



*God's Faithfulness
Through the Generations*

**God's Faithfulness
Through the Generations:
Create a Clean Heart
20th Sunday After Pentecost
Baptism of Wyatt Lee Messerschmidt
October 23, 2022 + 9:00 a.m.**

Zion-Public WiFi password: Zion54484

Congregational responses are in BOLD.

All are welcome to receive Jesus' unconditional gift of God's grace through the sacrament of Holy Communion. Regardless of your church membership or affiliation, all are encouraged to participate in communion or to come forward for a blessing.

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

Custodian: Kendra Edward

Missionaries: Steven & Bethany Friberg, Tanzania

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Confession and Forgiveness written by written by Rev Abi, and posted on Long and Winding Road. <http://vicarofwadley.blogspot.ca/>.

PRELUDE

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS/CENTERING

We Gather in Grace

CALL TO WORSHIP *(adapted from Psalm 51:1-17)*

God of salvation's joy,
we gather to celebrate and adore you.

We come, realizing that we are broken.

Forgive and re-create us.

God of unfailing love,
we gather to worship and honor you.

We come, and because of your compassion,

forgive and renew us.

God of new beginnings,
we gather to praise and thank you.

We come, and through your grace and mercy,

forgive and restore us,

so that with clean hearts we may truly worship you.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN *"Gather Us In"*

ELW #532 vs. 1, 2, 4

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
who is eager to forgive
and who loves us beyond our days. **Amen.**

Merciful God,
Have mercy on our souls,
according to your unwavering love;
according to your abundant mercy
wipe away our sins and the guilt we have carried for so long.

Instead write on our hearts your love
Your boundaries for our lives
Your salvation that sets us free from our sins.
To live the abundant life you have for each of us.

Lord,
Create in us clean hearts,
Renew your spirit within us.
Do not turn us away from your presence,
do not take your holy spirit from us.
Restore to us the joy of your salvation,
and sustain in us a willing spirit.
Write on our hearts, your love O God,
Amen.

Silence is kept for individual reflection and confession.

Day to day, God offers us mercy and hope.
Moment to moment,
we are surrounded by God's never-ending love.
Friends, trust this Good News for you!
**God takes our brokenhearted prayers
and crafts them into words of grace, of joy, of peace.
Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. Amen.**

GREETING

The love of God poured into your hearts, the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and the abundant life of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE *“O Savior, Precious Savior”*

ELW 820 vs 1 & 2

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of forgiveness, you showed your servant David the error of his ways, and forgave him for his sins. Forgive us, and help us to see how we might live differently to honor you. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

We Hear the Word of God

FIRST READING

2 Samuel 12:1-9

¹ And the Lord sent Nathan to David. He came to him and said to him, “There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor. ² The rich man had very many flocks and herds, ³ but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb that he had bought. He brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children; it used to eat of his meager fare and drink from his cup and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to him. ⁴ Now there came a traveler to the rich man, and he was loath to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him, but he took the poor man’s lamb and prepared that for the guest who had come to him.” ⁵ Then David’s anger was greatly kindled against the man. He said to Nathan, “As the Lord lives, the man who has done this deserves to die; ⁶ he shall restore the lamb fourfold because he did this thing and because he had no pity.”

⁷ Nathan said to David, “You are the man! Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand of Saul; ⁸ I gave you your master’s house and your master’s wives into your bosom and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah, and if that had been too little, I would have added as much more.

⁹ Why have you despised the word of the Lord, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and have taken his wife to be your wife and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *“Alleluia”*

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GOSPEL

Matthew

21:33-41

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the twenty-first chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. ³⁴ When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵ But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷ Then he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ ³⁹ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰ Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” ⁴¹ They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Andrea Fluegel

HYMN OF THE DAY *“Great God, Your Love Has Called Us”*

ELW #358 vs. 1, 3, 5

BAPTISM

BAPTISMAL HYMN *“Baptized and Set Free”* Hymn 453 vs 1, 4

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In gratitude and humility, let us join together in prayer on behalf of all of God’s creation.

A brief silence.

God of mercy, you are in the midst of us and we are called by your name. Inspire your church to serve and love all people with the unceasing grace you extend to us. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of all creation, you formed a world where even the sparrow finds a home. Preserve the beauty and diversity of all creatures with whom we share the earth. Lead us to protect all living things. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of peace, you are an ever-present help in time of trouble. Rescue families and nations torn apart by violence and warfare especially in the Ukraine. Unite all people toward common goals of reconciliation and peace for every person. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of hope, you stand with the suffering and give strength. Comfort your people filled with fear or anger, anxiety or shame. Bring healing to all who are sick in body, mind, or spirit. Merciful Lord, we lift before you all the people, places, and circumstances on our hearts and minds ... Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of restoration, you call us to trust in you and not ourselves alone. Make this congregation a community of humility and

repentance, ready to encounter you in love and follow in your ways. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of eternal life, to you be the glory forever. We give you thanks for all who have fought the good fight, finished the race, kept the faith, and now live with you. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

With grateful hearts we commend our spoken and silent prayers to you, O God; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

KIDS' GLOBAL OFFERING/OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Gracious God, you bless us with gifts of guidance, new life, growth in grace, and fruitful labor. Accept the first fruits of time and toil, field and orchard we offer here. Bless and multiply these gifts to our nurture and the care of your creation for the sake of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

DISTRIBUTION SONGS

"Create in Me A Clean Heart"

ELW #186

"Change My Heart, O God"

ELW #801 (sing twice)

"Father, We Have Wandered"

ELW #606

BLESSING

PRAYER

O God, in this holy communion you have welcomed us into your presence, nourished us with words of mercy, and fed us at your table. Amid the cares of this life, strengthen us to love you with all our heart, serve our neighbors with a willing spirit, and honor the earth you have made; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We Serve the World in God's Name

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor
and ✝ give you peace. **Amen.**

CLOSING SONG *"Go, My Children"*

ELW #543

DISMISSAL

We go in peace serving the Lord,
with open doors, open hearts, and open hands.
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Zion Lutheran Church

Open Doors, Open Hearts, Open Hands

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