**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, WOODLAND, MI**

**Fifth Sunday after Pentecost, July 5, 2020**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRELUDE**

**Gathering**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

**Confession and Forgiveness**

In the name of the Father,

and of the ☩ Son,

and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.** **Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

**Gathering Song“If You But Trust in God to Guide You” (ELW 769)**



**GREETING**

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

**And also with you.**

**Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray together.

**You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord**. **Amen.**

### First Reading    Zechariah 9:9-12

A reading from Zechariah.

9Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!  
  Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!  
 Lo, your king comes to you;  
  triumphant and victorious is he,  
 humble and riding on a donkey,  
  on a colt, the foal of a donkey.  
 10He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim  
  and the war-horse from Jerusalem;  
 and the battle bow shall be cut off,  
  and he shall command peace to the nations;  
 his dominion shall be from sea to sea,  
  and from the River to the ends of the earth.  
 11As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,  
  I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.  
 12Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;  
  today I declare that I will restore to you double.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm Psalm 145:8-14**

8The Lord is gracious and full | of compassion,  
  slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.  
 9**Lord, you are | good to all,**  
  **and your compassion is over | all your works.**   
 10All your works shall praise | you, O Lord,  
  and your faithful | ones shall bless you.  
 11**They shall tell of the glory | of your kingdom**  
  **and speak | of your power,**  
 12that all people may know | of your power  
  and the glorious splendor | of your kingdom.  
 13**Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures through- | out all ages.**  
  **You, Lord, are faithful in all your words, and loving in | all your works.**  
 14The Lord upholds all | those who fall  
  and lifts up those who | are bowed down.

**Second Reading**  **Romans 7:15-25a**

A reading from Romans.

15I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. 16Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. 17But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. 18For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. 19For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. 20Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.  
  21So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. 22For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, 23but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. 24Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? 25aThanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel** **Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus spoke to the crowd saying:] 16“To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,  
 17‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;  
  we wailed, and you did not mourn.’  
18For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; 19the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”  
  25At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; 26yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. 27All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.  
  28“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. 29Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON Pastor Becky Ebb-Speese**

**Hymn of the Day “Day By Day” (ELW 790)**



**CREED**

**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.**

\*Or, “he descended into hell,” another translation of this text in widespread use.

**Prayers of Intercession**

*(To protect privacy since this is published on our website, we are not naming specific individuals in this bulletin, but we will continue to pray for those who are named through our prayer chain.)*

Called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us pray for our shared world.

*A brief silence.*

We pray for the church. Sustain us as we share your word. Embrace us as we struggle to find our common ground. Lift up leaders with powerful and prophetic voices. Free us from stagnant faith. We pray especially for Messiah Lutheran Church and Rev. Jeff Bonn. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the well-being of creation. Protect the air, water, and land from abuse and pollution. Free us from apathy in our care of creation and direct us toward sustainable living. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the nations. Guide leaders in developing just policies and guide difficult conversations. Free us from patriotism that hinders relationship-building. Lead us to expansive love for our neighbor. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for all in need. For all who are tired, feeling despair, sick, or oppressed. Take their yoke upon you and ease their burdens. Give your consolation and free us from all that keeps us bound. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for this congregation. Bless pastors, deacons, and congregational leaders. Energize children’s ministry volunteers, church administrators, and those who maintain our building. Shine in this place that we might notice the ways your love transforms our lives. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We give thanks for those who have died in faith. Welcome them into your eternal rest and comfort us in our grief until we are joined with them in new life. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**Offering**

**Offering Prayer**

Let us pray.

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**Lord’s Prayer**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

**Sending**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

**Blessing**

The God of steadfastness and encouragement

grant you to live in harmony with one another,

in accordance with Christ Jesus.

**Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,

so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The God of all grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**Sending SonG “Go My Children, with My Blessing” (ELW 543)**



**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

* Although the Semi-Annual Meeting has been cancelled, Tara will still be assembling a packet of board reports to distribute. Please email your reports to her at [office@zionwoodland.org](mailto:office@zionwoodland.org) by this week Wednesday, July 8. Thank you.
* Lawn mowing: Zion’s lawn was mowed each week in June! Thank you to all who helped make this happen! July is open for anyone able to help with mowing the parsonage and church lawns. Please contact Tom Krikke if you are able to mow. Available weeks are:
  + July 6
  + July 13
  + July 20
  + July 27
* Upstairs refrigerator: The church’s main refrigerator in the upstairs kitchen is no longer in service. It was running nonstop and no longer staying cold. All items that were still good have been moved to the downstairs refrigerator.   
  The ZLCW is researching a new refrigerator. Since there is not a rush we plan to take our time to ensure we find a good fit and have one that we know can be serviced in the future by local repair places.   
  The plan is to scrap the refrigerator as it is too costly to repair and this model does not meet current energy requirements. Please see a member of the ZLCW board with any questions.
* We are still in need of volunteers to be Bible Buddies! The boards of youth/education are working on pairing adults with our children and youth as Bible Buddies. We have close to 30 children and youth connected to Zion. This is not a hard task. If you are willing to send cards or notes with words of encouragement and sharing Bible verses to one or two of our children and teens, wonderful intergenerational relationships can be developed. Please contact Tara if you are interested.