**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, WOODLAND, MI**

**Seventh Sunday after Pentecost, July 11, 2021**

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRELUDE**

**Gathering**

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

**Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity,

☩ one God,

who creates, redeems, and sustains us

and all of creation.

**Amen.**

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

To you, O God,

**all hearts are open, to you all desires known. We come to you, confessing our sins. Forgive us in your mercy, and remember us in your love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior.**

**Amen.**

By water and the Holy Spirit God gives you a new birth, and through the death and resurrection of ☩ Jesus Christ, God forgives you all your sins. The God of mercy and might strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life.

**Amen.**

**Gathering Song“The Church of Christ in Every Age” ELW 729**



**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.

**O God, from you come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**First Reading**    **Amos 7:7-15**

A reading from Amos.

7This is what [the Lord God] showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. 8And the Lord said to me, “Amos, what do you see?” And I said, “A plumb line.” Then the Lord said,   
 “See, I am setting a plumb line  
  in the midst of my people Israel;  
  I will never again pass them by;  
 9the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate,  
  and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste,  
  and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.”  
  10Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, “Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. 11For thus Amos has said,   
 ‘Jeroboam shall die by the sword,  
  and Israel must go into exile  
  away from his land.’ ”  
12And Amaziah said to Amos, “O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; 13but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king’s sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom.”  
  14Then Amos answered Amaziah, “I am no prophet, nor a prophet’s son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, 15and the Lord took me from following the flock, and the Lord said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’ ”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm Psalm 85:813**

8I will listen to what the Lord**|** God is saying;  
  for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their **|** hearts to you.  
 9**Truly, your salvation is very near to | those who fear you,**  
  **that your glory may dwell | in our land.**   
 10Steadfast love and faithfulness have **|** met together;  
  righteousness and peace have **|** kissed each other.  
 11**Faithfulness shall spring up | from the earth,**  
  **and righteousness shall look | down from heaven.**  
 12The Lord will indeed **|** grant prosperity,  
  and our land will **|** yield its increase.  
 13**Righteousness shall go be- | fore the Lord**  
  **and shall prepare for | God a pathway.**

**Second Reading**  **Ephesians 1:3-14**

A reading from Ephesians.

3Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, 4just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. 5He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, 6to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. 7In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace 8that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight 9he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, 10as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. 11In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, 12so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. 13In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; 14this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God’s own people, to the praise of his glory.

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** **Mark 6:14-29**

The holy gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

14King Herod heard of [the disciples’ preaching,] for Jesus’ name had become known. Some were saying, “John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him.” 15But others said, “It is Elijah.” And others said, “It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old.” 16But when Herod heard of it, he said, “John, whom I beheaded, has been raised.”  
  17For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip’s wife, because Herod had married her. 18For John had been telling Herod, “It is not lawful for you to have your brother’s wife.” 19And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, 20for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. 21But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. 22When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, “Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it.” 23And he solemnly swore to her, “Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom.” 24She went out and said to her mother, “What should I ask for?” She replied, “The head of John the baptizer.” 25Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, “I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter.” 26The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. 27Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John’s head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, 28brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. 29When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON Buffy Meyers**

**Hymn of the Day “Faith of Our Fathers” ELW 812**



**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**

Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

*A brief silence.*

Holy parent, you welcome your people into one family and gather all things to yourself. Bestow your grace upon your beloved church, lavish your wisdom upon us, and redeem us from our faults, that by our witness all might praise your glory. We pray especially for Edgewood Lutheran Church and Rev. Len Dahlgren. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Awesome Creator, you steadfastly tend to the smallest of seeds and the mightiest of sycamore trees. Spring up green growth from the earth, nourish the growth of fruit, grain, and other crops, and bless the work of farmers and laborers. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of the oppressed, turn the ears of those who are in power to the voices of prophets in our own day. Protect those who speak difficult truths when it is risky to do so. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of strength, you are near to those who endure difficulty. Comfort all who are survivors of violence, guard the refugee and the immigrant, and protect all those who are victims of prejudice and discrimination. Help those who are sick or grieving.

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of love, we pray for this holy house and all those who worship here. We pray especially for those whose efforts behind the scenes often go unnoticed; for the custodian and maintenance workers, for our office staff, and for all of our volunteers. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

We thank you, God, for the saints, martyrs, and prophets who have died in the faith. We remember those in this community who have recently died. United with them as God’s children, assure us that we are yours forever. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace.

**Amen.**

**Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**Offering & Offering song**



**Offering Prayer**

Let us pray. Gracious God, you bless us with gifts of guidance, new life, growth in grace, and fruitful labor. Accept the first fruits of time and toil, field and orchard we offer here. Bless and multiply these gifts to our nurture and the care of your creation; for the sake of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

**Thanksgiving for the Word**

Let us pray. Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

**we give you thanks and praise.**

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

**we give you thanks and praise.**

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,

**we give you thanks and praise.**

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

**Amen.**

**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.**

**Sending**

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

**Blessing**

The holy Three, the holy One increase your hope,

strengthen your faith, deepen your love, and ☩ grant you peace.

**Amen.**

**Sending SonG “Leaning on the Everlasting Arms” ELW 774**



**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

**Presider: Buffy Meyers**

**Musician: Martha Yoder**

**Elder: Dan Utterback**

**Trustee: Jerry Engle**

**Offering Counters: Diane Griffin and Carlotta Willard**

**Safety Person: Dan Zylstra**

**PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL**

With thanks for all God’s blessings and his love for all people. Our Bishops, Craig Satterlee Elizabeth Eaton, and the congregations of the North/West Lower Michigan Synod. **Edgewood Lutheran Church in Fruitport and Rev. Len Dahlgren.**

Prayers for our friends, especially for Ann Marie Bump, Keith Mackenzie, Darlene Durkee Smith, Braylen Crandall, Jerry Engle, Pam Swiler, Chris Childs, Cindy Utterback, Mary Smith, Ron Campbell and his family, Patty Olmstead, Laura Lynch-Halliburton, Lisa Hetchler, Janine Kaufman, Brian Smith, Cort Zylstra, Jerry Southgate, Vi Aho, and Chris and Charles Farlee. All those members of Zion’s family traveling; all those homebound or in frail health; all those suffering with quiet, unknown needs or worries.

For those who serve on our behalf: public safety, utility workers, medical personnel, military personnel. For those who might be forgotten.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

* + **Semi-Annual Meeting:** The Semi-annual meeting is next week after service. **Please have all board reports to Tara by the end of the day today**! (It is best if they are emailed to her at office@zionwoodlandmi.org)
  + **Attention Youth:** There will be an event for you following worship on August 1. There will be a mini-olympics and food (Possibly a pizza party) as well as information about the 2022 National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis. It will be time to register for that soon, so we need to start making plans for fundraising over the next year. More details to come.
  + **Ladies Bible Study:** The Charity Circle will resume meeting on the third Tuesday of each month starting July 20 at 1 PM. They will continue to use the Bible Study in the Gather magazine from the Women of the ELCA. Any new women are welcome to join!
  + **Coffee Fellowship:** We're excited to bring back Coffee Fellowship! Council will continue to review the protocols and will provide guidance on what can be served. Please review the proposed Coffee Fellowship schedule that is placed in the Narthex. This is based off the schedule from a few years ago, with a few updates. If you would like to volunteer for the summer months, please add your name to the sheet. If you have any concerns with the month you are listed, please make the sheet or see Jolene. Thank you!
  + **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.
  + **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**:

* July 18 - Semi-Annual Mtg.
* August 22 - Zion's 165 Birthday Party
* September 4 - Woodland Labor Day Games.  Workers needed