

Zion Lutheran Church

Fredericksburg, Texas

11th Sunday after Pentecost Aug. 16, 2020

P=Presider **R=Responses**

BELLS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please prepare your heart and mind for worship)

PRE-WORSHIP MUSIC

"How Great Thou Art" by Stuart K. Hine

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C Amen

P Seeking reconciliation with God and neighbor, let us remember the gift of baptism and confess our sin.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P God of mercy,

C we confess that we have sinned against you, against one another, and against the earth entrusted to our care. We are worried and distracted by many things, and we fail to love you above all else. We store up treasures for ourselves and turn away from our neighbors in need. Forgive us, that we may live in the freedom of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgive us all our sins. 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

SENDING HYMN "Be Thou My Vision." HYMN NO. 793

**Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
thou my best thought both by day and by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

**Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tow'r,
raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.**

**Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only, the first in my heart,
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.**

**Light of my soul, after victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860-1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880-1931

FOR FURTHER REFLECTION

1. Which part of the word of God -- the readings and the sermon -- resonates with you today?
2. What is one moment from the rest of the service (liturgy, hymns, or prayers) that you want to keep with you the rest of the week?

DISMISSAL

P Be at peace. Christ is with you.

R Thanks be to God.

"Blessed Be the Name"

Music: Unknown; Lyrics: William H. Clark & Ralph E. Hudson

P You call all nations to be glad and sing for joy. In the face of competing interests, greed, and apathy, let your way be known among the nations of the world. Lord, in your mercy,

R hear our prayer.

P Lord, you show unexpected mercy, kindness, and generosity to all. We pray for those who do not have enough, for outcasts in our cities and towns, and for those who need your healing especially those who we name to you in our hearts. Lord, in your mercy,

R hear our prayer.

P In you we live and move and have our being. Grant Zion Lutheran Church the will to stay rooted in you, and strengthen us for mission in your name. Lord, in your mercy,

R hear our prayer.

P In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; 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

GATHERING

HYMN "O Jesus, I Have Promised" **HYMN NO. 810**

**O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;
remain forever near me, my master and my friend.
I shall not fear the battle if you are by my side,
nor wander from the pathway
if you will be my guide.**

**Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ever near.
I see the sights that dazzle,
the tempting sounds I hear.
My foes are ever near me, around me and within;
but, Jesus, then draw nearer
to shield my soul from sin.**

**Oh, let me hear you speaking
in accents clear and still
above the storms of passion,
the murmurs of self-will.**

**Now speak to reassure me, to hasten or control;
now speak and make me listen,
O Guardian of my soul.**

**O Jesus, you have promised to all who follow you
that where you are in glory
your servant shall be too.
And Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;
oh, give me grace to follow,
my master and my friend.**

Text: John E. Bode, 1816-1874, 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 (*Responses Sung*)**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. God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

R Amen

R 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

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.*

"I Will Serve Thee" by William J. Gaither & Gloria Gaither

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Confident of your care and inspired by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

P Lord, you gather the church to be part of your mission as ambassadors of Jesus Christ. As Jesus acknowledged the great faith of a woman from outside his people, help your church discover and find blessing in the faith of people we might reject. Lord, in your mercy,

R hear our prayer.

P Generous God, bless everyone who cares for the land and animals, and bring rain to our area. Lord, in your mercy,

R hear our prayer.

**O Master, let me walk with you
in lowly paths of service true;
tell me your secret; help me bear
the strain of toil, the fret of care.**

**Help me the slow of heart to move
by some clear, winning word of love;
teach me the wayward feet to stay,
and guide them in the homeward way.**

**Teach me your patience; share with me
a closer, dearer company,
in work that keeps faith sweet and strong,
in trust that triumphs over wrong,**

**In hope that sends a shining ray
far down the future's broad'ning way,
in peace that only you can give;
with you, O Master, let me live.**

Text: Washington Gladden, 1836-1918, alt.

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.**

WORD

FIRST READING **Isaiah 56:1, 6-8**

The prophet calls upon Israel to do justice in view of God's imminent intervention to save. Righteousness and obedience define who belongs to the Israelite community—not race, nationality, or any other category.

^{56:1} Thus says the LORD:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come,
and my deliverance be revealed.

⁶ And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,
to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD,
and to be his servants,
all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it,
and hold fast my covenant—

⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain,
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar;
for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.

⁸ Thus says the Lord GOD,
who gathers the outcasts of Israel,
I will gather others to them
besides those already gathered. (NRSV)

A The Word of the Lord.

R **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING **Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32**

God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable so that, while all have been disobedient, God has mercy upon all.

11:1-2a I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ² God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

²⁹ for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰ Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹ so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. ³² For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all. (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 15th Chapter.

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

GOSPEL Matthew 15:21-28

Jesus teaches his disciples that true purity is a matter of the heart rather than outward religious observances. Almost immediately, this teaching is tested when a woman considered to be a religious outsider approaches him for help.

²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴ He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶ He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷ She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly. (NRSV)

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

SERMON "God Does Push Us" **Rev. Ron Windecker**



PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

The Special Concern for Aug is the Good Samaritan Center.

During the Offering, we lift up the Mission Committee and ask that you keep them in your prayers. May God guide all of our committees with sound judgment and creativity to be the church in new ways.

The Experiencing God study will meet on Tuesday, August 18 at 7:00pm under the Atrium awning. Please bring your own lawn chair and wear a mask until everyone is seated.

Help WELCA Collect LWR School Kits....

Complete a kit with these items:

THE DROP OFF BOX IS INSIDE THE CHURCH OFFICE!

- 1 ruler
- 1 eraser
- 1 box of 16 or 24 crayons
- 5 unsharpened Pencils
- 1 pencil sharpener
- 1 pair blunt metal scissors
- 4 spiral notebooks (**70 pages**)
- 5 black or blue ballpoint pens

Lutheran World Relief Appeal Shipping containers carrying 47,000 quilts and kits were recently destroyed during the explosion in Beirut, Lebanon. The items were in the harbor waiting to be offloaded and distributed to refugees. With such an acute need for supplies and support, please consider making a financial donation to LWR by going to LWR.org and clicking "donate." Thank you for your generosity. *(You may also write a check to Zion with LWR Appeal in the memo line.)*

Thank you for your General Fund Contributions of \$5,621, your Building Fund Contributions of \$265, your Good Samaritan Center Contributions of \$295, and your Postage Contributions of \$45 given this past week.

We had 79 views of last Sunday's video on our YouTube channel.

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



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Fredericksburg, Texas

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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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