decorated with paper ornaments, will appear in the lounge area just outside the sanctuary. You are invited to take one or more ornaments from the tree, purchase the item(s) written on the ornament(s) and return them to the tree by the designated date of **December 3rd**. The gifts for children should **not** be wrapped as the parents enjoy doing that for their children.

Contact Deb Keppel with questions.

PROPOSED MINISTRY PLAN (aka BUDGET):

A copy of the proposed budget guidelines should have been mailed with the congregational letter. Copies have been made and are available on the table beside the Tidings newsletter basket. Please take a copy and review the information before attending the congregational meeting on November 19th, at which time a vote will be taken for approval.

