

Zion Lutheran Church

Fredericksburg, Texas

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 10, 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

"You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore" by Cesáreo Gabaráin

(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.

"Jesus, Still Lead On" by Adam Drese & Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf

(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 "On Jordan's Stormy Bank I..." (vs.1,2,4) **HYMN NO. 437**

**On Jordan's stormy bank I stand, and cast a wishful eye
to Canaan's fair and happy land, where my possessions lie.**

***Refrain:* I am bound for the promised land,
I am bound for the promised land;
oh, who will come and go with me?
I am bound for the promised land.**

**All o'er those wide extended plains shines one eternal day;
there God the Son forever reigns and scatters night away. *Refrain***

**When shall I reach that happy place and be forever blest?
When shall I see my Savior's face and in God's bosom rest?**

Refrain

Text: Samuel Stennett, 1727-1795

DISMISSAL

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

R Thanks be to God.

"Whosoever Will" by Philip P. Bliss

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 "Abide with Me" (vs.1&4) **HYMN NO. 629**

**Abide with me, fast falls the eventide.
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
help of the helpless, oh, abide with me.**

**I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me!**

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793-1847

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 "Take My Life, That I..." (vs.1,3,5) **HYMN NO. 685**

**Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

**Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King;
take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee.**

**Take my will and make it thine, it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own, it shall be thy royal throne.**

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, 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 (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!"

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)

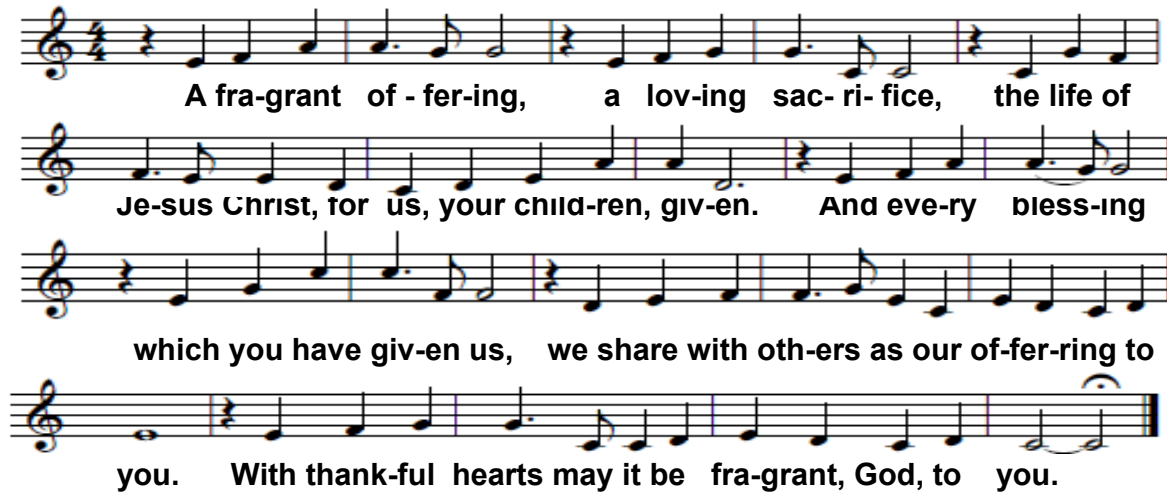
OFFERING

"To Be Your Presence" by Charles V. Stanford & Delores Dufner

(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 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

(Please be seated)

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Only a Boy Named David" by Arthur Amott

KOTK

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 33:7-11

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?

L The Word of the Lord.

R Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Romans 13:8-14

⁸ Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹ The 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, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. ¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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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 18th Chapter.

R Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL **Matthew 18:15-20**

¹⁵“If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, 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 that person 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.”

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 “*O Savior, Precious Savior*” (vs.1,3,4) **HYMN NO. 820**

**O Savior, precious Savior, whom yet unseen we love;
O name of might and favor, all other names above:
we worship thee; we bless thee; to thee alone we sing;
we praise thee and confess thee, our holy Lord and King.**

**In thee all fullness dwelleth, all grace and pow'r divine;
the glory that excelleth, O Son of God, is thine.
We worship thee; we bless thee; to thee alone we sing;
we praise thee and confess thee, our glorious Lord and King.**

**Oh, grant the consummation of this our song above,
in endless adoration and everlasting love;
then shall we praise and bless thee where perfect praises ring,
and evermore confess thee, our Savior and our King!**

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879

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, Margie Smothers (mother-in-law of Lillian Smothers), Calvary Pentecostal Church (the GCMA Church of the week), our homebound and shut-ins, our Fredericksburg community, our nation, and the military.

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 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 \$4,197 given last week. **Attendance** – 55

ASSISTANT & LECTOR – Greg Oehler & Diane Mayer

USHERS – Perry & Cris Strackbein, Sandy Schmitzinsky, Karen Snowden
Jim & Emma Jane O’Neal, Dan & Judy McGookey, Donna Oehler

MINISTRIES FOR THE WEEK

MON – Sept 11	5:30pm	Line Dancing – Fell Hall
TUES – Sept 12	5:30pm	Chancel Choir – Choir Rm
WED – Sept 13	9:00am	Laborers of Love – Arhelger House
	5:30pm	Cemetery Board Mtg – Conf Rm
	5:30pm	Evangelism Mtg - Library
	5:30pm	Finance Mtg – Sewing Rm
	6:00pm	Investment Mtg – Sewing Rm
FRI – Sept 15	5:00pm	Nonmember Wedding Rehearsal – Sanctuary
SAT – Sept 16	8-1:00pm	Vereins Quilt Guild Mtg – Fell Hall
	9-3:00pm	Fall Festival – Markt Platz
	5:00pm	Nonmember Wedding – Sanctuary
SUN – Sept 17	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



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Fredericksburg, Texas

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15th Sunday after Pentecost – September 10, 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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