

Zion Lutheran Church

Fredericksburg, Texas

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 3, 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

"How Great Thou Art" by Stuart K. Hine; Arr. Sheri Robinson

(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 Steadfast and faithful God,

R you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering.

"Speak to My Heart" by B.B. McKinney

(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

"Just As I Am" (vs.1,3,4)

HYMN NO. 592

**Just as I am, without one plea,
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

**Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come,**

**Just as I am; thy love unknown
has broken ev'ry barrier down;
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789-1871

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. God is at work in you.

R Thanks be to God.

"I Have Come from the Darkness" by Marian Wood Chaplin

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.
 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, License #11089474

HYMN "I Love to Tell the Story" (vs.1&2) **HYMN NO. 661**

**I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
 of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.**

**I love to tell the story, because I know it's true;
 it satisfies my longings as nothing else would do.**

**Refrain: I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory
 to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.**

**I love to tell the story: how pleasant to repeat
 what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet!**

**I love to tell the story, for some have never heard
 the message of salvation from God's own holy word. Refrain**

Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834-1911

R We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen

P Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In † Christ, you are already and always forgiven. 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 "Lord, You Give the Great..." (vs.1,2,5) HYMN NO. 579

**Lord, you give the great commission:
 "Heal the sick and preach the word."**

**Lest the church neglect its mission, and the gospel go unheard,
 help us witness to your purpose with renewed integrity:**

Refrain:

With the Spirit's gifts empow'r us for the work of ministry.

Lord, you call us to your service: "In my name baptize and teach."

That the world may trust your promise,

life abundant meant for each,

give us all new fervor, draw us closer in community: Refrain

Lord, you bless with words assuring: "I am with you to the end."

**Faith and hope and love restoring, may we serve as you intend
 and, amid the cares that claim us, hold in mind eternity: Refrain**

Text: Jeffery Rowthorn, b. 1934; Text © 1978 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.

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 26:1-8 *(read responsively)*

A Vindicate me, O LORD,
for I have walked in my integrity,
and I have trusted in the LORD without wavering.

R Prove me, O LORD, and try me; test my heart and mind.

A For your steadfast love is before my eyes,
and I walk in faithfulness to you.

**R I do not sit with the worthless,
nor do I consort with hypocrites;**

A I hate the company of evildoers and will not sit with the wicked.

**R I wash my hands in innocence
and go around your altar, O LORD,**

A singing aloud a song of thanksgiving
and telling all your wondrous deeds.

**R O LORD, I love the house in which you dwell
and the place where your glory abides.**

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)

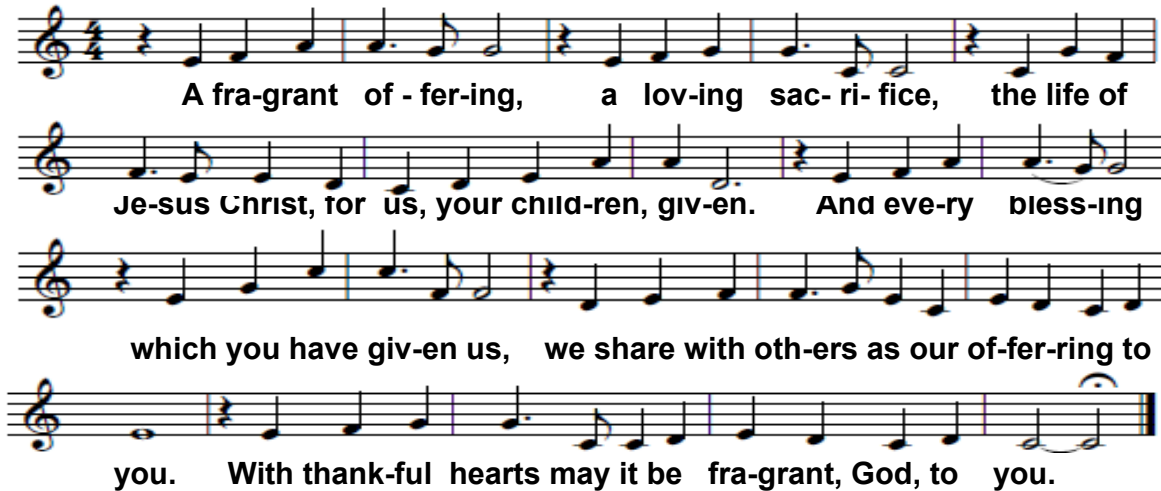
OFFERING

“Without Him” by Mylon R. LeFevre

(Please stand as you are able)

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.

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

R And also with you.

P Let us pray. O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

R Amen

(Please be seated)

SPECIAL MUSIC

“He Will Carry You” by Scott Wesley Brown **Judy McGookey**

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 15:15-21

¹⁵ O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult. ¹⁶ Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts. ¹⁷ I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. ¹⁸ Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail. ¹⁹ Therefore thus says the LORD: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. ²⁰ And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the LORD. ²¹ I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

L The Word of the Lord.

R Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Romans 12:9-21

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers. ¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep.

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¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰ Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

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 16th Chapter.

R Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL **Matthew 16:21-28**

²¹ From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." ²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? ²⁷ "For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

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 "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" (vs.1,3,4) **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.**

**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

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

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

In our Hearts and Prayers: Mervel Dittmar, The Family of Kathy Haley, The Family of Danny Kneese (father of Kris Kneese), Margie Smothers (mother-in-law of Lillian Smothers), our homebound and shut-ins, our Fredericksburg community, our nation, and the military.

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by Charles Schroeder in remembrance of the passing of Dorothy and Fred Schroeder.

The September Special Concern is Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief. Multiple wildfires have broken out on the Hawaiian island of Maui. Exacerbated by strong winds, these fires have destroyed homes, businesses and lines of communication. Thousands of people are under evacuation orders, some moving to other Hawaiian islands. Wildfires are also burning on the Big Island of Hawaii.

The 2nd Sunday Fellowship Lunch will be next Sunday, September 10 at 11:30am. Cost is \$13 per plate. Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, green beans and dessert will be served. **You must RSVP by 9/7 to the church office.**

The Youth and the Women of the Church are going to collect school supplies now through September 30. Please leave your supplies in the bus in the Atrium. **See supply list attached to the bus in the Atrium.** Items collected will be divided between the local community and Lutheran World Relief.

Thank you for your contributions of \$1,992 given last week. **Attendance – 52**

ASSISTANT & LECTOR – Sandy Schmitzinsky

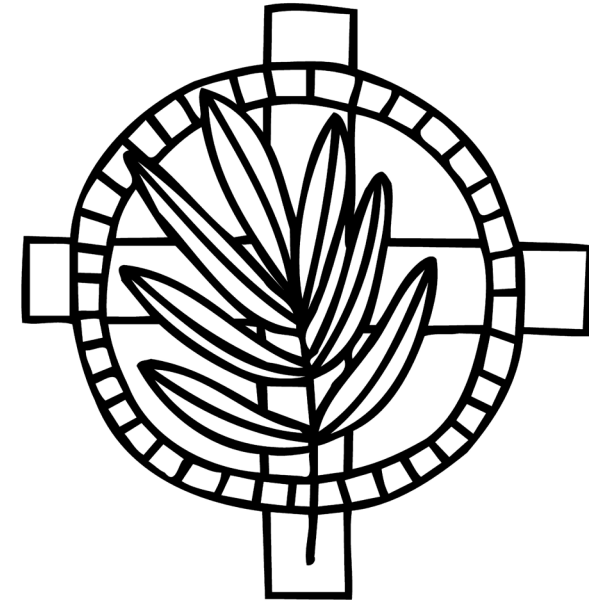
USHERS – Wilfred Crenwelge, Arleen Crenwelge, Darlene Hartmann
Ron & Aleks Gant, Arthur Haun, Audrey Mayer

MINISTRIES FOR THE WEEK

MON – Sept 4 NO Line Dancing
Office Closed for Labor Day

WED – Sept 6 8:00am Men's Breakfast – Sewing Rm
9:00am WELCA Bible Study – Conf Rm
6:00pm Parish Ed Mtg – Library
6:30pm Property Mtg – Sewing Rm

SUN – Sept 10 9:00am **Worship with Communion**
(Live on YouTube at 9am & Radio Broadcast at 10:30am)
10:15am Adult SS – Sewing Rm
10:15am Youth SS – Fell Hall
11:30am **2nd Sunday Fellowship Lunch – \$13 per plate**
RSVP to office by 9/7
(Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, green beans)



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Fredericksburg, Texas

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14th Sunday after Pentecost – September 3, 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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