

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
Our mission: Belong. Believe. Be sent. Share Jesus Christ for Life



Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 7, 2024

Jesus does great deeds of power and gives his disciples authority over demons. Yet none of this power is unilateral; it all must be received by faith. Jesus asks his disciples to go out without money or supplies, so that they will be dependent on how others receive them. When we are sent from the assembly to witness and to heal, we are asked to be vulnerable, to be dependent on the reception of others. The Spirit always operates in the “between”: between Jesus and his Abba, between Jesus and us, between you and me, between us and those to whom we are sent.

Prelude Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices (Hymn 833)

arr. Paul Manz
Alan Chambers, keyboardist

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy. **Amen.**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God’s abundance, let us confess our sin. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

God, our provider, **help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.**

Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, the bread of life, you are shown God’s mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn O God of Light

No. 507

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.**

Ky-ri-e e-lei - son, on our world and on our way.
 Ky-ri-e e-lei - son, ev-'ry day. For peace in the world,
 For your Spir - it to guide;
 for the health of the church, for the u - ni - ty of all;
 that you cen - ter our lives in the wa - ter and the Word;
 for this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
 that we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace for the
 let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.
 hun - gry and the poor, let us pray to the Lord.

Short Interlude

Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; Lord a - lone, to you we call,
 Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, God most high, yet near to all.
 Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir-it, we lift high our thanks and praise.
 Hear our prayer, re - store, for - give us; here on earth our songs we raise.

Prayer of the Day

God of the covenant, in our baptism you call us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom. Give us the courage you gave the apostles, that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of life, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Reading: Ezekiel 2:1-5

In 597 BCE, the priest Ezekiel was removed into exile in Babylon. While there, he received a vision of God appearing majestically on a chariot throne. Today's reading recounts God's commissioning of Ezekiel during this vision. The prophet is to speak God's word to a people unwilling to hear.

¹ A voice said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you. ² And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. ³ He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day. ⁴ The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, "Thus says the

Lord God.”⁵ Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

After reading: Word of God, Word of Life. **C: Thanks be to God!** *Silence for reflection.*

Psalm 123

Our eyes look to you, O God, until you show us your mercy. (Ps. 123:2)

¹To you I lift up my eyes,

to you enthroned in the heavens.

²**As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters,**

and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,

so our eyes look to you, O LORD our God, until you show us your mercy.

³Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy,

for we have had more than enough of contempt,

⁴**too much of the scorn of the indolent rich,**

and of the derision of the proud.

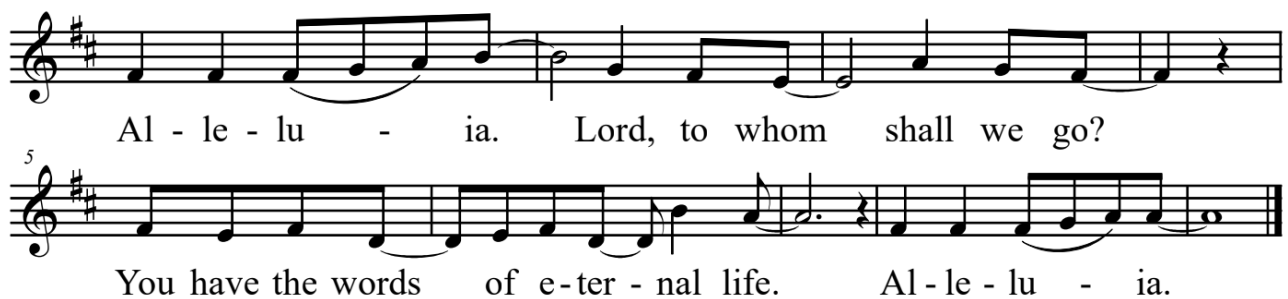
Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 12:2-10

Christians do not boast of their own accomplishments. Rather, Christian boasting focuses attention on how the power of Christ is present in our lives, especially in times of weakness and vulnerability. No matter what our circumstances in life, Christ’s grace is sufficient for us.

²I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. ³And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows—⁴was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. ⁵On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. ⁶But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, ⁷even considering the exceptional character of the revelations.

Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. ⁸Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, ⁹but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. ¹⁰Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

After reading: Word of God, Word of Life. **C: Thanks be to God!** *Silence for reflection.*



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

5 You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel: *The Holy Gospel, according to Mark 6:1-13. Glory to you, O Lord.*

At home and abroad, Jesus and his disciples encounter resistance as they seek to proclaim God's word and relieve affliction.

¹ [Jesus] came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. ² On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! ³ Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. ⁴ Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." ⁵ And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. ⁶ And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. ⁷ He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸ He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; ⁹ but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. ¹⁰ He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. ¹¹ If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." ¹² So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. ¹³ They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.** *Silence for reflection.*

Children's Story "The Hobo's Staff"

Sermon "The Staff of Life"

Pastor JP Freeman

Hymn of the Day Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak

No. 676

Apostle's 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.

Prayers of Intercession

We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world. *A brief silence.* Glorious God, you bend down to wash the feet of your disciples. Let the servant church arise in our teaching, our praying, our healing, and our doing. Make all your faithful people powerful in weakness and strong in grace. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Life-giving God, your fingers trace the heavens and your hands mold the earth. Where there is drought, bring nourishing rain. Where there is devastation from fire or flood, bring relief. Sustain the well-being of every living thing. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful God, you speak and the nations listen. Open those who govern to the cries of all who journey with no food or shelter, particularly people fleeing violence, those seeking freedom, and those in search of community. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, your embrace brings wholeness to those who are troubled. Anoint all who suffer in any way with the oil of healing and grant them renewal. We lift before you all who are sick or struggling. Especially those on our current prayer list...

Arising Concerns: Chuck Morgan - liver biopsy July 11; Cynthia Priser, Major Zachary & Marina Finehout - Zach is deployed in Poland for NATO operations May 2024 thru January 2025;

Sympathy to the families: John Curtis on the death of Bridgette his wife, Rocky Shepherd whose memorial service is July 13th at The Firehouse.

The Continuing Concerns in our hearts and minds. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Welcoming God, in your presence strangers become companions and enemies become neighbors. Open our doors to those we have so easily shut out, particularly people who are different from us or who are marginalized by church or society. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Eternal God, you gather us into your house of many dwelling places. We give you thanks for our faithful departed. Inspire us by their lives of faith until, with them, we rest forever at our journey's end. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, holy and merciful: into your outstretched arms we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Offering Prayer

Jesus, **Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.**

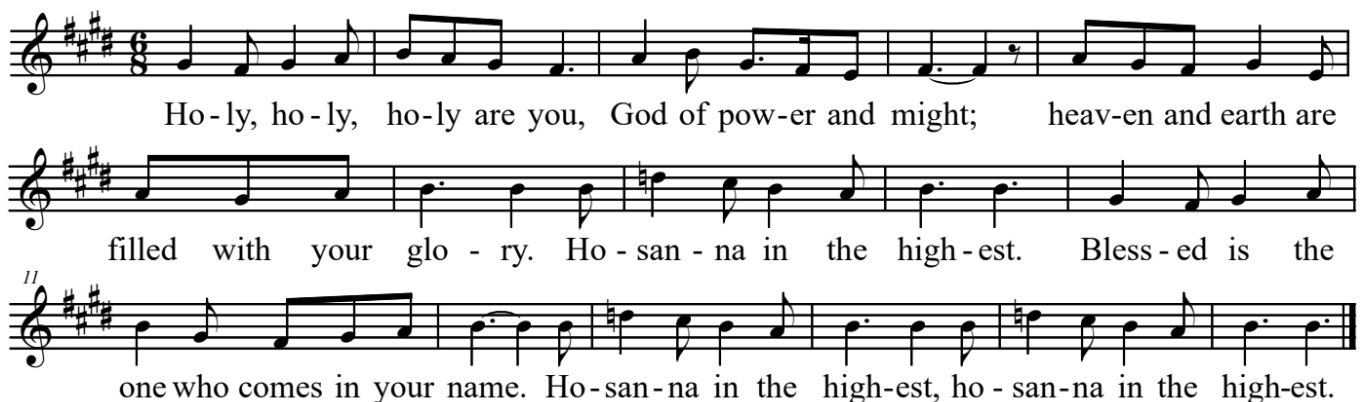
The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you! **C: And also with you!**

Lift up your hearts! **C: We lift them to the Lord!**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God! **C: It is right to give our thanks and praise!**

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, through our Savior Jesus Christ. Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection, you pour out the fire of your Spirit, uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with the earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly are you, God of pow-er and might; heav-en and earth are
filled with your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is the
one who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord 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 in 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 all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Lord's Prayer

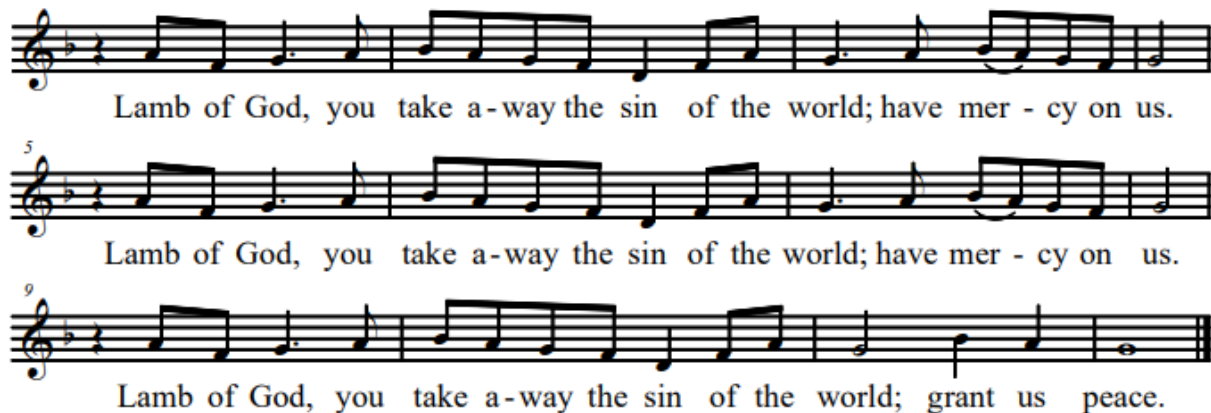
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us. **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and 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

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

Voluntary Elevation

by J. C. H. Rinck



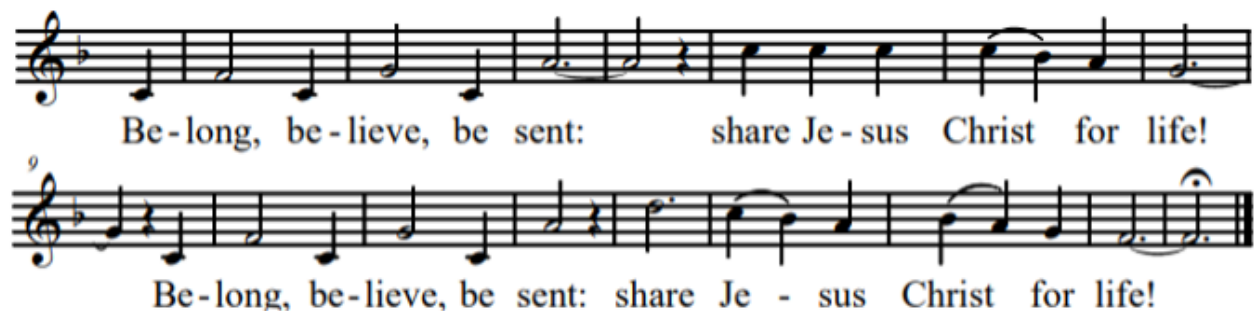
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

⁵
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

⁹
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Prayer after Communion

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. Amen.



Be-long, be-lieve, be sent: share Je - sus Christ for life!

⁹
Be-long, be-lieve, be sent: share Je - sus Christ for life!

Blessing (we bless one another)

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, be upon you now and forever. Amen.

Sending Hymn We All Are One in Mission

No. 576

Dismissal

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude Allegretto, Op. 48, No. 1

by A. F. Hesse



Announcements:

Arising Concerns: Chuck Morgan - liver biopsy July 11; Cynthia Priser, Major Zachary & Marina Finehout - Zach is deployed in Poland for NATO operations May 2024 thru Jan. 2025.

Sympathy to the families: John Curtis on the death of Bridgette his wife, Rocky Shepherd whose memorial service is July 13th at The Firehouse.

Ongoing Concerns: Jack Williams, Betty & Darell Yankey, Earl (Janet) McKinley, Robbie & Steve Rohrer, Denise Rohrer, Peter Siddons, Norma Burke, Todd & Linda, Tony Rogers, Jane Ann Airgood, Nancy Shenefield, Peggy Gilbert, Faith Miller, Ron & Sharon Miller, Grover (Janice) Archer, Linda Hampton, Marie-Betten Niccum, Joanne Boettcher, Lois Dowd, Phyllis Werking, Darlene Shear, Faith Miller, Jon Frieden, John Fairfield.

For a world that would: "seek peace and pursue it." and address environmental concerns; For our Church in Discerning the Call to Ministry and a Vision for Growth.

Please call JP Freeman with prayer concerns or updates on the people of Zion.

JP Freeman, Interim Congregational Caregiver
260-578-0356 | jpf0356@gmail.com | 502 E. 2nd St., N. Manchester, IN 46962

Preaching Schedule

July 14th = Pastor Kathleen Haller

July 21st = Pastor Jeff Hawkins

July 28th = Pastor JP Freeman



Service Music Acknowledgments

Kyrie Eleison: ELW Holy Communion Setting 8, by Larry Olson

Canticle of Praise: ELW Holy Communion Setting 10, alt.

Gospel Acclamation: ELW Holy Communion Setting 6, by Tillis Butler

Holy, Holy, Holy: from Now the Feast and Celebration by Marty Haugen

Lamb of God: ELW Holy Communion Setting 2, by Marty Haugen

Mission Song: Alan Chambers

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church's Mission Statement

To Belong, to Believe, to be Sent: share Jesus Christ for Life.

*The Lord is calling Zion to live out its calling **to belong** to Jesus Christ and to each other by virtue of our baptism; **to believe** in Jesus Christ by virtue of faith given as a gift of the Holy Spirit through Word and Sacrament; **to be sent** by Jesus Christ as ambassadors of the Gospel in our homes, workplaces, communities, and to the ends of the earth.*

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church Info

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