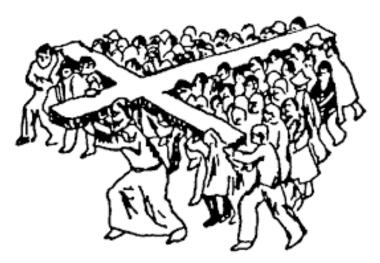
Sunday Worship September 7, 2025 Time After Pentecost



"Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple." Luke 14:27

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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

Called to contemplate the cost of discipleship, we might be helped by translating Paul's request to Philemon into our prayer of the day: Refresh my heart in Christ. Strengthened by the company and forgiveness of Christ in holy communion and recalling God's grace in remembrance of baptism, we can be strengthened in this hour to "choose life"—to choose life in God as our own.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE America the Beautiful Arr. Keesecker

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful and loving God,

C: we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.

P: Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of + Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

C: Amen.

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: Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in You, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through 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: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

R: ¹⁵See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set

before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

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

PSALM: Psalm 1

R: 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!

C: ²Their delight is in the law of the LORD, and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.

R: 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.

C: 4It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

R: ⁵Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

C: ⁶For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.

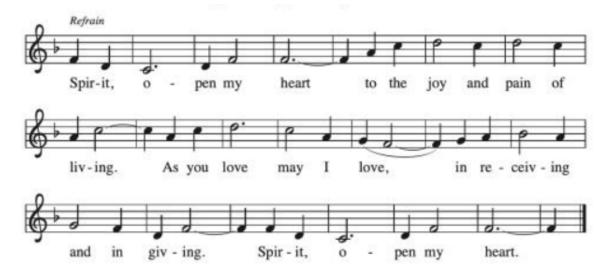
SECOND READING: Philemon 1-21

¹Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, ²to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house: ³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 4When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God ⁵because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. ⁶I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. ⁷I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. ⁸For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, ⁹yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. ¹⁰I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. ¹¹Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. ¹²I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. ¹³I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; ¹⁴but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. ¹⁵Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a

while, so that you might have him back forever, ¹⁶no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. ¹⁷So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁸If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. ¹⁹I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. ²⁰Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

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 14:25-33**

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁵Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus;] and He turned and said to them, ²⁶"Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰saying, 'This

fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' ³¹Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³²If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions."

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON Pastor Jaren Summers

HYMN Red hymnal #798 (v1-4)

Will You Come and Follow Me

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 and Let It Be

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 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.

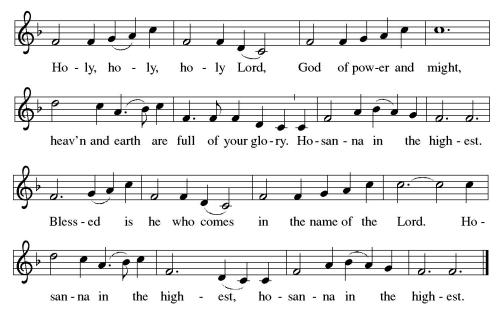
C: We lift them to the Lord

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: The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, + bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

HYMN Red hymnal #543

Go, My Children with My Blessing

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, Do not lose heart.

C: Thanks be to God

POSTLUDE Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow Arr. Piet Post

The altar flowers are given to the honor and glory of God by Judy & Ken Bailey in memory of their fathers.

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 Chuck Drake
Communion Assist Doug Jacobs
Usher Deb Keppel

Greeters Chuck & Erma Swanson