

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

In our Hearts and Prayers: our homebound and in senior living, our Fredericksburg community, our nation, and the military.

Sign up TODAY before or after church for a directory picture time. See Sandy Schmitzinsky to sign up.

The September Special Concern is Kairos Prison Ministry.

Oct – Dec Portals of Prayer are available for pick up in the Narthex or Atrium.

You are invited to a Tour of the Wellness Center on Friday, Sept 25 at 11am. It's free of charge. They offer a full array of services to empower our members to live happier, healthier lives. If you RSVP, you will receive a boxed lunch free of charge. Please RSVP to the church office 830-997-2195 or text Christi at 830-285-3483 by Wednesday, Sept 23.

Adult Bible study resumes – Mondays at 6:30pm now through Oct. Ever feel like you need wisdom? Come explore the book of James to grow in God's wisdom. Pr. Jonathan will lead this study and reference a book by Max Lucado. Meet in the Conference Room or by Zoom.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW....New Pictorial Directory Photos will be taken on Monday, October 12. **(The sign-up process will be before & after church on Sept 20 & 27.)** There is no picture setting fee and all those who have their picture taken will receive a FREE 8x10. *(You do not have to be a member to have your picture taken....friends, family, neighbors are all invited to sign up.)*

Thank you for your contributions of \$3,661. **Attendance:** 61

ASSISTANT & LECTOR – Rhonda Behrends & Briana Reitenga

USHERS – Dwayne, Karen & Emily Beyer, Roger Dittmar

MINISTRIES FOR THE WEEK

TODAY – Sept 20 10:15am Adult SS – Adult SS Rm & Youth SS – Fell Hall

MON – Sept 21 6:30pm Bible Study – Conf Rm

TUES – Sept 22 5:30pm Choir Practice

WED – Sept 23 9:00am Laborers of Love – Arhelger House
4:15pm Confirmation – Elijah's Cave
6:00pm Council Mtg – Conf Rm

THURS – Sept 24 2:00pm Chickenfoot – FBG Nursing Home

FRI – Sept 25 11:00am Tour & Introduction – Wellness Center
5:30-8pm Kids' Night

SUN – Sept 27 9:00am Worship with Communion
10:15am Adult SS – Adult SS Rm & Youth SS – Fell Hall



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Fredericksburg, Texas

17th Sunday after Pentecost – September 20, 2026

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

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

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

Pastor – Rev. Jonathan Mollenkopf

Pianist – Sheri Robinson; Choir Director – Rhonda Behrends

426 W. Main – PO Box 1571 – Fredericksburg, TX 78624
(830) 997-2195 – www.zion-lutheran.com – email: zionfbg@gmail.com

Go Like Our Facebook Page @ <http://zion-lutheran.com/facebook>

Follow Zion on Instagram @ <http://zion-lutheran.com/instagram>

Follow Zion on X @ <http://zion-lutheran.com/x>

P=Presider **R=Responses** *Please stand, as you are able

GATHERING

BELLS

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *“Morning Has Broken”* ~Music: Traditional Gaelic; Lyrics: Eleanor Farjeon
“I Sing the Mighty Power of God” ~Music: Traditional English Melody; Lyrics: Isaac Watts

***GATHERING HYMN** *“All Creatures, Worship...”* (vs.1,2,3,6) **HYMN NO. 835**

All creatures, worship God most high!
Sound ev'ry voice in earth and sky: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Sing, brother sun, in splendor bright;
sing, sister moon and stars of night:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Sing, brother wind; with clouds and rain
you grow the gifts of fruit and grain: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Dear sister water, useful, clear,
make music for your Lord to hear:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Sing, brother fire, so mirthful, strong,
drive far the shadows, join the throng: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Dear mother earth, so rich in care,
praise God in colors bright and rare:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

O sisters, brothers, take your part,
and worship God with humble heart: Alleluia! Alleluia!
All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: Francis of Assisi, 1182-1226; tr. Composite; Text © 1997 Augsburg Fortress

SENDING

*BENEDICTION

P The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus.

R Amen.

P The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit.

R Amen.

P The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

R Amen.

***SENDING HYMN** *“Let All Things Now Living”* **HYMN NO. 881**

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
to God the creator triumphantly raise,
who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
who still guides us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us, God's light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,
as forward we travel from light into light.

God rules all the forces: the stars in their courses
and sun in its orbit obediently shine;
the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
the deeps of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing;
with glad adoration a song let us raise
till all things now living unite in thanksgiving:
"To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!"

Text: Katherine K. Davis, 1892-1980, alt.; Text © 1939, 1966 E.C. Schirmer Music Company

*DISMISSAL

A Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

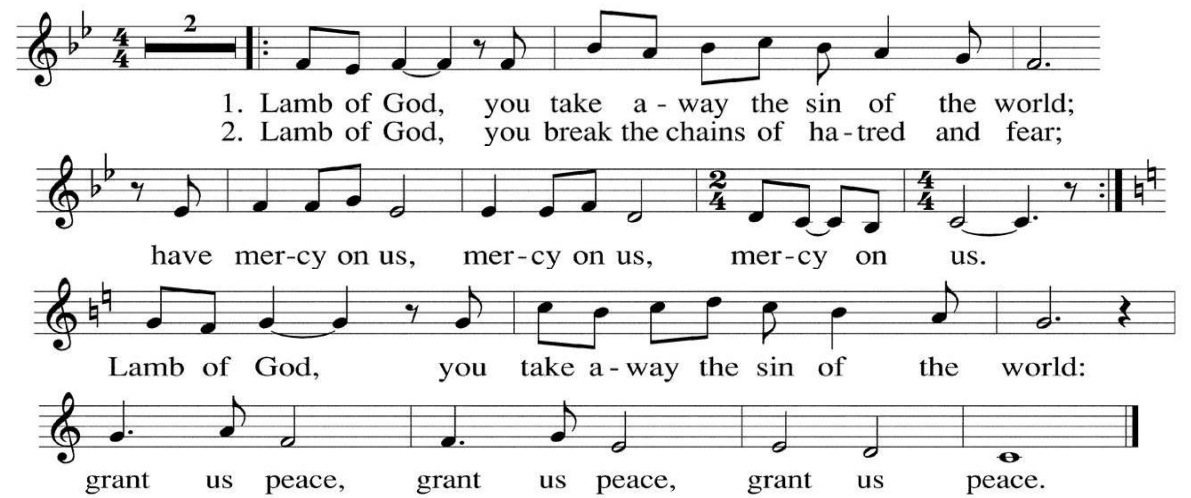
R Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”*

~Music: *Ernewerten Gesangbuch*, 1665; Lyrics: Joachim Neander

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COMMUNION HYMN *“Lamb of God”* Text: ICET; Additional text and music by Marty Haugen, ©1990

The musical notation is written on four staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 4/4 time signature. It features a repeat sign with a first ending bracket. The lyrics are: 1. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; 2. Lamb of God, you break the chains of ha - tred and fear; have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us. The second staff continues the melody with the lyrics: Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world: grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace. The third and fourth staves complete the phrase with the same lyrics.

HYMN *“Children of the Heavenly Father”* **HYMN NO. 781**

**Children of the heav'nly Father safely in his bosom gather;
nestling bird nor star in heaven such a refuge e'er was given.**

**God his own doth tend and nourish, in his holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things he spares them,
in his mighty arms he bears them.**

**Neither life nor death shall ever from the Lord his children sever;
unto them his grace he showeth, and their sorrows all he knoweth.**

**Though he giveth or he taketh, God his children ne'er forsaketh;
his the loving purpose solely to preserve them pure and holy.**

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870-1958
Text © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

“The Wonder of It All” by George Beverly Shea

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

A Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

R **Amen.**

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

R **Amen.**

P Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Compassionate God,

R **we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

P Hear this good news: We have peace with God through † Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

R **Amen.**

***KYRIE** *(from the Greek word “Lord” – Sung)* **HYMN NO. 157**

A In peace, in peace, let us pray to the...

R **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

A For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all, let us pray to the...

R **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

A For your people here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your word, let us pray to the...

R **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

A Help, save, and defend us, O God.

R **Amen**

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

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

HYMN NO. 167

***Refrain: Now the feast and celebration,
all of creation sings for joy
to the God of life and love and freedom;
praise and glory forevermore!***

**Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain,
whose blood has freed and united us
to be one great people of God. *Refrain***

**Power and riches, wisdom and might,
all honor and glory to Christ forever. *Refrain***

**For God has come to dwell with us,
to make us people of God; to make all things new. *Refrain***

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P Let us pray...Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

R **Amen.**

***PEACE**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

R **And also with you.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”
By Anthony J. Showalter

Chancel Choir

P It is our duty and delight...join their unending hymn:

(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.

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

***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**

***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. **If you desire a gluten free wafer and/or white grape juice, please hold up two fingers to the server.**



***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.

MEAL

OFFERING *“All Things Bright and Beautiful”* –Music: Traditional English Melody; Lyrics: Cecil F. Alexander

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

Presider:

Congregation:



The Lord be with you. And al - so with

you. Lift up your hearts. We

lift them to the Lord. Let us give

thanks to the Lord our God. It is

right to give God thanks and praise.

WORD

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

FIRST READING **Job 40:15-19, 24; 41:1-2, 10-11, 33**

¹⁵ “Look at Behemoth, which I made just as I made you; it eats grass like an ox.
¹⁶ Its strength is in its loins and its power in the muscles of its belly.
¹⁷ It makes its tail stiff like a cedar; the sinews of its thighs are knit together.
¹⁸ Its bones are tubes of bronze, its limbs like bars of iron.
¹⁹ “It is the first of the great acts of God;
only its Maker can approach it with the sword.
²⁴ Can one take it with hooks or pierce its nose with a snare?
^{41:1} “Can you draw out Leviathan with a fishhook
or press down its tongue with a cord?
² Can you put a rope in its nose or pierce its jaw with a hook?
¹⁰ No one is so fierce as to dare to stir it up. Who can stand before it?
¹¹ Who can confront it and be safe?—under the whole heaven, who?
³³ On earth it has no equal, a creature without fear.

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

PSALM 148 *(Read responsively)*

L Hallelujah!
Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

R **Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!**

L Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!

R **Praise him, you highest heavens and you waters above the heavens!**

L Let them praise the name of the LORD, for he commanded and they were created.

R **He established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.**

L Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,

R **fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command!**

L Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

R **Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!**

L Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

R **Young men and women alike, old and young together!**

L Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven.
R **He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him. Hallelujah!**

SECOND READING Revelation 4:6b-11

^{6b} Around the throne, and on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and back: ⁷ the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with a face like a human, and the fourth living creature like a flying eagle. ⁸ And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and inside. Day and night without ceasing they sing, “Holy, holy, holy, the Lord God the Almighty, who was and is and is to come.” ⁹ And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to the one who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever, ¹⁰ the twenty-four elders fall before the one who is seated on the throne and worship the one who lives forever and ever; they cast their crowns before the throne, singing, ¹¹ “You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.”

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

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Congregation:

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia! Repeat

P The holy gospel according to St. John, the 1st Chapter.
R **Glory to you, O Lord.**

***GOSPEL John 1:1-5, 18**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father’s heart, who has made him known.

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

SERMON “Dinosaurs & Origin Stories” Rev. Jonathan Mollenkopf

***HYMN OF THE DAY “For the Beauty of the...” (vs.1,2,3) HYMN NO. 879**

**For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:**

**Refrain:
Christ, our God, to thee we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.**

**For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flow’r, sun and moon and stars of light:
Refrain**

**For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind’s delight,
for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight: Refrain**
Text: Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1835-1917, alt.