**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, WOODLAND, MI**

**Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost, August 15, 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“Morning Has Broken” ELW 556**

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**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.

Ever-loving God, your Son gives himself as living bread for the life of the world. Fill us with such a knowledge of his presence that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life to serve you continually, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**First Reading**    **Proverbs 9:1-6**

A reading from Proverbs.

1Wisdom has built her house,  
  she has hewn her seven pillars.  
 2She has slaughtered her animals, she has mixed her wine,  
  she has also set her table.  
 3She has sent out her servant-girls, she calls  
  from the highest places in the town,  
 4“You that are simple, turn in here!”  
  To those without sense she says,  
 5“Come, eat of my bread  
  and drink of the wine I have mixed.  
 6Lay aside immaturity, and live,  
  and walk in the way of insight.”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm Psalm 34:9-14**

9Fear the Lord, you saints **|** of the Lord,  
  for those who fear the **|** Lord lack nothing.  
 10**The lions are in want and | suffer hunger,**  
  **but those who seek the Lord lack nothing | that is good.**   
 11Come, children, and lis- **|** ten to me;  
  I will teach you reverence **|** for the Lord.  
 12**Who among you takes plea- | sure in life**  
  **and desires long life to en- | joy prosperity?**  
 13Keep your **|** tongue from evil  
  and your lips from **|** lying words.  
 14**Turn from evil | and do good;**  
  **seek peace | and pursue it.**

**Second Reading**  **Ephesians 5:15-20**

A reading from Ephesians.

15Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, 16making the most of the time, because the days are evil. 17So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. 18Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, 19as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, 20giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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 6:51-58**

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said,] 51“I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”  
  52The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” 53So Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. 54Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; 55for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. 56Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. 57Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. 58This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON Claude Smith**

**Hymn of the Day “You Satisfy the Hungry Heart” ELW 484**

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**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**

Rooted in Christ and sustained by the Spirit, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

God of wisdom, enlighten your church. Guide theologians, biblical scholars, authors, and seminary professors as they seek greater knowledge and invite others into deeper understanding. Teach us to ask faithful questions and open our minds to new ideas. We pray especially for Bethlehem Lutheran Church and Rev. Karsten Voskuil.God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of creation, mend the earth. Cool warming oceans and preserve melting ice caps. Increase our awareness of changing climate patterns and reveal new approaches to the ecological challenges we face. Shield those in the path of hurricanes or tropical storms. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of all nations, direct our leaders. Grant them courage to lay aside political grudges and renew their determination to address difficult conflicts. Guide them in the work of reconciliation. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of compassion, tend to the wounded. Rescue those tormented by mental illness or mired in addiction. Ease the anxiety of those struggling with dementia. Come quickly to help all who are grieving and all those who suffer. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of beauty, inspire artists. Bless those whose visual and musical gifts enliven this assembly. Bless the creative work of poets, hymnwriters, composers, painters, sculptors, and others that enrich our worship and daily life. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of resurrection, bring us to new life. Give us the living bread from heaven through which we abide in your love, and on the last day raise us with all the saints to eternal life. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**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 “O Day of Rest and Gladness” ELW 521**

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**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

**Presider: Claude Smith**

**Musician: Martha Yoder**

**Elder: Jolene Griffin**

**Trustee: Dan Zylstra**

**Offering Counters: Jerry Engle and Carlotta Willard**

**Safety Person: Jerry Engle**

**Save the Date.  Plan to Attend**:

* August 15- Church Picnic
* August 22 - Zion's 165 Birthday Party
* September 4 - Woodland Labor Day Games. Workers needed

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

* **Pastor Kathy Smith** will be on call while Pastor Becky is out of town this week.
* **Table Showers:** The ZLCW has Table Showers for both Ashley Griffin and Kayla Cole. Look for their lists of needed items on each of their tables, The tables will be left up until Sunday, September 26th.
* **Sunday School:** Two Sunday School teachers are needed; one for 1-5 grade and the other for the high school students. Please prayerfully consider helping us with Zion's youth. Sunday School will resume on September 12 with an outside welcome event! If you have kids or grandkids who attend, please email their names and grade levels to Jolene at [jogriffin1110@hotmail.com](mailto:jogriffin1110@hotmail.com) so we have a list of everyone and know who will be in each classroom.
* **Church Picnic:** The Fellowship Committee will host our church picnic at the Harold Classic Memorial Park today following worship. Please bring a picnic for your own family; drinks will be furnished. White Elephant Bingo will follow the mealtime. A fun dig will be held for the children. Please bring a white elephant gift for the bingo. Come and have a relaxing, fun afternoon. Any questions, please ask a Fellowship Committee member.
* **Zion’s 165th Year Celebration:** August 22nd. Our 165th Birthday celebration is quickly approaching! Please let us know if you will be able to attend. Zion is providing lunch. A food truck will be on site to provide a great picnic style lunch for everyone. We need to have a good estimate of how many will attend so we be sure to have enough food. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex or you may call the church (leave a message) or send an email. Invite your family and friends to come to this special day too!
* **Blessing of the Backpacks**: August 22nd - We will have our first Blessing of the Backpacks to give our kids a special blessing as they start the new school year as well as some school supplies to help them along. This will happen during worship service. There are copies of a list with needed items in the fellowship hall.  In addition to the items on the list, Buffy has indicated that mechanical pencils and boxes of tissue for classrooms are also needed.
* **Church Cleaners Needed for September:** Volunteers are needed to clean during the month of September.  We are so thankful to Dawn Brodbeck who has been volunteering to clean the church for more than a year.  She is not able to clean during September.  A sign-up sheet for September is in the Narthex.  In addition, we will be going back to our schedule of volunteer s to clean the church soon.  A copy of the previous list will be placed in the Narthex.  Please review the cleaning assignments and note any changes.  Thank you for helping us keep Zion clean and safe!