

Zion Lutheran Church – LCMS 20-141 County Road X – P.O. Box 37 – Ridgeville Corners, OH 43555 Phone: (419)267-3429 Email: zionrco@bright.net Education Hour 8:45 AM - Divine Worship 10:00 AM Communion First and Third Sundays Rev. Dr. Carl Rockrohr, Pastor

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Sunday, November 15, 2020 24th Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude
Tower Bells and Welcome
Announcements

Visitors are encouraged to note their attendance by filling out the "Welcome" side (blue print) of the pew cards and putting the card into the offering plate near the entrance doors. Those taking Communion are asked to fill out the "Communion" side (black print) of the card. Completed cards may be also left on the pew seat.

Worship Notes: Face covering must be used at all times except for eating and drinking the Lord's Supper. Thus, the congregation is invited to speak and sing the parts in bold type through a face covering.

Those not taking the Lord's Supper may leave at the close of the Service of the Word as indicated in the bulletin.

Those taking the Lord's Supper may leave through any door immediately after their table is dismissed or return to their pew until the end of the Service of the Sacrament.

Opening Hymn

Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear

LSB 908

1 Lord, open now my heart to hear,
And through Your Word to me draw near;
Let me Your Word e'er pure retain;
Let me Your child and heir remain.

2 Your Word inspires my heart within; Your word grants healing from my sin; Your Word has power to guide and bless; Your Word brings peace and happiness.

(Stand) 3 To God the Father, God the Son, And God the Spirit, Three in One. Shall glory, praise, and honor be Now and throughout eternity

Confession and Absolution

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Let us then confess our sins to God our Father,

Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake He forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

Service of the Word

Introit Psalm 90:1-12, 17

1 Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world.

from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

3 You return man to dust and say,
"Return, O children of man!"
4 For a thousand years in your sight
are but as yesterday when it is past,

or as a watch in the night.

5 You sweep them away as with a flood; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning:

6 in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers.

7 For we are brought to an end by your anger;

by your wrath we are dismayed.

8 You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence.

9 For all our days pass away under your wrath; we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

10 The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty; yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away.

11 Who considers the power of your anger, and your wrath according to the fear of you?

12 So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.

17 Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us,

and establish the work of our hands upon us; yes, establish the work of our hands!

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

All: Almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Dispel from us the works of darkness and grant to us to live in the light of Your Son, Jesus Christ, that our faith may never be found wanting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Old Testament Reading Zephaniah 1:7-16

7 Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is near; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice and consecrated his guests. 8 And on the day of the LORD'S sacrifice— "I will punish the officials and the king's sons and all who array themselves in foreign attire. 9 On that day I will punish everyone who leaps over the threshold, and those who fill their master's house with violence and fraud. 10 "On that day," declares the LORD, "a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate, a wail from the Second Quarter, a loud crash from the hills. 11 Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar! For all the traders are no more; all who weigh out silver are cut off. 12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the men who are complacent.

those who say in their hearts, 'The LORD will not do good, nor will he do ill.' 13 Their goods shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them." 14 The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter; the mighty man cries aloud there. 15 A day of wrath is that day, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, 16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

L: This is the Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

1 Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. 2 For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. 3 While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. 4 But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. 5 For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. 6 So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. 7 For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. 8 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. 9 For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. 11 Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 25:14-30

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenthy-fifth chapter.

C: Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

14 "For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. 15 To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. 16 He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. 17 So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. 18 But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. 19 Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. 20 And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more.' 21 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' 22 And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here, I have made two talents more.' 23 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' 24 He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, 25 so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours.' 26 But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? 27 Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. 28 So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. 29 For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. 30 And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

Sermon Hymn

Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death

LSB 697

1 Awake, O sleeper, rise from death, And Christ shall give you light; So learn His love, its length and breadth, Its fullness, depth and height.

2 To us on earth He came to bring From sin and fear release, To give the Spirit's unity, The very bond of peace. 3 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, Who died that He might save; With kind and gentle hearts forgive As God in Christ forgave.

4 For us Christ lived, for us He died, And conquered in the strife; Awake, arise, go forth in faith, And Christ shall give you life.

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from Heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made Man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of Zion Lutheran Church

Almighty God, everlasting Father, You are worthy of being praised for all Your gifts and graces, which You have given to us, Your unworthy people. Hear us this day as we cry to You for mercy toward all people as they have need. Lord in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You have made us Your people and preserved us through the ministry of Your Word and Sacraments. Continue to pour out upon us grace upon grace, that we may be kept in faith and guarded in hope. Make Your Church throughout the world one in doctrine, confession and life, and give to Your Church faithful pastors who will preach and teach Your Word with conviction. Deliver us from confusion and error by the power of Your Holy Spirit, and raise up those who will continue to serve in faithfulness and humility. Deliver all enemies of Your Church and convert their hearts to repentance and faith. Strengthen all Christians in their faith and in their vocation of service as Your children, that we may be obedient to Your Word and receive the salvation of our souls. Lord in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Deliver the nations from oppression and ungodly rulers and governments. Bless all in authority within our own nation, that righteousness may flourish and injustice end. Bless all those places where Your people teach and learn, that our children may honor You, walk in Your commands, and show forth in their lives the fruits of the Spirit. Lord in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Prevent all disaster and calamity, deliver us from war and violence, and spare us from pestilence. Help us to know and rejoice in the good fruits of the earth, bless all noble occupations, and help the arts to flourish, that our lives may be enriched by beauty. Help us to harvest and receive with

thanksgiving the fruits of the earth You supply for our common good. Lord in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Give unity to Your people, that we may not be divided in doctrine or witness, and grant us grace, that we may come to the Lord's table and receive there the body and blood of our Lord Jesus in sincere repentance and faith. Lord in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give to the sick healing, to the suffering relief, to the grieving hope and to the dying peace. Hear us especially on behalf of those who have requested our prayers [especially ______]. Sustain us in the day of trial, deliver us from all our enemies of body and soul, and keep us steadfast in the day of trouble. Lord in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Remembering that here we have no abiding city but heaven is our home, give us Your aid so that we may by true faith and godly life prepare for the coming of our Savior, doing the works You have called us to do and accomplishing Your purpose in our daily lives. Help us to multiply Your mercy by loving our neighbor in need and loving You with all our body, soul, strength and will; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

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Please contact Pastor Rockrohr for changes to the prayer list.

Luther's Morning Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angels be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Benediction for the Service of the Word

O Lord, hear my prayer. And let my cry come to You.

Let us bless the Lord. Thanks be to God.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all. **Amen.**

Remain standing for the hymn and beginning Service of the Sacrament liturgy. Those not staying for Holy Communion may quietly exit the church during the following hymn.

1 Your table I approach; Dear Savior, hear my prayer. Let not an unrepentant heart Prove hurtful to me there. 2 Lord, I confess my sins And mourn their wretched bands; A contrite heart is sure to find Forgiveness at Your hands.

3 Your body and Your blood, Once slain and shed for me, Are taken at Your table, Lord, In blest reality.

Service of the Sacrament

P: Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts. C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P: In these last days, You have poured Your Holy Spirit on Your Church that Your daughters and sons might proclaim the wonders of Your salvation in Christ Jesus, Our Lord.

Pour out Your Holy Spirit upon Your gathered people that, faithfully eating and drinking the body and blood of Your Son, we may go forth to proclaim His salvation to the ends of the earth.

C: Amen.

The Words of Our Lord for His Holy Supper LSB 209

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. C: Amen.

C: (speak) Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace. (Congregation may be seated.)

Distribution notes: After each communing group has been dismissed from the Lord's Table, they may either directly exit the church using any door, or may return to their pew for the end of the Service of Sacrament.

Distribution Special Table

Distribution Hymns

Your Table I Approach (vs 4-6)

LSB 628

Lord Jesus, Think on Me

Jesus Comes Today with Healing

LSB 620

(NOTE: Not all hymns/verses may be needed. Organist will play as needed.)

628 (vs 4-6)

4 Search not how this takes place, This wondrous mystery; God can accomplish vastly more Than what we think could be. 5 O grant, most blessed Lord, That earth and hell combined May not about this sacrament Raise doubt within my mind.

6 Oh, may I never fail
To thank You day and night
For Your true body and true blood,
O God, my peace and light.

610

1 Lord Jesus, think on me And purge away my sin; From worldly passions set me free And make me pure within.

2 Lord Jesus, think on me, By anxious thoughts oppressed; Let me Your loving servant be And taste Your promised rest. 3 Lord Jesus, think on me Amid the battle's strife; In all my pain and misery, O be my health and life!

4 Lord Jesus, think on me Nor let me go astray; Through darkness and perplexity Point out Your chosen way.

5 Lord Jesus, think on me That, when this life is past, I may the eternal brightness see And share Your joy at last.

620

1 Jesus comes today with healing, Knocking at my door appealing, Offering pardon, grace and peace. He Himself makes preparation, And I hear His invitation: "Come and taste the blessed feast."

2 Christ Himself, the priest presiding, Yet in bread and wine abiding In this holy sacrament, Gives the bread of life, once broken, And the cup, the precious token Of His sacred covenant.

3 Under bread and wine, though lowly, I receive the Savior holy, Blood and body, given for me, Very Lamb of God from heaven, Who to bitter death was given, Hung upon the cursed tree.

4 God descends with heavenly power, Gives Himself to me this hour In this ordinary sign. On my tongue His pledge receiving, I accept His grace, believing That I taste His love divine. 5 Let me praise God's boundless favor, Whose own feast of love I savor, Bidden by His gracious call. Wedding garments He provides me, With a robe of white He hides me, Fits me for the royal hall. 6 Now have I found consolation, Comfort in my tribulation, Balm to heal the troubled soul. God, my shield from every terror, Cleanses me from sin and error, Makes my wounded spirit whole.

Closing Collect

P: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Super of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

Benediction for Service of the Sacrament

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow

LSB 805

Praise God, from whom all blessing flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Silent Prayer, Extinguish Candles Postlude Depart in His Peace

Acknowledgments

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Sermon "Destined Not for Wrath but for Salvation through Jesus"

9 For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him.

1 Thessalonians 5:9-10

I. Early Christian Hymn from Ephesians 5:4

"Awake, O sleeper, What is to be awake in Jesus?

and arise from the dead,

and Christ will shine on you." What is to be asleep in Jesus?

II. Not destined for wrath...

III. But for salvation through Jesus...

IV. Ready for Jesus, no matter our situation.

Zion Lutheran Church's Belief and Practice of the Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord Jesus gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very Body and Blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes again in glory.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's Body and Blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor.

For further study: Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f., 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Corinthians 10:14-22; 11:17-34.