

Deuteronomy 4:9 NIV

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST September 8, 2024 – 9:45 a.m.

Zion Ev. Lutheran Church

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Welcome to God's House

"Tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord." That's what



the psalmist wrote in Psalm 78. "... teaching them to obey everything I have commanded..." That's what Jesus told his disciples to do.

That's why we encourage and invest in Christian education.

<u>EDUCATION</u> May the Lord bless every effort that passes his truths on to the next generation.

God bless your worship this morning.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Opening Hymn O Christ, Who Called the Twelve #716:1, 2, 4 Christ, who called the Twelve to rise and fol - low you, for -1 0 O Christ, who taught the Twelve the truth for a - ges sealed, whose 2 the mar-tyrs' strength and song, 4 O Christ, th'_a - pos - tles' Lord, the old. fa - mil - iar ways for ven - tures bold and new: sak - ing words and works a - wak-ened faith, the of God re - vealed: ways cru - ci - fied ris - en King whom the saints be - long: and to



Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Opening Dialogue

selected Scripture from the Psalms

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.

All the nations you have made will come and worship before you, O Lord; **they will bring glory to your name.**

Future generations will be told about the Lord.

They will proclaim his righteousness, declaring to a people yet unborn.

Let this be written for a future generation, that a people not yet created may praise the Lord:

"The Lord looked down from his sanctuary on high, from heaven he viewed the earth, to hear the groans of the prisoners and release those condemned to death." Since my youth, God, you have taught me, and to this day I declare your marvelous deeds.

Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, my God, till I declare your power to the next generation, your mighty to all who are to come.

One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts.

They speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty—and I will meditate on your wonderful works.

Confession

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

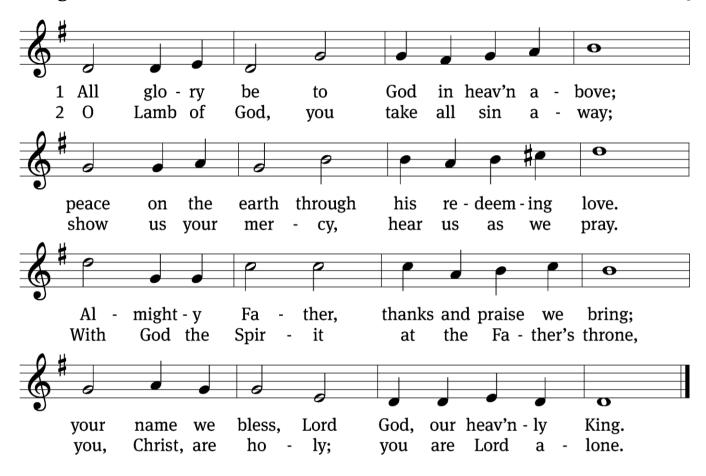
Almighty and merciful Father, we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts. We have offended you and sinned against your holy law. We have done those things that we should not have done, and we have not done those things that we should have done. Have mercy on us, Lord! Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Song of Praise



Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have committed to your Church the task of making disciples of all nations. Enlighten with your wisdom those who teach and those who learn, that, rejoicing in the knowledge of your truth, they may worship and serve you from generation to generation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Scripture Reading

My people, hear my teaching; listen to the words of my mouth. Psalm 78:1-6

² I will open my mouth with a parable; I will utter hidden things, things from of old—
³ things we have heard and known, things our ancestors have told us.
⁴ We will not hide them from their descendants; we will tell the next generation
the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders he has done.
⁵ He decreed statutes for Jacob and established the law in Israel,
which he commanded our ancestors to teach their children,
⁶ so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm of the Day

O Word of God Incarnate #642:1-2

O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high, O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky, we praise you for the radiance that from the hallowed page, a lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.

The Church from you, dear Master, received the gift divine, and still that light is lifted o'er all the earth to shine. It is the chart and compass that, all life's voyage through, mid mists and rocks and quicksands still guides, O Christ, to you.

Scripture Reading

¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, ¹⁵ and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Verse of the Day

Jeremiah 15:15

Alleluia. Your words became a joy to me, and the delight of my heart. Alleluia.

Gospel

Mark 10:13-16

¹³ People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. ¹⁴ When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. ¹⁵ Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." ¹⁶ And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.

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

2 Timothy 3:14-17

Hymn

Let children hear the mighty deeds which God performed of old, which in our younger years we saw, and which our parents told.

Make unto them his glories known, his works of pow'r and grace, and we'll convey his wonders down through ev'ry rising race.

Our sons and daughters we shall tell and they will then tell theirs, that generations yet unborn may teach them to their heirs.

O teach them with all diligence the truths of God's own Word,

to place in him their confidence, to fear and trust their Lord,

To learn that in our God alone their hope securely stands, that they may ne'er forget his works, but walk in his commands.

Sermon

Apostles' Creed

HYFRYDOL

I believe in God the Father, Maker of the heav'n and earth.
 And in Jesus Christ, our Savior, God's own Son of human birth.
 Virgin-born, the Lord incarnate, whom the Spirit did conceive;
 Suffered under Pontius Pilate; he's the God whom I believe!

Crucified, was dead and buried; down to hell in victory; From the dead he rose the third day; up to heav'n triumphantly. There at God's right hand he's ruling, by his will the world is led. He will come to judge the nations, both the living and the dead.

I believe in God the Spirit, in his Church, his chosen band. They are joined in sweet communion, holy in his sight they stand. I believe in sins forgiven; I believe I'll rise again;

I believe in life eternal. Amen! Amen! Amen!

Prayer of the Church

O Lord, you have revealed your good and gracious will to your people on earth. Forgive us for pursuing that knowledge that serves only our selfish desires and for using what we have learned to exploit and hurt others. **Cleanse our guilty hearts of the apathy we often feel for searching out the deeper truths of your Word.**

Heavenly Father, send the Spirit of Jesus into our hearts so that like the Bereans of old we may eagerly learn of you. As the deer pants for streams of water, may we be instilled with a longing to explore the mysteries of your grace.

Holy Spirit, increase in us the knowledge of your truth.

As you sent your Son among us as the Word made flesh, so bless the efforts of our Sunday School, catechism classes, bible studies, and all Christian education efforts to nurture your children of all ages in the Lord. Move parents to grasp the eternal value of keeping their children close to Jesus even when their children grow up.

Holy Spirit, instill in us a never-ending desire to share with others the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord.

God of light, give to the Church renewed wisdom and fresh understanding that the message of your salvation may shine ever brighter in this dark age. Holy Spirit, kindle in us the fire of your love so that others may see our good deeds and praise our Father in heaven.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayers and special intercessions

May your peace, which transcends all understanding, guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Amen.

Offering

The members of Zion have joined together to do the Lord's work in this community and around the world. If you are a visitor, please don't feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.

Hymn

Speak, O Savior, I Am Listening # 631

Speak, O Savior, I am list'ning, as a servant to his lord. Let me show respect and honor to your holy, precious Word, that each day, my whole life through, I may serve and follow you. Let your Word e'er be my pleasure and my heart's most precious treasure.

Oh, what blessing to be near you and to listen to your voice; let me ever love and fear you, let your Word still be my choice! Many hardened sinners, Lord, flee in terror at your Word; but to all who feel sin's burden you give peace and words of pardon.

Lord, your words are waters living where I quench my thirsty needs. Lord, your words are bread life-giving; on your words my spirit feeds. Lord, your words will be my light thro' death's cold and dreary night; yes, they are my sword prevailing and my cup of joy unfailing.

As I pray, dear Jesus, hear me; let your words in me take root. May your Spirit e'er be near me that I bear abundant fruit. May I daily sing your praise, from my heart glad anthems raise, till my highest praise is given in the endless joy of heaven.

Closing Prayer

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn Go, My Children, With My Blessing #332:1-2

Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone. Waking, sleeping, I am with you; you are my own. In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever. Go, my children, with my blessing—you are my own.

Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure. Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure. Here you heard my dear Son's story; here you touched him, saw his glory. Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.

This Week at Zion

Today:	8:30 a.m. 9:45 a.m. 10:45 a.m.	Sunday School Worship Church Picnic
Mon:	7:00 p.m.	Council meeting
Tue:	1:00 p.m.	OWLS meeting - Lomira Community Center
Wed:	6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Catechism instructions Dartball practice in the fellowship hall
Thu:	7:00 p.m.	Worship with Holy Communion
Sun:	/ > / ! ! !	. Worship with Holy Communion . Sunday School / Adult Bible study

Congratulations to Lucas and Missy Gehl on the birth of a baby boy – Walker Armand - this past Wednesday (September 4th).

In Our Prayers Rhea Schmidt, who moved to Hope Rehab in Lomira this past week; Lorraine Kell, recovering at home from a spine procedure this past week.

Sunday School began today. If you happened to miss it, don't worry. You can bring your children next Sunday at 8:30 a.m. in the church proper. Parents of Pre-K – 8th grade Make use of our program of Christian education that helps you bring up your children "in the training and instruction of the Lord."

Church Picnic Join us today after church for a bite to eat followed by a bounce house, games, fun and fellowship afterward. We thank our evangelism committee who did a ton of work to organize and prepare for today, all the volunteers who helped set up and entertain, as well as all who brought side dishes and desserts for everyone to enjoy.

Bible Study Next week begins our Sunday morning adult bible study. We'll be starting at the very beginning with an overview of the book of Genesis, which means "beginning." Deepen your understanding and appreciation of the first book of the Bible by joining us on Sunday mornings at 8:45 a.m. in the fellowship hall.

Call Decision Pastor Bode was led to return the Call to serve at Grace Lutheran Church in Waukesha. Please keep Grace Lutheran in your prayers as they continue to seek their next pastor.

We thank Barb Olsen for serving as our accompanist today.

A/V Issues If you've tried to watch our livestream or recorded worship services lately, you know that there's an issue with the audio. We know about the problems and are trying to rectify them as soon as possible. Thank you for your patience.

Blood Drive Have you registered yet for our blood drive on September 17th? If not, go to <u>www.redcrossblood.org</u> or scan the QR code on the flier on the bulletin board. Not only will your blood donation save lives, you'll get some delicious free food and a \$15 amazon gift card for your time.

Dartball League Dartball season is upon us. The projected start date is Wednesday, September 25th. We'd like to have two practices on September 11th & 18th at 7:00 p.m. All interested participants are welcome to attend even if you didn't participate last year or have never played. Any questions, please call Rustin Billings 920-979-3458.

175th **Anniversary Book** The Wisconsin Evangelical Synod will celebrate 175 years of God's blessings and grace to our church body in 2025. As part of that celebration, WELS and our synod's publisher, NPH (Northwestern Publishing House), are releasing a limited edition pictorial history book filled with captivating images and fascinating stories that cover our synod's history from 1850 to the present. This book, *Christ Through Us*, will only be available for preorder through September 30, 2024. If you're interested in receiving a copy or getting one for a friend or family member, please talk to me or sign up through the church office before that date.

Lighthouse Benefit You're invited to the 18th Annual Lighthouse Youth Center Benefit Dinner on **Friday, October 4th** at the Wisconsin Club! All proceeds raised will help to provide after school homework assistance and daily devotions for the inner city youth of Milwaukee and Appleton. To register, please visit <u>https://lyc.ejoinme.org/dinner2024</u> Space is limited and fills quickly! Deadline to register is Friday, September 20th.

Please pick up copies of the September calendar, church newsletter and the new *Forward in Christ* from the cabinets in the entryway.



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Zion Ladies' Aid



On September 22, 1949, 17 ladies met in the basement of Zion Church for the purpose of discussing plans to organize a Ladies' Aid. The Ladies' Aid of Zion Congregation became official on November 3, 1949.

The Purpose of Zion Ladies' Aid is:

- A. To increase our knowledge in Christian knowledge and practice.
- B. To foster the spirit of Christian fellowship among our members.
- C. To assist according to our ability in beautifying the church.
- D. To assist in charitable work among our fellow Christians and Synod work.

The Lord has blessed the Ladies' Aid the past 75 years in many ways. With those blessings, the Ladies' Aid has supported many missions to include:

- East Fork (Nursery) Lutheran School
- Lutheran Children Friend Society
- Bethesda
- Central Africa Medical Mission
- Missions to the children in Mexico
- New Beginnings
- Friends of China
- Calvary Academy Ministries
- LWMS's Befriend a Missionary card and monetary gifts

The Ladies' Aid has served meals for:

- Pastor Conferences
- Mission Festivals
- Funerals
- Lenten Suppers
- Advent Suppers

Some of the activities the Ladies' Aid has done to support Zion include:

- Cleaned and painted parsonage in 1972
- Provided greeting cards for members since 1974
- Made Chrismons in 2006
- Began Cradle Roll in 1985
- Participated in KML UPC rebate program from 1983
- Made desserts and provided milk for VBS
- Hosted Advent by Candlelight from 2008
- Quilting Bees to make quilts going to shelters
- Created two cookbooks
- Provide treats for KML teachers and staff
- Hosted Food Drives for Northside Lutheran Ministries and Kewaskum Food Pantry
- Provided large cross and flowers for Easter
- Have lilies available in memory of loved ones for Easter
- Visit and give gifts to shut ins
- Provided crochet edged hankies for Baptisms
- Flower chart

The Ladies' Aid has also purchased items for Zion Church.

- Paraments (altar cloths)
- Candelabras
- Bibles for the pews
- Two pianos
- Furniture in the church basement
- Refrigerator

God continues to bless the hearts of the ladies that have been a member of the Ladies' Aid. With his continued direction, the ladies will serve this congregation and missions around the world. If anyone is interested in joining the Ladies' Aid, please feel free to talk with a current member or reach out to Elaine Schulz or Chris Bode.