

Zion Lutheran Church

Fredericksburg, Texas

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

July 30, 2023

"I'll Tell the World That I'm a Christian" by Baynard L. Fox

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

"I'll Fly Away" by Albert E. Brumley & *"I Saw the Light"* by Hank Williams

(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.

(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 *"Jesus, the Very Thought..."* (vs.1,3,4) **HYMN NO. 754**

**Jesus, the very thought of you fills us with sweet delight;
but sweeter far your face to view and rest within your light.**

**O Hope of ev'ry contrite soul, O joy of all the meek,
how kind you are to those who fall!
How good to those who seek!**

**O Jesus, be our joy today; help us to prize your love;
grant us at last to hear you say:
"Come, share my home above."**

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091-1153; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814-1878

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Share the harvest.

R Thanks be to God.

"Heavenly Sunlight" by George Harrison Cook & H.J. Zelle

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.
 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 "As the Grains of Wheat" **HYMN NO. 465**

**Refrain: As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill
 were gathered into one to become our bread;
 so may all your people from all the ends of earth
 be gathered into one in you.**

**As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,
 may we share the presence of your love. Refrain**

**Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come
 when all creation shares this feast with you. Refrain**

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950; Text © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL

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 "God of Grace and God..." (vs.1,2,4) **HYMN NO. 705**

**God of grace and God of glory, on your people pour your pow'r;
 crown your ancient church's story; bring its bud to glorious flow'r.**

**Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
 for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.**

Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn the Christ, assail his ways!

**From the fears that long have bound us
 free our hearts to faith and praise.**

**Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
 for the living of these days, for the living of these days.**

**Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;
 let the gift of your salvation be our glory evermore.**

**Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
 serving you whom we adore, serving you whom we adore.**

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878-1969

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 (Congregation sings the refrain)

HYMNAL p. 184

C *Refrain*



Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.
Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-'ry day.

A For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all;
for this holy house, for all who worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Refrain

A That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor;
that we may live out...truth and justice and grace,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Refrain

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!"

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)

“Pass It On” by Kurt Kaiser

OFFERING SONG

“A Fragrant Offering”

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

R And also with you.

P Let us pray. Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

R Amen

(Please be seated)

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Here I Am, Lord” by Daniel Schutte, arr by Michael Pope

Janalee Hannemann, Paul Hannemann & Rhonda Behrends

FIRST READING

1 Kings 3:5-12

⁵At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, “Ask what I should give you.” ⁶And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you, and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. ⁷And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil, for who can govern this great people of yours?” ¹⁰It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹God said to him, “Because you have asked this and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or for the life of your enemies but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹²I now do according to your word. Indeed, I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you, and no one like you shall arise after you.

L The Word of the Lord.

R Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Romans 8:26-39

²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. ²⁸We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹ What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³² He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all of us, how will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³ Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. ³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? ³⁶ As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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 13th Chapter.

R Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL **Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52**

³¹ He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³² it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." ³³ He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened." ⁴⁴ "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. ⁴⁵ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶ on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. ⁴⁷ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸ when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁵¹ "Have you understood all this?"

They answered, "Yes." ⁵² And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

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 "Healer of Our Every Ill" (vs.1,3,4) **HYMN NO. 612**

***Refrain:* Healer of our ev'ry ill, light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear, and hope beyond our sorrow.**

**You who know our fears and sadness,
grace us with your peace and gladness;
Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts. *Refrain***

**Give us strength to love each other, ev'ry sister, ev'ry brother;
Spirit of all kindness, be our guide. *Refrain***

**You who know each thought and feeling,
teach us all your way of healing;
Spirit of compassion, fill each heart. *Refrain***

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950; Text © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.

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, our homebound and shut-ins, our Fredericksburg community, our nation, and the military.

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by Glenn and Gina Koennecke in honor of Ruby Koennecke, and in memory of Martin Koennecke, Clarence and Anne Mae Klein.

The July Special Concern is the Grace Center of Fredericksburg.

NOTE: There won't be any Line Dancing this Monday. The Men's Breakfast will not meet this Wednesday. The WELCA will not have their Bible Study this Wednesday.

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!
R.O.P.E. (Rely On Prayer Everyday)

Thank you for your contributions of \$1,931 given last week. **Attendance – 55**

ASSISTANT & LECTOR – Robert Menking

USHERS – Glenn & Gina Koennecke, Yvonne Klaerner
Marlin & Laurie Hartmann, Margie Eckhardt, Alma Sobey

MINISTRIES FOR THE WEEK

MON – July 31	8-3:30pm	VBS Day Camp NO Line Dancing
TUES – Aug 1	8-3:30pm	VBS Day Camp
WED – Aug 2	8-3:30pm	VBS Day Camp NO Men's Breakfast NO WELCA Bible Study NO Property Mtg
THURS – Aug 3	8-3:30pm 5:30pm	VBS Day Camp Hamburger Supper – Fell Hall (VBS Program)
FRI – Aug 4	8-3:30pm	VBS Day Camp
SUN – Aug 5	9:00am 10:10am 10:15am	Worship with Communion (Live on YouTube at 9am & Radio Broadcast at 10:30am) Men's Choir Practice – Choir Rm Adult SS – Sewing Rm NO Youth SS (Rally Day is August 20!)



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Fredericksburg, Texas

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Ninth Sunday after Pentecost – July 30, 2023

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

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

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

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

Transitional Pastor – Rev. Kay Johnson

Pianist – Sheri Robinson

Choir Director – Rhonda Behrends

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