**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, WOODLAND, MI**

**Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost, October 18, 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“Holy, Holy, Holy” ELW 413**



**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.

**Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**First Reading**    **Isaiah 45:1-7**

### A reading from Isaiah.

1Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus,  
  whose right hand I have grasped  
 to subdue nations before him  
  and strip kings of their robes,  
 to open doors before him—  
  and the gates shall not be closed:  
 2I will go before you  
  and level the mountains,  
 I will break in pieces the doors of bronze  
  and cut through the bars of iron,  
 3I will give you the treasures of darkness  
  and riches hidden in secret places,  
 so that you may know that it is I, the Lord,  
  the God of Israel, who call you by your name.  
 4For the sake of my servant Jacob,  
  and Israel my chosen,  
 I call you by your name,  
  I surname you, though you do not know me.  
 5I am the Lord, and there is no other;  
  besides me there is no god.  
  I arm you, though you do not know me,  
 6so that they may know, from the rising of the sun  
  and from the west, that there is no one besides me;  
  I am the Lord, and there is no other.  
 7I form light and create darkness,  
  I make weal and create woe;  
  I the Lord do all these things.

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

**Psalm Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]**

1Sing to the Lord| a new song;  
  sing to the Lord, | all the earth.  
 2**Sing to the Lord, bless the name | of the Lord;**  
  **proclaim God’s salvation from | day to day.**  
 3Declare God’s glory a- | mong the nations  
  and God’s wonders a- | mong all peoples.  
 4**For great is the Lord and greatly | to be praised,**  
  **more to be feared | than all gods.**   
 5As for all the gods of the nations, they | are but idols;  
  but you, O Lord, have | made the heavens.  
 6**Majesty and magnificence are | in your presence;**  
  **power and splendor are in your | sanctuary.**  
 7Ascribe to the Lord, you families | of the peoples,  
  ascribe to the Lord hon- | or and power.  
 8**Ascribe to the Lord the honor due the | holy name;**  
  **bring offerings and enter the courts | of the Lord.**   
 9Worship the Lord in the beau- | ty of holiness;  
  tremble before the Lord, | all the earth.  
[ 10**Tell it out among the nations: “The | Lord is king!**  
  **The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peo- | ples with equity.”**  
 11Let the heavens rejoice, and let the | earth be glad;  
  let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that | is therein.  
 12**Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your com- | ing, O Lord,**  
  **for you come to | judge the earth.**  
 13You will judge the | world with righteousness  
  and the peoples | with your truth.  ]

**Second Reading**  **1 Thessalonians 1:1-10**

A reading from 1 Thessalonians.

1Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,   
  To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:   
  Grace to you and peace.  
  
  2We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly 3remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. 4For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, 5because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. 6And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, 7so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. 8For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. 9For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, 10and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**Alleluia. You have the words of eternal life.**

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Gospel** **Matthew 22:15-22**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

15Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. 16So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. 17Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” 18But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? 19Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. 20Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” 21They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” 22When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON Pastor Mike Kemper**

**Hymn of the Day “God Is Here” ELW 526**



**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**

With confidence in God’s grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

Gracious God, you call us by name and invite us to share your good news. Send your Holy Spirit among preachers, missionaries, and evangelists. We give thanks for the witness of your servant Luke, the evangelist, whom the church commemorates today. We pray especially for St. John’s Lutheran Church and Rev. James Smith. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of praise, the heavens and all creation declare your salvation. From the rising of the sun to its setting, may the whole universe show forth your goodness. Raise up devoted stewards of all that you have made. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of all, may your word of justice sound forth in every place. Restore divided nations and communities with reconciling truth. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of light, we pray for those living with pain, illness, isolation, grief, anger, or doubt. Join their voices in a new song, assuring them that you call them each by name. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of truth, you show no partiality. May your spirit guide the work of justices, magistrates, court officials, and all vocations of the law, that your promise of restoration may be known. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Living God, as you raised Jesus from the dead, so raise up those who have died in you. We give thanks for their witness, confident of your rescuing welcome for all. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of 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.**

**Thanksgiving at the Table**

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.

**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.**

**COMMUNION**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ is given and shed for you. You may receive your communion elements.

**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 “You Servants of God” ELW 825**



**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

* Women’s Bible Study will meet this Tuesday at 1 PM.
* The church has purchased two benches for the playground area, which can be  
  engraved with a dedication or a memorial in the name of a loved one or  
  family name.  Each bench has the availability of three (3) engravings,  
  which will have an inlay the color of the playground.   The cost per  
  dedication is $228.50 and is on a first come basis.  If you would like  
  more information or are interested in purchasing a dedication, please  
  contact Karen Heise.
* Zion will have a Thrivent Action Team project for the month of October.  Jolene Griffin and Carol Engle will be the leaders of this project.  We are asking for donations of pajamas, socks and underwear for kids.  We will take all donated items to Manna's Market for distribution. You may also give a monetary donation.  We will have a display table in the Fellowship Hall. We will have several sizes of free red t-shirts available.  Carol has been granted $250.00 from Thrivent to purchase some of the items requested.
  + Counters Needed.  We are in need of a few more people to serve as volunteer counters for Sunday Offerings.  If you are willing to serve in this role, please let Martha or Karen know.  Thank you.