



Altar copy

**Sunday, September 28, 2025**

**16th Sunday after Pentecost**

**Zion Lutheran Church**

**230 Cemetery Road**

**P. O. Box 4**

**West Jefferson, Ohio 43162**

**614 879-8107**

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

## INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

*Consideration of and care for those in need (especially those “at our gate,” visible to us, of whom we are aware) is an essential component of good stewardship. It is in the sharing of wealth that we avoid the snare of wealth. It is the one whom death could not hold—who comes to us risen from the dead—who can free us from the death grip of greed.*

## PRELUDE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## GOD MOMENTS

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*Please stand as you are able.*

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.  
**C** Amen.

**P** Trusting in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

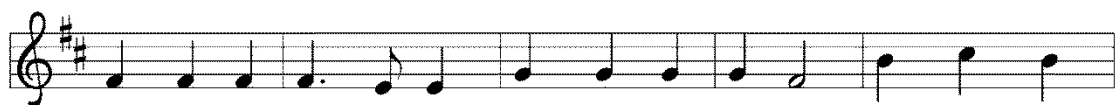
**P** Merciful and loving God,  
**C** **we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.**

**P** Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.  
 You who were lost have been found. In the name of ✝ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

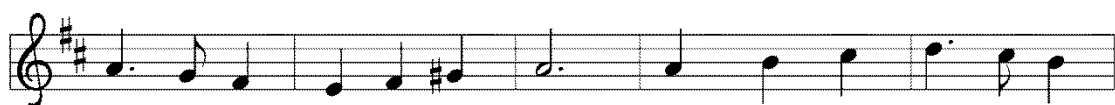
**C** Amen.

**GATHERING HYMN: *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* (TFF 283)**

**Great Is Thy Faithfulness**



1 Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no  
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest, sun, moon, and  
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear

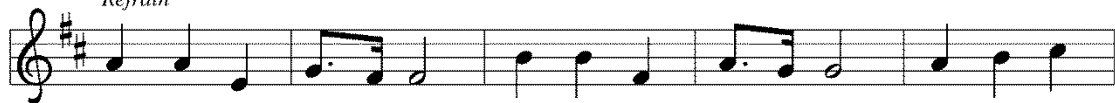


shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -  
 stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in  
 pres - ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright



pas - sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
 man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.  
 hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

*Refrain*



Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by



morn - ing new mer - cies I see; all I have need - ed thy



hand hath pro - vid - ed; great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me.

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960

Music: FAITHFULNESS, William M. Runyan, 1870–1957

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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,**  
**All** **let us pray to the Lord.**

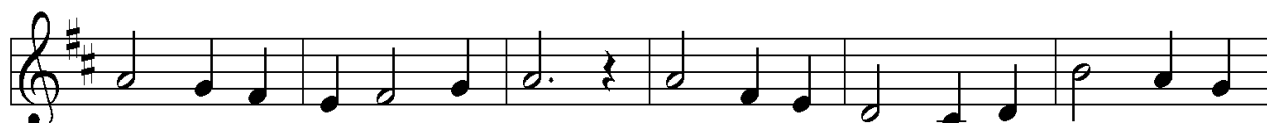
## THIS IS THE FEAST



**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** Let us pray. O God, rich in mercy, you look with compassion on this troubled world. Feed us with your grace, and grant us the treasure that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord
- C** Amen

## FIRST READING: Amos 6: 1a, 4-7

*The prophet Amos announces that Israel's great wealth is a cause not for rejoicing but rather sorrow, because God's people have forgotten how to share their wealth with the poor. The wealthy will be the first to go into exile when judgment comes.*

A reading from Amos.

- <sup>1</sup> Woe to those who are at ease in Zion and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria,  
the notables of the first of the nations, to whom the house of Israel resorts!
- <sup>4</sup> Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory and lounge on their couches  
and eat lambs from the flock and calves from the stall,
- <sup>5</sup> who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp and like David improvise on instruments of music,
- <sup>6</sup> who drink wine from bowls and anoint themselves with the finest oils  
but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!
- <sup>7</sup> Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile, and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

**L** The word of the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

## **PSALM: Psalm 146**

*Read responsively*

<sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

<sup>2</sup> **I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long.**

<sup>3</sup> Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help.

<sup>4</sup> **When their breath departs, they return to the earth; on that very day their plans perish.**

<sup>5</sup> Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God,

<sup>6</sup> **who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever;**

<sup>7</sup> who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free;

<sup>8</sup> **the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;  
the LORD loves the righteous.**

<sup>9</sup> The LORD watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

<sup>10</sup> **The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the LORD!**

## **SECOND READING: 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 6: 6-19**

A reading from 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy.

*Timothy is reminded of the confession he made at his baptism and of its implications for daily life. His priorities will be different from those of people who merely want to be rich.*

<sup>6</sup> Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment, <sup>7</sup> for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it, <sup>8</sup> but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. <sup>9</sup> But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. <sup>10</sup> For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

<sup>11</sup> But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. <sup>12</sup> Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. <sup>13</sup> In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you <sup>14</sup> to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>15</sup> which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. <sup>16</sup> It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

<sup>17</sup> As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches but rather on God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. <sup>18</sup> They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, <sup>19</sup> thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

**L** The word of the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Please stand as you are able.*



## GOSPEL: Luke 16: 19-31

**P** The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 16<sup>th</sup> chapter.

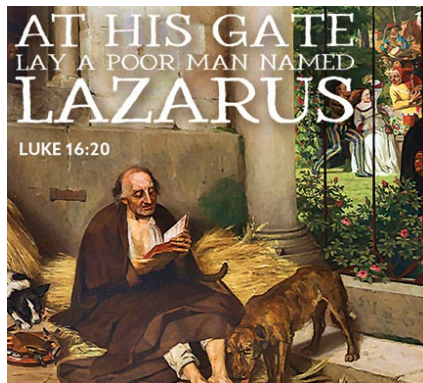
**C** Glory to you, O Lord.

*Jesus tells a parable in which the poor one is “lifted up” and the rich one is “sent away empty.” Jesus makes it clear that this ethic of merciful reversal is not new but is as old as Moses and the prophets*

<sup>19</sup> “There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. <sup>20</sup> And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, <sup>21</sup> who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. <sup>22</sup> The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. <sup>23</sup> In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. <sup>24</sup> He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.’ <sup>25</sup> But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. <sup>26</sup> Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’ <sup>27</sup> He said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house <sup>28</sup> for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’ <sup>29</sup> Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’ <sup>30</sup> He said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’ <sup>31</sup> He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’ ”

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

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



## SERMON

*Please be seated.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY: *Gather Us In* (ELW 532)

*Please stand as you are able. Sing only verses 1, 3, and 4.*

### Gather Us In



- 1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
- 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
- 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
- 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings  
yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,  
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,  
light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.  
called to be light to the whole hu - man race.  
call us a - new to be salt for the earth.  
now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the  
Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the  
Give us to drink the wine of com-pas - sion, give us to eat the  
Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,  
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,  
bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion  
make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.  
give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.  
lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.  
fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen

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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

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

We pray for the church, that it would remain faithful to the gospel, always striving to serve the needs of those who are oppressed and rejecting the complacency that comes from wealth. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

We pray for creation, that the nations work together to protect and restore the earth, preserving the beauty of the planet for future generations and honoring the gift of your creation. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

We pray for those in positions of authority, that they govern with justice and compassion, recognizing the dignity of all people and working to promote peace and prosperity for all. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

We pray for people in any need (*especially*). Give them your assurance and courage when the path forward is not clear. Liberate us from all that binds us, lift us up when we are bowed down, and show us your love. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

We pray for this congregation, that we would be strengthened to build a world where all can thrive. Incite us to advocate for fair wages and just policies, and guide us in building a community of mutual support. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

We remember in thanksgiving the faithful departed. Inspire us by their example to love and serve our neighbors, and bring us to eternal life. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.  
**Amen.**

## SHALOM

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

## PRAYER OF THANKS

**P** Lord of the harvest, we return to you to give you thanks and praise. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have in our lives to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**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:  
*(Preface is in the pocket of the Pastor's binder.)*

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

The musical score is written on five staves in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: "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." The score includes various musical notations such as quarter notes, eighth notes, and a triplet of eighth notes. The final 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 Bread of Life, our Table, and our Food, you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance. You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life, and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven. You sent your Son to eat with sinners and to become food for the world.

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 life given for us and his rising from the grave, we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast. By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal: strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want, and by this bread and cup make of us the body of 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** Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

## COMMUNION HYMN



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

have mer-cy on us, havemer-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** O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need.  
**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: *Give Thanks* (TFF 292)

*Sing through 2 times*

### Give Thanks

Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,  
give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.

Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,  
give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.

And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am  
rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. And  
now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am  
rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

*Last time*

Text: Henry Smith  
Music: GIVE THANKS, Henry Smith

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## DISMISSAL

- A** Go in peace, with Christ beside you.  
**C** Thanks be to God. *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.

## **COMING EVENTS AT ZION**

**SEPTEMBER 28<sup>TH</sup>** the Pastors of the community will lead a prayer service for world conditions and our community. The whole town is invited. It will be at 6:00 PM at The First Church on Lilly Chapel Road and there are refreshments afterward.

**OCTOBER 19<sup>TH</sup>/OCTOBER 26<sup>TH</sup> ?** we will be meeting at the Senior Center. These two weeks are set aside for the Community Fall Festival. This will include Reformation Sunday. Find your RED. I am not positive of the dates and if I am wrong I will let you know.

**NOVEMBER** Many things come in November but I want to tell you early that we will be serving breakfast again at First English. Mark your calendars for November Sundays. It is a busy month.

**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.

