

ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

Congregational participation in bold font.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We rise in body and spirit as we are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Those present may make the sign of the (+) cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the leader begins.

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 and forgiveness,
we confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

O God, **help us.**

**We seldom believe there is enough to share
so our hands remain closed and do not give.**

**We prefer the ways of the world over your ways
and question why your ways must always differ
so radically from those 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
because of what you demand we do,
how you expect us to see and treat others.**

**In our selfishness, we want you to be more like us:
why do you always expect us to become more like you?**

We allow our sins to control us, to dominate us.

Lord, to whom shall we go? Where else can we turn?

Share with us your words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world.

Help us. Change us. 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.**

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.

GATHERING SONG

'All Who Hunger' *Sung by all.*

ELW 461



1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad-ly; ho-ly man-na is our bread.
2 All who hun-ger, nev-er strang-ers; seek-er, be a wel-come guest.
3 All who hun-ger, sing to- geth-er, Je- sus Christ is liv- ing bread.



Come from wil-der-ness and wan-d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.
Come from rest-less-ness and roam-ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.
Come from lone-li-ness and long-ing. Here in peace we have been fed.



You that yearn for days of full-ness, all a-round us is our food.
We that once were lost and scat-tered in com-mu-nion's love have stood.
Blest are those who from this ta-ble live their days in grat-i-tude.



Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.
Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.
Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

We pray: O God, eternal goodness, immeasurable love, you place your gifts before us; we eat and are satisfied. Fill us and this world in all its need with the life that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

A reading from Exodus, the 16th chapter.

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger." Then the Lord said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.'" And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses and said, "I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.'"

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

Ephesians 4:1-16

A reading from Ephesians, the 4th chapter.

[Saint Paul writes] I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people." (When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and

blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

We rise in body and spirit as we are able.

GOSPEL READING

John 6:24-35

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 6th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[W]hen the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus. When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal."

Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always." Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Be seated.

SERMON

Rev. David T. Drysdale II, Pastor

REFLECTION SONG

We rise in body and spirit as we are able.

APOSTLES' CREED

We profess our faith saying: **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

Rooted in Christ and sustained by the Spirit, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation. *A brief silence.*

You call your church to be the body of Christ. Awaken all the baptized to the gifts you provide for carrying out the work of ministry. Where the church is divided, knit us together and restore the unity of the faith. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You command the clouds above and cause the wind to blow in the heavens. Watch over deserts and wilderness places. Regenerate rainforests, defend species at risk of extinction, and strengthen the work of conservation organizations. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You summon leaders to respond to the needs of your people. Instill those who govern with patience when confronted with grievances and perseverance in seeking what promotes the well-being of the community. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You draw near to those who cry out for help. Feed those who are hungry, reassure those who are despairing, and accompany those who are imprisoned. Grant strength, courage, and hope to those in need, especially all on our Prayer List, all named as worship began, and all we name now in the silence of our hearts or on the whispers of our lips (*we pause for the offering of names...*). Rain down the true bread from heaven that gives life to the world. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You receive all who come seeking a sign of grace. Make this congregation a place of hospitality for those accustomed to rejection. To those who have felt excluded here or elsewhere, prepare us to welcome them in the name of Christ. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You provide food that endures for eternal life. Sustain us each day with the bread of life until we are gathered with all the saints and feast together at your heavenly banquet. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE AND OFFERING

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, saying "Peace be with you."

We pray: Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*Offering envelopes may be placed in the offering plate as you leave worship.
You may also mail your offering to Zion or give online at zionhickory.org.*

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise.

Humble God, we rejoice to worship and enjoy you forever, for your grace is sufficient for us, and your power is made perfect in weakness. You created the world as a theater for your companionship, and you raised up a people through whom all nations would find a blessing. In David you brought together all the hopes of your chosen people. When your covenant was neglected and betrayed you sent Jesus, Son of David. In his death and resurrection he restored the hopes of your people and the promise of your glory. Though we forget you, never did you forget us. And so with all the company of heaven we lift up the song of your everlasting praise:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Mysterious and holy God, when your Son came to his hometown the people could not believe that one like them could be so much like you. Yet in wisdom and power he showed your face despite their unbelief. Send your Holy Spirit upon your church that all who gather in your name may find in you the joy of their desiring. Send that same Spirit on these ordinary gifts of bread and wine, that they may be for us the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ; who in the night in which he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave you thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we boldly proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Patient God, in Christ you endured weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for our sake; you became weak, that we might find our true strength lies in you. As you equipped your servant Paul through every challenge to share your gospel, send your Holy Spirit on all who are weak, that they may be upheld in your power; on any who are insulted, that they may hear you calling their name; on those who are persecuted, that they may know your justice, your vindication, and your peace. Hasten the day when your tired, poor, homeless, and tempest-tossed may breathe free, lift their lamp beside your golden door, and celebrate the banquet of your kingdom, liberating God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray as Jesus taught us saying:



Our Fa-ther in heav-en, ha-low-ed be your
name, your king-dom come, your will be done on
earth as in heav-en. Give us to-day our
dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins as we for-give
those who sin a-gainst us. Save us from the
time of trial and de-liv-er us from e-vil, for the
king-dom, the pow'r and the glo-ry are yours,
now and for-ev-er.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come, be fed. **Thanks be to God!**

For the gathered in-person assembly: an usher will invite your group to proceed up an aisle on your right, move to the altar to receive the communion elements, partake when you return to your seat, dispose of the container at the conclusion of the service.

For those worshipping online: commencing after worship and until 11:00 a.m. you are invited to come to Zion and receive the sacrament under the new portico.

Refrain

Come to the ban - quet, come to the feast. Eat the Bread of
 life! Share in the sing - ing, share in the joy.
 Drink the Cup of love! love! Share the joy!

To verses | *Last time*

- | | | |
|--------------|--|----------------|
| <i>Verse</i> | <i>Draw near and take the Body of the Lord,...</i>
<i>...With souls refreshed we give our thanks to God.</i> | Refrain |
| <i>Verse</i> | <i>Salvation's giver, Christ, the only Son,...</i>
<i>...himself the victim and himself the priest.</i> | Refrain |
| <i>Verse</i> | <i>Come forward then with faithful hearts sincere...</i>
<i>...to all believers life eternal yields.</i> | Refrain |
| <i>Verse</i> | <i>With heav'nly bread Christ makes the hungry whole;...</i>
<i>...In this your feast of love be with us now.</i> | Refrain |

We rise in body and spirit as we are able.

COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

May the precious and true body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

We pray: 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.**

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

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

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

PARTICIPANTS

If anyone is interested in reading scriptures, please contact the Church Office.

Presiding Minister.....	Rev. David T. Drysdale II
Director of Music.....	Spence Robertson
Assisting Minister.....	Eric Wright
L.A.B. Teachers.....	Connie Ollis, Tara Eckard
Ushers.....	Otis Morton, Steve Morton, Marc Ladnier
Tellers.....	Brenda Kanipe, Alan Parsons, Elaine Vaughn

PRAYER CONCERNS

Please contact the church office to add a name for 30 days to the prayer list.

Please pray for those who are in sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, especially the following:

Zion Members... Jeb Bass, Karen Bias, Donna Daily, Elsie Eudy, Barbara Haas, Linda Hacker, Bill Hefner, Terrell Huffman, Wayne Huffman, Janice Jeffreys, Leigh Ann Lackey, Tom McNeely, Mike McRee, Violet Michael, Catherine Miller, Joe Miller, Casey & Lily Mull, Debra Osborne, Catherine Pitts, Jean T. Pitts, Martha Propst, Benelia Reese, Barbara Scronce, Linda Travis, Gene Ward, Barron Whitener, Janey Whitener, Stephen Whitener, Milton Wrike, and Jerry Yoder.

Homebound... Peggy Austin, Janelda Deal, Revonda Harris, Charles Hunt, Nellie Lutz, and Dottie Yoder.

Friends of Zion... Lesa Brill, Carole Dickerson, Guy D. Elmore, Bobby Fender, Sandra Hardin, David Hollars, David Icenhour, Russell & Lovenia Icenhour, Beth LaBarbera, Jenny Massey McMahan, Terry Mooneyham, Susan Peebles, Greg Sigmon, Terra Smith, and Jason Weaver.

In Sympathy... We remember in prayer the family of Yvonne “Sis” Peeler Scronce. Yvonne, 82, passed away on Tuesday, July 27, at Abernethy Laurels in Newton. Yvonne was a faithful member of Zion for almost 60 years and was a past Cub Scout Leader. She was preceded in death by her parents, Claude and Lula Mae Rudisill Peeler, and her son, Scott Scronce. Yvonne is survived by her husband, Donald “Don” Scronce; her son, Tim Scronce and wife Sandi; two grandchildren, Crystal Tashina Scronce and Timothy James “TJ” Scronce; her sister, Bonnie Ingle and her son, Wesley Ingle; her brother, Floyd Peeler and wife Jane; and numerous other nieces and nephews.

A graveside service will be held this afternoon at 2:00 p.m. in the Zion Church Cemetery with Pastor David Drysdale officiating.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements are due in the Church Office by Thursday of each week.

Drive-Thru Holy Communion... For those worshipping online, drive-thru Holy Communion will be offered commencing after worship this morning and until 11:00 a.m. You are invited to come to Zion, follow the traffic directions of the team, and receive the sacrament under the new portico.

Giving Statements... Giving statements for the first six months of 2021 are available for pick up in the Narthex. Questions? Contact Marc Ladnier at 828-234-3789 or melril3@yahoo.com.

Red Cross Blood Drive... Zion will host a Blood Drive in the Parish Center on Tuesday, August 3, from 2:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The Red Cross is currently experiencing a severe blood shortage. To make an appointment, call the church office or go online at redcrossblood.org.

Join the Zion Ringers... It's that time again when the handbell choir begins a new season of music and we are looking for additional ringers! Our initial meeting is **Wednesday, August 18, at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.** No experience is required. We will be very happy to help a new ringer learn the process! If anyone is interested in joining the handbell choir or has questions, contact Dan Bolick, Director, at 828.244.2202 (text or call) or sgmontdr@bellsouth.net.

Newborns... Patrick and Iva Dodd are proud to announce the birth of twin sons on July 26. We welcome Simon Julius Dodd, who weighed 6 lbs. 0 oz., 19 inches long, and Louis Theodore Dodd, who weighed 6 lbs. 6 oz., 20.25 inches long. Grandparents are Drew and Kay Dodd and Tim and Anne Wepner. Simon and Louis join their big sister, Vivian.

Challenge from Zion's Kids... Zion's children and the Children's Ministry challenged the members of Zion last month to help **collect at least fifty \$20 gift cards for an ECCCM fundraiser.** Unfortunately we fell short of that goal, so the children are extending their challenge through mid-August. The gift cards may be purchased from any local businesses, restaurants, etc. Gift cards may be delivered directly to the church office or given to any of the Children's Ministry committee members. If you have questions, please contact Kristin Wright at 828.455.9362 or kristinwright11@hotmail.com. Thank you for your help with this project!

Gift Basket for ECCCM... ECCCM is asking their supportive congregations to donate themed gift baskets as silent auction items for a September fundraiser. The children of Zion will be collecting items for a gift basket with the theme, **"Family Game Night."** If you would like to help with this donation, please bring items that are centered around "Family Game Night." The children of Zion and the Children's Ministry committee members will collect items for the gift basket through August 31. Contact Kristin Wright if you have questions. Thank you!

Broadcasting Fund Update... July contributions (as of July 25) total \$1,090 leaving a balance needed of \$4,160.00. Thank you for your continued support of this project!

Weekly Contributions... Contributions to the General Fund the week of July 25 totaled \$4,425.00. Average weekly contributions needed to meet our 2021 budget are \$6,480.25. January through May, General Fund donations were \$13,953.92 short of Budget Revenue.