

September 6, 2026  
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
Divine Service Setting One



# Zion Lutheran Church

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



**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

### 594 God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It

*Stand*

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

### Invocation

### Exhortation

*LSB 151*

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

### Confession of Sins

*LSB 151*

### Absolution

*LSB 151*

## Service of the Word

### Introit *(read responsively by half-verses)*

*Psalm 92:1–4; antiphon: v. 5*

How great are your works, O LORD!

**Your thoughts are very deep!**

It is good to give thanks to the LORD,

**to sing praises to your name, O Most High;**

to declare your steadfast love in the morning,

**and your faithfulness by night,**

to the music of the lute and the harp,

**to the melody of the lyre.**

For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work;

**at the works of your hands I sing for joy.**

**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.**

How great are your works, O LORD!

**Your thoughts are very deep!**

**Kyrie**

*LSB 152*

**Gloria in Excelsis**

*LSB 154*

**Salutation and Collect of the Day**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

O God, from whom all good proceeds, grant to us, Your humble servants, Your holy inspiration, that we may set our minds on the things that are right and, by Your merciful guiding, accomplish them; 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**

*Ezekiel 33:7–9*

<sup>7</sup>“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. <sup>8</sup>If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. <sup>9</sup>But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Epistle**

*Romans 13:1–10*

<sup>1</sup>Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. <sup>2</sup>Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. <sup>3</sup>For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, <sup>4</sup>for he is God’s servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God’s wrath on the wrongdoer. <sup>5</sup>Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God’s wrath but also for the sake of conscience. <sup>6</sup>For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. <sup>7</sup>Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

<sup>8</sup>Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup>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.” <sup>10</sup>Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

**Alleluia and Verse**

*LSB 156*

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

*Matthew 18:1–20*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” <sup>2</sup>And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them <sup>3</sup>and said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup>Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>5</sup>“Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, <sup>6</sup>but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

<sup>7</sup>“Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! <sup>8</sup>And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. <sup>9</sup>And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire.

<sup>10</sup>“See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. <sup>11</sup>For the Son of Man came to save the lost. <sup>12</sup>What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? <sup>13</sup>And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. <sup>14</sup>So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

<sup>15</sup>“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. <sup>16</sup>But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. <sup>17</sup>If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. <sup>18</sup>Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

<sup>19</sup>Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup>For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

*Sit*

## **Children's Message**

## **948 All Glory Be to God Alone**

## **Sermon "Seeking the Lost" (Matthew 18:1-20)**

*Stand*

## **Nicene Creed**

## **Prayer of the Church**

*Sit*

## **Offering**

*Stand*

## **Offertory**

*LSB 159*

## **Service of the Sacrament**

## **Preface**

*LSB 160*

## **Proper Preface (Full)**

## **Sanctus**

*LSB 161*

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

*LSB 161*

## **Lord's Prayer**

*LSB 162*

## **The Words of Our Lord**

**Pax Domini**

*LSB 163*

**Agnus Dei**

*LSB 163*

*Sit*

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**

**605 Father Welcomes**

**707 Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways**

**579 The Law of God Is Good and Wise**

**725 Children of the Heavenly Father**

*Stand*

**Thank the Lord**

*LSB 164*

**Post-Communion Collect**

**Benediction**

*LSB 166*

**686 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing**

## **Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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