

September 8, 2024

Time After Pentecost



“Jesus said ‘Be opened’ and immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released and he spoke plainly.”

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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

James tells us to stop showing favoritism in the assembly, treating the rich visitor with more honor than the poor one. Jesus himself seems to show partiality in his first response to the Syrophenician woman in today's gospel. Was he testing her faith in saying Gentiles don't deserve the goods meant for God's children? Or was he speaking out of his human worldview, but transcended those limits when she took him by surprise with her reply? Either way, the story tells us that God shows no partiality. Everyone who brings a need to Jesus is received with equal honor as a child and heir.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Blessed Be Your Name

Arr. Phillip Keveren

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, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,

C: **have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in**

the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.

C: **Amen**

HYMN Red hymnal #731

Earth and All Stars

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.

C: **Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer 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: Isaiah 35:4-7a

R: ⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." ⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; ⁷the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 146

R: ¹Hallelujah! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

C: ²**I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

R: ³Put not your trust in rulers, in mortals in whom there is no help.

C: ⁴**When they breathe their last, they return to earth, and in that day their thoughts perish.**

R: ⁵Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the LORD their God;

C: ⁶**who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; who keeps promises forever;**

R: ⁷who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger. The LORD sets the captive free.

C: ⁸**The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.**

R: ⁹The LORD cares for the stranger; the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

C: ¹⁰**The LORD shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!**

SECOND READING: James 2:1-10

R: ¹My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? ²For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also

comes in, ³and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," ⁴have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? ⁷Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? ⁸You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ⁹But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. [¹¹For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. ¹²So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. ¹³For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.] ¹⁴What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Red Hymnal #124

Al-le-lu-ia., al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia,

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

Al-le-lu-ia., al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia,

HOLY GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel according to **Mark 7:24-37**

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

P: ²⁴[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, ²⁵but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁸But she answered him, "Sir, even the

dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." ²⁹Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." ³⁰So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone. ³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." ³⁵And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON Pastor Summers

HYMN Red hymnal #612

Healer of Our Every Ill

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 #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 PRAYER / 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: God all mighty, God most merciful + bless you, keep you, and give you
peace.

C: **Amen.**

HYMN Purple hymnal #987

Guide My Feet

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. Follow Jesus.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

Arr. David Cherwien

*The altar flowers are given to the honor and glory of God by
Mitch and Cindy Tayse in celebration of football season.*

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

In Helpful Service

Pastor	Jaren Summers
Acolyte	Marissa Kessler
Reader	Linda Holt
Communion Assist	Susie Gray
Ushers	Richard & Debby Geiman
Greeters	Raenell & Sean Poynter

Total Attendance: 8/31 & 9/1: 72

Unified Giving: \$3,825.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SEPTEMBER MISSION OF THE MONTH: In September, the Women of Zion will serve a meal for the St. Patrick Soup Kitchen in Troy. In addition to serving at the Kennedy Center yesterday, we are collecting items needed for the Soup Kitchen. There is a display in the narthex with the items needed and a collection box. Collection will end **September 29th**.

Items needed are:

35–55-gallon size trash bags , Quart size and sandwich size zip lock bags,
Dish soap, Powdered drink mix, Sugar, Canned milk, fruit and applesauce,
Aluminum foil & Packaged cookies

SEPTEMBER TIDINGS are available in the narthex.

ZION GARAGE SALE is Thursday & Friday, September 26 & 27.

We will begin setting up the sale on **Sunday, Sept. 22** and will be working on it that entire week. You may bring in your garage sale treasures beginning on Saturday, September 21, after worship, Sunday, September 22 after worship until 4:00 pm and Monday and Tuesday mornings, Sept. 23 & 24.

We do NOT accept clothing, bed pillows, large exercise equipment, TVs and car seats. **We do not have room to store any donations at Zion until September 21**, so please hang on to your items until then.

Garage Sale Hours: Thursday 9-5 and Friday 9 - 8

We need **help** setting up and clerking. A sign-up sheet is in the fellowship hallway.