

Please come forward respecting physical distance. Baptized and communing Christians are welcome at the Lord's Table. Non-communing children may come for a blessing.

COMMUNION MUSIC Jill Sousek, keyboard

BLESSING AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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

Jesus Christ, host of this meal, you have given us not only this bread and cup, but your very self, that we may feast on your great love. Filled again by these signs of your grace, may we hunger for your reign of justice, may we thirst for your way of peace, for you are Lord forevermore. **Amen.**

CLOSING SONG: *This Little Light of Mine*

Text: African American spiritual

- 1 This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
- 2 Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine; ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
- 3 Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine; Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

BENEDICTION

SENDING MUSIC

■ Please silence all cell phones during worship service. Thank you.

■ **Becoming a member of Zion...** We would love having you as part of our Zion family. Indicate your interest on the "Welcome..." pad and list your mailing address and phone number. *Please contact the church office for membership information.*

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A member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Zion Lutheran Church Outdoor Worship

Sunday, October 4, 2020



18th Sunday
after Pentecost

LISTEN to service on radio station **FM 89.9.**

GREETING

OPENING SONG: *Jesus Loves Me!*

Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820-1915, alt

- 1 Jesus loves me! this I know, for the Bible tells me so;
little ones to him belong, they are weak, but he is strong.
Refrain Yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me,
yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.
- 2 Jesus loves me! he who died heaven's gates to open wide;
he will wash away my sin, let his little child come in. *Refrain*
- 3 Jesus loves me! he will stay close beside me all the way;
when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high. *Refrain*

OPENING SENTENCES

This is the day the Lord has made; **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

Sing to the Lord a new song; **Sing to the Lord, all the earth.**

Sing to the Lord and bless his name; **Sing to the Lord of our salvation!**

Let us worship the Lord. **Praise the Name of the Lord!**

WE CONFESS OUR SINS

Brothers and sisters, let us come before God and admit what we are. We can honestly bring our failure, apathy, anger and hatred; the wrong we have done and the good we have left undone. We can be honest because God desires to shower us with forgiveness and to help us become better than we are.

For thoughts that have wandered and led us dangerously close to things that would destroy us;

Forgive the sin of our thoughts and lead us to health and healing.

For careless words that have hurt others and profaned your name;

Forgive the sin of our lips and lead us to health and healing.

For actions that have betrayed you, and stepped on others in our ladder climb to success and power;

Forgive the sin of our deeds and lead us to health and healing.

God does forgive us and make us new. God says, "As far as the east is from the west, so I will separate you from your sins." Living in this assurance of forgiveness, let us praise God in word and in deed, in prayer and in song.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

MORNING PRAYER

Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

READING ~ Philippians 3:4b-14

[Paul writes:] If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

MORNING GOSPEL ~ Matthew 21:33-46

[Jesus said to the people:] "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will

respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'? Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls." When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

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

THE MESSAGE: Pastor Scott Ludford

MORNING OFFERING

This is a moment in our worship when members and friends of Zion respond to God's goodness with gifts to support our mission. The QR code is provided for those who prefer e-giving.



OFFERING MUSIC ~ Christ is Made the Sure Foundation Jill Sousek, keyboard

COMMUNION CELEBRATION

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

We come to the Table of the Lord to be made new.

The cup of love and the bread of life have been given for all of us to remember the very real presence of Christ with us.

Feed us with your heavenly food. Our spirits are hungry for the bread of life.

We have come again, knowing that Christ is the God of love and will feed us that which is good.

Fill us with the cup of love. Our spirits are thirsty and we want to drink from the well giving us eternal life.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER (use "trespasses")

THE COMMUNION