

**Zion Lutheran Church
Thief River Falls, MN**

**New Traditions Worship
Season of Pentecost**

**9:00 AM Worship
September 24, 2023**

Pre-service Music

Welcome & Announcements

Gathering

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be God,
the one who forms us,
Jesus who bears the cross,
the Spirit who makes our joy complete.
Amen.



Let us bow before God in humility,
confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

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

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.
Amen.

Song "Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)" insert

Greeting

From the one who is and who was and who is to come,
and from Jesus Christ, the first fruits of the resurrection,
grace and peace be with you all.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

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.

Amen.

Word

FIRST READING: Jonah 3:10--4:11

After Jonah's short sermon in 3:4, the Ninevites all repented and God decided to spare the city. Jonah objected to this and became even more angry when God ordered a worm to destroy a plant that was providing shade. The book ends with a question that challenges any who are not ready to forgive: You, Jonah, are all worked up about a bush, but shouldn't I be concerned about a hundred and twenty thousand Ninevites?

¹⁰When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

^{4:1}But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ²He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. ³And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" ⁵Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

⁶The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

⁹But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more

than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?" *Word of God, Word of Life...***Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 145:1-8

¹I will exalt you, my God and king,
and bless your name forever and ever.

²**Every day will I bless you
and praise your name forever and ever.**

³Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised!
There is no end to your greatness.

⁴**One generation shall praise your works to another
and shall declare your power.**

⁵I will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty
and all your marvelous works.

⁶**They shall tell of the might of your wondrous acts,
and I will recount your greatness.**

⁷They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness;
they shall sing joyfully of your righteousness.

⁸**The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

SECOND READING: Philippians 1:21-30

Paul writes to the Philippians from prison. Though he is uncertain about the outcome of his imprisonment, he is committed to the ministry of the gospel and calls on the Philippians to live lives that reflect and enhance the gospel mission.

²¹For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. ²³I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; ²⁴but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

²⁷Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—³⁰since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have. *Word of God, Word of Life...***Thanks be to God.**

Song "Jesus Loves Me" ELW #595

Kid's Time with Pastor Kristin

Noisy Offering will go to Lutheran Disaster Response for US Wildfires

Song "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah" ELW #172

GOSPEL of Matthew 20:1-16

Jesus tells a parable about God's generosity, challenging the common assumption that God rewards people according to what they have earned or deserve.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹"The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; ⁴and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' ⁷They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' ⁸When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' ⁹When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹²saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' ¹³But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

Sermon Pastor Kristin Ostercamp

Hymn of the Day "10,000 Reasons" insert

Apostles Creed

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.**

Sharing of the Peace

Offering - *ushers bring offering forward*

Offertory "Sanctuary"

Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true.

With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you. (CCLI Lic. # 11095451)

Prayers of Intercession Leader: Gracious God, Response: **receive our prayer**

Lord's Prayer

**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.

Sending Song "Holy, Holy, Holy" ELW #413

Dismissal

Go into the world knowing Christ and making Christ known. Thanks be to God.

Post-service Music

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

OUR THANKS TO TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS/ASSISTANTS

Pastor: Kristin Ostercamp Pianist: Laura Rude Organist: Marie Longo Reader: Glenice Johnson
Greeters: Cookie Overbye, Cammy Joppru, Larry & Audrey Korpi Ushers: Joppru Family

OUR PRAYERS TO ALL GOD'S CHILDREN STANDING IN THE NEED OF PRAYER.

Especially: Those under a doctor's care, those who grieve, and all who are moving through a challenging season.

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.

BROADCASTS today are sponsored by Bruce & Mary Koppenhaver in honor of their great granddaughter Opal on her 1st Birthday.

ZION'S WEBSITE for September is sponsored by Zion Memorials

LISTENING DEVICES & LARGE PRINT bulletins are available from an usher.

SARAH Circle meets Wed., Sept 27 at 1:30 in the lounge. Darlene Hulteen, hostess.

New Member Recognition Sunday, October 1st. Orientation meeting on Thursday, Sept 28th at 7PM for all new members.

Lutheran World Relief Kits Display in the Narthex - Check out examples of the various kits and quilts that are made or assembled by WELCA each year for nation-wide and foreign distribution. Last year Zion sent 22 quilts, 84 baby care kits, 332 personal care kits and 59 school kits. Beside each sample kit is a list of items that are included. Contributions of kit items, Thrivent cards to purchase them, or monetary donations for shipping are always welcome. Quilters and kit assemblers usually meet the first and third Thursdays of each month and welcome anyone interested in helping with this ministry.

Choirs meet Wednesday evenings - God's Joy choir (youth) at 6pm and Senior Choir at 7pm. If you would like more information about choirs please contact Laura Rude.

Sharing Servant Booklets - are available to pick up in the narthex. The months of April and December do not have leaders. If you would like to help out with either of these months call the church office.

Home Communion—Anyone in need of home communion, please contact the church office.

CARPET REPLACEMENT You are invited to consider a special gift toward carpet replacement in the hallways and stairways in the sanctuary and main levels of the building. The Parish Planning Council approved a bid for \$25,002.61 from Paint and Glass for materials and labor. We ask your prayerful consideration for monies to support this project. If you would like to contribute, please indicate so with "carpet" in the memo of your check. The Council will finalize funding from your contributions and existing funds at the October 17 meeting. Thank you for all the ways you bless our work and witness together to know Christ and make him known!

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR WORK AND WITNESS!

Sept 11-17 offerings: \$6,687. Sept 1-17 Offerings \$20,615. Weekly Goal: \$6,547.
Noisy Offering Sept 10 - \$228.71

VANCO ELECTRONIC GIVING—Sign up available on Zion's website or contact the church office.

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. *Thank you to all who have directed dollars!*

LSS Group Respite is a great place to bring your loved one to enjoy playing cards, bingo and reminiscing to their favorite music. Volunteers are also needed to socialize over coffee and interactive videos during Group Respite. Please contact Debi Retzlaff at 218.593.1333 or email at debi.retzlaff@lssmn.org for more information. Thursdays, 2:00 to 4:30 PM in the Lounge. October 19th respite will expand to 12:30-4:30PM.

PARISH HEALTH - Lyme disease is a bacterial infection caused by the bite of a deer tick.

They transmit the bacteria to humans, which causes a range of health problems. With an early diagnosis, it is possible to recover completely without long-term effects, but undiagnosed Lyme disease can have severe complications. There are 476,000 cases diagnosed and treated each year. It is often missed because the symptoms are also that of many other illnesses. Be mindful of any of these if you spend time outdoors.

Early symptoms include....muscle aches with extreme tiredness, fever, headache, fatigue, muscle/joint aches, and a rash that may not show up until 1-2 weeks after the tick exposure. The expanding skin rash begins as an reddened area near the tick bite. As the rash increases in size, it often clears in the middle and develops a red ring around the white outside, so that it has a "bull's eye" appearance. 80% of people that get Lyme disease develop this rash.

Late symptoms of Lyme disease include....nerve pain, arthritis/joint pain, heart palpitations, facial/Bell's Palsy, and short-term memory.

If caught early, 10-21 days of antibiotics can usually cure it completely. If not diagnosed quickly, it is much harder to treat and involves much more treatment and longer periods of antibiotics besides suffering from its symptoms. 10% of these people will not recover. Lyme disease can sometimes trigger an auto-immune disease as well.

There is a website called "Tick Encounter" where you can upload your tick photo, they will tell you what kind of tick it is, ask some questions and provide information on what you're at risk for and what to do. If the tick has NOT been on the skin for more than 24-48 hours and does NOT look swollen with blood, your risk for disease is very low. It is important to get the entire tick removed from the skin with a tweezer.

Anytime you're outside, check yourself upon returning indoors. Showering within 2 hours will help to get them off the skin too. So much of illness is PREVENTABLE. That is a good thing! Take Care of Yourself.

- *God's Blessing's and Peace....Parish Health*

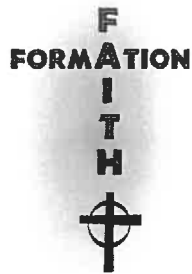
Pastor Kristin Ostercamp, pastorkristin@mncable.net

Office Phone: 681-3296 Fax: 681-3048

Linda Hamrick, Office Manager ziontrf@mncable.net

Darlene Wiseth, Faith Community Nurse zionph@mncable.net

David Lee / Tiffany Sterry, Custodial



Sunday School— age 3 thru Grade 5 from 10-11 AM

Cornerstone Kids—Grade 6 & 7 meet from 10-11 in the youth room.

Confirmation News:

A Student & Parent Meeting will be held on Wed., October 4th at 7PM for Grades 8-10.

11th Grade Retreat on October 1st from 1-5PM at Zion.

Confirmation Day is October 29th.

FOOD & FELLOWSHIP - Join us for breakfast served after worship on Sunday, October 15th.



Free-will donation goes to youth programming.

October breakfast will be served by 10th Grade students

NOISY OFFERING for September will go to Lutheran Disaster Response for US Wildfires.

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK:

Today: Sunday, Sept. 24:

9:00 Zion worship/
Broadcast ch. 3; KTRF
10 Sunday School/ Cornerstone Kids
10 Coffee fellowship
11 Silver Creek Worship
12 Zion broadcast on cable ch. 37

Monday, Sept 25:

9 SAIL exercise

Tuesday, Sept. 26:

9-12 Faith Community Nurse Hours
10:30 Bereavement Group in lounge
1:30 TRCC Communion
2:30 Oakland Park Communion

Wednesday, Sept. 27:

1:30 Sarah Circle in lounge
6 - God's Joy Choir
7 Senior Choir

Thursday, Sept. 28:

9 SAIL Exercise
2:00-4:30 Respite Care in Lounge
5:30 Zion Foundation Board
7 New member orientation

Fri., Sept. 29:

8 Men's Breakfast at Biff's

Next Sunday, October 1:

9:00 Zion Holy communion worship/Sr Choir
Reception of New Members
Broadcast ch. 3; KTRF
10 Sunday School/ Cornerstone Kids
10 Coffee fellowship
11 Silver Creek Worship
12 Zion broadcast on cable ch. 37
1PM 11th Grade Confirmation Retreat