



**Eighth Sunday After Pentecost**  
***Job's Friends***

**The Night is Long**  
**July 23, 2023 + 9am**

**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.

*\*The communion bread is homemade by congregation members and contains gluten and honey. For those with allergies or sensitivities, an alternative will be provided upon request.\**

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 at 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, a hospital visit, or a conversation with the pastor, please contact the church office at 715.687.4110 or at [office@zionstratford.org](mailto:office@zionstratford.org) or Pastor Amy Heinz at 608.498.5772 or [pastoramy@zionstratford.org](mailto:pastoramy@zionstratford.org).

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

**Pastor:** Rev. Amy Heinz

**Administrative Assistant:** Kathy Busche

**Organists:** Judy Polege, Marge Redetzke, Ryan Huther

**Custodian:** Rod Huther

**Missionaries:** Steven & Bethany Friberg, Tanzania

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## PRELUDE

## CENTERING AND BELLS' CALL TO WORSHIP

## WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

### We Gather in Grace

## OPENING LITANY

Spirit of the living God, visit us each day of our lives.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

Like a rushing wind that sweeps away all barriers,

**come, Holy Spirit.**

Like tongues of fire that set our hearts aflame,

**come, Holy Spirit.**

With speech that unites the Babel of our tongues,

**come, Holy Spirit.**

With love that overlaps the boundaries of race and nation,

**come, Holy Spirit.**

With power from above to make our weakness strong,

**come, Holy Spirit.**

**Amen\*\***

**HYMN**

*"What Is This Place"*

**ELW 524**

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

We begin in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

We express our longing for God's leading by our own transparent confession.

Righteous Father,  
we who own more than we use,  
proclaim more than we experience,  
and request more than we need,  
come asking for your forgiveness.  
We seek your salvation, then act like we save ourselves.  
We beg your forgiveness, then repeat our errors.  
We experience your grace, then act defeated.  
We rely on your power, but only in hard times.  
We have become confused and misguided.  
Forgive our every defection.  
Bring to us an unbroken commitment and a steady trust,  
through Jesus Christ, who is the way of hope, the truth of God,  
and the life of love, now and always.  
Amen.

It is true that we have sinned, but it is an even greater truth that we are forgiven through God's love in Jesus Christ. To all who humbly seek the mercy of God I say, in Jesus Christ your sin is forgiven. Live your lives in a new way—the way of love.

**Thanks be to God!**  
**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.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Gracious God,  
today we come to you in worship from a multitude of moments,  
from a variety of backgrounds, from all walks of living, yet one in  
the Spirit. We humbly give thanks that the promises we count  
upon remain true today, as they have for generation upon  
generation. Your mercies are great and everlasting, O Lord, and  
we give thanks in Jesus' name. Amen.

## We Hear the Word of God

### READING

**Job 2:11-13; 42:7-9**

<sup>11</sup> Now when Job's three friends heard of all these troubles that had come upon him, each of them set out from his home—Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite. They met together to go and console and comfort him. <sup>12</sup> When they saw him from a distance, they did not recognize him, and they raised their voices and wept aloud; they tore their robes and threw dust in the air upon their heads. <sup>13</sup> They sat with him on the ground seven days and seven nights, and no one spoke a word to him, for they saw that his suffering was very great.

**42** <sup>7</sup> After the LORD had spoken these words to Job, the LORD said to Eliphaz the Temanite: "My wrath is kindled against you and against your two friends, for you have not spoken of me what is right, as my servant Job has. <sup>8</sup> Now therefore take seven bulls and seven rams, and go to my servant Job, and offer up for yourselves a burnt offering, and my servant Job shall pray for you, for I will accept his prayer not to deal with you according to your folly, for you have not spoken of me what is right, as my servant Job has done." <sup>9</sup> So Eliphaz the Temanite and Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite went and did what the LORD had told them, and the LORD accepted Job's prayer.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### SERMON

**Who Needs Enemies When You've Got Friends?**

Rev. Amy Heinz

**APOSTLES’ CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

With boldness we approach the throne of our faithful and reigning Lord, deeply assured of mercy and grace in our time of need.

*A brief silence.*

Gracious God,  
we pray for the faithful all over the world,  
that all who love you may be united in your service.  
Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

We pray for the peoples and leaders of the nations,  
that they may be reconciled one to another  
in pursuit of your justice and peace.  
Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who suffer the effects of prejudice, greed, or  
violence, that the heart of humanity may warm with your  
tenderness.  
Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who are in need because of personal calamity,  
natural disasters, or the greed of others, that they may know the  
hope of your faithfulness through the help of others.  
Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

We pray that we may live with respect for your creation  
and use your gifts with reverence.  
Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who suffer the pain of illness, loneliness, fear, or  
loss, that those whose names are in our hearts, in the hearts of  
others, or known to you alone, may receive healing, strength, and  
courage.  
Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of compassion,  
into your hands we commend all for whom we pray,  
trusting in your mercy now and forever.  
**Amen.\*\***

### **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

### **We Share the Meal**

#### **OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**

*“Give Thanks”*

**Words on screen**

#### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Ever-present God,  
with this offering we present also ourselves:  
all that we have been,  
all that we are,  
all that we shall become,  
and our resolve to walk in your way.

Accept us and our offering, and nourish us at your table for  
service in Jesus’ name.

**Amen.\*\***

#### **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Loving God, you made this world marvelous for us to enjoy. You gave Jesus to be our Savior and friend and to bring us to you. You sent your Spirit to make us one family in Christ. For these gifts of love we thank you, and we join with angels and saints in this hymn of praise:\*\*

**SANCTUS**

*“Holy, Holy, Holy”*

**ACS 1089**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**DISTRIBUTION SONGS**

*“Lamb of God”*

**ELW p. 146**

*“I Come with Joy”*

**ELW 482**

*“As the Grains of Wheat”*

**ELW 465**

**BLESSING AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**We Serve the World in God's Name**

**BENEDICTION**

May our Lord Jesus Christ, the one who came with grace and truth, also fill your hearts with grace and truth as you serve him in the days ahead.

And may the joy of the Lord—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—be your strength. **Amen.**

**CLOSING SONG**

*"To Be Your Presence"*

**ELW 546**

**DISMISSAL**

We go in peace to serve in the Spirit of God,  
**with open doors, open hearts, and open hands.**  
**Thanks be to God!**

**POSTLUDE**

# Notes, Prayers, and Thoughts

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## **Zion Lutheran Church**

***Open Doors, Open Hearts, Open Hands***

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