



**Sunday November 16, 2025**  
**23rd Sunday after Pentecost**

**Zion Lutheran Church**

230 Cemetery Road

P. O. Box 4

West Jefferson, Ohio 43162

614 879-8107

Jon Meister, Presider

[www.zionlutheranwj.org](http://www.zionlutheranwj.org)

## **INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY**

*The end is near. There is no doubt about it. The warning is dire. The tone of today's texts is ominous. But the baptized know how to live in the meantime. The baptized are strengthened for the living of these days in word and sacrament. The baptized rally around the invitation of the apostle. "Do not be weary in doing what is right."*

## **PRELUDE**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **GOD MOMENTS**



## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*Please stand as you are able.*

**P** In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**P** Merciful God,

**C** you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

**P** You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of ✝ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

**C** Amen.





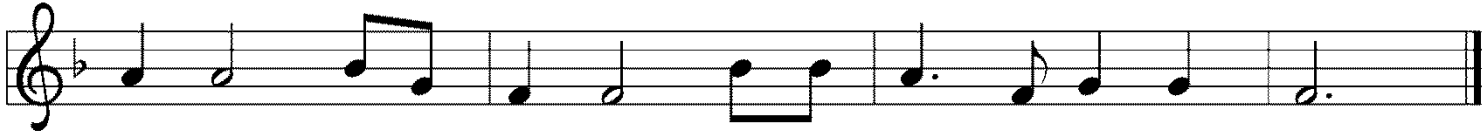
# GATHERING HYMN: (ELW 438)

## My Lord, What a Morning

*Refrain*



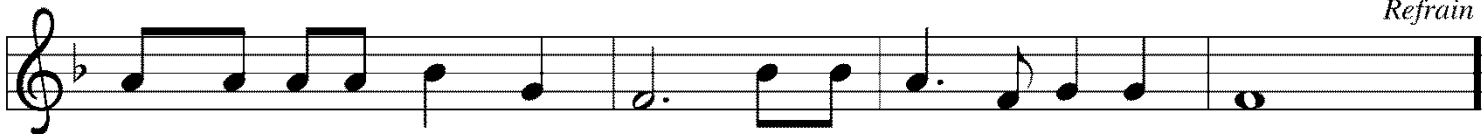
My Lord, what a morn-ing; my Lord, what a morn - ing; oh,



my Lord, what a morn-ing, when the stars be - gin to fall.



- 1 You will hear the trum - pet sound,
- 2 You will hear the sin - ner cry, to wake the na-tions un - der - ground,
- 3 You will hear the Chris-tian shout,



look-ing to my God's right hand, when the stars be-gin to fall.

*Refrain*

Text: African American spiritual

Music: BURL EIGH. African American spiritual

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## GREETING

**P** From God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, grace and peace be with you all.

**C** And also with you.



## RESPONSIVE READING

**P** For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all,  
**C** **for this holy house, for all who worship and praise,**

**P** That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor,  
**C** **that we may live out truth and justice and grace,**

**P** for peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family,  
**C** **for life and for love, for work and our play,**

**P** for your Spirit to guide, that you center our lives in the water and the Word,  
**C** **that you nourish our souls with your body and blood, let us pray to the Lord.**

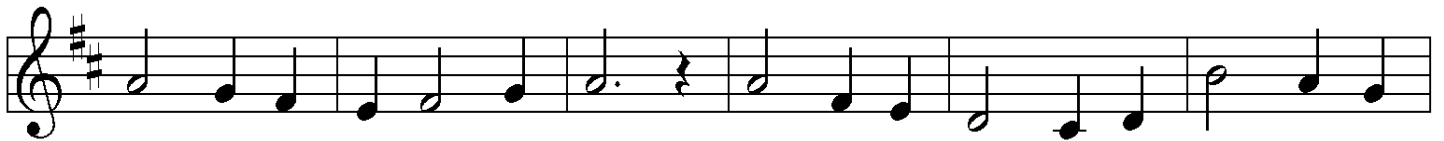
## THIS IS THE FEAST



**A** This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



**B** Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the

hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and

might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain

has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** Amen.



## FIRST READING: Malachai 4:1-2a

*Please be seated.*

**L** A reading from Malachai.

*Malachai, whose name means “my messenger,” warns that “the day is coming.” On that day, the evil will be destroyed like stubble in a fire, but the “sun of righteousness” will shine on those who honor God.*

<sup>1</sup>“Surely the day is coming; it will burn like a furnace. All the arrogant and every evildoer will be stubble, and the day that is coming will set them on fire,” says the LORD Almighty. “Not a root or a branch will be left to them. <sup>2</sup>But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its rays.

**L** The word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## PSALM: Psalm 98:1-6

*Read responsively*

<sup>1</sup>Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things; his right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

**<sup>2</sup>The LORD has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations.**

<sup>3</sup>He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

**<sup>4</sup>Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music;**

<sup>5</sup>make music to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the sound of singing,

**<sup>6</sup>with trumpets and the blast of the ram’s horn – shout for joy before the LORD, the King.**







## GOSPEL: Luke 21:5-19

**P** The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 21<sup>st</sup> chapter.

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

*As history moves toward God's fulfillment there will be frightening signs and events. Before the end. Believers will draw strength from their relationship to God and will be given the words they need to testify and to endure without fear.*

<sup>5</sup>Some of his disciples were remarking about how the temple was adorned with beautiful stones and with gifts dedicated to God. But Jesus said, <sup>6</sup>“As for what you see here, the time will come when not one stone will be left on another; every one of them will be thrown down.”

<sup>7</sup>“Teacher,” they asked, “when will these things happen? And what will be the sign that they are about to take place?”

<sup>8</sup>He replied, “Watch out that you are not deceived. For many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am he,’ and, ‘The time is near.’ Do not follow them. <sup>9</sup>When you hear of wars and uprisings, do not be frightened. These things must happen first, but the end will not come right away.”

<sup>10</sup>Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. <sup>11</sup>There will be great earthquakes, famines and pestilences in various places, and fearful events and great signs from heaven.

<sup>12</sup>“But before all this, they will seize you and persecute you. They will hand you over to synagogues and put you in prison, and you will be brought before kings and governors, and all on account of my name. <sup>13</sup>And so you will bear testimony to me.

<sup>14</sup>But make up your mind not to worry beforehand how you will defend yourselves.

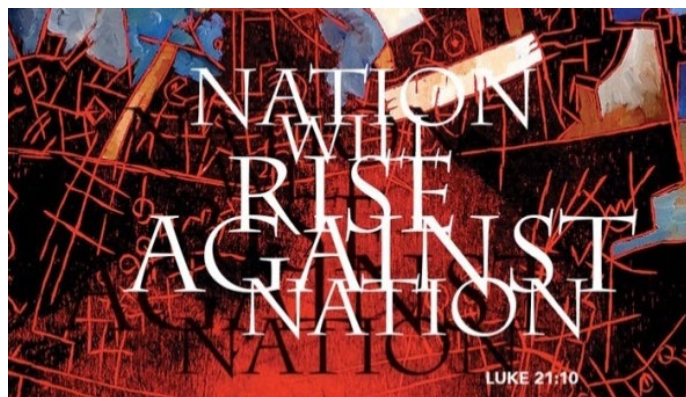
<sup>15</sup>For I will give you words and wisdom that none of your adversaries will be able to resist or contradict. <sup>16</sup>You will be betrayed even by parents, brothers and sisters, relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. <sup>17</sup>Everyone will hate you because of me. <sup>18</sup>But not a hair of your head will perish. <sup>19</sup>Stand firm, and you will win life.

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## SERMON

*Please be seated.*





# HYMN OF THE DAY: (ELW 731)

*Please stand as you are able. Sing only verses 1, 2, and 5*

## Earth and All Stars!



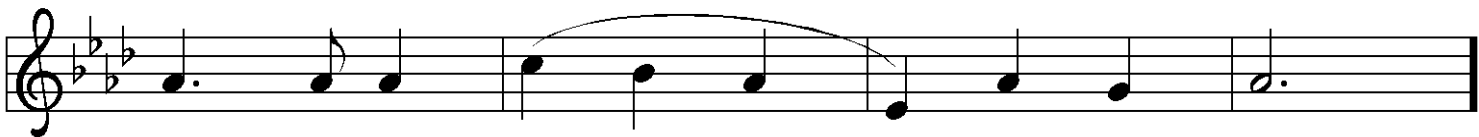
1	Earth	and	all	stars!	Loud	rush - ing	plan - ets!
2	Trum - pet	and	pipes!	Loud	clash - ing	cym - bals!	
3	En - gines	and	steel!	Loud	pound - ing	ham - mers!	
4	Class-rooms	and	labs!	Loud	boil - ing	test tubes!	
5	Knowl-edge	and	truth!	Loud	sound-ing	wis - dom!	



Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!



Hail,	wind,	and	rain!	Loud	blow - ing	snow - storm!
Harp,	lute,	and	lyre!	Loud	hum - ming	cel - los!
Lime - stone	and	beams!	Loud	build - ing	work - ers!	
Ath - lete	and	band!	Loud	cheer - ing	peo - ple!	
Daugh - ter	and	son!	Loud	pray - ing	mem - bers!	



Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!

*Refrain is on the next page*



*Refrain*

God has done mar - vel - ous things.

I too sing prais - es with a new song!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926

Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson, 1922–1987

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## APOSTLES' CREED

**A** Join me in confessing our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**C** **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 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 INTERCESSION

**P** Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world and all who are in need.

*A brief silence*

**P** God of roots and branches, defend the leaders of your church as they proclaim the gospel using discernment, wisdom and brave testimony. Keep all the baptized on righteous paths in response to Christ's call. Hear us, O God.

**C** **Your mercy is great.**



- P** God of roaring seas, in a world of earthquake, hurricane, famine and plague, use your mighty power to nurture the land and all that lives upon it. Restore peoples and places experiencing natural disasters. Strengthen organizations who provide aid in times of crisis. Hear us, O God.
- C** **Your mercy is great.**
- P** God of victory, among quests for power, guide those in government, courts, law enforcement and military. Turn them from war to and violence to actions that build up the common good. Hear us, O God.
- C** **Your mercy is great.**
- P** God of healing, where injustice and exploitation result in populations that are marginalized, accompany those abandoned by friends, family and harmed by violence and oppression. Care for all who are in need. Hear us, O God.
- C** **Your mercy is great.**
- P** God of new songs, in a congregation of faithful believers, energize us for compassionate service and delight us in worship and inspired prayer. Hear us, O God.
- C** **Your mercy is great.**
- P** God of mercy and compassion, as so many throughout our nation struggle with food insecurities, strengthen their resolve, and increase the giving spirit of your children to aid all who are in need. Provide food pantries the resources they require to aid those in need, especially the children. Hear us, O God.
- C** **Your mercy is great.**
- P** We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

## SHALOM

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C** **And also with you.**



## PRAYER OF THANKS

- P** Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
- C** **Amen.**



## DIALOGUE

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## PREFACE

- P** It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



# HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

The musical score is written on five staves in treble clef with a common time signature (C). The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The first staff begins with a common time signature 'C'. The second staff has a triplet of eighth notes marked with a '3'. The fifth staff ends with a double bar line.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,  
Lord God of pow'r and might, heav-en and earth are  
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the  
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

**P** Holy God, our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer, in the harmonious world of your creation, the plants and animals, the seas and stars were whole and well in your praise. When sin had scarred the world, you sent your Son to heal our ills and to form us again into one.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering, therefore, his acts of healing, his body given up, and his victory over death, we await that day when all the peoples of the earth will come to the river to enjoy the Tree of Life. Send your Spirit upon us and this meal: as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread, so let your church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of Life, your Son. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever.

**C** Amen

## LORD'S PRAYER

**P** Lord, remember us in your kingdom, as we pray the prayer you taught us:

**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

**P** The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.



## COMMUNION HYMN



**C** Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

## POST COMMUNION BLESSING

*Please stand as you are able.*

**P** May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C** Amen.



## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- P** Let us pray. God of field and flower, wheat and grape, you have nourished us with the bread of heaven that gives life to the world. Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son, send us out to gather your good gifts for all who hunger and thirst, and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name.
- C** Amen.

## SENDING

- P** In this service God has strengthened us through word and sacrament. Now therefore let us make visible the unity we share as we express a spirit of reconciliation. May our words and actions show that we are part of the one and only body of Jesus Christ, unified by faith, scattered for witness and service.

## BLESSING

- P** We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have protected us through the night from all harm and danger. We ask that you would also protect us today from sin and all evil, so that our lives and actions may please you.

Into your hands we commend ourselves: our body, our soul, and all that is ours. Let your holy angels be with us, so that the wicked foe may have no power over us. God the Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit watch over us, and direct our days and our deeds in peace.

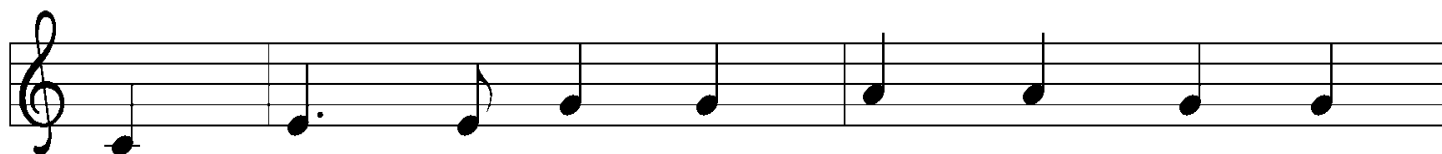
- C** Amen.



# SENDING HYMN: (ELW 597)

*Sing only verses 1, 3, and 4*

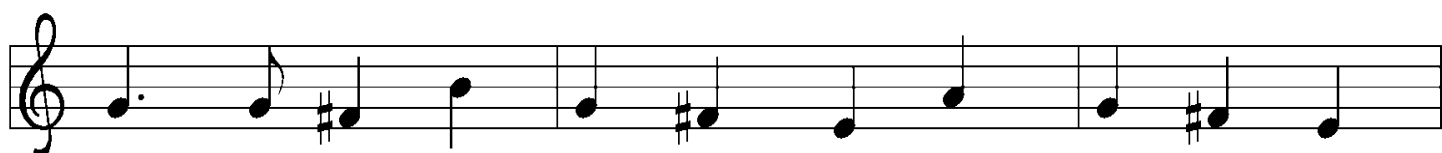
## My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less



1 My hope is built on noth - ing less than  
 2 When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I  
 3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus -  
 4 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, oh,

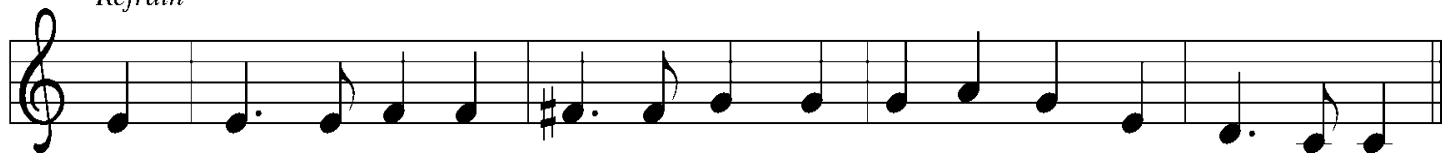


Je - sus' blood and righ - teous - ness; no mer - it of my  
 rest on his un - chang - ing grace; in ev - 'ry high and  
 tain me in the rag - ing flood; when all sup - ports are  
 may I then in him be found, clothed in his righ - teous -



own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.  
 storm - y gale my an - chor holds with - in the veil.  
 washed a - way, he then is all my hope and stay.  
 ness a - lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

### *Refrain*



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt.

Music: MFI JTA John R. Dykes 1823–1876

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## DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Live by the Spirit. Alleluia

C *We go out - Reaching in for the Holy Spirit, Reaching up for God's Grace, Reaching out with Christ's love. Amen!*

## POSTLUDE

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**Serving during worship this morning:**

**Presider:** Jon Meister

**Musician(s):** Jerry Gossett

**Food fund donations:**

**Serving during worship next week:**

**Presider:** Jon Meister

**Musician(s):** Jerry Gossett

**Food fund donations:**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome our guests and visitors this morning. Please take a moment to speak with Jon, Jerry, or Louise before you leave. All persons, at Christ's invitation, are welcome to commune.

## CONTACT THE PASTOR

Communications requesting pastoral care should be made directly to Pastor Larry Baker, (614) 257-8560.



**SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY** We are discussing Exodus. We would love to have more of you come. Bring your favorite beverage and a Bible if you wish. (We have Bibles if you don't bring one or forget.) Looking forward to seeing you there.

## COMING EVENTS AT ZION

**NOVEMBER 23<sup>rd</sup>** will be Thankoffering Sunday. Reach into our pockets and contribute to this offering that will be sent to our national church. It will be collected during the *Hymn of the Day*.

**NOVEMBER 30<sup>th</sup>** is breakfast at First English. We will be on the road again. Be ready to show the Lord's work and greet people who need to be reminded that they are **LOVED**.

**NOVEMBER 30<sup>th</sup>** is also the first Sunday of Advent. Yes Christmas is coming. Get your shopping done early so that we can properly celebrate the birthday of our King.





HOW DO YOU  
THINK JESUS  
KNEW ALL THIS  
WAS GOING TO  
HAPPEN?



WWW.AGN4SDAY.ORG

WELL, IT'S REASONABLE  
TO IMAGINE THAT HOSTILITY  
TOWARDS HIM WOULD BE  
TRANSFERRED TO HIS  
FOLLOWERS.



AND A STUDENT OF HISTORY  
WOULD TELL YOU THAT A  
VIOLENT CLASH WITH ROME  
WAS NEARLY INEVITABLE.



AND HE'S  
**JESUS.**



LUKE 21:5-19