**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, WOODLAND, MI**

**Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost, October 3, 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“God Is Here” ELW 526**

 

**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, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**First Reading**    **Genesis 2:18-24**

A reading from Genesis.

18The Lord God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.” 19So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. 20The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. 21So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. 22And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. 23Then the man said,
 “This at last is bone of my bones
  and flesh of my flesh;
 this one shall be called Woman,
  for out of Man this one was taken.”
24Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm Psalm 8**

 1O **|** Lord our Lord,
  how majestic is your name in **|** all the earth!—
 2**you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of in- | fants and children;**
  **you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe | and avenger.**

3When I consider your heavens, the work **|** of your fingers,
  the moon and the stars you have set **|** in their courses,
 4**what are mere mortals that you should be mind- | ful of them,**
  **human beings that you should | care for them?**
 5Yet you have made them little less **|** than divine;
  with glory and hon- **|** or you crown them.
 6**You have made them rule over the works | of your hands;**
  **you have put all things un- | der their feet:**
 7all **|** flocks and cattle,
  even the wild beasts **|** of the field,
 8**the birds of the air, the fish | of the sea,**
  **and whatever passes along the paths | of the sea.**
 9O **|** Lord our Lord,
  how majestic is your name in **|** all the earth!

**Second Reading**  **Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12**

A reading from Hebrews.

1Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, 2but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. 3He is the reflection of God’s glory and the exact imprint of God’s very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, 4having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.
 2:5Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. 6But someone has testified somewhere,
 “What are human beings that you are mindful of them,
  or mortals, that you care for them?
 7You have made them for a little while lower than the angels;
  you have crowned them with glory and honor,
  8subjecting all things under their feet.”
Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them,9but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.
  10It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. 11For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, 12saying,
 “I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,
  in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.”

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 10:2-16**

The holy gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

2Some Pharisees came, and to test [Jesus] they asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?” 3He answered them, “What did Moses command you?” 4They said, “Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her.” 5But Jesus said to them, “Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. 6But from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female.’ 7‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, 8and the two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two, but one flesh. 9Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.”
  10Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. 11He said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; 12and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.”

  13People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. 14But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. 15Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.” 16And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON Pastor Becky Ebb-Speese**

**Hymn of the Day “How Firm a Foundation” ELW 796**



**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**

Made children and heirs of God’s promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

Holy One, you have raised up faithful leaders throughout history. Empower those discerning a call to ministry and all seminarians, that they continue to be formed for the sake of the gospel. We pray especially for St. Matthew Lutheran Church and Rev. Leslie Nye. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You have established a diverse and beautiful creation. Revive declining species and preserve endangered lands. Cultivate in us a sense of wonder for the world you created. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You desire for us not to be alone and to live in community with one another. Strengthen relationships between nations and peoples, that we celebrate and support one human family. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You share in our experiences and struggles.

Bless all who live with any mental or physical disability. Inspire creative communities, spaces, and environments that are accessible and hospitable. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You have established and nurtured relationships that extend beyond those gathered here today. Bless members who can no longer travel to worship with us (especially) and remind us of their continued role in this community of faith. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You promise eternal life to all your children. Thank you for the people of faith who have gone before us. Strengthen our trust we have in you. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; 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 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 bless you and keep you in His grace.

**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 “Go My Children with My Blessing ” ELW 543**



**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

**Presider: Pastor Becky Ebb-Speese**

**Musician: Doroth Shaffer**

**Elder: Paul Meade**

 **Trustee: Dan Zylstra**

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

**Safety Person: Ken Heise**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

* **Thank you!** A very special thank you to Alice Morrow for the donation of a beautiful handmade village quilt.  Thank you also to Wayne Hazel and his son, Ed, for donating and making the wooden quilt rack at Ed's wood shop and to Wayne for hanging the quilt.  The quilt and rack are wonderful additions to our other quilts displayed in the Fellowship Hall.  Alice worked on this quilt for several years and completed it in 2020.  Alice and Wayne are second cousins in the Schmalzried/Jordan family.  Be sure and go into our Fellowship Hall and see all our beautiful quilts.
* **Lutheran World Relief Sunday will be October 10th.** Thank you to Thrivent Financial for giving us a $250.00 grant to purchase some of the items needed for the kits.  Thank you also to all who donated items needed or cash to help with the shipping costs.  Thank you to the ladies of the Charity Circle who were our action team and helped assemble some of the kits.  Each kit included a towel, 2 bars of soap, a toothbrush and a nail clipper.  Tubes of toothpaste are handed out when the kits are given out.  The personal care kits we assembled will be displayed in our sanctuary.  On October 20th Jerry and Carol Engle will deliver the 68 kits to a truck at a Lutheran School in Wyoming.  We will also help the First Lutheran Church of Charlotte by delivering their quilts that day too.  Zion is blessed to be able to help others in need.

**This week at Zion:**

* Men’s Breakfast Wednesday, October 6, 8 AM