

October 18, 2026
Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost
Divine Service Setting Two

Zion Lutheran Church

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May God bless your worship with us this day. A new day of salvation!



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Welcome! We worship the Triune God: Father, Son, & Holy Spirit. We are pleased you are here to worship with us today. Make yourself at home; you are among the family of Christ. If you are visiting, please do introduce yourself to others and to our Pastor. Please sign our Guest Book in the narthex so we can thank you for your visit...and come soon to see us again!

To Stand or Sit: There are certain parts of the service where you will be invited to stand. Sometimes, "wrestling" with kids, or a personal health condition makes standing uncomfortable...please know: It is okay to stand or sit.

Confession and Absolution

850 God of Grace and God of Glory

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

Exhortation

LSB 167

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

LSB 167

Absolution

LSB 167

Service of the Word

Introit *(spoken responsively by half-verses)*

Psalms 121:1–4, 7–8; antiphon: v. 5

The LORD is your keeper;

the LORD is your shade on your right hand.

I lift up my eyes to the hills.

From where does my help come?

My help comes from the LORD,

who made heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot be moved;

he who keeps you will not slumber.

Behold, he who keeps Israel

will neither slumber nor sleep.

The LORD will keep you from all evil;

he will keep your life.

The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in

from this time forth and forevermore.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The LORD is your keeper;

the LORD is your shade on your right hand.

Kyrie

LSB 168

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 170

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, the protector of all who trust in You, have mercy on us that with You as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 45:1–7

¹Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped,
to subdue nations before him
and to loose the belts of kings,
to open doors before him
that gates may not be closed:

²"I will go before you
and level the exalted places,
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron,
³I will give you the treasures of darkness
and the hoards in secret places,
that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob,
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name,
I name you, though you do not know me.

⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other,
besides me there is no God;
I equip you, though you do not know me,
⁶that people may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is none besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.

⁷I form light and create darkness,
I make well-being and create calamity,
I am the LORD, who does all these things."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle (*this is the basis of today's sermon*)

1 Thessalonians 1:1–10

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

²We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. ⁹For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 173

Holy Gospel

Matthew 22:15–22

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle [Jesus] in his talk. ¹⁶And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone’s opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?” ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰And Jesus said to them, “Whose likeness and inscription is this?” ²¹They said, “Caesar’s.” Then he said to them, “Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” ²²When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Children's Message

940 Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

sts. 1–5

Sermon “A Bite of Love” (1 Thessalonians 1:1-10)

Stand

Apostles’ Creed

Prayer of the Church

Sit

Offering

Stand

Offertory

LSB 176

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 177

Proper Preface

Sanctus

LSB 178

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 178

Lord’s Prayer

LSB 179

The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini

LSB 180

Agnus Dei

LSB 180

Sit

ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION/THE LORD’S SUPPER

Here at Zion Lutheran, we believe that Christ’s true body and blood are received by everyone in the Lord’s Supper (Real Presence). All who participate here believe the same Biblical truths and we practice “Closed Communion.” (Acts 2:42, 1 Cor 1:10, 10:16-18, 11:26-29)

Visitors, please consult with Pastor Johnson or the Elder before receiving the Lord’s Supper.

Only communicant members of Zion or one of our sister LCMS churches are invited to receive the Communion elements. If you do not meet this criterion, you are invited to come forward for a blessing by our pastor. Simply fold your hands across your chest when the bread and the wine are distributed, and our pastor will speak a blessing over you. All children are invited to come forward for a blessing.

Our Communion practices are to have four adults (with children standing in front of the adults) on each side of area in front of the chancel (Altar area) as our Pastor and Elder are serving the elements. The Ushers are instructed to limit the communicants to four. Inform the Usher if you desire NOT to be separated from someone and he’ll adjust the groupings of four accordingly.

Distribution

498 Come, Holy Ghost, Creator Blest

824 May God Bestow on Us His Grace

784 Take My Life and Let It Be

808 O Sing to the Lord

sts. 1–5

Stand

Thank the Lord

LSB 181

Post-Communion Collect

Benediction

LSB 183

525 Crown Him with Many Crowns

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book

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