

Zion Lutheran Church

Fredericksburg, Texas

24th Sunday after Pentecost Nov. 15, 2020

P=Presider R=Responses

BELLS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please prepare your heart and mind for worship)

PRE-WORSHIP MUSIC

"Praise Him, All Ye Little Children" ~Music: Carey Bonner; Lyrics: Anonymous

"All Creatures of Our God and King" ~Music: *Geistliche Kirchengesäng*, 1623; Lyrics: St. Francis of Assisi

(Please stand, kneel or remain seated)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

R Amen

P Let us confess our sins with confidence in God's promise of forgiveness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Mighty and loving God,

R we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We seek our own way. We divide the body of Christ. In your mercy, cleanse us and heal us. Let the words of our mouths, the thoughts of our hearts, and everything that we do be filled with faith, hope, and love. Amen

P Hear the voice of Jesus: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me to proclaim release to the captives." 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 *"Lead On, O King Eternal!"*

HYMN NO. 805

Lead on, O King eternal! The day of march has come; henceforth in fields of conquest your tents will be our home. Through days of preparation your grace has made us strong; and now, O King eternal, we lift our battle song.

Lead on, O King eternal, till sin's fierce war shall cease, and holiness shall whisper the sweet amen of peace; for not with swords loud clashing, nor roll of stirring drums, but deeds of love and mercy the heav'nly kingdom comes.

Lead on, O King eternal: we follow, not with fears, for gladness breaks like morning where'er your face appears. Your cross is lifted o'er us; we journey in its light; the crown awaits the conquest; lead on, O God of might!

Text: Ernest W. Shurtleff, 1862-1917

DISMISSAL

L You are the body of Christ raised up for the world. Go in peace. Share the joy.

R We worship, love and serve. Thanks be to God.

(Please remain seated until dismissed by an usher)

"I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

~Music: *Gesangbuch der Herzogl*, 1784; Lyrics: Isaac Watts

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?

SILENT PRAYER

(Please stand as you are able)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Hear us, O God.

R **Your mercy is great.**

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

(Please stand as you are able)

HYMN "How Firm a Foundation" (vs.1,2,4)

HYMN NO. 796

**How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in Christ Jesus, the Word!
What more can he say than to you he has said
who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?**

**"Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dismayed,
for I am your God and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen you, help you,
and cause you to stand,
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand."**

**"Throughout all their lifetime
my people shall prove
my sov'reign, eternal, unchangeable love;
and then, when gray hairs
shall their temples adorn,**

like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne."

Text: J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, 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.**

(Please remain standing as you are able)

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 *(Spoken)* "Glory to... **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. Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

R Amen

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

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

R And also with you.

RESPONSE

(Please be seated)

OFFERING

How to make a financial offering:

- Place your gift in the offering plate in the back of the sanctuary as you exit
- Mail your offering envelope to the church office
- Check out Zion's website for online donation option via [Tithe.ly](https://tithely.com)
OR you can go directly to this link <https://tithely.com/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.*

"All Things Bright and Beautiful"

~Music: Traditional English Melody; Lyrics: Cecil F. Alexander

and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' ²⁶ But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter?' ²⁷ Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸ So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹ For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ³⁰ As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' (NRSV)

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

(Please be seated)

SERMON "Different Kinds of Service" **Rev. Ron Windecker**

(Please stand as you are able)

HYMN "O Jesus, I Have..." (vs.1,3,4) **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 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.

(Please be seated)

SPECIAL MUSIC

Ray Salinas

WORD

FIRST READING **Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18**

Zephaniah presents the day of the LORD as one of judgment and wrath. Descriptions of the last day in the New Testament include details taken from Old Testament accounts of the day of the LORD.

⁷ Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is at hand; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests.

¹² At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, "The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm."

¹³ Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste.

Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them. ¹⁴ The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there.

¹⁵ That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness,

¹⁶ a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. ¹⁷ I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind;

because they have sinned against the LORD, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. ¹⁸ Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed;

for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth. (NRSV)

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L The Word of the Lord.

R **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM *(Spoken responsively by verse)* **Psalm 90:1-8, 12**

L ¹ Lord, you have been our dwelling place

in all generations.

R ² **Before the mountains were brought forth,**

or ever you had formed the earth and the

world, from everlasting to everlasting you are

God.

L ³You turn us back to dust,
and say, "Turn back, you mortals."

**R ⁴For a thousand years in your sight
are like yesterday when it is past,
or like a watch in the night.**

L ⁵You sweep them away; they are like a dream,
like grass that is renewed in the morning;

**R ⁶in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;
in the evening it fades and withers.**

L ⁷For we are consumed by your anger;
by your wrath we are overwhelmed.

**R ⁸You have set our iniquities before you,
our secret sins in the light of your
countenance.**

L ¹²So teach us to count our days
that we may gain a wise heart. (NRSV)

SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Though we do not know and cannot calculate the day of Christ's return, we live faithfully in the here and now as we anticipate the day when we will be given eternal salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! ⁴But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; ⁵for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. ⁶So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; ⁷for those who sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing. (NRSV)

L The Word of the Lord.

R Thanks be to God.

(Please stand as you are able & join the Lector in speaking the Gospel Acclamation)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Spoken*) **HYMNAL p. 151**

L Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

P The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th Chapter.

R Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus tells a parable about his second coming, indicating that it is not sufficient merely to maintain things as they are. Those who await his return should make good use of the gifts that God has provided them.

¹⁴"For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' ²¹His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' ²²And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' ²³His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' ²⁴Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵so I was afraid,

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

In our Hearts and Prayers: our homebound and shut-ins, all other nursing home residents, Myrtle Becker, Claribel Hannemann, Margaret Wilke, our Fredericksburg community, our government, our nation, and the military.

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God John and Alma Sobey in honor of their shared anniversary with Alma's sister, Margaret Deike and husband Victor on November 14.

The Special Concern for November is The Grace Center. The Grace Center of Fredericksburg is currently in the middle of a capital campaign. Their goal is to raise the funds necessary to build a shelter where those who have been impacted by domestic violence can seek shelter from their abuser. Currently, the closest shelters are in Boerne and Kerrville. To help, you can make your checks out to Zion with "Grace Center" in the memo line.

TODAY is the WELCA Thankoffering. You may use the blue envelope enclosed to help support the women's ministries. You may place your Thankoffering into the offering plate.

THE SANCTUARY IS NOW OPEN FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP ON SUNDAY'S. Zion's current Covid guidelines are still in place.

To worship in the Sanctuary, you must register ahead of time by calling the church office (830-997-2195).

To attend worship on November 22, please register by Wednesday, November 18 before 3:00pm.

The bulletin will no longer be mailed to you. If you wish to continue to receive a paper copy, please call the church office. Everyone will continue to receive a PDF copy via email, and a few paper copies will be in the box on the front porch of the office.

NOTE:

- There will not be a Thanksgiving Eve service.
- There will not be Wednesday Advent services.
- **CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE will be held at 5:00PM** (please rsvp). It will be radio broadcast and live on YouTube at 5pm.
- **2ND CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE will be held at 7:00PM** (please rsvp). It will not be radio broadcast.

Thank you for your General Fund Contributions of \$1,355, and your Grace Center Contributions of \$50 given this past week.

If you leave the Sanctuary and discover that you were positive for COVID-19 when you attended worship, please call the church office *immediately* (830-997-2195).



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Fredericksburg, Texas

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24th Sunday after Pentecost – November 15, 2020

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

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

(go to www.zion-lutheran.com/youtube)

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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