

Zion EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



8th Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 2020

9:15 am

Order for Worship

MUSIC FOR GATHERING

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

You are the treasured people of the Lord,

a people holy to the Lord our God.

Keep the words of the Lord in your heart; teach them to your children.

**Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away,
when you lie down and when you rise.**

One does not live by bread alone,

but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

(Deuteronomy 26, 11, 8)

OPENING HYMN “God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens”



1 God, who stretched the span - gled heav - ens in - fi - nite in time and place,
2 We have ven - tured worlds un - dreamed of since the child-hood of our race;
3 As each far ho - ri - zon beck - ons, may it chal-lenge us a - new:



flung the suns in burn-ing ra - diance through the si - lent fields of space:
known the ec - sta - sy of wing-ing through un - trav-eled realms of space;
chil - dren of cre - a - tive pur - pose, serv - ing oth - ers, hon - 'ring you.



we, your chil - dren in your like-ness, share in - ven - tive pow'rs with you;
probed the se - crets of the at - om, yield-ing un - i - mag - ined pow'r,
May our dreams prove rich with prom-ise; each en-deav-or well be - gun;



great Cre - a - tor, still cre - at - ing, show us what we yet may do.
fac - ing us with life's de - struc - tion or our most tri - um - phant hour.
great Cre - a - tor, give us guid - ance till our goals and yours are one.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

READING: Romans 8:26-39

These words celebrate the depth of God's actions for us. Through Christ's death for us and the activity of the Spirit praying for us, we are fused to God's love poured out in Jesus Christ. Nothing, not even death itself, is able to separate us from such incredible divine love.

²⁶The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.



Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.



When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,



warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.



Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 13th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 13:31-33, 44-52

Throughout Matthew's gospel, Jesus and his disciples proclaim the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is near!" Here, Jesus offers several brief parables that explore the implications of this announcement for people's lives.

³¹[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;³²it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

³³He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

⁴⁴"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

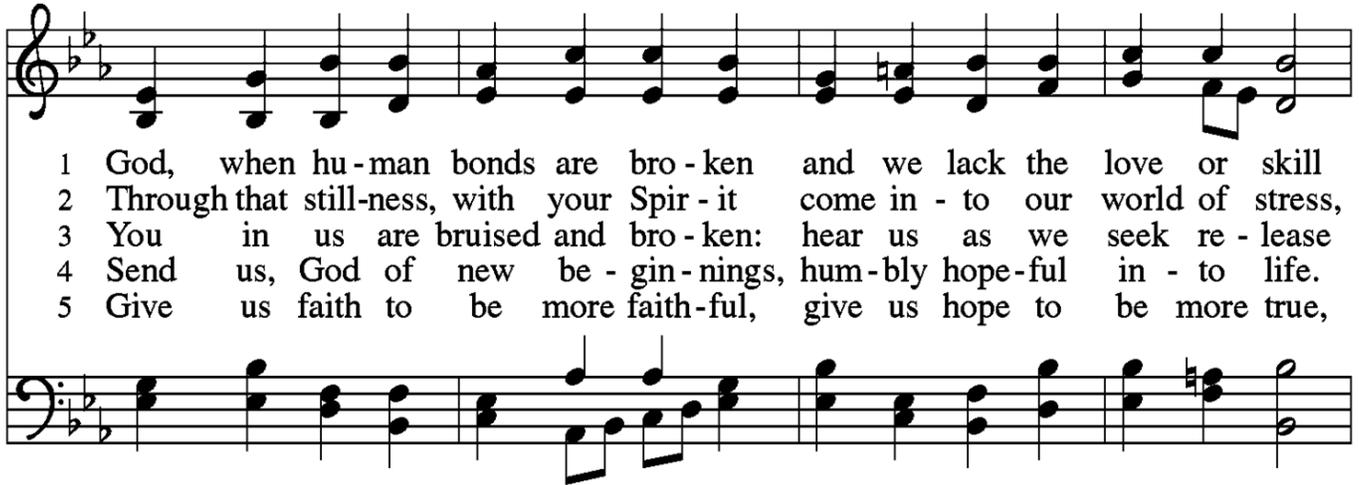
⁵¹"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." ⁵²And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

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

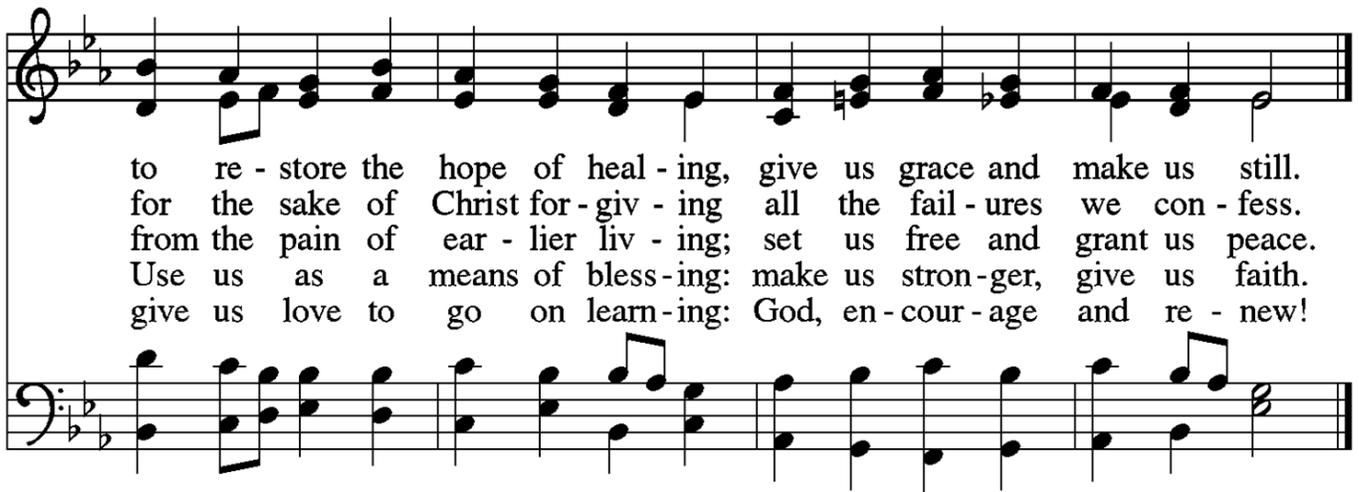
SERMON

Pastor Kate Warn

HYMN OF THE DAY “God, When Human Bonds are Broken” vs. 1,2,4,5



1 God, when hu-man bonds are bro-ken and we lack the love or skill
2 Through that still-ness, with your Spir-it come in-to our world of stress,
3 You in us are bruised and bro-ken: hear us as we seek re-lease
4 Send us, God of new be-gin-nings, hum-bly hope-ful in-to life.
5 Give us faith to be more faith-ful, give us hope to be more true,



to re-store the hope of heal-ing, give us grace and make us still.
for the sake of Christ for-giv-ing all the fail-ures we con-fess.
from the pain of ear-lier liv-ing; set us free and grant us peace.
Use us as a means of bless-ing: make us stron-ger, give us faith.
give us love to go on learn-ing: God, en-cour-age and re-new!

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

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.**

Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;
pray in the Holy Spirit.

Keep yourselves in the love of God;
look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new!

God has given us the ministry of reconciliation.
Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown, things done and left undone.**

**Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of
life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our
Lord. Amen**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins
through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness,
and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen**

SHARING THE PEACE

Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways,
encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace.

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

OFFERTORY

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God, our Creator,

you open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living creature.

With these gifts we bless you for your tender nurture and care. Help us to delight in your will and walk in your ways, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

CLOSING HYMN "Sent Forth By God's Blessing"



1 Sent forth by God's bless - ing, our true faith con - fess - ing,
2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er - liv - ing,



the peo - ple of God from this dwell - ing take leave.
the tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face—



The sup - per is end - ed. Oh, now be ex - tend - ed
our faith ev - er shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing,



the fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.
em - brac - ing God's chil - dren, the whole hu - man race.



The seed of Christ's teach - ing, re - cep - tive souls
With your feast you feed us, with your light now



reach - ing, shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.
lead us; u - nite us as one in this life that we share.



Your grace shall in - cite us, your love shall u - nite us
Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks - giv - ing



to work for your king - dom and an - swer your call.
give hon - or to Christ and his name that we bear.

THE BLESSING

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God.**



“The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

**TODAY’S WORSHIP TEAM: Pastor Kate Warn,
Karen Kline, George May, Francesca McClure**

Flowers are presented by John Blase in remembrance of Ruth & John J. Blase

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Announcements

Weekly Record	Last week	Mo. Total	Budget
Attendance	60	-----	-----
General Fund offering	6,983	16,082	16,676
Capital Campaign Offering	405	2,143	---

**Mon - Psalm 119:121-128
1 Kings 3:16-28
James 3:13-18**

**Tues - Psalm 119:121-128
1 Kings 4:29-34
Ephesians 6:10-18**

**Wed - Psalm 119:121-128
Proverbs 1:1-7, 20-33
Mark 4:30-34**

**Thurs - Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21
Isaiah 51:17-23
Romans 9:6-13**

**Fri - Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21
Isaiah 44:1-5
Matthew 7:7-11**

**Sat. - Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21
Isaiah 44:1-5
Matthew 7:7-11**



Worship in coming weeks: Outdoors thru the end of August at 9:15 am. Schedule and location for future worship services will be announced. We need a team to move and set up equipment and supplies for the outdoor services. Please contact the church office if you can help and we will let you know details.

Zion's Vacation Bible School partners with St. Paul, Penryn, on Wed. evenings from 6:30-8:00 pm through August 12th at the grove in Penryn. Families are welcome to journey down the "Bible Story Trail" at their own pace, pausing at story stations along the way. Families will be sent along their way at staggered times to adhere to the social distancing policies that have been put into place. Each week's story trail lasts 30-45 minutes to complete. Hope to see you there!

**Next Sunday, August 2
we will celebrate holy communion
at our 9:15 am worship service.**

In order to do so safely and simply, we will celebrate “communion in one kind,” with bread only on this occasion. While the tradition and practice of the church is to use bread and wine in the celebration of the Lord’s Supper, communing with only one element may be appropriate under certain circumstances. In celebrating holy communion, we believe “Christ is fully present in, with, and under” the bread.

We will be offering individually packaged bread rolls which can be shared by spouses and family units, as well as partaken of by individual worshippers. (Gluten free wafers will also be made available) Once the bread is consecrated, the entire piece of bread should be consumed (either as we worship, or a portion reserved for later) as it is the body of Christ, for you! The bread will be in a basket, to be picked up, with your bulletin, from the table at the edge of the parking lot. Alternatively, you are also welcome to bring your own bread: whatever may be consumed easily as we worship and as we hear the familiar words: “this is the body of Christ given for you.”