**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, WOODLAND, MI**

**Seventh Sunday of Easter, May 16, 2021**

**\*If you are listening in your car, please tune your radio to 87.7 FM\***

**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.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

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

**have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**Amen.**

**Gathering Song“Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness” ELW 843**



**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.

Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**First Reading**    **Acts 1:15-17, 21-26**

A reading from Acts.

15In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, 16“Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—17for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.” 21So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, 22beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.” 23So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. 24Then they prayed and said, “Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen 25to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” 26And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm  Psalm 1**

1Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel | of the wicked,  
  nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats | of the scornful!  
**2Their delight is in the law | of the Lord,  
  and they meditate on God’s teaching | day and night.**  3They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that | do not wither;  
  everything they | do shall prosper.  
**4It is not so | with the wicked;  
  they are like chaff which the wind | blows away.**  
 5Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when | judgment comes,  
  nor the sinner in the council | of the righteous.  
**6For the Lord knows the way | of the righteous,  
  but the way of the wicked shall | be destroyed.**

**Second Reading**  **1 John 5:9-13**

A reading from 1 John.

9If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. 10Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. 11And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 12Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.  
  13I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

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

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

**Gospel** **John 17:6-19**

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus prayed:] 6“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. 7Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; 8for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. 9I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. 10All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. 11And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. 12While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. 13But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. 14I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. 15I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. 16They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. 17Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. 18As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. 19And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON Pastor Polly Standley**

**Hymn of the Day “Rise, O Sun of Righteousness” ELW 657**



**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**

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

*A brief silence.*

Holy God, in Christ Jesus the joy of the church is made complete. Root the church in your Word and unify us as Christ’s body. Send us into the world as your loving people, ready to testify to your Spirit at work. We pray especially for Evangelical Lutheran Church and Rev. Ken Lein. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Mighty God, the world is your handiwork, displaying your creative impulse. Seas teem with life, forests reach up to praise you, and the mystery of life lies deep in the soil. Guard and keep this world for the well-being of all your creatures. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Gracious Sovereign, those who follow your ways are like trees planted near streams of water. Establish the leaders of nations and all in authority in your grace and truth. Strengthen them, so that the people they serve will have abundant life. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Generous Savior, you befriend those who are sick, suffering, poor, lonely, outcast, rejected, or sick. Grant healing and love to all in need. Give them tangible signs of your steadfast love. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Creator God, here in this community we share the gift of praying, learning, and supporting one another. Give us thankful hearts as we claim the gifts that are unique to us and keep us from being envious of others with different gifts. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Saving God, your wonderful promise is the gift of eternal life in Jesus. Through the witness of those who have died in you, strengthen us now in this gift of life. We cherish the memory of your saints. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; 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. Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven,**

**hallowed be your name,**

**your kingdom come,**

**your will be done,**

**on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins**

**as we forgive those**

**who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial**

**and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,**

**and the glory are yours,**

**now and forever. 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 Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**Amen.**

**Sending SonG “Son of God Eternal Savior” ELW 655**



**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2017 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO SERVED TODAY:**

**Presider: Pastor Polly Standley**

**Musician: Martha Yoder**

**Elder: Jolene Griffin**

**Trustee: Mike Johnson**

**Offering Counters: Diane Griffin & Carolotta Willard**

**Safety Person: Jerry Engle**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

* + **A class** is being held for those interested in understanding the Lutheran faith and may be interested in becoming members of Zion. The first class will be held this Wed. May 19 at 10:30 AM in the fireside room. If interested, please let Pastor Becky know.
  + **Sunday, May 23** is the day of Pentecost. The color of the day is red. You are invited to wear red to the service, even red masks!
  + **Sunday, May 23** will also be special for another reason. We will be recognizing a number of volunteers who have been faithful in serving during worship services. In addition, Jayne Flanigan from Manna’s Market will join us to receive the gifts of bathroom supplies, personal care items, and monetary donations that we have been collecting.
  + **Greeters:** It is good news that we are at a point where we can resume having a greeter inside the church. At this time, we plan to have one greeter who will be located in the Narthex area. Watch for the list of greeters in the June newsletter. If you are unable to serve as a greeter on your assigned day, please trade with someone on the schedule to ensure we have a greeter each Sunday.
  + **The Board of Education and Youth** needs a few more people to help plan Christian education for our children, youth, and adults as we look to resume Christian education in the fall. Please consider volunteering to help with this important work of the church. See Pastor Becky or Jolene Griffin to volunteer or for more information.
  + **Church Clean Up Day:**  Mark your calendar for June 5th (June 12th rain date) and plan to help clean up the outside grounds of the church. Clean up will start at 10 AM. Bring your rakes, trimmers, and garden tools to help weed around the church, trim shrubs and trees, rake where needed, and other lawn maintenance needs. We are also looking for someone willing to bring a power washer for the deck and front steps of the parsonage.
  + **Boiler Replacement:** The boiler that is used to heat the church is not working and must be replaced. The Trustees obtained bids and recommended Lakewood Heating and Cooling for this project. This project requires congregational approval. Council approved sending a Special Meeting Ballot to the congregation via email, and mail for those who do not have email, to expedite the project. Please reply to the email or mailed ballot by May 23rd, so this project can be completed. We must receive at least 26 votes to have a quorum on this special meeting ballot. If you have been to worship recently, you may have noticed that it has been quite chilly in the sanctuary! If you have questions, please talk to any of the Trustees: Mike Johnson, Jerry Engle, Dan Zylstra, or Martha Yoder.
  + **Boards and Committees:** Council is encouraging boards and committees to resume meeting and working on plans for their respective areas. Council is also encouraging all boards and committees to designate a contact person for Council to reach out to when needed. When meeting, remember that social distancing and mask requirements are still place.

**Save the Date.  Plan to Attend**:

* May 23 – Manna’s Market Donations Given and Volunteer Recognition Sunday
* June 5 (or 12) – Outside Clean-up day at Zion
* June 6 – End of the School Year “Summer Celebration”
* July 18 - Semi-Annual Mtg.
* August 22 - Zion's 165 Birthday Party
* September 4 - Woodland Labor Day Games.  Workers needed