

Zion Lutheran Church
925 5th Avenue - Rockford, Illinois

June 23, 2024 at 9:15am

www.facebook.com/zionlutheranrockford

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



ELCA

PRELUDE

“Give Thanks”

arr. By Mark Hayes

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

Amen.

Drawn to Christ and seeking God’s abundance, let us confess our sin. God, our provider,

help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, ✝ the bread of life, you are shown God’s mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG

“Give Thanks”

(from W & P)



Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,



give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.



Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,



give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.



And now let the weak say, “I am strong,” let the poor say, “I am



rich,” be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. And



now let the weak say, “I am strong,” let the poor say, “I am



rich,” be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

BLESSING

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.

SONG OF PRAISE

“This is the Day/I Will Enter His Gates”

This is the day, This is the day
That the Lord has made, that the Lord has made.

We will rejoice, we will rejoice,
And be glad in it, And be glad in it.

This is the day that the Lord has made.

We will rejoice and be glad in it.

This is the day, This is the day
That the Lord has made.

I will enter His gates with thanksgiving in my heart,

I will enter His courts with praise.

I will say this is the day that the Lord has made.

I will rejoice for He has made me glad.

He has made me glad.

He has made me glad.

I will rejoice for He has made me glad.

He has made me glad.

He has made me glad.

I will rejoice for He has made me glad. (Repeat)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. O God of creation, eternal majesty, you preside over land and sea, sunshine and storm. By your strength pilot us, by your power preserve us, by your wisdom instruct us, and by your hand protect us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

FIRST READING Job 38:1-11

¹The LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind: ²“Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? ³Gird up your loins like a man, I will question you, and you shall declare to me. ⁴“Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding.

⁵Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? ⁶On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone ⁷when the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy? ⁸“Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb?—⁹when I made the clouds its garment, and thick darkness its swaddling band, ¹⁰and prescribed bounds for it, and set bars and doors, ¹¹and said, ‘Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stopped?’”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 107:1-3, 23-32

(Congregation reads the bold)

¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good,
for God’s mercy endures forever.

²**Let the redeemed of the LORD proclaim
that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe,**

³gathering them in from the lands;
from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

²³**Some went down to the sea in ships,
plying their trade in deep waters.**

²⁴They beheld the works of the LORD,
God’s wonderful works in the deep.

²⁵**Then God spoke, and a stormy wind arose,
which tossed high the waves of the sea.**

²⁶They mounted up to the heavens and descended to the depths;
their souls melted away in their peril.

²⁷They staggered and reeled like drunkards,
and all their skill was of no avail.

²⁸Then in their trouble they cried to the LORD,
and you delivered them from their distress.

²⁹**You stilled the storm to a whisper
and silenced the waves of the sea.**

³⁰Then were they glad when it grew calm,
when you guided them to the harbor they desired.

³¹**Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your steadfast love
and your wonderful works for all people.**

³²Let them exalt you in the assembly of the people;
in the council of the elders, let them sing hallelujah!

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 6:1-13

¹As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. ²For he says, “At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you.” See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! ³We are putting no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything. ¹¹We have spoken frankly to you Corinthians; our heart is wide open to you. ¹²There is no restriction in our affections, but only in yours. ¹³In return—I speak as to children—open wide your hearts also.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION “Ancient Words”

Holy words, long preserved, for our walk in this world,
they resound with God's own heart,
oh let the ancient words impart.

Chorus: Ancient words, ever true;
changing me and changing you,
we have come with open hearts,
oh let the ancient words impart.

Words of life, words of hope,
give us strength, help us cope,
In this world where e're we roam,
ancient words will guide us home. (Chorus)

The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 4th Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Mark 4:35-41

³⁵When evening had come, [Jesus said to the disciples,] “Let us go across to the other side.” ³⁶And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. ³⁷A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. ³⁸But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?” ³⁹He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, “Peace! Be still!” Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. ⁴⁰He said to them, “Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?” ⁴¹And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, “Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?”

The gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Denver Bitner

SONG

In Christ Alone

Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

1. In Christ a - lone, my hope is
 2. lone, who took on
 3. ground, His bod - y
 4. life, no fear in

4 found, He is my light, my strength, - my song: This cor - ner -
 flesh, full - ness of the world by dark - ness in babe! This gift -
 lay, light of the pow'r of Christ in me; Then, burst - ing
 7 death, this is the pow'r of Christ in me; From life's first

stone, this so - lid ground, Firm through the fierc - est drought and
 love and right - eous - ness, scorned by the ones He came to
 forth in in glor - ious day, breath, up from the grave He rose a -
 10 cry to fi - nal breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - ti -

storm. What heights of love, what depths of peace, When fears are
 save. 'Til on that cross stands as Je - sus died, the sin's wrath of
 gain! And as He of hell, in vic - to - ry, man, can ev - er
 13 ny. No pow'r of of hell, no scheme of man, can ev - er

stilled, when striv - ings cease, my com - for - ter, my All in
 God was sat - is - fied, For ev - 'ry sin on Him was
 lost its grip on His hand; 'Til He re - turns or He calls is
 16 pluck me from His hand; 'Til He re - turns or He calls is me

All here in the love of Christ I stand. In Christ a
 laid; Here in the death of Christ I live. There in the
 mine, Bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ. No guilt in
 home, Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

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 CHURCH

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs. Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Prayers for Civil Rights Trip Participants.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

MUSIC & OFFERING

“He’s Always Been Faithful”

Jodi Beach

Offering envelopes are available in the pews at your seat to designate gifts toward the ministries of Zion. The Offering Box is near the back, pulpit side and you can also go online at www.zionrockford.com, or you can click on the QR code.

The Prayer Table is available for you to write a prayer request and place on the cross on the table. Prayer requests will be shared with a group of people who pray at Zion. You may take a prayer shawl from the worship space if you would like.



TABLE BLESSING

“Here Is Bread”

Red Hymnal #483

Here is bread, here is wine; Christ is with us, he is with us

Break the bread, drink the wine; Christ is with us here

Here is grace, here is peace; Christ is with us, he is with us

Know his grace, find his peace; Feast on Jesus here

Refrain: In this bread there is healing

In this cup there's life forever

In this moment, by the Spirit, Christ is with us here

Here we are, joined in one

Christ is with us, he is with us

We'll proclaim, till he comes, Jesus crucified

THE MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

PRAYER

Let us pray. Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

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 God thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Holy Communion will be received up front. Please receive the container into your hand

Please peel open the top part of the communion container for the wafer.

Please peel the other side of the container for the juice.

Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

There are baskets in the middle and the back for disposal of your communion cups.



1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
2 When my way grows . . drear, pre-cious Lord, lin - ger near,
3 When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws . . near,



I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
when my life is . . . al - most . . gone,
and the day is . . . past and . . . gone,



Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.
at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.



Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.

COMMUNION SONGS "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" Red Hymnal #773

A^b **E^b/_G** **F_m** **A^bmaj7/_{E^b}**
 I cast all my cares up - on you; I

D^b **A^b/_C** **B^bm** **E^bsus** **E^b**
 5 lay all of my bur - dens down at your feet. And

A^b **E^b/_G** **A^b/_{G^b}** **D^b/_F** **D^bm/_E**
 9 an - y - time that I don't know what to do, I will

A^b2/_{E^b} **A^b/_{E^b}** **E^b7sus** **E^b** **D^b/_{A^b}** **A^b**
 13 cast all my cares up - on you.

“Cares Chorus”

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Let us pray: Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ’s resurrection, you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son’s resurrection that we may show your glory to all the world. Through Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, **✝** be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

THE SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

SENDING SONG "Blessed Assurance"

Red Hymnal #638



- 1 Bless-ed as-sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di - vine!
- 2 Per - fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
- 3 Per - fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal - va - tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir - it, washed in his blood.
an - gels de-scend-ing bring from a - bove ech - oes of mer - cy, whis-pers of love.
watch-ing and wait-ing, look - ing a - bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

Refrain



This is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav - ior all the day long:



this is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

SENDING

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Blessed Assurance"

WORSHIP LEADER'S

Communion Assistant: Lisa Palmeno and Veronica Guadalupe
Media: Cameron Kellermann
Music: Jodi Beach
Reader: Neal Tolodxi
Sound: Jeff Carlson
Usher: Charles Dahlberg
Fellowship:

BAGGING FOR CORNUCOPIA

We are in need of plastic shopping bags for the Pantry. Please drop off at the office and join us on the fourth Monday, at 1:00 PM, in the Youth Center for lots of fun while we fluff, & bag (Coffee & treats too) for Cornucopia Pantry! Thanks, Karen Kermgard.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Would you like to be a Communion Assistant, Reader, Sound, Usher, Greeter or Worship Host? You could have the assignment on the first, second, third or fourth Sunday of each month at the 9:15am worship service. Please let the church office know if you are available, interested or have a question.

WOZ-Save the Date:

Thursday July 18th - 1:00pm in the Fellowship Hall BUNCO.

Continue to look for updates in the Grapevine and weekly bulletins: WOZ Board: Sue Drilling, Maggi Hallin, Karen Kermgard, Kathy Rasch, & Linda Reinhardt.

PANTRY NEEDS FOR JUNE: Cornucopia Food is in need of **Condiments—ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise, salad dressing, etc.** to give out at the Food Bank.



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS

CROSS-CULTURAL
INTERGENERATIONAL INTERFAITH
**ZION'S 2024
CIVIL RIGHTS TRIP
TO ATLANTA**

June 20-25, 2024



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS

CROSS-CULTURAL
INTERGENERATIONAL INTERFAITH
**ZION'S 2024
CIVIL RIGHTS TRIP
CONGREGATIONAL
PRESENTATION**

10:15am, June 30, 2024



Bunco
Women of Zion

**July 18, 2024
at 1:00pm**



Sponsored and Held at Zion Lutheran Church - 925 Fifth Avenue - Rockford, IL 61104

THURSDAY 9AM-1PM

June 6 to September 26

RPS205 Parking Lot
502 Seventh Street
Rockford, IL



OUR WORSHIP SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE

<https://www.facebook.com/zionlutheranrockford>

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PRAYER CORNER! WE ASK YOU TO PRAY FOR:



- ◇ The ELCA, Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Bishop Stacie Fidler, Pastor Thomas, Pastoral Intern Rachel Perkins, Pastor Emeritus Denver Bitner, the Zion Church Council, Pastor Caleb Uk of the Burmese congregation; the Zion Staff, Zion Outreach Board, Staff and Programs of Patriots Gateway Center, Katie's Cup and Zion Development Corporation.
- ◇ Pastor Cosmas Mujungu of Sepuka/Msisi Church in Tanzania.
- ◇ Pastor Selvakumar and Arcot Lutheran Church in India.
- ◇ Mission Partner in Senegal with Pastor Mytch Dorvilier
- ◇ For the Northern Illinois Synod; North Conference churches; Midtown Lutheran Parish, faculty and students of Rockford Lutheran Schools, Rockford Area Lutheran Ministries.
- ◇ For those who grieve the loss of loved ones, especially the family of Kellie McGrath, Barbara Swain.
- ◇ For healing: Eloise Anderson, Chiquita Bills, Phyllis Brynteson, Colette Buchert, Linda Callahan, Yolanda Churchill, Norma Daugherty, Jim Duhigg, Deanna Hartenberg, Jonelle Haas, Vanda Nielsen, Linda Reinhardt, Wayne Spitzer, and Carrie Steder, Terry Morgan, Brian Veitch, and Megan Zaphel.

If you have a prayer request or a prayer of thanksgiving to share, please notify Pastor Mike or Pastoral Intern Rachel. The prayer room is upstairs to the left of the sanctuary and is available during office hours and on Sunday before and after worship services.

PROGRAMS AND MINISTRIES THIS WEEK

Sunday	9:15am	Worship
Monday	8:00am	Miss Carly's Sandwich Making—Kitchen
Wednesday	8:00am	Bible Study—Stockholm Inn
	10:00am	Staff Meeting
	11:00am	Finance Team
	5:00pm	Human Resource Committee
	6:00pm	Church Council
Thursday	9:00am	Rockford's Midtown Market—RPS Lot across from Katie's Cup
	4:30pm	Patriots Board
Friday	9:00am	Private Music Lesson—Youth Center
Saturday	1:00pm	Ruthie's Kitchen
Sunday	9:15am	Worship
	10:15am	Fellowship time Civil Right's Trip Presentation

Flower ministry sponsorship.

Today's altar flowers are sponsored by

Neal and Deb Tolodxi,

In Memory of Steve Tolodxi, who's Celebration of Life is today.

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* Pattern of Worship—resource from ELW pages 91-93

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