

Zion Lutheran Church

Fredericksburg, Texas

5th Sunday after Pentecost July 5, 2020

P=Presider **R=Responses**

BELLS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please prepare your heart and mind for worship)

PRE-WORSHIP MUSIC

“God Bless the U.S.A.” by Lee Greenwood

“America the Beautiful” by Samuel A. Ward & Katharine Lee Bates

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

R Amen

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Reconciling God,

R 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

DISMISSAL

P Be at peace. Christ is with you.

R Thanks be to God.

SENDING HYMN *“Onward, Christian Soldiers”* (vs.1,2,4)

**Onward, Christian soldiers, marching as to war,
with the cross of Jesus going on before.
Christ, the royal master, leads against the foe;
forward into battle, see, his banners go!**

Refrain:

***Onward, Christian soldiers, marching as to war,
with the cross of Jesus going on before.***

**Like a mighty army moves the church of God;
let us boldly follow where the saints have trod.
We are not divided; all one body we;
one in hope and doctrine, one in charity. *Refrain***

**Onward, then, you faithful, join our happy throng;
blend with ours your voices in the triumph song.
Glory, laud, and honor unto Christ the king.
We through countless ages with the angels sing:**

Refrain

Text: Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834-1924

“Battle Hymn of the Republic”

~ Music: American Folk Song, 19th Century; Lyrics: Julia Ward Howe

P We pray for all in need. For all who are tired, feeling despair, sick, or oppressed especially those who we name in our hearts. Reveal to us how we might share their yoke and ease their burdens. Hear us, O God.

R Your mercy is great.

P We pray for the Church universal. Bless pastors, deacons, and congregational leaders who work to share your love with all people everywhere, and shine in this place that we might be filled with your light and energized for ministry. Hear us, O God.

R Your mercy is great.

P We give thanks for those who have died in faith. Welcome them into your eternal rest and comfort us in our grief until we are joined with them in new life. Hear us, O God.

R Your mercy is great.

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

R Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

R 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

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

R Amen

P Merciful God, by the abundance of your love we have peace with you through ☩ Christ Jesus. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

R Amen

GATHERING

HYMN *"God of Our Fathers"*

**God of our fathers, whose almighty hand
leads forth in beauty all the starry band
of shining worlds in splendor through the skies:
our grateful songs before your throne arise.**

**Your love divine has led us in the past;
in this free land by you our lot is cast;
oh, be our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay;
your word our law, your paths our chosen way.**

**From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence,
make your strong arm our ever sure defense.
Your true religion in our hearts increase;
your bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.**

**Refresh your people on their toilsome way;
lead us from night to never-ending day;
fill all our lives with heav'n-born love and grace
until at last we meet before your face.**

Text: Daniel C. Roberts, 1841-1907, alt.

GREETING

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

R And also with you.

KYRIE *(Spoken)*

HYMNAL p. 147

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

R Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

R Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

R Lord, have mercy.

P For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

R Lord, have mercy.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

R Amen

HYMN OF PRAISE *“Glory to God...”* **HYMNAL p. 148**

P Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

R Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father: We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

R And also with you.

P Let us pray. You are great, 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.

R Amen

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

R And also with you.

RESPONSE

OFFERING

The work of God continues, even when we can't gather in person. While the offering plate can't be passed around, there are still several ways to tithe:

- Mail your offering envelope to the church office
- Check out Zion's website for online donation option via [Tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly)
OR you can go directly to this link <https://tithe.ly/give?c=1367077>
- Set up direct bill pay at your personal bank

And always remember, there are many ways we can make offerings to God, such as prayer and acts of service.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Turning our hearts and minds to God, we pray for the Church, the world, our community, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

P We pray for the church. Sustain us as we share your word. Embrace us as we struggle to find our common ground. Lift up leaders with powerful and prophetic voices. Free us from stagnant faith. Hear us, O God.

R Your mercy is great.

P We pray for the well-being of creation. Show us how to be good stewards of your abundant gifts to us. Hear us, O God.

R Your mercy is great.

P We pray for all nations, especially the United States. Be with us as we celebrate our blessings and continually strive to make this land the best it can be. Guide leaders in developing just policies and leading difficult conversations, and lead us to genuine love for our neighbor. Hear us, O God.

R Your mercy is great.

HYMN "O Beautiful for Spacious Skies" **HYMN NO. 888**

**O beautiful for spacious skies,
for amber waves of grain, for purple mountain
majesties above the fruited plain:
America! America! God shed his grace on thee,
and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to
shining sea.**

**O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife,
who more than self their country loved, and mercy
more than life:
America! America! May God thy gold refine,
till all success be nobleness,
and ev'ry gain divine.**

**O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the
years thine alabaster cities gleam,
undimmed by human tears:
America! America! God mend thine ev'ry flaw,
confirm thy soul in self-control, thy liberty in law.**

Text: Katherine L. Bates, 1859-1929

THE APOSTLES' CREED

P Let us confess our faith, the faith in which we baptize, in the words of the Apostles' Creed

R **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**

Y TZ

SPECIAL MUSIC "Song For the Unsung Hero" by Joseph Martin
Zion Gospel Singers

WORD

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."

⁹ 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.

¹⁰ He^[a] 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.

¹¹ As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,
I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

¹² Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;
today I declare that I will restore to you double. (NRSV)

A The Word of the Lord.

R **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.

¹⁵ I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶ Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷ But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸ 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. ¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. ²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. ²¹ So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. ²² For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, ²³ 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. ²⁴ Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? ^{25a} Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! (NRSV)

A The Word of the Lord.
R Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

HYMNAL 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.

P The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the 11th Chapter.
R Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL Matthew 11:25-30

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.

²⁵ 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; ²⁶ yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷ 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. ²⁸ "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ 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. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." (NRSV)

P The gospel of the Lord.
R Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

"True Freedom"

Rev. Ron Windecker



PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

In our Hearts and Prayers: our homebound and shut-ins, all other nursing home residents, Marilyn Green (sister of Julia Weden), Myrtle Becker, Claribel Hannemann, Peggy Janssen, Leola Landis, Gary McVey, Janet Sedwick, Bee Troxell, Evelyn Wells, Edith Wilderotter, Margaret Wilke, our Fredericksburg community, our government, our nation, and the military.

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The Special Concern for July is the FBG Food Pantry and Hill Country Needs Council. The Council along with the Mission Committee both agreed to have the July's Special Concern offerings be divided equally between the Food Pantry and Needs Council, same as it was in May.

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Thank you for your General Fund Contributions of \$1,275, and your Postage Contributions of \$70 given this past week.

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We had 73 views of last Sunday's video on our YouTube channel.

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IF YOU DON'T RECEIVE YOUR BULLETIN IN THE MAIL BY SATURDAY.....PLEASE CHECK THE CHURCH OFFICE PORCH FOR COPIES YOU CAN PICK UP.

PORTALS OF PRAYER FOR JULY-SEPT CAN ALSO BE PICKED UP FROM THE BOX ON THE CHURCH OFFICE PORCH.



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Fredericksburg, Texas

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5th Sunday after Pentecost – July 5, 2020

Broadcast on KNAF (910AM) at 10:30AM

Video on Zion's YouTube Channel at 10:30am

(go to www.youtube.com & search 'Zion Fredericksburg, TX')

Podcast available www.zion-lutheran.com under sermons tab

Senior Pastor – Rev. Ron Windecker; prwzion@gmail.com

Associate Pastor – Rev. Lisa Hoelscher; pastorlisah@gmail.com

Accompanist – Sheri Robinson; Director of Music – Ray Salinas

Videographer – Peter Ray

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