



Sunday, May 31, 2026
Celebrating Children & Youth at Zion

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
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HOLY COMMUNION

Setting Four

*Regular font: Worship Leader; **Bold font: Congregation***

Prelude

WELCOME

GATHERING

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,

we confess to you all our sins.

Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, call us back to you.

Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.

Restore us to dwell in your peace.

In Christ's name we pray,

Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."

In the name of God,
Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN "Dry Bones" (see insert)

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

Saving God,
entering the flood and storm of chaos and confusion:
speak peace to our fearful hearts that we might find our faith in him
whose word brings rest to all creation; through Jesus Christ, lord of
wind and wave. **Amen.**

WORD

Please be seated

FIRST READING 1 Samuel 17:4-11, 32-50 (Spark Bible)
David and Goliath

King Saul and his army looked out from their mountain hideout. Their enemies, the Philistines, were camped on the opposite mountain. In the valley between stood Goliath, the tallest man Saul had ever seen.

“Who will fight me?” Goliath roared, waving his spear. “Who can face the mighty Goliath?” He shouted, lifting his sword. Saul and his army were afraid. They could not win against the Philistines. They could not beat Goliath. Surely they would be captured and become slaves.

A beam of sunlight bounced off of Goliath’s bronze helmet. His voice shook the leaves in the trees. All the birds hid behind their branches.

“Send out your best warrior,” Goliath ordered. “Let him fight against me. If I win, you will be our slaves. If your soldier wins, we will serve you and your God.”

Saul waited. No one stepped forward to take Goliath’s challenge. Saul felt a small tug on his sleeve. Looking down, he saw David, a young shepherd boy.

“I will do it, King Saul,” David said. “I will fight Goliath.”

“You are a boy. How can you beat a gigantic man like Goliath?”

Saul turned to go.

“Wait, King Saul,” David said. “God protects me from the wolves and bears that go after my sheep. God will protect me now too.”

David reached down and picked up five smooth stones. In his right hand he carried the same sling he used to chase away the wolves and wild animals.

Saul patted David's head and pointed down the rocky path leading to the valley.

Goliath laughed when he saw David. "You are the warrior they send out against me?"

David slipped his hand into his pouch and selected a stone. "I am not afraid of your spear and sword, Goliath," David said. "God will help me." David rushed toward Goliath, swinging his sling. The smooth stone flew through the air and hit Goliath in the forehead.

Down, down, down Goliath fell. Down fell his sword. Down fell his spear. Down fell his mighty shield. David picked up Goliath's bronze helmet from the ground and held it high in the air. Saul and all his soldiers rose up with a shout! David, a small shepherd boy had beaten the mighty Goliath.

When the Philistines saw that Goliath had fallen, they were afraid and ran away. Trusting in God gave David courage when he needed it most.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 27:1-5 (*spoken responsively*)

¹ The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?

² **When evildoers assail me
to devour my flesh—
my adversaries and foes—
they shall stumble and fall.**

³ Though an army encamp against me,
my heart shall not fear;
though war rise up against me,
yet I will be confident.

⁴ **One thing I asked of the LORD;
this I seek:
to live in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,
to behold the beauty of the LORD,
and to inquire in his temple.**

⁵ For he will hide me in his shelter
in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;
he will set me high on a rock.

Please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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GOSPEL READING

Luke 17:5-10

The holy gospel according to Luke the 17th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus and the disciples were walking near a grove of huge mulberry trees. They wanted to be better followers of Jesus.

“Give us more faith!” they asked Jesus.

Jesus pointed to the largest tree in the grove and said, “Do you see that huge tree?” Then he pointed to a teeny dot on the ground. Do you see this little mustard seed?” His friends crowded together to see the tiny seed.

Jesus told them, “If you have faith the size of this tiny mustard seed, you could say to that huge mulberry tree, ‘Move into the sea!’ and it would.”

The disciples were confused. Jesus said, “God gives you all the faith you need. All you can do is say ‘yes’ to the faith God writes on your heart.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

STORY TIME WITH PASTOR SARA

“Little Pig Joins the Band” by David Hyde Costello

One Minute of Silence is kept for reflection.

Please stand

HYMN OF THE DAY “This Little Light of Mine”

ELW 677

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Now, let’s pray.

Holy God, we thank you for our time together today: for all the households gathered here, and those gathered elsewhere. **We hold them in our hearts, and we lift them up to you, God.**

God, we pray for our friends and family who are working or at home: our brothers and sisters and aunts and uncles. **We hold them in our hearts, and we lift them up to you, God.**

God, we pray for Christians everywhere, and for all people who try to follow you. **We hold them in our hearts, and we lift them up to you, God.**

God, we pray for everyone who is sick and those who care for them. **We hold them in our hearts, and we lift them up to you, God.**

God, we pray for those especially in our hearts and minds in this congregation especially those on our prayer list and those we name before you now . . . Make your presence known to them, Lord. **We hold them in our hearts, and we lift them up to you, God.**

God, we pray for all who have died, especially those close to us. Hold them close to you, Lord. **We hold them in our hearts, and we lift them up to you, God.**

God, we pray for people in our neighborhood, our country, and around the world--for everyone who needs help, for everyone who is hungry. **We hold them in our hearts, and we lift them up to you, God.**

God, we pray for the leaders and future leaders of our country--send us leaders with a heart for goodness and truth. **We hold them in our hearts, and we lift them up to you, God.**

God, we pray for all of these things, and for everything we are thinking and feeling but haven't said out loud. **We hold them in our hearts, and we lift them up to you, God. Amen.**

PEACE

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MEAL

Please be seated

OFFERING

Please Stand

OFFERING PRAYER

Loving God,
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.
Amen.

Please kneel or sit

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

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INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

DISTRIBUTION

Please be seated

LAMB OF GOD

pg. 154

Please kneel or sit

COMMUNION HYMNS

“This is My Father’s World”

ELW 824

“Children of the Heavenly Father”

ELW 781

Please stand

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Compassionate God,
through the gifts of bread and wine
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RECOGNITION OF EDUCATION MINISTRY LEADERS

SENDING

BENEDICTION

Entrust your life to the Lord of the open spaces and the time of adventure; to the life that pulses through rain drenched streets and mountain heights; to the love that sustains us through feast and famine.

Let God's hope be a clearing sky before you, a compass in your heart guiding you to where you belong; and the blessing of God, Father, Son + Holy Spirit be with you always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

“Jesus Loves Me”

ELW 595

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Postlude:



Thank You to Our Teachers:

Sylvia LeShane

Kate Schneider

Christine Kelsey

Laurin Stroud

Emilie Kruthoholow

Italian Night



Zion Lutheran Church
Italian Night 2026

Tonight—Sunday, May 31st

Social Hour: 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Dinner: 5:00 p.m.

Coffee, Tea, Soft drinks included. Otherwise, BYOB

Adults and kids over 12: \$15, Kids 6-12: \$5, Kids under 6: FREE

Please note: We cannot accommodate takeout orders this year.

We apologize for the inconvenience.

Please see Michelle to sign up, or see her at church to let her know you'll be there!

Woohoo!! We can't wait to see you!

Prayer List

For Health:			For Safety:
Joyce G	Bud J	Annamaria T	Andrew C
Cathy L	Jessica A	Lee T	Todd S
Marion B	Charlotte D	Michael G	Michael C
Lily V	Jonathan A	Barbara S	Tyler G
Holly N	Curt R	Don R	Erik B
Lisa A	Joan A	Fred B	Justin Earl B
Dylan G	Dick C	Bill B	Evan G
Aiden J	Karen R		David P
Helen A	Pat J		
Matthew A	Alexis R		
	Malynda A		

SERVING TODAY

Chris Darby - Lector
Jay Huntington - Worship Assistant
Children - Ushers/Greeters
Marie DeGraff - Altar Guild
Sarah Dzialo - Organist



Do you know that Zion supports over 20 different charities and organizations both locally and worldwide? Located in the narthex is a small tree with colored tags on it. Each tag represents an organization that we proudly

support. In order to continue this important aspect of our mission we need to keep our building in good condition.

Right now as you know, the **Birdies For Charity** event is going on where every dollar we contribute is **matched at 15%**. This is running **through June 28th**. Donations of as little as \$10 are welcome and appreciated. Please consider donating if you can. No amount is too small and every little bit will make a huge difference to our church, our community and the world. If you have any questions, please see Kathy Richards or Donna Berndtson. Thank you and God bless

Zion Lutheran Church presents:

Lancaster Show Trip and the Dutch Country

5 days and 4 nights

The trip departs 183 William Street at 8:00 am on Monday, Oct 26. and returns on Friday, Oct 30.

The cost is \$765 per person, double occupancy.

Please call Barbara Shaw at 860-262-3531 for more information and reservations.



Make sure to use a **Goodwill Good Neighbor Donation Card** whenever you donate to Goodwill. See Donna Berndtson for the donation cards and details.



Thank you to Sandra Chiasson for organizing and hosting coffee hour today.

Great news! Zion has joined a residential solar promotion program called Solarize Faith. Through Solarize Faith, both congregants and Zion can receive the following financial incentives:

\$1,000 rebate to congregants (or any household that lists Zion for the referral) for solar installs

\$500 rebate to congregants for solar battery storage

ALSO

\$1000 to Zion for every solar or battery storage project that is successfully installed

The Interreligious Eco-Justice Network (IREJN) is partnering with installer Earthlight Technologies to offer the incentives. Get started by visiting their website at www.earthlighttech.com/solarize-faith. This incentive is available from May 1 to June 30, 2026. Kerry and Chris Darby are happy to answer questions during coffee hour, or feel free to reach out to kerrydarby@yahoo.com or 860-316-7921.



The **Word in Season Daily Devotions for April, May and June** are available in the Narthex and the Red Box outside the door with the doorbell.



RaiseRight

RaiseRight Gift Cards

Place your order today to get RaiseRight (formerly Scrip)

cards! You pay face value for the cards, but Zion receives a percentage of the amount of the card. It's a win-win! See Rick Borg for details.



Please Recycle Ink and Toner Cartridges Here.

There is a container to leave your used ink and toner cartridges for us to recycle.

Council Members: President - Kathy Richards, Vice President - Paula Brown, Secretary - Barbara Helming, Financial Secretary - Rick Borg, Other Members - Beth Keser, Bob Redman Peter

Dry Bones

- A** Ezekiel cried, “Them dry bones,” (repeat twice)
“Now hear the word of the Lord.”
- B** The toe bone connected to the heel bone,
The heel bone connected to the foot bone,
The foot bone connected to the leg bone,
The leg bone connected to the knee bone,
The knee bone connected to the thigh bone,
The thigh bone connected to the back bone,
The back bone connected to the neck bone,
The neck bone connected to the head bone,
Oh, hear the word of the Lord!
- C** Them bones, them bones, gonna walk around (repeat twice)
Oh hear the word of the Lord!



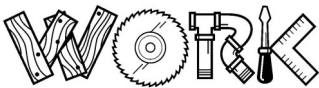
Zion’s Grace Guild is holding a **Basket Raffle** in conjunction with the **Italian Night Dinner on May 31** beginning at 4:00pm!

We will be holding a Basket Raffle with many wonderful, themed baskets prizes. This is a fundraiser to help fund Grace Guild’s many activities.

Raffle tickets will also be available for purchase on Sunday May 24 and May 31 after church.

We are also excited to offer a **Silent Auction** featuring two **beautiful handmade quilts** made by our members, Sandy Chiasson and Elaine Cote.

Come enjoy great food, fellowship and fun while supporting our church community!



A Work Day is scheduled for **Saturday, June 13th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** Bring work gloves, rakes, shovels, cleaners, ect. or any supplies to clean up the church for the summer.



Zion will be serving the Sunday meal at St Vincent DePaul on June 7th. There are a number of different ways congregation members can support this important outreach program.

Sign up sheets can be found in the narthex to: provide items for the meal, help prepare the meal (after church services on June 7th) and serve the meal on June 7th at 4:00.

Please reach out to Deb Gustafson (860-205-0157) if you have any questions.



With summer weather around the corner, our town's youth will soon be home and on school vacation and in need of snacks during time off. The **Worship & Music Committee** thought it would be a great idea to collect snack donations for the summer months to be donated to the Food Bank. We will be collecting **starting in June**. A few Ideas for items would be:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| juice boxes or canned juices | packaged peanut butter & crackers |
| fruit in small containers | packaged cheese & crackers |
| applesauce in small containers | breakfast bars (Belvita, Kind or any brand) |
| boxed raisins | granola bars |
| microwavable popcorn | cookies |
| gummy fruit snacks | crackers |
| peanut butter | chips |
| pretzels | |

Today: May 31, 2026

The Holy Trinity

9:00 a.m. Worship/Communion

11:30 a.m. True Vine Church

This Week:

Monday: **6:00 p.m.** N/A

Tuesday: **6:30 p.m.** Property/Finance Committee

Thursday: SNYOD Assembly (Thursday– Saturday)

Friday: **7:00 p.m.** N/A

Next Sunday: June 7, 2026



Second Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Worship/Communion

10:15 a.m. Sunday School - Last Day

10:30 a.m. Adult Education

11:30 a.m. True Vine Church

Next weeks readings: Hosea 5:15—6:6; Psalm 50:7-15;
Romans 4:13-25; Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

Attendance: Last week - 45; Last year - 44

MISSION STATEMENT

As members of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, we exist to honor and proclaim the life of Jesus Christ through our words, actions and deeds.

VISION STATEMENT

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church shall be a prominent magnet in the community to draw people to a new life in Jesus Christ.

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