



What's the Point?

ZION EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH, MONROE, MI

(Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

IN JESUS' NAME WE WELCOME YOU!

Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost

August 20, 2025

WELCOME TO ZION. It is our hope and prayer that the message you hear today from God's Word will strengthen your faith and fill your heart with the peace only God can give and the joy we have in believing that JESUS CHRIST is our Savior from sin.

Worship Focus: To know Christ in faith is the meaning and purpose of this life. Jesus tells the parable of a "fool" who thought the amount of material possessions he had were what gave his life value. The writer of Ecclesiastes and Paul also warn against letting the things of this world blind us to our real goal – eternal life.

In this season, we have now entered fully into the Half Year of the Church. We never leave behind Christ and his work for us which was the center of our attention in the Half Year of Our Lord (Advent-the Festival of Pentecost); but now the emphasis will shift to the result of his work through the Word.

LITURGY: Morning Praise (New Service Settings)

OUR FAMILY AT WORSHIP

PHONES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES – We request that you please turn off all devices during the church service. You may keep it on if you are emergency response personnel or if you have an emergency call you are anticipating. Thank you for your cooperation.

BATHROOMS – Bathrooms are located in the East foyer and in the school hallway off the west foyer. Please ask an usher for help finding them.

HEARING ASSISTANCE EQUIPMENT is available as part of our sound system. Individual hand-held units are available. Please check with an usher if you would like a unit for today's worship service.

VISITORS are asked to please sign our fellowship registry in the back of church so that we will have a record of your visit. Thank you for joining us today!

REDEEMER

355

Take the World, but Give Me Jesus



1 Take the world, but give me Je - sus! All its
2 Take the world, but give me Je - sus, Sweet - est
3 Take the world, but give me Je - sus! In his



joys are but a name. But his love a - bides for -
com - fort of my soul. With the Sav - ior watch - ing
cross my trust shall be Till with clear - er, bright - er



ev - er, Through e - ter - - nal years the same.
o'er me, I can sing, though thun - ders roll.
vi - sion Face to face my Lord I see.

Refrain



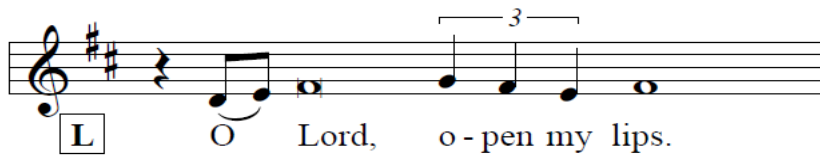
Oh, the height and depth of mer - cy; Oh, the



length and breadth of love! Oh, the full - ness of re -

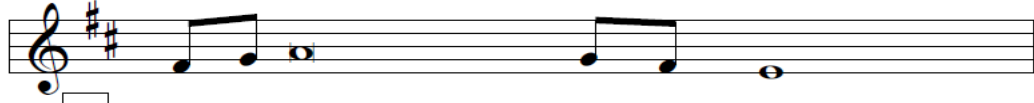


demp - tion, Pledge of end - less life a - bove!



L

O Lord, o - pen my lips.



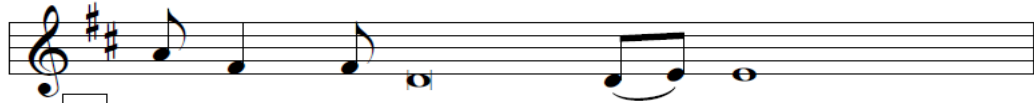
C

And my mouth shall de-clare your praise.



L

Hasten to save me, O God.



C

O Lord, come quickly to help me.



L

Give glory to God, our light and our life.



C

Come, oh, come, let us wor - ship.

COME, OH, COME, LET US SING TO THE LORD

Venite

L *Refrain*

C *Refrain*



①

Come, oh, come, let us sing to the Lord,



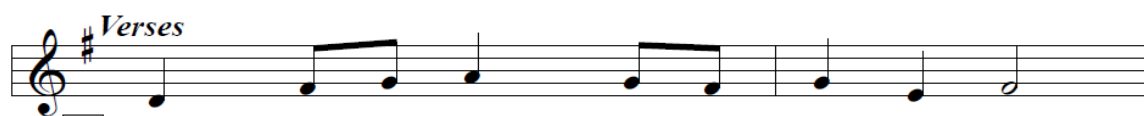
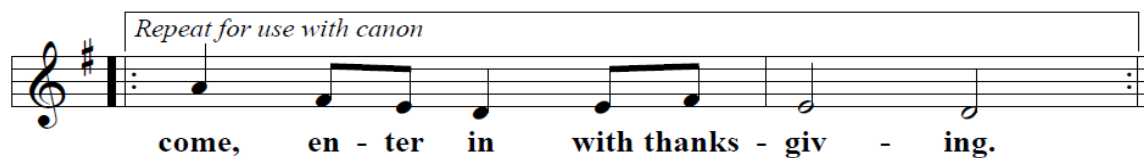
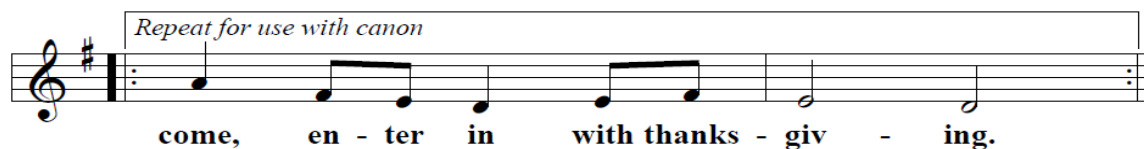
②

let us shout with joy to our sav - ing Rock;



③

come, en - ter in with our songs of praise,



1. You are a great and a won - drous God,
2. Come, let us wor - ship and, bow - ing low,



cup - ping in your hands all the depths of earth.
kneel be - fore the One who has made us all.



You made the hills and the moun - tains high,
You are the God whom we call our own,



you made the seas and the dry land.
we are the flock that you shep - herd.

to Refrain

PSALM 63 (*Congregation will sing refrain only.*)

[C] Refrain



1. O God, you are my God; for you I long; for you my soul is thirsting. My body pines for you like a dry, weary land without water. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary to see your strength and your glory.
2. For your love is better than life, my lips will speak your praise. So I will bless you all my life, in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, my mouth shall praise you with joy.
3. On my bed I remember you. On you I muse through the night, for you have been my help; in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 2:18-26

²“Nothing but vapor,” Ecclesiastes said. “Totally vapor. Everything is just vapor that vanishes.”

¹⁸I also hated all the results of my hard work, for which I worked so hard under the sun, since I must leave it all to the man who comes after me. ¹⁹And who knows—will he be wise, or a fool? Yet he will have control over all the results of my hard work, for which I worked so hard and so wisely, under the sun. This too is vapor that vanishes.

²⁰So I changed my course, and my heart began to despair over all my hard work at which I worked so hard under the sun. ²¹Sure, there may be a man who has worked hard—wisely, aptly, and skillfully. But he must hand over whatever he accumulated by all his hard work to a man who has not worked hard for it. This too is vapor. It’s so unfair! ²²For what does a man gain through all his hard work, through all the turmoil in his heart, as he works so hard under the sun? ²³Pain fills all his days. His occupation is frustration. Even at night his heart does not rest. This too is vapor. ²⁴There is nothing better for a man than to eat and to drink and to find joy in his work. This too, I saw, is from God’s hand. ²⁵For who can eat or enjoy himself apart from him? ²⁶Yes, God gives wisdom, knowledge, and happiness to the man whom he considers good, but to the person who goes on sinning God gives the task of gathering and collecting, but only so that he can give it all to a person whom God considers good. This too is vapor, nothing but chasing wind. (EHV)

Second Lesson

Colossians 3:1-11

Therefore, because you were raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your mind on things above, not on earthly things. ³For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. ⁵So put to death whatever is

worldly in you: sexual immorality, uncleanness, lust, evil desire, and greed, which is idolatry. ⁶It is because of these things that the wrath of God is coming on the sons of disobedience. ⁷You too once walked in these things, when you were living in them. ⁸But now, you too are to rid yourselves of all of these: wrath, anger, malice, slander, and filthy language from your mouth. ⁹Do not lie to each other since you have put off the old self with its practices, ¹⁰and put on the new self, which is continually being renewed in knowledge, according to the image of its Creator. ¹¹Here there is no Greek or Jew, circumcision or uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but rather Christ is all and is in all. (EHV)

Verse of the Day

P: Alleluia. Jesus replied, "If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him." Alleluia. (John 14:23)

Gospel

Luke 12:13-21

¹³Someone from the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." ¹⁴But Jesus said to him, "Man, who appointed me to be a judge or an arbitrator over you?" ¹⁵Then he said to them, "Watch out and be on guard against all greed, because a man's life is not measured by how many possessions he has." ¹⁶He told them a parable: "The land of a certain rich man produced very well. ¹⁷He was thinking to himself, 'What will I do, because I do not have anywhere to store my crops?' ¹⁸He said, 'This is what I will do. I will pull down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and goods. ¹⁹And I will tell my soul, 'Soul, you have many goods stored up for many years. Take it easy. Eat, drink, and be merry.'" ²⁰"But God said to him, 'You fool, this night your soul will be demanded from you. Now who will get what you have prepared?' ²¹"That is how it will be for anyone who stores up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God." (EHV)

Hymn of the Day: *CW 484*

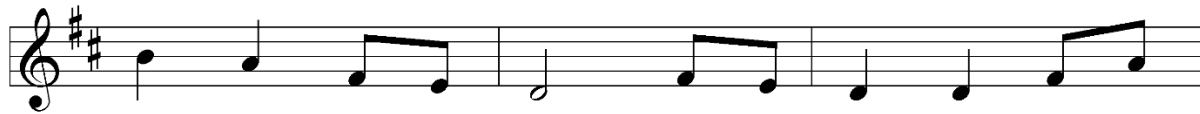
"Brothers, Sisters, Let Us Gladly"

484

Brothers, Sisters, Let Us Gladly



1 Broth - ers, sis - ters, let us glad - ly Give to
 2 By his mer - cy, by his boun - ty, By the
 3 Gra - cious Lord, ac - cept our ser - vice For the



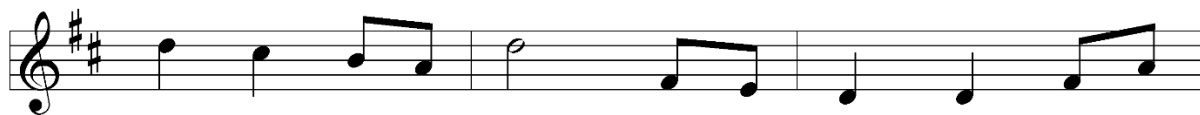
God our all, our best— Ser - vice heart - y, thor - ough,
 gift of Christ, his Son, What great good - ness he has
 sake of Christ, your Son; Lo, our hope a - bides now



hon - est, With a liv - ing love im - pressed.
 shown us, What high mar - vels he has done!
 on - ly In the right - eous - ness he won.



All our du - ty, all our striv - ing, All our
 Let us to him prompt - ly, free - ly, Yield our
 Bless and save us; help and guide us; Watch to



time to him be - long; Praise him, then, with true de -
 bod - ies and our souls, Thank - ful that his love pro -
 com - fort and re - store Till in heav'n we rest re -



vo - tion; Come be - fore him with a song.
 tects us, That his wis - dom all con - trols.
 joic - ing, Prais - ing you for - ev - er - more.

Text: Henry Bateman, 1802–72, alt.

Tune: NETTLETON (87 87 D) *Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second*, Harrisburg, 1813, alt.

Sermon text and theme: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 2:18-26

What's the Point?

Installation of Mrs. Dorow, our Preschool Director & Teacher

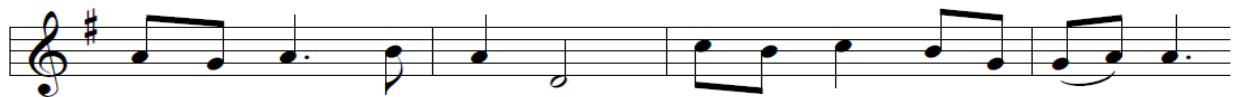
OFFERING: *The collection of the offering in the service is an opportunity for the members of Zion to give back to God a small portion of what he has given us in order to support the Gospel ministry of Zion Lutheran Church and School and of the WELS throughout the world. If you are a visitor today, while we appreciate an offering from you, please do not feel obligated to give.*

YOU ARE GOD; WE PRAISE YOU

Te Deum

L Refrain

C Refrain



You are God; we praise you. You are Lord; we ac - claim you.



To you, O Fa-ther ho - ly, all cre - a-tion of - fers praise.



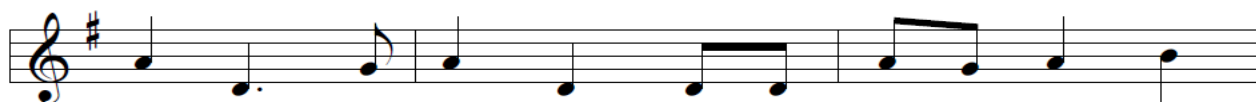
L 1. With the an - gels in heav - en,
2. Cre - a - tor of all things, **C** We praise you, we
3. O Christ, King of glo - ry,



praise you! **L** With the cher - u - bim and ser - a-phim,
O Je - sus Christ, the Son of God, **C** We
You be - came a man to set us free;



praise you, we praise you! **L** With a - pos - tles and proph - ets,
O Spir - it, most ho - ly, **C** We
You have ris - en to free us;

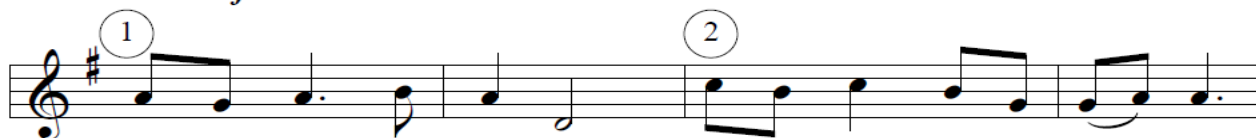


praise you, we praise you! **L** With the mar - tyrs and your
To the Trin - i - ty most
And with all your saints in

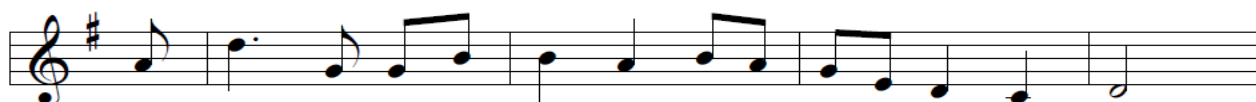


ho - ly Church,
bless - ed, **C** We sing in end - less praise! *to Refrain*
glo - ry, *to Refrain*
to Final Refrain

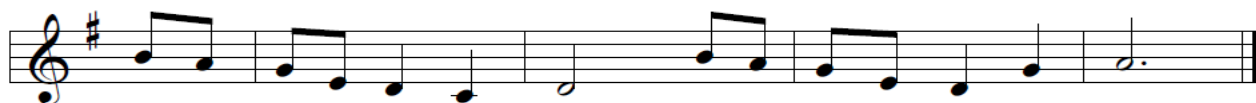
Final Refrain



C You are God; we praise you. You are Lord; we ac - claim you.



To you, O Fa - ther ho - ly, all cre - a - tion of - fers praise,



all cre - a - tion of - fers praise, all cre - a - tion of - fers praise.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie

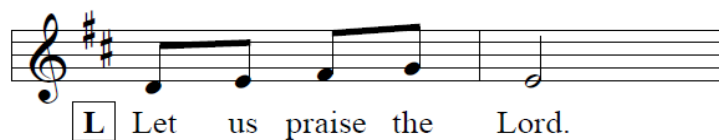
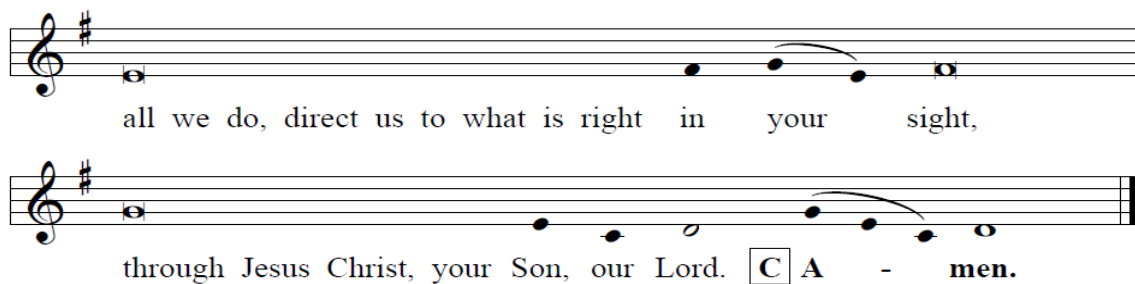
L In the morn - ing, O Lord, I call to you;
be mer - ci - ful to me and hear my prayer.
C Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have
mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

LORD'S PRAYER

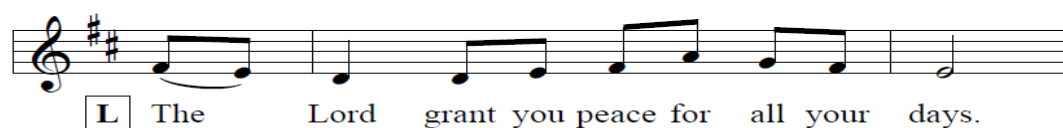
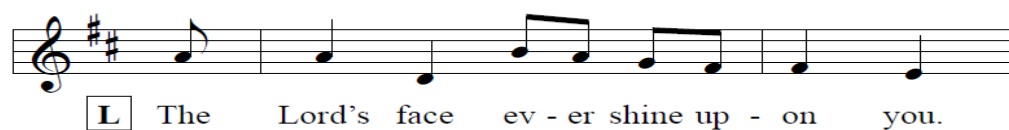
C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER FOR GRACE

L O Lord, our heavenly Fa-ther, almighty and everlasting God, you have
brought us safely to this new day. De - fend us with
your might - y power, and grant that this day we neither
fall into sin nor run into an-y kind of danger; and in



BLESSING



CLOSE OF SERVICE

319

On My Heart Imprint Your Image

On my heart im - print your im - age, Bless - ed Je - sus,
King of grace, That life's rich - es, cares, and plea - sures Have no
pow'r to hide your face. This the su - per - scrip - tion be:
Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me, Is my life, my
hope's foun - da - tion, And my glo - ry and sal - va - tion.

The musical score is written on five staves in 4/4 time. The melody is in G major, indicated by a single sharp (F#) on the first staff. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line on the fifth staff.

Officiants

Accompanist: Stephanie Sitzman

Liturgist & Preacher: Pastor Greg Sitzman

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Pastor Greg Sitzman: 734-309-7877; gsitzman@zionmonroe.org

Principal: Bryan Schneck: 907-331-7761; bschneck@zionmonroe.org

CALL MEETING—Our next joint call meeting is scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 7th at 1:30 p.m. at St. Paul's. Keep Zion and St. Paul's in your prayers.

WELS Women's Retreat: The WELS Women's retreat is being held at FaHoLo in Grass Lake, MI from Sept. 26-28th. **Registration for the retreat is due by August 24th!** Please see the back table in the sanctuary for all the details.

PLAYGROUND HELP: Zion School playgrounds are needing to be refreshed with woodchips. We need HELP spreading the woodchips around both playgrounds. Please come on **Saturday, Sept. 13th at 9:00 a.m.** to help. Many hands make quick work.

OVER ABUNDANCE TABLE: Extra garden produce? What can you do so it doesn't go bad? We have a solution – SHARE. You can bring your extra items into church and share your good fortune with others. There is a table in the west foyer to leave your items. Anyone can come and grab something from the table for **FREE** to take home and enjoy. Thank you to everyone who donates. Everyone please enjoy.

Pinewood Derby: Zion is having their annual Pinewood Derby on Sunday, September 14th. Weigh in is at noon and the races begin at 1:00 pm. You can purchase a car kit for \$5. Please see the flyer at the back of the church for all the information and registration forms. There will be workshop days on Saturday August 23rd and September 9th from 9 am to noon at Mr. Schneck's garage. Please come and enjoy the fun day.

Zion Annual Mum Sale: Zion School is planning ahead for the annual mum sale. Mums are going to be sold for \$10.00 a pot. Order deadline is Friday, September 19th and the pickup day for the mums will be Tuesday, September 30th. The order forms are on the back table in the sanctuary.

Arts and Craft Vender Show: Zion CEA will be holding an Arts and Crafts Vendor Show on Saturday, October 11th. Any member interested in renting booth space to sell should check the back table for information and a sign-up sheet, or reach out to Stacey Sordahl (248) 345-3525; ssordahl@zionmonroe.org. Along with sellers we are looking for volunteers to help with entertainment, parking, run the Zion information booth and mark the field for vendor space. Feel free to take flyers promoting this event to spread the word to potential shoppers! This is a great opportunity for outreach into the community. Hope to see you there!

Coming up at Zion

Sunday 9:00 a.m. Worship Service
 10:15 a.m. Meet and Greet – Sharon Dorow
 10:30 a.m. Adult Bible Class

Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Worship Service

Friday Zion Office and School Closed - Holiday

Sunday 9:00 a.m. Worship Service
 10:15 a.m. Adult Bible Class

August Volunteers

	July 30 & Aug. 3	Aug. 6 & 10	Aug. 13 & 17	Aug. 20 & 24	Aug. 27 & 31
Altar Guild		Helen Heusman	& Lorrie Koenig		
Live Stream Helpers	Miller Sordahl	Steve Sordahl	Erich Freiny	Rob Krueger	Ryan Roth
Ushers	<u>July 30</u> Dave Bengé Alan Bober Matthew Hill Joe Koch Jeremy Robinson Jacob Robinson William Robinson <u>Aug. 3</u> Dave Bengé Alan Bober Matthew Hill Joe Koch Jeremy Robinson Jacob Robinson William Robinson	<u>Aug. 6</u> Ray Chandonnet Erich Freiny Rob Krueger Matthew Loos Zach Turner Bari Waltz <u>Aug. 10</u> Ray Chandonnet Erich Freiny Rob Krueger Matthew Loos Zach Turner Bari Waltz	<u>Aug. 13</u> Jake Burke Rich Heusman Jeff Heusman Juergen Koenig Matt McCormick Zach McCormick <u>Aug. 17</u> Jake Burke Rich Heusman Jeff Heusman Juergen Koenig Matt McCormick Zach McCormick	<u>Aug. 20</u> Tony Affholter Jeff Douglas Mark Fuerstenberg Bryce Mueller Ray Palmatier <u>Aug. 24</u> Tony Affholter Jeff Douglas Mark Fuerstenberg Bryce Mueller Ray Palmatier	<u>Aug. 27</u> Mark Kipf Keith McBee Dave McKenzie Joe Schmeling <u>Aug. 31</u> Mark Kipf Keith McBee Dave McKenzie Joe Schmeling
Communion Helpers	<u>July 30</u> Ken Vagt <u>Aug. 3</u> Jake Burke Rob Krueger		<u>Aug. 13</u> Alan Bober <u>Aug. 17</u> Mark Kipf Ray Palmatier		