

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



9th Sunday after Pentecost

August 7, 2022

Jesus says, “It is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.” It is God’s promise from the beginning—to Abraham, to the early church, and to the “little flock” of which we are a part in today’s assembly. Faith, God’s baptismal gift, trusts the promises of God. Have no fear.

Prelude Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty (Hymn 858)

arr. John F. Wilson
Pianist – Elizabeth Smith

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, whose steadfast love endures forever. **Amen.** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

Merciful God, **we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way. Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table. When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side. Set us again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors. Amen.**

Hear the good news! God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are free to love as God loves. **Amen.**

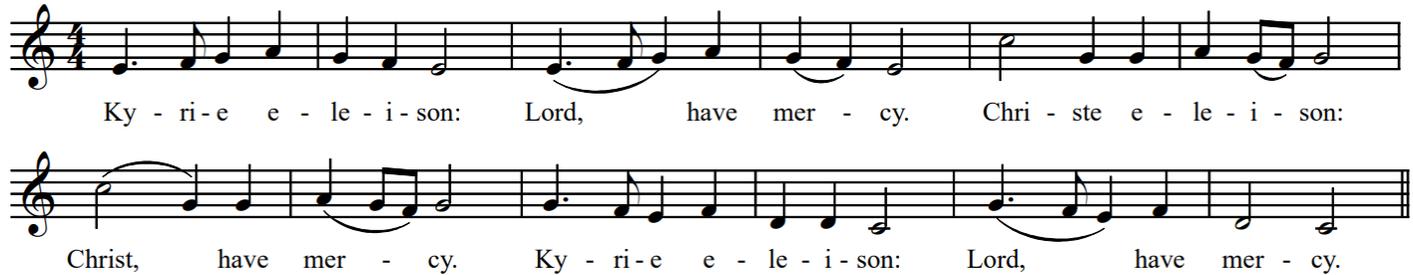
Gathering Hymn *Be Thou Thy Vision*

No. 793

Greeting

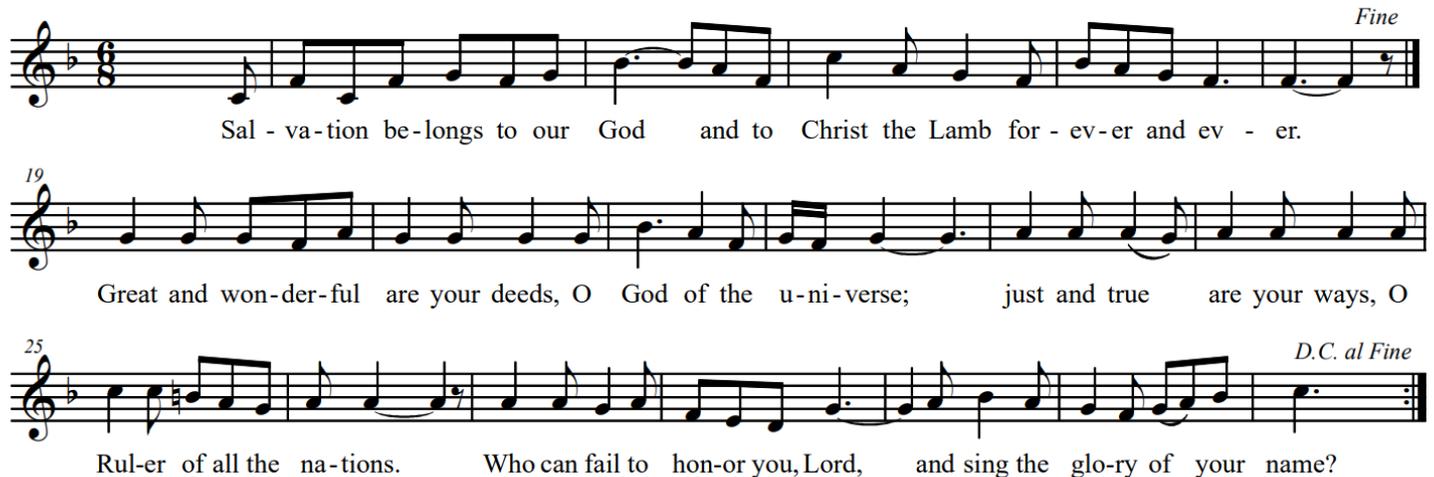
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Kyrie



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: Lord, have mer - cy. Chri - ste e - le - i - son:
Christ, have mer - cy. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: Lord, have mer - cy.

Canticle of Praise



Sal - va - tion be - longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for - ev - er and ev - er. *Fine*
Great and won - der - ful are your deeds, O God of the u - ni - verse; just and true are your ways, O
Rul - er of all the na - tions. Who can fail to hon - or you, Lord, and sing the glo - ry of your name? *D.C. al Fine*

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Reading: Genesis 15:1-6 NIV

God promises childless and aging Abram that a child of his own will be his heir and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God's promise, and through this faith he is considered righteous.

¹After this, the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your very great reward." ²But Abram said, "Sovereign LORD, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³And Abram said, "You have given me no children; so, a servant in my household will be my heir." ⁴Then the word of the LORD came to him: "This man will not be your heir, but a son who is your own flesh and blood will be your heir." ⁵He took him outside and said, "Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." ⁶Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

Psalm 33:12-22

Let your lovingkindness be upon us, as we place our hope in you. (Ps. 33:22)

¹²Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord!

Happy the people chosen to be God's heritage!

¹³**The Lord looks down from heaven, and sees all humankind.**

¹⁴God sits firmly enthroned and watches
all who dwell on the earth.

¹⁵**God fashions all their hearts
and observes all their deeds.**

¹⁶A king is not saved by the size of the army,
nor are warriors rescued by their great strength.

¹⁷**The horse gives vain hope for victory;
despite its great strength it cannot save.**

¹⁸Truly, your eye is upon those who fear you, O Lord,
upon those who wait for your steadfast love,

¹⁹**to deliver their lives from death,
and to keep them alive in time of famine.**

²⁰Our innermost being waits for you, O Lord,
our helper and our shield.

²¹**Surely, our heart rejoices in you,
for in your holy name we put our trust.**

²²Let your lovingkindness, O Lord, be upon us,
even as we place our hope in you.

Second Reading: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-12 NIV

Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God enact in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face an unknown future and to receive the promise of God.

¹Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. ²This is what the ancients were commended for. ³By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible. ⁸By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. ⁹By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she considered him faithful who had made the promise. ¹²And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore.

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

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. *Fine* Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. *Repeat alleluia*

Gospel: *The Holy Gospel, according to Luke 12:32-46 – The Message. Glory to you, O Lord.*

Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully into God's reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.

29-32 "What I'm trying to do here is get you to relax, not be so preoccupied with *getting* so you can respond to God's *giving*. People who don't know God and the way he works fuss over these things, but you know both God and how he works. Steep yourself in God-reality, God-initiative, God-provisions. You'll find all your everyday human concerns will be met. Don't be afraid of missing out. You're my dearest friends! The Father wants to give you the very kingdom itself. 33-34 "Be generous. Give to the poor. Get yourselves a bank that can't go bankrupt, a bank in heaven far from bank robbers, safe from embezzlers, a bank you can bank on. It's obvious, isn't it? The place where your treasure is, is the place you will most want to be, and end up being. 35-38 "Keep your shirts on; keep the lights on! Be like house servants waiting for their master to come back from his honeymoon, awake and ready to open the door when he arrives and knocks. Lucky the servants whom the master finds on watch! He'll put on an apron, sit them at the table, and serve them a meal, sharing his wedding feast with them. It doesn't matter what time of the night he arrives; they're awake—and so blessed! 39-40 "You know that if the house owner had known what night the burglar was coming, he wouldn't have stayed out late and left the place unlocked. So, don't you be lazy and careless. Just when you don't expect him, the Son of Man will show up." 41 Peter said, "Master, are you telling this story just for us? Or is it for everybody?" 42-46 The Master said, "Let me ask you: Who is the dependable manager, full of common sense, that the master puts in charge of his staff to feed them well and on time? He is a blessed man if when the master shows up he's doing his job. But if he says to himself, 'The master is certainly taking his time,' begins beating up on the servants and maids, throws parties for his friends, and gets drunk, the master will walk in when he least expects it, give him the thrashing of his life, and put him back in the kitchen peeling potatoes.

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

Sermon

Stan Escott

Hymn of the Day *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

No. 807

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

Trusting in God's extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer. *A brief silence.*

Let your lovingkindness be upon your church. Fill all who proclaim the gospel with your Spirit. Equip your flock to speak your word of promise and hope in the midst of fear and uncertainty. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Let your lovingkindness be upon your creation. Dwell among us and sustain our earthly home. In places of famine, provide nourishment. In places of plenty, fashion us to be good stewards of your bounty. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Let your lovingkindness be upon your world. Be our helper and our shield in places torn by strife and violence. Raise up courageous leaders to govern with compassion and justice. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Let your lovingkindness be upon your children. Look upon all who wait for your steadfast love. Console those who grieve and embrace those who cry out to you. Especially *those on our current prayer list...* Earl McKinley, Jack & Shirley Williams, Peggy Gilbert, Mara Joy Nelson, Linda Rager Hampton, Marie Betten-Niccum, Joanne Boettcher, Nancy Coble, Betty Lawrenz, Mary Lois Chamberlain, and Lois Dowd. Help us to trust your promise and not be afraid. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Let your lovingkindness be upon this community. Fashion our hearts to strive for the way of peace. Strengthen the outreach ministries of this congregation and all who care for those in need. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

With thanksgiving we remember all who have died in faith and now rest in you. As they placed their hope in you, so strengthen us to trust in your promise of new life. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom. **Amen.**

Offering Prayer

God of abundance: **you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Risen 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 and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, Holy Father, almighty and ever-living God. But chiefly we are bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord, the first fruits of Creation; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death, and by his rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

46
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
57
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

The risen Christ dwells with us here. All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, come.

Voluntary Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross (Hymn 335)

by Doane, arr. Whitman

Lamb of God

62
Lamb of God, you take aw - ay the sin of the world, have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on
66
us, have mer - cy. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
70
world; have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy.
74
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Prayer after Communion:

Let us pray. Life-giving God, **through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

Mission Song



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

Blessing

God, the Author of life, Christ, the living Cornerstone, and the life-giving Spirit of adoption, **✝ bless us now and forever. Amen.**

Sending Hymn *How Great Thou Art*

No. 856

Go forth in joy and peace! **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude Sonata in A, K. 453

by D. Scarlatti

Announcements:

Prayer List: Earl McKinley, Jack & Shirley Williams, Peggy Gilbert, Mara Joy Nelson, Linda Rager Hampton, Marie Betten-Niccum, Joanne Boettcher, Nancy Coble, Betty Lawrenz, Mary Lois Chamberlain, and Lois Dowd.

We Continue to pray for Ukraine.

Service Music Acknowledgments

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Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church's Mission

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.*