

# ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Lewistown, Montana

July 1 and 5, 2020



*Come to me, all of you who are tired.  
(11.28)*

If you are visiting or new to our church family, we welcome you!

Restrooms are located in the hallway at the far  
side of the narthex.

Should your children need to leave during worship, please feel  
free to use the seating in the narthex. An overhead  
speaker is located in the narthex for your convenience.

**Zion Lutheran Church (ELCA)**  
**July 1 & 5, 2020 5th Sunday after Pentecost**

**Introduction to the day**

*The mystery of God's ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. Jesus associates with those often excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with our own selfish desires and seek God's mercy and forgiveness. We gather to be refreshed by Christ's invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary." Gathered around word, water, and meal, we find rest for our souls.*

(\*Stand)

**GATHERING**

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

**\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

Reconciling God,

**C** **we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts.**

**We fail to believe that you provide enough for all.**

**We abuse your good creation for our own benefit.**

**We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us.**

**We sin in thought, word, and deed.**

**By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.**

**P** Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through ✚ Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

## **\*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.**

## **HYMN OF PRAISE: PSALM 145: 8-14 (responsively)**

<sup>8</sup>The LORD is gracious and full | of compassion,  
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.

<sup>9</sup>**LORD, you are | good to all,  
and your compassion is over | all your works.**

<sup>10</sup>All your works shall praise | you, O LORD,  
and your faithful | ones shall bless you.

<sup>11</sup>**They shall tell of the glory | of your kingdom  
and speak | of your power,**

<sup>12</sup>that all people may know | of your power  
and the glorious splendor | of your kingdom.

<sup>13</sup>**Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures  
through- out all ages.**

**You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in | all your works.**

<sup>14</sup>The Lord upholds all | those who fall  
and lifts up those who | are bowed down.

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P** Let us pray.  
You are great,

**C** **O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## WORD

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

### **FIRST READING: Zechariah 9:9-12**

*The coming messianic king will inaugurate an era of disarmament and prosperity. Because of God's covenant with Israel, the people are designated as "prisoners of hope."*

A reading from Zechariah.

<sup>9</sup>Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!

Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!

Lo, your king comes to you;

triumphant and victorious is he,

humble and riding on a donkey,

on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

<sup>10</sup>He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim

and the war-horse from Jerusalem;

and the battle bow shall be cut off,

and he shall command peace to the nations;

his dominion shall be from sea to sea,

and from the River to the ends of the earth.

<sup>11</sup>As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,

I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

<sup>12</sup>Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;

today I declare that I will restore to you double.

Word of God, word of life.

**C      Thanks be to God.**

## **SECOND READING: Romans 7:15-25a**

*Life captive to sin is a catch-22 existence in which we know good but do not do it and do things we know to be wrong. Through Jesus Christ, God has set us free from such a futile existence.*

A reading from Romans.

<sup>15</sup>I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. <sup>16</sup>Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. <sup>17</sup>But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. <sup>18</sup>For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. <sup>19</sup>For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. <sup>20</sup>Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

<sup>21</sup>So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. <sup>22</sup>For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, <sup>23</sup>but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. <sup>24</sup>Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? <sup>25a</sup>Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Word of God, word of life.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## **\*GOSPEL: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30**

*Jesus chides people who find fault with both his ministry and that of John the Baptist. He thanks God that wisdom and intelligence are not needed to receive what God has to offer.*

P The holy gospel according to Matthew.

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

[Jesus spoke to the crowd saying:] <sup>16</sup>“To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

<sup>17</sup>‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.’

<sup>18</sup>For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; <sup>19</sup>the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

<sup>25</sup>At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; <sup>26</sup>yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. <sup>27</sup>All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

<sup>28</sup>“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup>Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup>For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

The gospel of the Lord.

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

**SERMON**

Meryl McKenna, LPA Candidate

**MUSICAL OFFERING**

**\*CREED**

**P** Together 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.**

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

P Called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us pray for our shared world.

(Response to petitions)

P Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

P Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

### **MEAL**

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

### **\*OFFERING PRAYER**

P God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. Water and word, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Nourish us through these gifts, that we might proclaim your steadfast love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song.

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.

P 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.

## **LAMB OF GOD**

**P** Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

**C** **have mercy on us.**

**P** Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

**C** **have mercy on us.**

**P** Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

**C** **grant us peace.**

## **COMMUNION**

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

### **\*TABLE BLESSING**

**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.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

## **SENDING**

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

## **MINISTRY OF ZION**

## **\*PRAYER FOR THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT AMONG THE PEOPLE OF GOD**

*As we approach the twentieth anniversary of our full communion agreement, "Called to Common Mission," we give thanks to God for the partnership we share with The Episcopal Church. In the coming months, we will pray for and with one another, seeking spiritual renewal in these challenging times, and revival for the common mission we share.*

**P** God of all power and love, we give thanks for your unfailing presence and the hope you provide in times of uncertainty and loss.  
Send your Holy Spirit to enkindle in us your holy fire.  
Revive us to live as Christ's body in the world: a people who pray, worship, learn, break bread, share life, heal neighbors, bear good news, seek justice, rest and grow in the Spirit.  
Wherever and however we gather, unite us in common prayer and send us in common mission, that we and the whole creation might be restored and renewed, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

## **\*BLESSING**

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

**C** **Amen.**

## **\*DISMISSAL**

**P** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

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

**Ongoing Prayer Concerns:** Jessie Stewart, Myrna Heppe (Pr. Lynne's mother)

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

**Social Concern for July: Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp.** If you would like to contribute, please make your check out to Zion and note "Flathead" on the memo line.

**Week of 7/6 – 7/12/20**

Wed	6:00pm	Worship
Sun	9:30am	Worship with baptism of Kit Hoversland

***Christ in Our Home*** for July, August, September is available on the narthex table and copies are also in the mailbox by the office wing door.

**Altar Guild** is in need of volunteers for the months of July, October and January. If you would like information about the duties of altar guild volunteers, call Avis, 538-9401, or the office, 538-5082.

**In Loving Memory:**

Dora Morse's Memorial Service will be on Friday, July 10 at Zion. We do expect to fill our allotted seating capacity (50). We should have our new video equipment up and running so we can livestream the service on YouTube channel: Zion Lutheran Church, Lewistown, MT.