

Zion Lutheran Church

Fredericksburg, Texas

14th Sunday after Pentecost Sept. 6, 2020

P=Presider **R=Responses**

BELLS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please prepare your heart and mind for worship)

PRE-WORSHIP MUSIC

“My Shepherd Will Supply My Need”

Music: Southern Harmony, 1835; Lyrics: Isaac Watts, based on Psalm 23

“Morning Has Broken” Music: Traditional Gaelic; Lyrics: Eleanor Farjeon

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

R 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,

R 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 *“My Hope Is Built...”* **HYMN NO. 597**

**My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
no merit of my own I claim,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.**

Refrain:

***On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand.***

**When darkness veils his lovely face,
I rest on his unchanging grace;
in ev'ry high and stormy gale
my anchor holds within the veil. *Refrain***

**His oath, his covenant, his blood
sustain me in the raging flood;
when all supports are washed away,
he then is all my hope and stay. *Refrain***

**When he shall come with trumpet sound,
oh, may I then in him be found,
clothed in his righteousness alone,
redeemed to stand before the throne! *Refrain***

Text: Edward Mote, 1797-1874, alt.

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 today and always.

R Thanks be to God.

“We Have Heard the Joyful Sound”

by William J. Kirkpatrick & Priscilla Owens

R **hear our prayer.**

P Turn nations and leaders towards paths of peace and cooperation, teaching us to recognize one another as neighbors. Guide legislators, police, judges, and civil servants toward laws that protect the well-being of all. Lord, in your mercy,

R **hear our prayer.**

P Tend to all in need of your compassion. Hear the cries of those awaiting justice and those yearning for forgiveness. Give community to the lonely and neighbors to the outcast. Shelter all who are vulnerable in body, mind, or spirit especially those who we name in our hearts. Lord, in your mercy,

R **hear our prayer.**

P Sustain us in our work, O God, and give work to those who need it. Shape societies to ensure fair treatment for all who labor. Help us to love our neighbors in and through our work. Lord, in your mercy,

R **hear our prayer.**

P All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through 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 *"What Wondrous Love Is This"* **HYMN NO. 666**

**What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this
that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse
for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul?**

**When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down
beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside his crown
for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.**

**To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb,
who is the great I AM,
while millions join the theme,
I will sing, I will sing,
while millions join the theme, I will sing.**

**And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free,
I'll sing God's love for me,
and through eternity
I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
and through eternity I'll sing on.**

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., 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. O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, 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.*

"He Hideth My Soul" by William J. Kirkpatrick & Fanny J. Crosby

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Called together as one in the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

P Unite your church, O God. Grant us the gifts of repentance and reconciliation. Bless the cooperative work of churches in this community. Strengthen ecumenical partnerships; guide the work of the Lutheran World Federation and the World Council of Churches. Lord, in your mercy,

R hear our prayer.

P Protect your creation, O God. Teach us ways that do not harm what you have entrusted to our care. Renew places suffering from drought, flood, storms, or pollution. Lord, in your mercy,

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

SERMON "Blest be the Tie that Binds!" **Rev. Ron Windecker**

HYMN "Blest Be The Tie That Binds" **HYMN NO. 656**

**Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love;
the unity of heart and mind
is like to that above.**

**Before our Father's throne
we pour our ardent prayers;
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
our comforts and our cares.**

**We share our mutual woes,
our mutual burdens bear,
and often for each other flows
the sympathizing tear.**

**From sorrow, toil, and pain,
and sin we shall be free;
and perfect love and friendship reign
through all eternity.**

Text: John Fawcett, 1740-1817, 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.**

SPECIAL MUSIC "My Lord What a Morning"
African American Spiritual

Diane Mayer

WORD

FIRST READING **Ezekiel 33:7-11**

God appointed Ezekiel as a sentinel for the house of Israel. Ezekiel must faithfully convey God's warnings to the people. Remarkably, God—who is about to attack Jerusalem—gives a warning with the hope that repentance will make the attack unnecessary.

⁷ So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸ If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹ But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life. ¹⁰ Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" ¹¹ Say to them, As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel? (NRSV)

A The Word of the Lord.

R **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING **Romans 13:8-14**

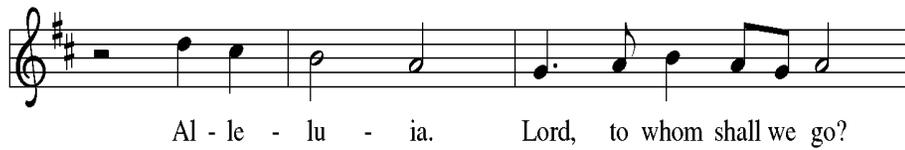
The obligation of Christians is to love one another and so fulfill the heart and goal of the law. Clothes make the person as we "put on the Lord Jesus Christ" and live today in light of the future God has in store for us.

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. ¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires. (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 18th Chapter.
R **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL Matthew 18:15-20

Jesus offers practical advice to his disciples on how individuals—and the church as a whole—should go about restoring relationships when one member has sinned against another.

¹⁵“If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.” (NRSV)



PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

In our Hearts and Prayers: our homebound and shut-ins, all other nursing home residents, Gwen Arhelger (daughter of Edgar & Margaret Priess), Myrtle Becker, The Family of Melvin "Buddy" Grobe (father of Karen Beyer), Claribel Hannemann, Peggy Janssen, Leola Landis, The Family of Evelyn Wells, Margaret Wilke, our Fredericksburg community, our government, our nation, and the military.

The Special Concerns for September are the Needs Council and Food Pantry. The Mission Committee and Council appreciate your generosity in support of these vital community services.

During the Offering, we lift up the Youth Committee and ask that you keep them in your prayers. God bless them with inspiration and creativity as we learn how to be the church in new ways.

LWR Appeal Shipping containers carrying 47,000 quilts and kits were recently destroyed during the explosion in Beirut, Lebanon. 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.)**

Our Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Evelyn Wells, who passed away on August 28, 2020. May God bring comfort and peace to those who mourn. The family will have a Celebration of Life held in Minnesota. Memorials may be given to Zion Lutheran Church or the Grace Center.

Thank you for your General Fund Contributions of \$2,015, your Building Fund Contributions of \$100 and your LWR Beirut Appeal Contributions of \$150 given this past week.

We had 42 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.

Oct-Dec Portals are available in the box on the front porch of the church office.

**ZION HAS A NEW REDISIGNED WEBSITE.
SAME WEB ADDRESS: WWW.ZION-LUTHERAN.COM**



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Fredericksburg, Texas

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14th Sunday after Pentecost – Sept. 6, 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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