

# ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Lewistown, Montana

October 11, 2020



Welcome to worship today!

In this season of pandemic, our congregation is following the guidelines of the Central Montana Health District and the Montana Synod.

If you have or recently had a fever, cough, or shortness of breath please do not worship in the church today.

Face masks or coverings are expected in the entry area before and after the service.

Once you are seated, masks may be removed.

However, if four or more cases of Covid-19 come to Fergus County we will require face masks be worn throughout the worship service.

If any of these conditions is not possible for you, our worship services are available online: Zion Website: <http://www.zionlewisownelca.com/worship/video-services>

YouTube Channel: Zion Lutheran Church, Lewistown, MT

**Zion Lutheran Church (ELCA)**  
**October 11, 2020 19th Sunday after Pentecost**

**Introduction to the day**

*In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus' parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungering and thirsting for the abundant life of God.*

**GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

**P** Welcome this day to the house of our God.

**C** **We gather in peace and in love.**

**P** Welcome this day to the worship of our Creator.

**C** **We worship in hope and with grace.**

**P** Welcome this day to our community of faith,

**C** **We meet together as sisters and brothers in Christ.**

**\*GREETING**

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

**C** **And also with you.**

**\*CALL TO PRAYER** *Hear Our Prayer*

*Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole:  
peace to all people, hope for each soul.  
God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.*

### **\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

P With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

(Response to petitions)

P Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

### **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P Let us pray.  
Lord of the feast,

C **you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### **WORD**

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

### **OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 25:1, 6-9**

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>1</sup>O LORD, you are my God;  
I will exalt you, I will praise your name;  
for you have done wonderful things,  
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

<sup>6</sup>On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples  
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,  
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

<sup>7</sup>And he will destroy on this mountain  
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,  
the sheet that is spread over all nations;

<sup>8</sup>he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,  
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,  
for the LORD has spoken.

<sup>9</sup>It will be said on that day,

Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.

This is the LORD for whom we have waited;

let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Word of God, word of life.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL: Matthew 22:1-14**

*Jesus tells a parable indicating that the blessings of God's kingdom are available to all, but the invitation is not to be taken lightly.*

P The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**C Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: <sup>2</sup>“The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. <sup>3</sup>He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. <sup>4</sup>Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ <sup>5</sup>But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, <sup>6</sup>while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. <sup>7</sup>The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. <sup>8</sup>Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. <sup>9</sup>Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ <sup>10</sup>Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

<sup>11</sup>“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, <sup>12</sup>and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. <sup>13</sup>Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ <sup>14</sup>For many are called, but few are chosen.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

## MUSICAL OFFERING

### \*CREED

P With the whole church, let us 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.**

### \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.  
Most merciful God,

**C** we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

**P** God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**C** Amen.

### **MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

### **OFFERING *Soli Deo Gloria\** (vs 1 & 4)**

*1 O God of blessings, all praise to you!  
Your love surrounds us our whole life through.  
You are the freedom of those oppressed;  
you are the comfort of all distressed.  
Come now, O holy and welcome guest:  
Soli Deo gloria! Soli Deo gloria!  
4 All praise for Jesus, best gift divine  
through word and witness, in bread and wine;  
incarnate love song of boundless grace,  
priest, teacher, prophet in time and space,  
your steadfast kindness with human face:  
Soli Deo gloria! Soli Deo gloria!*

\*Soli Deo Gloria means “To God alone be the glory!”

### **\*OFFERING PRAYER**

P Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, 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, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

### **\*GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### **\*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

## **\*LORD'S PRAYER**

P 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**

P Taste and see that the Lord is good.

## **COMMUNION**

*Please remain seated, communion will be brought to you.*

## **COMMUNION SONG**

*O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;  
you suffered death our lives to save: have mercy now, we pray.  
O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mercy now, we pray.  
O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;  
eternal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.*

## **\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P Let us pray.

O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

## SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

### MINISTRY OF ZION

**Wayne Leininger – Zion Lutheran Trust Scholarship Fund**

#### \*BLESSING

P Almighty God, Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.  
C Amen.

#### \*DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Love your neighbor.  
C Thanks be to God.

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Call to Worship written by Beth Merrill Neel, [www.holdfastowhatisgood.com](http://www.holdfastowhatisgood.com)

**As your exit the worship area, please place your used bulletin in the basket beneath the small table at the back of the church.**

**Serving Us:**

**Pr. Lynne Ogren**

**Pianist: Meryl McKenna**

**Ushers: 9:30 - Sharon Nordahl; 11 – Lloyd McKenna**

**Lector: 9:30 – Pam Koterba; 11 – Karen Combs**

**Communion Assistants:**

**9:30 – Bill & Vickey Cowen, Cameryn Aanenson**

**11 – Karen Combs**

**Disciples: All the Baptized**

**Website: [www.zionlewistownelca.com](http://www.zionlewistownelca.com)**

**Contact us: 538-5082 [zionelca@midrivers.com](mailto:zionelca@midrivers.com)**

**Welcome!** Before worship, you are invited to read and reflect.

**Ongoing Prayer Concerns:** Jessie Stewart, Myrna Heppe, Vonnie Ortgies, Jim Flagg, Carmen Larson, Michelle Hecht, Ellen Wood (Gladys Busenbark's sister)

**Homebound Members:** LaVerna Conard, Mary Westburg, DeAnn Paulson, Dorothy Adcock, Bob Papp, Harriet Irish, Don Pfau, Russ Hodge, Marv Mathison

**Social Concern for October:** The Zion Scholarship Fund administered by the Trust Committee is the Social Concern for October. This fund was established approximately 25 years ago as a memorial for one of our members by his family. Students who are active members of Zion and who are pursuing a Bachelor's Degree or attending an accredited institution of higher learning (e.g. Trade School) are eligible to apply for this scholarship. Twenty Zion students have received scholarships from this fund over the past 5 years. Individuals and Zion Lutheran Church Women have financially contributed to it over the years. Since the cost of higher education has greatly outpaced inflation, financial support for students is more critical now than ever. The fund is nearly exhausted and money is needed to keep this important ministry solvent into the future. If you would like to contribute, please make your check to Zion and note "Trust Scholarship" on the memo line.

We extend our **Christian sympathy to the family of Ann Carter** who died on October 6. Her graveside committal for family only will be on October 9.

### **Today**

10:15am Learning Time for Pre-K thru 1<sup>st</sup> grade in the fellowship hall

### **Week of 10/12 – 10/18/20**

Tue	9:30am	Rachel Circle in fireside room
Wed	Noon	Men over lunch at the Elks No youth activities
Thurs	9:00am	Quilting
Sun	9:30am	Worship
	10:15am	Learning time for Pre-K thru 1 <sup>st</sup> grade
	11:00am	Worship

**ZLCW is planning a mini bazaar in December** which will feature wreaths, lefse and a quilt raffle. Sign-up sheets for making lefse, gathering greens, making wreaths and selling the items in the church parking lot on December 5<sup>th</sup> are on the narthex table. **Pre-orders for lefse and wreaths will be necessary, those sheets are available.**

**Ministry Opportunities – Volunteers are need to serve as ushers, communion assistants and ushers at 9:30 and 11am worship services.** If you would like to serve, please fill out a bright yellow half sheet on the narthex table.

**Job Opening:** Zion Lutheran is seeking a person to manage the front office. This position requires competent computer skills including experience with social media, a pleasant demeanor for personal and phone interaction, and good organization skills. This position is 20 hours/week, Mon - Thurs. Compensation may be negotiable depending on experience. Resume and references are required with application. A background check will be done upon hiring. Applications will be received through November 2, 2020.

Serving on Staff:

Secretary: Lana Papp

Bookkeeper & Communications Coordinator: Lynn Franz

Sunday School Superintendent: Falan Aanenson

Rainbow Choir Director: Debby Shobe

Custodians: Kent & Nina Yunker