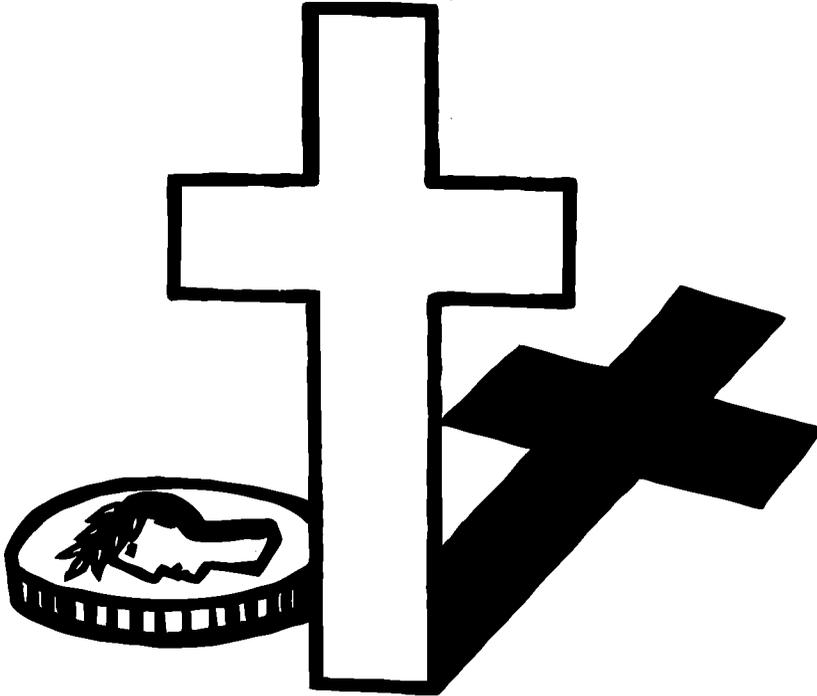


ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Lewistown, Montana

October 18, 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.

Due to the rising number of active COVID cases in Fergus County **face coverings are required throughout the worship service.**

Our worship services are also available online: Zion Website:

<http://www.zionlewisownelca.com/worship/video-services>

YouTube Channel: Zion Lutheran Church, Lewistown, MT

Zion Lutheran Church (ELCA)
October 18, 2020 20th Sunday after Pentecost

Introduction to the day

In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.

(*Stand)

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.
Sovereign God,

C **raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

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

NEW TESTAMENT READING: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

A reading from 1 Thessalonians.

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
Grace to you and peace.

²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known,

so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead — Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Word of God, word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL: Matthew 22:15-22**

After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First they ask if God's people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” ²¹They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

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.*

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen

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

***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.holdfasttowhatisgood.com

Serving Us:
Pr. Lynne Ogren
Pianist: Rhonda Kepner
Ushers: 9:30 – Doug & Gayle Arntzen
11 – Monte & Starla Solberg
Lector: 9:30 -Chelsea Solberg
11 – Starla Solberg
Communion Assistants:
9:30 – Gayle Arntzen, Chelsea & Shayla Solberg
11 – Lana Papp, John & Jody d’Autremont
Disciples: All the Baptized
Website: www.zionlewistownelca.com
Contact us: 538-5082 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), Louise Perkins

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. 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. 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 Aaron Aanenson & family upon the sudden death of his father, Rob Aanenson. A funeral will be held in Texas in the upcoming week.

Today

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

Week of 10/19 – 10/25/2020

Wed	6:45am	Men's Bible study
	Noon	Men over lunch at the Elks
	3:30pm	BLAST (Elementary learning grades 2-6)
	3:45pm	Confirmation
Thur	9:00am	Quilting
	Noon	Women's Podcast
Sun	9:30am	Reformation Sunday worship
	10:15am	Learning Time for Pre-K thru 1 st grade
	11:00am	Reformation Sunday 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 5th 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
Custodians: Kent & Nina Yunker