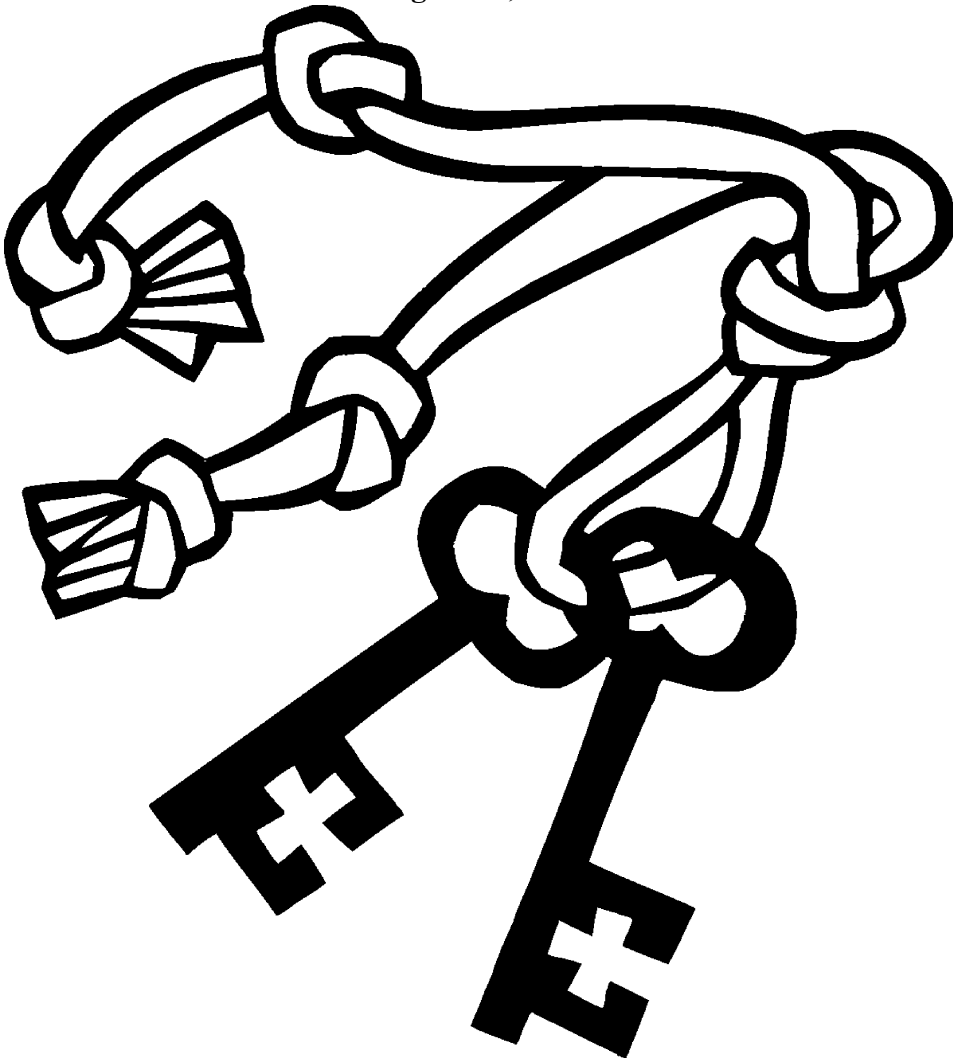


ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

August 23, 2026



Welcome to worship today!

As a reminder our worship services are available online: Zion Website:

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

YouTube Channel: Zion Lutheran Church, Lewistown, MT

Zion Lutheran Church

August 23, 2026 13th Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

C **Amen.**

L Let us confess our sin to God.

Compassionate God,

C **we confess to you all our sins.**

Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, call us back to you.

Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.

Restore us to dwell in your peace.

In Christ's name we pray,

Amen.

L Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."

In the name of God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

C **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG *All Are Welcome*

(ELW 641)

GREETING

L 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.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p.148)

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

WORD

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

First Reading: Isaiah 51:1-6

A reading from Isaiah.

¹ Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the LORD.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

² Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah, who bore you,
for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many.

³ For the LORD will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places
and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD;
joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴ Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation,
for a teaching will go out from me and my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵ I will bring near my deliverance swiftly; my salvation has gone out,
and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me,
and for my arm they hope.

⁶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens and look at the earth beneath,
for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats, but my salvation will be forever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

Word of God, word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 138 (Spoken responsively)

¹ I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with [|] my whole heart;
before the gods I will [|] sing your praise.

² **I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast [|] love and faithfulness;**

for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.

³ When I called, you [|] answered me;
you increased my [|] strength within me.

⁴ **All the rulers of the earth will praise [|] you, O LORD,
when they have heard the words [|] of your mouth.**

⁵ They will sing of the ways [|] of the LORD,
that great is the glory [|] of the LORD.

⁶ **The LORD is high, yet cares [|] for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty [|] from afar.**

⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you [|] keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right [|] hand shall
save me.

⁸ **You will make good your purpose for me;**

**O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works [|] of
your hands.**

Second Reading: Romans 12:1-8

A reading from Romans.

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. ² Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another.

⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸ the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Word of God, word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 151)

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 16:13-20

L The holy gospel according to Matthew the 16th chapter.

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

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴ And they said, “Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵ He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.

¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

L The gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *The Church's One Foundation*

(ELW 654 vs. 1,3,5)

CREED

L 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 THE PEOPLE

L With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

(Response to prayers)

L Merciful God,

C **receive our prayer.**

L Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

PEACE

L The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

THE MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the

brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the

seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.

Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the

prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,

and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L Let us pray.

C Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

GREAT THANKSGIVING

L The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

L Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

L Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

L It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff ends with a comma, the second with a period, the third with a period, and the fourth with a double bar line.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

L 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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

L Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

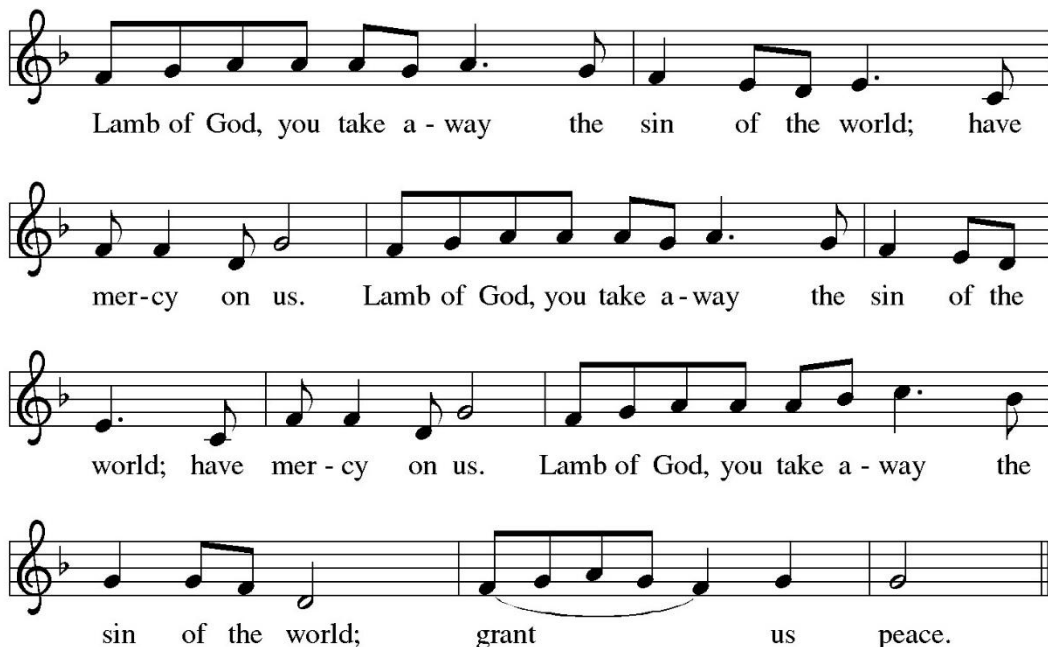
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

L Taste and see that the Lord is good.

COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 154)



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sin of the world; grant us peace.

SONG DURING COMMUNION *Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me*

(ELW 623)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

L Let us pray.

C 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. Amen.

SENDING

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

BLESSING

L Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG *On Eagle's Wings*

(ELW 787)

DISMISSAL

L Go in peace. Share the good news.

C Thanks be to God.

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Serving Us:

Lay Minister: Roger Woltermann

Pianist: Rhonda Jeide

Lector: Dana Leininger

Communion Assistants: Bill & Vickey Cowen

Ushers: Wayne Leininger

PowerPoint: George Maruska

Ongoing Prayer Concerns: Scott, Ed, Norma D., Tia (Pam Bowen's granddaughter), Ken, Scott, Mike, Dianne, Krista, Tracy, Gordon, Pam, Margie, Maureen, Mark, Wayne, Suzie, Avis & Stephanie

Please call the office if you would like to join Prayer Partners.

Social Concern for August: Campus Ministry

In August we celebrate the important ministry to and with the students on the Montana State University and University of Montana campuses. Both ministries offer opportunities for young adults to worship, serve the community, and explore their faith in deeper ways. Zion includes campus ministry in our annual giving since they rely on outside gifts to sustain their ministry programs and the pastors at each campus. The offerings collected in August will be added to our annual commitment and will be divided between these two campus ministries. We give thanks for the ways campus ministry extends our care for these young women and men in their college years.

If you would like to contribute to this effort, please mark Campus Ministry in the memo line of your check.

Thursday Noon Bible Study with Pastor Julia Seymour from Big timber Lutheran Church. This study will be her book Nice is Not a Fruit of the Spirit: Living Faithfully in Complicated Times. She'll present one chapter / week. Books can be ordered online or more information on getting books from her will be coming in the next few weeks.

Week of 8/24 – 8/30

8/26	12:00pm	Men Over Lunch
8/27	9:00am	Quilting
8/30	9:30am	Worship

Week of 8/31 / 9/6

9/1	5:30pm	Caring Ministry
9/2	12:00pm	Men Over Lunch
	3:30pm	B.L.A.S.T, Rainbow Choir & Confirmation
	4:30pm	Wee Singers
	6:00pm	Youth Bible Study
9/3	9:00am	Quilting
9/6	9:30am	Worship