

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA
Thief River Falls, MN
THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
June 13, 2021 9:00 AM



PRELUDE
ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

(Please be seated)

GATHERING SONG “Seek Ye First”

1. Seek ye first the kingdom of God
And it’s righteousness
And all these things shall be added unto
you Allelu, alleluia

2. Ask and it shall be given unto you
Seek and ye shall find

Knock and the door shall be opened unto
you Allelu, alleluia

3. We do not live by bread alone
But by every word
That proceeds from the mouth of God
Allelu, alleluia

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*GREETING (p. 184)

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

*KYRIE (p. 184) “*Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way...*”

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE (p. 185) “*Glory to God in the highest...*”

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 17:22-24

²²Thus says the Lord GOD:

I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar;

I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs;

I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain.

²³On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it,

in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar.

Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind.

²⁴All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD.

I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree;

I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish.

I the LORD have spoken;

I will accomplish it. *The word of the Lord... Thanks be to God.*

PSALM: Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15

¹It is a good thing to give thanks | to the LORD,
to sing praise to your name, | O Most High;

²**to herald your love | in the morning**

and your faithfulness at night;
³on the psaltery, and | on the lyre,
and to the melody | of the harp.
⁴**For you have made me glad by your | acts, O LORD;**
and I shout for joy because of the works | of your hands.
¹²The righteous shall flourish | like a palm tree,
and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.
¹³**Those who are planted in the house | of the LORD**
shall flourish in the courts | of our God;
¹⁴they shall still bear fruit | in old age;
they shall be | green and succulent;
¹⁵**that they may show how upright the LORD is,**
my rock, in whom there is | no injustice.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:6-17

⁶So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil. ¹¹Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. ¹²We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. ¹³For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. ¹⁴For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. ¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

The word of the Lord... Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** (p. 188) *“Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go...”*

***GOSPEL:** Mark 4:26-34

P: The holy Gospel... **C:** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁶[Jesus] said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,²⁷ and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”
³⁰He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs,

and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”
³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.


SERMON THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS OUR TREASURE Pastor Ale Tulu

HYMN OF THE DAY “Have No Fear, Little Flock” ELW 764

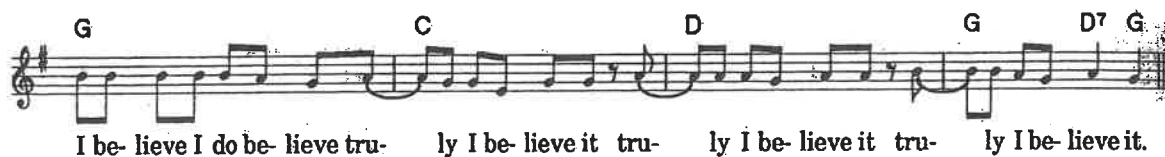
APOSTLES’ CREED “I Believe I Do Believe”

John Ylvisaker

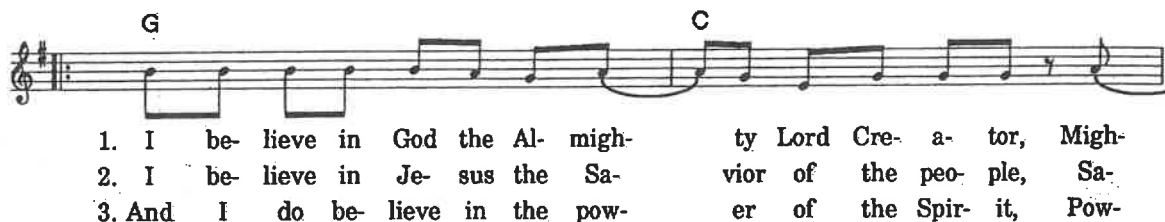
trad. South African tune



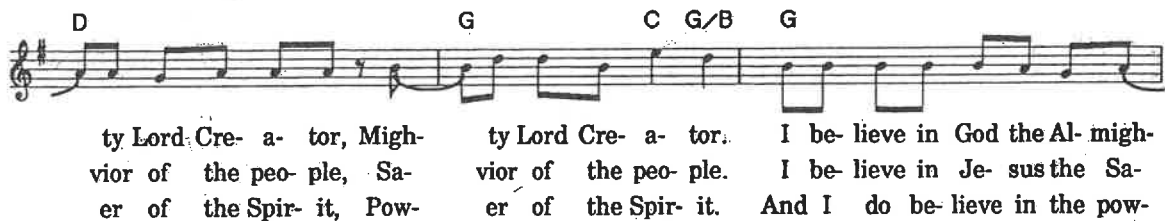
I be- lieve I do be- lieve tru- ly I be- lieve it tru- ly I be- lieve it tru- ly I be- lieve it.



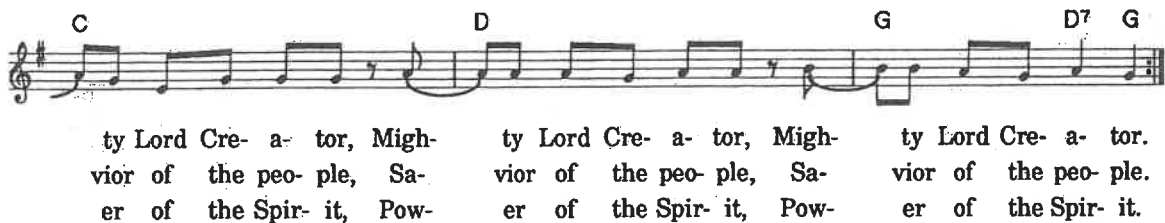
I be- lieve I do be- lieve tru- ly I be- lieve it tru- ly I be- lieve it tru- ly I be- lieve it.



1. I be- lieve in God the Al- migh- ty Lord Cre- a- tor, Migh- vior of the peo- ple, Sa-
 2. I be- lieve in Je- sus the Sa- vior of the peo- ple, Sa-
 3. And I do be- lieve in the pow- er of the Spir- it, Pow-



ty Lord Cre- a- tor, Migh- ty Lord Cre- a- tor. I be- lieve in God the Al- migh- vior of the peo- ple, Sa- vior of the peo- ple. I be- lieve in Je- sus the Sa- er of the Spir- it, Pow- er of the Spir- it. And I do be- lieve in the pow-



ty Lord Cre- a- tor, Migh- ty Lord Cre- a- tor, Migh- ty Lord Cre- a- tor. vior of the peo- ple, Sa- vior of the peo- ple, Sa- vior of the peo- ple. er of the Spir- it, Pow- er of the Spir- it, Pow- er of the Spir- it.

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Congregational response: **hear our prayer.**

***LORD'S PRAYER** (p. 208)

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.

***BLESSING** Response: **Amen.**

***SENDING SONG** "In Christ Alone"

In Christ alone my hope is found. He is my light, my strength, my song.
This cornerstone, this solid ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when striving cease.
My comforter my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless Babe.
This gift of love and righteousness, Scored by the ones He came to save.
'Til on that cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied.
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid; here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by Darkness slain.
Then busting forth in glorious day, up from the grave He Rose again!
And as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me.
For I am His and He is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death; this is the pow'r of Christ in me.
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man can ever pluck me from His hand.
'Til He returns or calls me home, Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man can ever pluck me from His hand.
'Til He returns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

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***DISMISSAL** Response: **Thanks be to God.**



WELCOME! ZION'S LAY MINISTRY/EVANGELISM BOARD SAYS A SPECIAL WELCOME TO YOU THIS MORNING AND MAY YOU BE FED SPIRITUALLY DURING THIS TIME OF WORSHIP.

OUR THANKS TO TODAY'S WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Musician: Laura Rude

Ushers: Krista & Lauren Johnson

Acolyte:

Worship assistant: Millie Reiersen

Reader: Kaylynn Wold

Tech assist: Alex Hanson

OUR SYMPATHY TO: Dale Svendsgaard on the death of his sister Kathy Vatthauer

OUR PRAYERS TO: Delores Hirst at Sanford, Fargo; Dora Watson recovering at TRCC.

BROADCASTS today are sponsored by Zion memorials.

ZION'S WEBSITE for June is sponsored by Zion memorials

REMINDER to those hospitalized to please notify Zion as the hospital does not inform us.

ZION WORSHIP SERVICE ONLINE Sunday mornings you can listen to the 9:00AM service online. Go to: www.ziontrf.org. in the black banner click Listen Online, Click on the RED link to KTRF.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - K thru 5, August 2nd—5th. From 5:30 to 7:30 PM at Redeemer. Bring your own lunch for 5:00 to 5:30 outdoor picnic. Registration is on Redeemer's website until July 15. Contact Madison for more information.

STEWARDSHIP (Envelopes/Vanco Electronic Giving/Silver Creek included in all totals)

June 1-6: income: \$4,399.

Year to Date income Jan 1– June 6: \$139,913.

2021 budget \$353,032. / \$6,789. is needed per week to meet budgeted expenses.

Contributions may be made by scanning the **QR code** provided. This is processed by Vanco Services.

A credit/debit card kiosk is available in the narthex for contributions.



Direct Thrivent Choice Dollars® Eligible Thrivent Financial members: Show your appreciation for Zion Lutheran Church by directing Choice Dollars. The individual recommendations you make through Choice Dollars directions can make a profound impact.

LAY READERS : Lay readers are needed for Sunday services. If you are interested, please call the church office at 681-3296 or Carol Narverud at 681-4805. We'd love to have you.

All are invited to enjoy informal coffee fellowship in the lounge following the service.

Wednesday Worship Supper at 5:30 and Worship at 6:15. All are Welcome!

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday, June 13:

9:00 New Traditions Worship at Zion; Broadcast ch. 3; KTRF;
10:30 Worship at Silver Creek

Monday, June 14:

Parish Nurse by appointment

Tuesday, June 15:

9:30 Staff meeting
10:30 Coffee with Staff
12 noon Pastors Text Study
7 Zion Council

Wednesday, June 16:

1:00 Skylite worship
3:00 Valley Home worship
3:00 Greenleaf Worship

Wednesday Worship

5:30 Catered meal
6:15 New Traditions worship

Thursday, June 17:

1:00 Quilting

Friday, June 18:

7AM Men's Breakfast at Biff's
9:30 Coffee with Staff

Sunday, June 20:

9:00 Holy Communion Worship at Zion; Broadcast ch. 3; KTRF;
10:30 Holy Communion Worship at Silver Creek

Ministers: Every Member of the Congregation

Office Phone: 681-3296 *Fax:* 681-3048

Alemayehu Tulu, *Associate Pastor* 681-1866 alezion@mncable.net

Linda Hamrick, *Office Manager* ziontrf@mncable.net; Tiffany Sterry & David Lee, *Custodial*

Madison Crane, *Youth & Family Ministries* 608-535-9151, ryyouthfam@gmail.com; Sandy Knutson, *Parish Nurse*

⇒ An Onsite Defibrillator (AED) for use on someone with Sudden Cardiac Arrest is located in the elevator alcove on the wall in the narthex.

GOSPEL MESSAGE

June 13, 2021

LECTIONARY 11

Cradle of Life

In the parables of the growing seed and the mustard seed we hear Jesus using agricultural imagery to give us some sense of what the kingdom of God is about. Our reflections and interpretations of these parables usually focus on what they tell us about God's kingdom and how God works in our lives. From these two parables we can gather that the kingdom grows. More specifically, we may say that God provides harvest and shelter. One of the points of parables is to engage our thinking and to keep us asking questions. What else might we see here?

The mustard seed grows into a shrub in which birds can make nests. Bird nests are one of the small wonders of this world. The sort of nest one might find in a tree may be made from sticks, grasses, and spider webs. The bird gathers all of this and may add saliva to weave it into a well-shaped cup to cradle the eggs that will hatch into new life. All of this is done with a beak and two feet. In these nests we see resourcefulness, patience, skill, and elegant design. In the shade of the mustard bush the bird has the freedom to construct something beautiful, practical, and life-giving.

Perhaps this is part of what it means for us to live in God's kingdom. Through Jesus we are given the freedom to use our gifts to make beautiful, practical, life-giving things. We build houses and neighborhoods, families and relationships; we make art and music, friendships and promises. In the shade of grace we are given space to thrive, not simply for our own sake, but for the sake of the world. We can gather in the things of resurrection life: forgiveness, kindness, mercy, compassion, and love. Woven together these acts of faith lead to hope, and hope is always a cradle for new life.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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