

**June 16, 2024**

**Time After Pentecost**



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

*The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We'd expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup we share. It may not appear all that impressive, but while nobody's looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding.*

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

*Faith of Our Fathers*

Arr. Keesecker

## 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, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

C: **Amen.**

P: Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: God, our provider,

C: **help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in You. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to You. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.**

P: Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than

enough. Through Jesus, + the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

**C: Amen**

**HYMN Red hymnal #733**

*Great is Thy Faithfulness*

**GREETING / PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray together the Prayer of the Day.

**O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

**RESTORE IN US, O GOD Red Hymnal #328**

Restore in us, O God, the splendor of your love;  
renew your image in our hearts, and all our sins remove.

Bring us, O Christ, to share the fullness of your joy;  
baptize us in the risen life that death cannot destroy.

**THE WORD**

**FIRST READING: Ezekiel 17:22-24**

R: <sup>22</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. <sup>23</sup>On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. <sup>24</sup>All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the LORD have spoken; I will accomplish it.

R: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM: Psalm 92:1-4,12-15**

R: <sup>1</sup>It is a good thing to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praise to your name,  
O Most High;

C: <sup>2</sup>**to herald your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night;**

R: <sup>3</sup>on the psaltery, and on the lyre, and to the melody of the harp.

C: <sup>4</sup>**For you have made me glad by your acts, O LORD; and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.**

R: <sup>12</sup>The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.

C: <sup>13</sup>**Those who are planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God;**

R: <sup>14</sup>they shall still bear fruit in old age; they shall be green and succulent;

C: <sup>15</sup>**that they may show how upright the LORD is, my rock, in whom there is no injustice.**

## **SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:6-10 [11-13] 14-17**

R: <sup>6</sup>So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—<sup>7</sup>for we walk by faith, not by sight.

<sup>8</sup>Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. <sup>9</sup>So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. <sup>10</sup>For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

[<sup>11</sup>Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. <sup>12</sup>We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. <sup>13</sup>For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you.]

<sup>14</sup>For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. <sup>15</sup>And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

<sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup>So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

R: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## **GRACIOUS SPIRIT, HEED OUR PLEADING Red Hymnal #401**

**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.**

**Guide our thinking and our speaking done in your holy name.  
Motivate all in their seeking, freeing from guilt and shame.  
Come, come, come, Holy Spirit, come.  
Come, come, come, Holy Spirit, come.**

## **HOLY GOSPEL**

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to **Mark 4:26-34**

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

**P:** <sup>26</sup>[Jesus said,] "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, <sup>27</sup>and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. <sup>28</sup>The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. <sup>29</sup>But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

<sup>30</sup>He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? <sup>31</sup>It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; <sup>32</sup>yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

<sup>33</sup>With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; <sup>34</sup>he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

**P:** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**SERMON** Dale Schaefer

**HYMN** Red hymnal #679

*For the Fruit of All Creation*

## 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 OF THE CHURCH *(Response after each petition)*

P: Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer....

### OFFERING—INVITATION—God's Work Continues

OFFERTORY SONG Red hymnal #583 *Take My Life, That I May Be*

Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee;

Take my moments and my days: let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold;

Take my intellect and use every pow'r as thou shalt choose.

Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee;

Take my moments and my days: let them flow in ceaseless praise.

### EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER / WORDS OF INSTITUTION

#### LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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 blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,  
+ be upon you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

**HYMN Red hymnal #547**

*Sent Forth by God's Blessing*

**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. You are the body of Christ

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

*For the Fruit of All Creation*

Arr. Stoldt

*The altar flowers are given to the honor and glory of God by  
Miriam Comer in memory of Roger.*

*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
Reader	Bob Keppel
Communion Assist	Doug Jacobs
Ushers	Richard & Debby Geiman
Greeters	Wayne & Felicia Fronczak

**Total Attendance: 6/8 & 9: 93**

**Unified Giving: \$4,088.25**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **JUNE MISSION OF THE MONTH: *Lutheran Outdoor Ministries in Ohio***

We will be collecting your spare change or checks (made payable to Women of Zion) for LOMO (Lutheran Outdoor Ministries in Ohio) to help pay for camper-ships for children and families to attend a summer camp. Camp Luther at Hope-Wood Shores, LMC at HopeWood Pines and HopeWood Connect provide families and youth with opportunities for worship, Bible study, games, crafts, swimming, and other recreational opportunities while in a safe and caring environment. Look for the collection jar at the back of the sanctuary. Any questions contact Deb Keppel.

**SIMPLY GIVE** Needy Basket is partnering again with Meijer to provide much-needed relief to local families facing food insecurity through the retailer's customer-driven hunger relief program, Simply Give. Meijer will match \$10 donation cards available at the Troy Meijer store checkout lanes now through **June 29<sup>th</sup>**. In addition, If desired, donations can also be sent directly to Needy Basket at 330 S. Fifth St., Tipp City, OH 45371 for inclusion in the double match benefit. For more info or if you are interested in volunteering, call 937-667-1977.

**ZION NIGHT AT THE DRAGONS** All 69 of our tickets are sold. If you have signed up, please **get your money in ASAP**. There is an envelope on the table in the workroom for the money. Tickets cost \$14 each.

**DUCKPIN BOWLING & PIZZA** **June 23rd, 11:30 - 1:30** at Tipp Pizza. The cost of bowling is covered for 32 people (a freewill offering will be taken). You are responsible for your pizza and beverages. Duckpin bowling uses a small ball, a shorter lane and lighter pins. No bowling shoes are needed and **it's easy for folks of all ages and abilities**. Sign up in the fellowship hallway.

**LUNCH ON US** Zion members who are interested in volunteering at the Lunch on Us program are asked to call or text Rene at (937) 308-4813 to sign up for a day or a week. Volunteers need to be there by 9:00 and are usually finished by noon. This program began June 10 and **ends on August 14**. Volunteers will prepare and package food items, fill lunch containers and hand out the lunches either at the Methodist church or on the delivery van.

**POPSICLES IN THE PARK** **On Sunday July 14**, pack a picnic after church and join us at City Park, Tipp City, for a bible story and a popsicle! We will invite families at the park if they would like to join us for a short Bible story and prayer while we eat our popsicles. Please sign up in the hallway and note this event is weather is permitting.