

# Zion Lutheran Church

Fredericksburg, Texas

**Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**

**July 23, 2023**

P=Presider **R=Responses**

**BELLS, WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** *(Please register your attendance in the books at the end of the row where you are seated, and fill out a prayer request card and place it in the offering basket as you desire.)*

P Let us pray.

**R Gracious and loving God, we are grateful for the faithful shepherds you have sent to Zion over the many years in this place. Thank you for the good done in your name. We now wait in expectation for a new pastor. Wherever they may be, tend their heart. Give them courage to preach your Word and knowledge of your vision for the future. Inspire them to live faithfully and honorably. Guard their family as they make the transition to our congregation. Bless the congregation that is left behind with a sense of your comfort and leading. Good and faithful God, prepare us for our new pastor. Set our hearts aright, encourage our faith, heal our divisions. Help us release what has gone before and, with open and eager hearts, embrace what is coming. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen**

*(Please prepare your heart and mind for worship)*

## PRE-WORSHIP MUSIC

*"Rejoice in the Lord Always"* ~Music: Unknown; Lyrics: Based on Philippians 4:4; Arr. Dino Kartsonakis

*(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**

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P Merciful God,

**R we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

*"The Haven of Rest"* by George D. Moore & H.L. Gilmour

*(Please stand as you are able)*

## BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**R Amen**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Life-giving God, through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus.

**R Amen**

## BENEDICTION

P Wherever you go, may God go with you: may he go before you to show you the way...behind you to encourage you...beside you to befriend you...above you to watch over...and within you to give you peace. In the name of our Creator, Redeemer, and Friend.

**R Amen**

## SENDING HYMN *"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"* **HYMN NO. 807**

**Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,  
tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.  
While the hope of endless glory fills my heart with joy and love,  
teach me ever to adore thee; may I still thy goodness prove.**

**Here I raise my Ebenezer: "Hither by thy help I've come";  
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.**

**Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be;  
let that grace now like a fetter bind my wand'ring heart to thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.  
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.**

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735-1790, alt.

## DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Share the harvest.

**R Thanks be to God.**

*"Majesty"* by Jack Hayford

**COMMUNION SONG**      *"Lamb of God (Your Only Son)"*      **HYMN NO. 336**



1 Your on - ly Son,      no sin to hide,      but you have  
 2 Your gift of love      we cru - ci - fied.      We laughed and  
 3 I was so lost,      I should have died,      but you have



sent him from your side      to walk up - on      this guilt - y  
 scorned him as he died.      The hum - ble king      we named a  
 brought me to your side      to be led by      your staff and



sod and to be - come the Lamb of God.      O Lamb of  
 fraud and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God.      O Lamb of  
 rod and to be called a lamb of God.



God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God. Oh, wash me



in your pre-cious blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

"Lamb of God" Words and Music by Twila Paris ©1985 Mountain Spring Music and Straight Way Music, both administered by EMI Christian Music Publishing CCLI License #11089474

**HYMN**      *"All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly" (vs.1&3)*      **HYMN NO. 461**

**All who hunger gather gladly; holy manna is our bread.  
 Come from wilderness and wand'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.  
 You that yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food.  
 Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.**

**All who hunger, sing together, Jesus Christ is living bread.  
 Come from loneliness and longing. Here in peace we have been fed.  
 Blest are those who from this table live their days in gratitude.  
 Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.**

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993; Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638

**P** Righteous God,  
**R** **we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest.  
 We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and  
 grant us your mercy.**

**P** God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy. 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**

*(Please stand as you are able)*

**GATHERING HYMN**      *"There's a Wideness..." (vs.1,2,4)*      **HYMN NO. 588**  
to the tune of NO. 712

**There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea;  
 there's a kindness in God's justice which is more than liberty.**

**There is no place where earth's sorrows  
 are more felt than up in heav'n.**

**There is no place where earth's failings  
 have such kindly judgment giv'n.**

**There is welcome for the sinner, and a promised grace made good;  
 there is mercy with the Savior; there is healing in his blood.**

**There is grace enough for thousands  
 of new worlds as great as this;**

**there is room for fresh creations in that upper home of bliss.**

**'Tis not all we owe to Jesus; it is something more than all:  
 greater good because of evil, larger mercy through the fall.**

**Make our love, O God, more faithful; let us take you at your word,  
 and our lives will be thanksgiving for the goodness of the Lord.**

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814-1863, 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.**

**Psalm 86:11-17** *(read responsively)*

A Teach me your way, O LORD, that I may walk in your truth;  
give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

**R I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,  
and I will glorify your name forever.**

A For great is your steadfast love toward me;  
you have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.

**R O God, the insolent rise up against me;  
a band of ruffians seeks my life,  
and they do not set you before them.**

A But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

**R Turn to me and be gracious to me;  
give your strength to your servant;  
save the child of your maidservant.**

A Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be  
put to shame, because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

**HYMN OF PRAISE**

*“Listen! You Nations”*

***Refrain:***

***Listen! you nations of the world: listen to the Word of the Lord.  
Announce it from coast to coast; declare it to distant islands.***

**The Lord who scattered Israel will gather his people again;  
and he will keep watch over them as a shepherd watches his flock.**

***Refrain***

**With shouts of joy they will come, their faces radiantly happy,  
for the Lord is so gen’rous to them;  
he showers his people with gifts. *Refrain***

**Young women will dance for joy,  
and men young and old will make merry.  
Like a garden refreshed by the rain,  
they will never be in want again.**

**Break into shouts of great joy: Jacob is free again!**

**Teach nations to sing the song: “The Lord has saved his people!”**

Text: John W. Arthur, b. 1922; Text © 1972 *Contemporary Worship 5: Services of the Word*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

P 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.

**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**

P When we eat this bread, we share in the body of Christ. When we drink this cup, we share in the blood of Christ. These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Welcome to the table of the Lord.

**HOLY COMMUNION**

*(Please be seated)*

**DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

*All are welcome to share the body and blood of Jesus that are present in the bread and wine of communion. If you do not wish to participate, you may still come forward for a blessing. As you come forward, please have your hands open to receive a wafer (the body of Christ). If you desire a gluten free wafer and/or white grape juice, please hold up two fingers to the server.*

## PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**R And also with you.**

## RESPONSE

*(Please be seated)*

### OFFERING

*(Please stand as you are able)*

### OFFERING SONG

*“A Fragrant Offering”*

*“Once For All”* by Philip P. Bliss

A fra-grant of - fer-ing, a lov-ing sac- ri- fice, the life of  
Je-sus Christ, for us, your child-ren, giv-en. And eve-ry bless-ing  
which you have giv-en us, we share with oth-ers as our of-fer-ing to  
you. With thank-ful hearts may it be fra-grant, God, to you.

Text and music from One Body, Alive! written by Jay Beech, ©1994 Augsburg Fortress. One License #A-721458

*(Please remain standing as you are able)*

### DIALOGUE *(Spoken)*

P The Lord be with you.

**R And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

**R We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**R It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

*(Sung)*

**HYMN NO. 191** (Holy, Holy...)

**R Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might; Heaven and earth are filled with your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who comes in your name. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest!**

Text and Music: Marty Haugen, 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

Page 7

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

**R And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**R Amen**

*(Please be seated)*

### SPECIAL MUSIC

*“Be Thou My Vision”* ~Irish Traditional Tune

**Robert Menking & Rhonda Behrends**

**Debbie Sultemeier, flutist & Sheri Robinson, pianist**

### FIRST READING

**Isaiah 44:6-8**

<sup>6</sup> Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: I am the first, and I am the last; besides me there is no god. <sup>7</sup> Who is like me? Let them proclaim it; let them declare and set it forth before me. Who has announced from of old the things to come? Let them tell us what is yet to be. <sup>8</sup> Do not fear or be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? You are my witnesses! Is there any god besides me? There is no other rock; I know not one.

L The Word of the Lord.

**R Thanks be to God.**

### SECOND READING

**Romans 8:12-25**

<sup>12</sup> So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— <sup>13</sup> for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. <sup>14</sup> For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. <sup>15</sup> For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” <sup>16</sup> it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup> and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. <sup>18</sup> I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. <sup>19</sup> For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, <sup>20</sup> for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup> that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. <sup>22</sup> We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, <sup>23</sup> and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

Page 4

<sup>24</sup> For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? <sup>25</sup> But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

L The word of the Lord. **R Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand as you are able)*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *“Lord, Listen To Your Children...”* **HYMN NO. 752**

**Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying,  
send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.**

Text: Ken Medema, b. 1943; Text © 1973 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.

P The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the 13<sup>th</sup> Chapter.

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

**GOSPEL** **Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43**

<sup>24</sup> He put before them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field, <sup>25</sup> but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. <sup>26</sup> So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. <sup>27</sup> And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ <sup>28</sup> He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ <sup>29</sup> But he replied, ‘No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. <sup>30</sup> Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’ ” <sup>36</sup> Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” <sup>37</sup> He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; <sup>38</sup> the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, <sup>39</sup> and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. <sup>40</sup> Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. <sup>41</sup> The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, <sup>42</sup> and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. <sup>43</sup> Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

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

*(Please be seated)*

**SERMON**

**Rev. Kay Johnson**

*(Please stand as you are able)*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *“Come, Ye Thankful...”* (vs.1,2,4) **HYMN NO. 693**

**Come, ye thankful people, come; raise the song of harvest home.  
All be safely gathered in ere the winter storms begin.  
God, our maker, doth provide for our wants to be supplied.  
Come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.**

**All the world is God's own field, fruit unto his praise to yield;  
wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown.  
First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear.  
Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.**

**Even so, Lord, quickly come to thy final harvest home.  
Gather then thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin,  
there, forever purified, in thy garner to abide.  
Come, with all thine angels, come,  
raise the glorious harvest home!**

Text: Henry Alford, 1810-1871, alt.

**THE APOSTLES' CREED**

A 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**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.**

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**In our Hearts and Prayers:** Kathy Haley, The Family of Dianne (Koennecke) Meier, our homebound and shut-ins, our Fredericksburg community, our nation, and the military.

**The Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God by Diane Mayer in remembrance of her and Jim's wedding 51 years ago.

**The July Special Concern** is the Grace Center of Fredericksburg. The goal for The Grace Center of Fredericksburg 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.

**You are invited to a Hamburger Supper on Thursday, August 3 at 5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall.** The VBS Campers will perform their closing ceremony. Please sign up to attend on the sheet in the Atrium.

**Sunday School Rally Day will be Sunday, August 20 at 10:15am!**

**Thank you** for your contributions of \$3,520 given last week. **Attendance** – 50

**ASSISTANT & LECTOR** – Sandy Schmitzinsky

**USHERS** – Dwayne, Karen & Emily Beyer, Roger Dittmar, Doris Schneider

### MINISTRIES FOR THE WEEK

MON – July 24      **5:30pm Line Dancing – Fell Hall**

WED – July 26      **9:00am Laborers of Love – Arhelger House**

SUN – July 30      **9:00am Worship with Communion**  
*(Live on YouTube at 9am & Radio Broadcast at 10:30am)*  
10:15am Adult SS – Sewing Rm  
NO Youth SS *(Rally Day is August 20!)*



## ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

Fredericksburg, Texas

426 W. Main – PO Box 1571 – Fredericksburg, TX 78624

(830) 997-2195 – [www.zion-lutheran.com](http://www.zion-lutheran.com) – email: [zionfbg@gmail.com](mailto:zionfbg@gmail.com)

*Go Like Our Facebook Page @* <https://www.facebook.com/ZLCFbgTX/>

*Follow Zion on Instagram @* <https://www.instagram.com/zlcfbgtx/>

*Follow Zion on Twitter @* <https://twitter.com/ZLCFbgTX>

## **Eighth Sunday after Pentecost – July 23, 2023**

**Video on Zion's YouTube Channel at 9:00AM**

*(go to [www.zion-lutheran.com/youtube](http://www.zion-lutheran.com/youtube))*

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

**Podcast available [www.zion-lutheran.com](http://www.zion-lutheran.com) under sermons tab**

Transitional Pastor – Rev. Kay Johnson

Pianist – Sheri Robinson

Choir Director – Rhonda Behrends

Acknowledgments: New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #42721 Text © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. [www.giamusic.com](http://www.giamusic.com). 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission. OneLicense.net A-721458 THE HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION®, NIV® Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. Scripture quotations marked (CEV) are from the Contemporary English Version Copyright © 1991, 1992, 1995 by American Bible Society, Used by Permission.