



Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 29, 2022 + 9:00 a.m.

Congregational responses are in BOLD.

All are welcome to receive Jesus' unconditional gift of God's grace through the sacrament of Holy Communion. The people of Zion practice eucharistic hospitality.

Children of all ages are encouraged to worship with the whole community in Christ. Children's worship bags are available in the back of the sanctuary.

Page numbers that are listed are found in the front of the cranberry-colored hymnal on the bottom of the page. Hymn numbers are listed in bold, large print on the top of the page.

If you would like home communion, hospital visit, or a conversation with the pastor, please contact the church office at 715.687.4110 or at office@zionstratford.org or Interim Pastor Andrea Fluegel at 715.391.9311 or pastor@zionstratford.org.

Ministers: All the People of God through the love of Jesus and the power and gifts of the Holy Spirit

Interim Pastor: Andrea Fluegel

Administrative Assistant: Kathy Busche

Organists: Judy Polege, Marge Redetzke, Ryan Huther

Custodians: Barb Kaiser, Gerry Viegut

Missionaries: Steven & Bethany Friberg, Tanzania

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*Scripture Focus: It is possible to hear in Jesus' high priestly prayer, a prayer he offered shortly before his death, the petitions of the ascended Christ for his own throughout history—to our day—and beyond. Jesus prays for us. In holy baptism we become believers in God, have our robes washed in the flood of Christ's forgiveness, and receive the gift of life forever with all the saints.**

PRELUDE

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS/CENTERING

We Gather in Grace

INVOCATION

Blessed be the holy Trinity, +one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

HYMN

***"How Great Thou Art"* Hymn 856 vs 1, 2, 4**

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

In the waters of baptism,
we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ,
and we are a new creation.
For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God,
who was, who is, and who is to come.
We thank you, God, for your river of life,
**flowing freely from your throne:
through the earth, through the city,
through every living thing.**

You rescued Noah and his family from the flood;
You opened wide the sea for the Israelites.
Now in these waters you flood us with mercy,
and our sin is drowned forever.

**You open the gate of righteousness
and we pass safely through.**

In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters.
You nourish us and enclose us in safety.

You call us forth and send us out.

In lush and barren places, you are with us.

You have become our salvation.

Now breathe upon this water
and awaken your church once more.

Claim us again as your beloved and holy people.

Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear.

To you, our Beginning and our End,
our Shepherd and Lamb,

be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving, now and forever.

Amen

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the
communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

SPECIAL MUSIC “Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)”

Thompson Family

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray:

O God, form the minds of your faithful people into your one will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

We Hear the Word of God

FIRST READING

Acts 16:16-34

*Those who had enslaved a girl and used her powers to tell fortunes threw Paul and Silas into jail for ordering the spirit to come out of her and consequently ruining their business. In prison, Paul and Silas bring the good news of the gospel to the jailer and his family.**

PSALM

Psalm 97

*Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous.**

SECOND READING

Revelation 22:12-14,16-17,20-21

*The ascended Christ, hidden from our sight, promises to come again. We eagerly pray, "Come, Lord Jesus," with all who respond to this invitation.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

"Alleluia"

Page 151

GOSPEL**John 17:20-26**

The Holy Gospel according to John the seventeenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

*Jesus prays that the life of his followers will be characterized by an intimate unity of identity with God. To be so identified with God means also to share in God's mission: to proclaim the word that will bring others into this same unity.**

[Jesus prayed:] ²⁰"I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²²The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, ²³I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. ²⁴Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

²⁵"Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.****THE WORD*****"I Love To Tell the Story"*****Hymn 661 Vs. 1, 2****SERMON****Pastor Andrea Fluegel****HYMN OF THE DAY*****"This Is My Father's World"*****Hymn 824**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Holy God, make your people one as you and your Son are one. Extend the gifts we have been given by your Spirit to all people, especially those experiencing division or questioning your love. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Keep in our minds those who have died in war, both military and civilians. May we honor them by seeking peaceful solutions to the conflicts that arise among nations and peoples. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray that you will bless all our military men and women as they are away from their families at this time, fighting for our freedom. We know that you are the Almighty One and you will watch over them and protect them and let them know that we love them and pray for their safe return home to their families. We pray that they will stay close to you and know that you will always be there with them and for them. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, giver of all good gifts: Look on your Church with grace and guide the minds of those who shall choose a pastor for this congregation, that we may receive a faithful servant who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries. Holy Spirit reign down upon us and lead a faithful shepherd and servant to this gathered people. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant freedom to all who are overwhelmed by chronic illness, depression, or constant worry. Open them to receive health and salvation in Christ Jesus through the Spirit's gift of faith. We lift before you all the people, places and circumstances that we now name silently in our hearts and aloud with our voices... God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Stir imagination and understanding throughout the church in the work of poets, theologians, and hymn writers. Lead us into new visions and fresh expressions of your presence. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Unite us with the saints who have died and been raised in Jesus. Train us to wait with eager longing for Christ to come again, even as we sense his presence with us now. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Living God, you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together in your peaceable reign, and you welcome us all at your table. Reach out to us through this meal, and show us your wounded and risen body, that we may be nourished and believe in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Lamb of God”

Page 154

“One Bread, One Body”

Hymn 496

“I Come With Joy”

Hymn 482

BLESSING

PRAYER

We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

We Serve the World in God's Name

BENEDICTION

God, the Author of life, Christ, the living Cornerstone, and the life-giving Spirit of adoption, ✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

HYMN

“Eternal Father, Strong To Save”

Hymn 756 vs 1-3

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Additional Prayers for this Week

You are welcome to post your prayer requests or pray for others on the Zion Lutheran website at <https://zionstratford.org/prayer/>.

Mighty God, inspired by your Holy Spirit those who are afraid of losing hope, especially those for whom we now pray... Give them a fresh vision of your love, that they may find again what they fear has been lost. Grant them your powerful deliverance, through the one who makes all things new, Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

God our source, our hearts are restless until we find our rest in you. As Jesus once offered living water to a Samaritan woman at the well, so we ask you to meet our deepest needs with your eternal life. Help us to honestly name the desires that have power over us. Forgive us our injuries to self and others. Give us the strength we need to face each day. Direct our thoughts and actions toward the life that truly is life. This we ask through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Holy God, as you have accompanied your people through times of captivity, wilderness, and exile, shelter and sustain all those who flee persecution, oppression, warfare, violence, hunger, and poverty. Open our hearts and homes, our gates and doors, so that they find safety, peace, and welcome - a place to live in freedom and without fear; through Jesus Christ our refuge and hope. Amen.

WORSHIP NOTES:

Zion Lutheran Church
Open Doors, Open Hearts, Open Hands

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