# Sunday Worship August 17, 2025 Time After Pentecost



"let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us," Hebrews 12:1

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### WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP CELEBRATION!

Thanks for coming to be with us at Zion Lutheran Church. If you are visiting with us for the first time, will you please fill out a visitor card, available in the pew rack in front of you, and drop it in the offering plate. Whether this is your first visit or you worship here regularly, we are delighted that you chose to share with us. We worship together on Saturday at 5:00 p.m. and Sunday at 10:00 a.m. If you have a "prayer request" or a "praise report", please let the pastor know. God bless you on your journey of faith.

#### INTRODUCTION

The Word of God is a refining fire. Jesus is the great divide in human history. He invites our undivided attention and devotion. Today in worship we are surrounded by a great "cloud of witnesses." In the Word and in Holy Communion we are invited yet again to look to Jesus, "the pioneer and perfecter of our faith."

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE In Christ Alone Arr. Shackley

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit

C: Amen

P: 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.

C: Amen.

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

Most merciful God,

C: 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.

P: 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.

C: Amen.

### **HYMN Red Hymnal #796**

How Firm a Foundation

#### **GREETING / PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray . . .

C: O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and You call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

## HYMN OF PRAISE Red Hymnal Page 204 - from Luke 2:14

Glory be to God in heaven, peace, goodwill to all the earth Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth: We exalt You, we adore You, we lift high our thanks and praise. Saints and angels bow before You; here on earth our songs we raise.

Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love. Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav'n above; On the cross You died to save us; now You reign at God's right hand. Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.

Holy One we now acclaim You; Lord alone, to You we call; Holy One in faith we name You, God most high, yet near to all: Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father's splendor bright. For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on High!

#### THE WORD

## FIRST READING: Jeremiah 23:23-29

R: <sup>23</sup>Am I a God near by, says the LORD, and not a God far off? <sup>24</sup>Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the LORD. Do I not fill

heaven and earth? says the LORD. <sup>25</sup>I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed, I have dreamed!" <sup>26</sup>How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? <sup>27</sup>They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. <sup>28</sup>Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the LORD. <sup>29</sup>Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

R: The Word of the Lord. **C:** Thanks be to God.

#### PSALM: Psalm 82

R: <sup>1</sup>God stands to charge the divine council assembled, giving judgment in the midst of the gods:

C: <sup>2</sup>"How long will you judge unjustly, and show favor to the wicked?

R: <sup>3</sup>Save the weak and the orphan; defend the humble and needy;

C: <sup>4</sup>rescue the weak and the poor; deliver them from the power of the wicked.

R: <sup>5</sup>They do not know, neither do they understand; they wander about in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

C: <sup>6</sup>Now I say to you, 'You are gods, and all of you children of the Most High;

R: <sup>7</sup>nevertheless, you shall die like mortals, and fall like any prince."

C: <sup>8</sup>Arise, O God, and rule the earth, for you shall take all nations for your own.

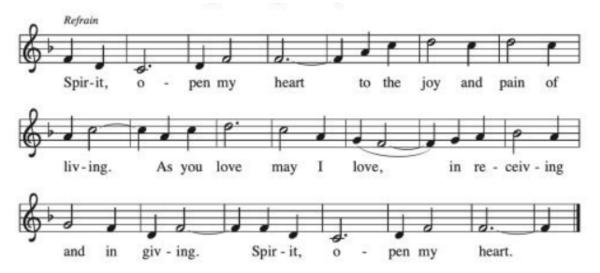
# SECOND READING: Hebrews 11:29 - 12:2

R: <sup>29</sup>By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. <sup>30</sup>By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. <sup>31</sup>By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace. <sup>32</sup>And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—<sup>33</sup>who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, <sup>34</sup>quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. <sup>35</sup>Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. <sup>36</sup>Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. <sup>37</sup>They were stoned to death, they

were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented—<sup>38</sup>of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground. <sup>39</sup>Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, <sup>40</sup>since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect. <sup>12:1</sup>Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup>looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

R: The Word of the Lord C: Thanks be to God.

# GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Purple Hymnal #1043 Spirit Open My Heart



# **HOLY GOSPEL**

P: The Gospel according to **Luke 12:49-56** 

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] <sup>49</sup>"I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! <sup>50</sup>I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! <sup>51</sup>Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! <sup>52</sup>From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; <sup>53</sup>they will be divided: father

against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law." <sup>54</sup>He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain'; and so it happens. <sup>55</sup>And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat'; and it happens. <sup>56</sup>You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

#### CHILDREN'S SERMON

**SERMON** Pastor Jaren Summers

**HYMN** Red hymnal #638

Blessed Assurance

# **RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD**

#### APOSTLE'S CREED

P: Let us confess our faith.

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 again 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.

PRAYERS (Response after each petition)

P: Lord in your mercy,
C: Hear our prayer...

**OFFERING—Invitation—God's Work Continues** 

### **OFFERTORY SONG Red hymnal #583**

Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee: take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take My Life and Let It Be

Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold; take my intellect and use ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee: take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

#### COMMUNION PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you

**C:** And also with you. P: Lift up your hearts.

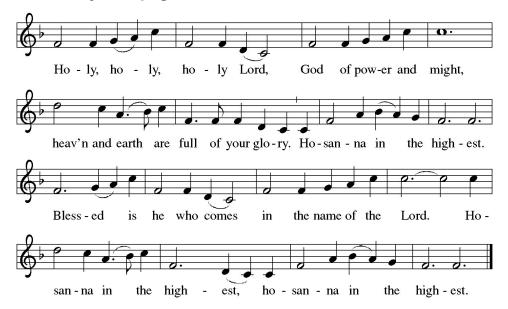
C: We lift them to the Lord

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to You, almighty and merciful God...(The pastor continues with the proper preface for the day)...And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

# **SANCTUS Red hymnal page 207**



#### EUCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION - from 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

#### LORD'S PRAYER

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.

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

(All who confess Jesus as their Lord and Savior and believe in the real presence of Christ in the sacrament are invited to receive Holy Communion.)

#### **BLESSING**

P: Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

HYMN Red hymnal #815

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

#### DISMISSAL

P: What is the mission of Zion Lutheran Church?

C: The mission of Zion Lutheran Church is:

"Serving Christ through serving others."

P: Go in Peace, Live by the Spirit

C: Thanks be to God

POSTLUDE

Open Your Ears, O Faithful People

Arr. Phillips

The altar flowers are given to the honor and glory of God by Jeff & Jaque Mitchell in celebration of their 55th anniversary.

Prayer concerns for Zion's prayer chain may be submitted using a 'Prayer Request' card from the pew rack.

### In Helpful Service

Pastor Jaren Summers
Reader Joyce Luther
Communion Assist Kervyn Mach

Ushers Richard & Debby Geiman Greeters Dale & Debbie Rudisill