



How can this be?

Twenty-second Sunday After Pentecost

Germanfest Dinner

Praise Worship

October 20, 2024 + 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 office@zionstratford.org or Pastor Amy Heinz at 608.498.5772 or 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: Maryel Schoenfuss

Missionaries: Steven & Bethany Friberg, Tanzania

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PRELUDE - ZLC Praise Choir
CENTERING AND BELLS' CALL TO WORSHIP
WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS / MISSION MOMENT

We Gather in Grace

OPENING LITANY

Almighty God, we pray for your blessing on the church in this place.

Here may the faithful find salvation
and the careless be awakened.

Here may the doubting find faith,
and the anxious be encouraged.

Here may the tempted find help,
and the sorrowful find comfort.

Here may the weary find rest,
and the strong be renewed.

Here may the aged find consolation,
and the young be inspired.

We pray in Jesus' name.

Amen**

HYMN *"We Are the Church"* **On Screen**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Gracious God,

have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

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.

Kyrie Eleison (Haitian traditional)

On Screen - ACS 1073

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of Hope,

You promised to make David's household great among the nations. Then you sent your son, Jesus, to transform this world so that all people are one in the great household of God. Show us how to live as your people so we might serve others in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

We Hear the Word of God

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

COMPLEMENTARY READING

Luke 1:26-38

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹ But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³ He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

³⁴ Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵ The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶ And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸ Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

READING

2 Samuel 7:1-17

Now when the king was settled in his house and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, ² the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." ³ Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind, for the LORD is with you."

⁴ But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, ⁵ “Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? ⁶ I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. ⁷ Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, ‘Why have you not built me a house of cedar?’ ⁸ Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel, ⁹ and I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you, and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰ And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place and be disturbed no more, and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹ from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel, and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house.

¹² When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³ He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. ¹⁴ I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me. When he commits iniquity, I will punish him with a rod such as mortals use, with blows inflicted by human beings. ¹⁵ But I will not take my steadfast love from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you. ¹⁶ Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.” ¹⁷ In accordance with all these words and with all this vision, Nathan spoke to David.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Amy Heinz

HYMN

"You Are the Seed"

WOV 753

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

Almighty God, in the presence of your bounty keep us humble,
and in the presence of all people's needs make us compassionate
and caring.

A brief silence.

We pray for all unhappy lives, those who are bitter and resentful,
those who are sensitive to criticism and quick to take offense,
those who desire their own way, whatever the inconvenience or
cost to others.

May your judgment and mercy be for their healing.

Hear our fervent prayer.

We pray for those who are lonely, who are shy and self-conscious, who find it hard to make friends, who ever feel themselves strangers in a world they can scarcely understand.

May your presence inspire confidence and ensure companionship.

Hear our fervent prayer.

We pray for those who live with bitter regrets, for loving relationships brought to ruin, for opportunities freely given and woefully abused, for the bitterness of defeat or betrayal at another's hand, or for failure in personal integrity.

May your grace give new hope to find victory at the very scene of failure.

Hear our fervent prayer.

We pray for all in illness and pain, weary of the day and fearful of the night. Grant strength to those who suffer and to those who provide care. We pause now to speak their names either aloud or silently in our hearts.

A brief silence.

May your touch, embodied in our care, bring healing and wholeness.

Hear our fervent prayer.

Bless the company of Christ's body, the church in every land. Make her eager in worship, fearless in the proclamation of the gospel, and passionate for caring.

May your Holy Spirit pour out on all people a living faith in you.

Hear our fervent prayer.

Bless our country with compassion for others. Bless our leaders with wisdom and patience. Bless our children with passion for service.

May your loving example bring an end to unhappy divisions and inspire us to live for others.

Hear our fervent prayer.

Bless each of us in the communion of the saints, and keep us ever mindful of the great cloud of witnesses who have gone before us and who will come after us. Make our imperfect faith perfect so that we may, at the last, receive the fulfillment promised to your people.

We pray in the great name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

We Share the Meal

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *“We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise”* **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.

Almighty and everlasting God, we bless you for your continual love and care for every creature. We praise you for forming us in your image and calling us to be your people. We thank you that you have not abandoned us in our rebellion against your love, but sent prophets and teachers to lead us into the way of salvation. Above all, we thank you for sending Jesus, your Son, to deliver us from the way of sin and death by the obedience of his life, by his suffering upon the cross, and by his resurrection from the dead. We thank you for the Holy Spirit, who leads us into truth, defends us in adversity, and out of every people unites us into one holy church.

Therefore with the whole company of saints in heaven and on earth we worship and glorify you, God most holy, and we sing with joy:**

SANCTUS

“Holy, Holy”

On Screen

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

DISTRIBUTION SONGS

“Lamb of God”

ELW p. 208

“Here Is Bread”

ELW 483

“Come to the Table”

ELW 481

BLESSING AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We Serve the World in God's Name

BENEDICTION

May the grace of Christ, which daily renews us, and the love of God, which enables us to love all, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, which unites us in one body, make us eager to obey the will of God until we meet again, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

CLOSING SONG

"Trees of the Field"

On Screen

DISMISSAL

We go in peace to love and serve our neighbors,
with open doors, open hearts, and open hands.
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Zion Lutheran Church

Open Doors, Open Hearts, Open Hands

213501 Legacy Street

Stratford, WI 54484-5908

715.687.4110 + <https://zionstratford.org>