

Those who find their life will
lose it, and those who lose their
life for my sake will find it.
~ Matthew: 10:39

Sunday, June 21, 2026
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

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

"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

God of truth uncovered, you trace the sparrow's flight, and plumb the secret places of the heart:

bring our fear and conflict into the light of your presence; help us to lose our hollow life and find our way to you; through Jesus Christ, the master and the slave. **Amen.**

WORD

Please be seated

FIRST READING Jeremiah 20:7-13

⁷ O LORD, you have enticed me, and I was enticed;
you have overpowered me, and you have prevailed.

I have become a laughingstock all day long; everyone mocks me.

⁸ For whenever I speak, I must cry out;

I must shout, "Violence and destruction!"

For the word of the LORD has become for me
a reproach and derision all day long.

⁹ If I say, "I will not mention him or speak any more in his name,"
then within me there is something like a burning fire shut up in my
bones; I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot.

¹⁰ For I hear many whispering:

"Terror is all around! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!"

All my close friends are watching for me to stumble.

"Perhaps he can be enticed, and we can prevail against him
and take our revenge on him."

¹¹ But the LORD is with me like a terrifying warrior;

therefore my persecutors will stumble, and they will not prevail.

They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed.

Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten.

¹² O LORD of hosts, you test the righteous; you see the heart and
the mind; let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have
committed my cause. ¹³ Sing to the LORD; praise the LORD!

For he has delivered the life of the needy
from the hands of evildoers.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18 (*spoken responsively*)

⁷ Surely, for your sake I have suf-^lfered reproach,

and shame has covered my face.

**⁸ I have become a stranger to my own kindred,
an alien to my mother's children.**

⁹ Zeal for your house has eaten me up;
the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.

**¹⁰ I humbled myself with fasting,
but that was turned to my reproach.**

**¹⁶ Answer me, O LORD, for your love is kind;
in your great compassion, turn to me.**

¹⁷ Hide not your face from your servant;
be swift and answer me, for I am in distress.

**¹⁸ Draw near to me and redeem me;
because of my enemies deliver me.**

SECOND READING:

Romans 6:1b-11

^{1b} Should we continue in sin in order that grace may increase? ² By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ³ Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life.

⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, so we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸ But if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ The death he died, he died to sin once for all, but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 10:24-39

The holy gospel according to Matthew the 10th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the twelve: ²⁴ "A disciple is not above the teacher nor a slave above the master; ²⁵ it is enough for the disciple to be like the

teacher and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

²⁶ “So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷ What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸ Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, fear the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰ And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹ So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

³² “Everyone, therefore, who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven, ³³ but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

³⁴ “Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace but a sword.

³⁵ For I have come to set a man against his father,
and a daughter against her mother,

and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law,

³⁶ and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household.

³⁷ “Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me, ³⁸ and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹ Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

SERMON

Pastor Sara Stall-Ryan

One Minute of Silence is kept for reflection.

Please stand

HYMN OF THE DAY “O God, My Faithful God” **ELW 806**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church and the needs of the world.

A brief silence.

Life-giving God, you have called your people to lose their lives for Jesus' sake. Strengthen your church to follow you in the face of difficulty. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Creator God, you know every sparrow that falls to the ground. Protect migrating birds, endangered species, and their natural habitats. Empower us to care for your creation. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Sovereign God, you call us to act justly and love mercy. Protect those with marginalized identities to whom we have not shown the abounding love of Jesus. Bring an end to oppression and bigotry in all forms. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Sustaining God, you promise to provide for us. Help those living with disability. Comfort those experiencing any sort of illness or suffering (especially). God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Empowering God, strengthen us to live out our diverse callings. We pray especially for fathers and father figures, that they show your compassion and care. We pray for all for whom this day is difficult or painful. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Faithful God, we give thanks for saints (like Onesimos Nesib) who have claimed their baptismal promises. May we follow their example of faith and service. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior.

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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

Eternal God, in the abundance of your love you have caused all things to be; from dust and spirit you have woven our humanity; in all our wanderings you never cease to call us to fullness of life.

You gave us Jesus, son of Mary, the bread of life broken for the world; he fed us and feasted with us, he healed us and suffered for us; his dying and rising have set us free from the poverty of sin and famine of death.

Therefore, with all whom you have made, cherished and called, with all who hunger for your kingdom and will not rest until all your children are fed, with the broken saints and redeemed sinners of all the ages, we take up the son of your praise:

(spoken)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Please kneel or sit

We ask that you Holy Spirit will fall upon us and upon these gifts that these fragile, earthly things may be to us the body and blood of our lord and brother, Jesus Christ; who, on the night that he was betrayed, gathered with his faltering friends for a meal that tasted of freedom. Calling them to his table, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said; 'This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember

me.’ In the same way after supper, he took the cup, saying: ‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, whenever you drink it, to remember me.’ As on that night, so here and now he offers himself in touch and taste beyond all words can hold.

Great is the mystery of faith

Christ has died

Christ is risen

Christ will come again.

Therefore, in our eating and drinking we are filled with the life-giving presence of Christ; we proclaim him as creation’s host, transforming poverty into plenty in the reckless generosity of love.

Inspire us with the hope that one day death and greed will be no more and people without number will come from east and west, north and south to share the kingdom meal. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom and with whom and in whom in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honour and glory be yours, Mother of blessings, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

LORD’S PRAYER

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INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

DISTRIBUTION

Please kneel or sit

COMMUNION HYMNS

“Let Us Break Bread Together” **ELW 471**

“Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup” **ELW 492**

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

SENDING

BLESSING

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, + one God,
bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN “Lift Every Voice and Sing” **ELW 841**

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

Thanks be to God.

Postlude:

Thank you to Homan Cheung for providing the
wonderful gift of music today

Prayer List

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

SERVING TODAY

Kate Schneider - Lector
Peter Willse - Worship Assistant
Rick Borg, Donna Berndtson - Ushers/Greeters
Marie DeGraff - Altar Guild
Homan Cheung - Keyboardist

Grace Guild is purchasing items, that there is a great need for, to donate to the Department of Veterans Affairs Voluntary Services in Newington.

The items needed are:

Men's White or color T-shirts - Medium, Large and X Large.

Men's Underwear - Medium, Large and X Large

Personal Items - Razors, shaving cream, toothpaste, shampoo, deodorant and body wash.

If you are interested in helping support our local veterans, cash donations are accepted and appreciated.

Items and donations will be accepted through June 28th.

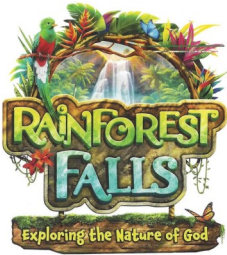


We're coming down the home stretch.. The last day to make donations to support our Capital Improvement Fund at Zion is JUNE 28th. Please note that all donations received by the 28th will be matched with a 15% bonus. Kathy Richards and Donna Berndtson will be available after church in the lounge to help anyone who has questions or is interested in making a donation. Hopefully we will meet our GOAL. You WILL be able to donate at this time. The minimum donation is only \$10.00. Thank you.



The **Worship & Music Committee** is collecting 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 | |



Let's go on an Amazing Adventure!
Exploring the Nature of God
 This Summer children can participate in Vacation Bible School at Bethany Lutheran Church in Cromwell.

The program starts on Sunday, August 2nd through Thursday, August 6th, 4:30 – 7:30 p.m. Open to children age 3 to 5th grade. Volunteer opportunities for older teens and parents.

Visit BethanyLutheranCromwell.com




Scan QR Code at left, or call 860-635-4618 to register before 7/15



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



Please Recycle Ink and Toner Cartridges Here.
 There is a container to leave your used ink and toner cartridges for us to recycle.

 *
 *  Thank you to Donna Marlow for organizing and hosting coffee hour today.
 *
 *

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

Solarize Faith

Our solar campaign is coming to a close on June 30. If you have questions and would like to learn more, please contact Kerry Darby at kerrydarby@yahoo.com or 860-316-7921.

During Solarize Faith, you will receive a \$1,000 rebate off of your solar project and a \$500 rebate off of your battery storage project, plus our congregation will receive a \$1,000 donation from the solar company, Earthlight Technologies. If you would like to sign up for a free site assessment, please visit this website: <https://www.earthlighttech.com/solarize-faith/>



The Grace Guild ended their year with a lovely luncheon at 1741 Pub & Grill in Middlefield. They are taking a break for the summer months and will begin again in September.

Today: June 21, 2026

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Worship/Communion

11:30 a.m. True Vine Church

This Week:

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

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

Saturday: Pastor Away

Next Sunday:

June 28, 2026

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Worship/Communion - Outdoor
Service (weather permitting)

Guest Preacher - Peter Willse

11:30 a.m. True Vine Church



Next weeks readings: Jeremiah 28:5-9; Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18;
Romans 6:12-23; Matthew 10:40-42

Attendance: Last week - 45; Last year - 47

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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