

September 20, 2026
Seventeenth 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

596 All Christians Who Have Been Baptized

sts. 1–4

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 116:12–13, 15–16; antiphon: v. 17

I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call on the name of the LORD.

What shall I render to the LORD
for all his benefits to me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the LORD.

Precious in the sight of the LORD
is the death of his saints.

O LORD, I am your servant;
I am your servant, the son of your maidservant. You have loosed my bonds.

**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.**

I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call on the name of the LORD.

Old Testament Canticle

Refrain

G The Lord God is my strength and my song, and
He has be - come my sal - va - tion.
With joy will you draw wa - ter from the
wells of sal - va - tion. And you will say in that
day: "Give thanks to the Lord, call up - on His name,
make known His deeds a - mong the peo - ples, pro -
claim that His name is ex - alt - ed."

Refrain

The Lord God is my strength and my song, and
He has be - come my sal - va - tion.
Sing prais - es to the Lord, for He has done
glo - rious - ly; let this be made known in all the
earth. Shout, and sing for joy, O in -
hab - i - tants of Zi - on, for great in your midst is the
Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el.

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Refrain

The Lord God is my strength and my song, and
He has be - come my sal - va - tion.
Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son
and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will
be for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain

The Lord God is my strength and my song, and
He has be - come my sal - va - tion.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, since we cannot stand before You relying on anything we have done, help us trust in Your abiding grace and live according to Your Word; 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 (*this is the basis of today's sermon*)

Isaiah 55:6–9

⁶“Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;
⁷let the wicked forsake his way,
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;
let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.
⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Philippians 1:12–14, 19–30

¹²I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, ¹³so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. ¹⁴And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. . . .

¹⁹for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, ²⁰as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. 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 on your account. ²⁵Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

²⁷Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. ²⁹For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, ³⁰engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156

Holy Gospel

Matthew 20:1–16

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

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

¹[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴and to them he said, ‘You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.’ ⁵So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. ⁶And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, ‘Why do you stand here idle all day?’ ⁷They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You go into the vineyard too.’ ⁸And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.’ ⁹And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, 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 a denarius? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?’ ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first last.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sit

Children's Message

555 Salvation unto Us Has Come

sts. 1–2, 5, 8–9



1 Sal - va - tion un - to us has come By God's free grace and
2 What God did in His Law de - mand And none to Him could
5 Yet as the Law must be ful - filled Or we must die de -
8 The Law re - veals the guilt of sin And makes us con - science -
9 Faith clings to Je - sus' cross a - lone And rests in Him un -



fa - vor; Good works can - not a - vert our doom, They
ren - der Caused wrath and woe on ev - 'ry hand For
spair - ing, Christ came and has God's an - ger stilled, Our
strick - en; But then the Gos - pel en - ters in The
ceas - ing; And by its fruits true faith is known, With



help and save us nev - er. Faith looks to Je - sus
man, the vile of - fend - er. Our flesh has not those
hu - man na - ture shar - ing. He has for us the
sin - ful soul to quick - en. Come to the cross, trust
love and hope in - creas - ing. For faith a - lone can



Christ a - lone, Who did for all the
pure de - sires The spir - it of the
Law o - beyed And thus the Fa - ther's
Christ, and live; The Law no peace can
jus - ti - fy; Works serve our neigh - bor



world a - tone; He is our one Re - deem - er.
Law re - quires, And lost is our con - di - tion.
ven - geance stayed Which o - ver us im - pend - ed.
ev - er give, No com - fort and no bless - ing.
and sup - ply The proof that faith is liv - ing.

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Sermon “Seek the Lord” (Isaiah 55:6-9)

Stand

Nicene Creed

Prayer of the Church

Sit

Offering

Stand

Offertory

LSB 159

Service of the Sacrament

Preface	<i>LSB 160</i>
Sanctus	<i>LSB 161</i>
Prayer of Thanksgiving	<i>LSB 161</i>
Lord's Prayer	
The Words of Our Lord	
Pax Domini	<i>LSB 163</i>
Agnus Dei	<i>LSB 163</i>
<i>Sit</i>	

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

827 Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling

789 Praise and Thanksgiving

738 Lord of All Hopefulness

633 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

Stand

Thank the Lord	<i>LSB 164</i>
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Post-Communion Collect

Benediction	<i>LSB 166</i>
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680 Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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