



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

203 E County Road A, P.O. Box 23

Stetsonville, WI 54480-0023

715-678-2208; zionlutheranстетсонвилле.com

May 9 & 12, 2024

Seventh Sunday of Easter

TODAY'S FOCUS

We will overcome this broken world.

WELCOME IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST!

Zion has been serving the spiritual needs of people since 1885. We declare God's Good News of the perfect life, innocent death and triumphant resurrection of Jesus for the forgiveness of all. Our pastor and congregation are willing to serve you in any way. Please help yourself to any information found in the narthex. Visitors are invited to sign our guest register. May God bless your worship!



BEFORE WORSHIP

Prayer: Risen and ascended Lord, You now pray for me at the throne of the Father. Keep all those whom You love in Your name, O Lord, that they may be one even as You and the Father are one. I pray this in Your name, my victorious Savior. Amen.

Personal Prayers and Meditation

Pages 10 & 134, *CW*

Hymn

“What Is the World to Me”

477, *CW*

ORDER OF SERVICE

The Service of the Word

p. 38, *CW*

Confession of Sins and Absolution

p. 38, *CW*

Oh, Taste and See

p. 39, *CW*

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, Your Son our Savior was taken up in glory and intercedes for us at your right hand. Through your living and abiding Word, give us hearts to know him and faith to follow where he has gone; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

First Scripture Lesson

Acts 6:1-9,7:2a, 51-60

Simply for proclaiming Christ, the Sanhedrin wanted to kill Stephen.

Christ used their murderous intent to enable Stephen to overcome this broken world.

¹ In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Grecian Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. ² So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, “It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. ³ Brothers, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them ⁴ and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word.”

⁵ This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. ⁶ They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

⁷ So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.

⁸ Now Stephen, a man full of God’s grace and power, did great wonders and miraculous signs among the people. ⁹ Opposition arose, however, from members of the Synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called) — Jews of Cyrene and Alexandria as well as the provinces of Cilicia and Asia. These men began to argue with Stephen,

² To this he replied: “Brothers and fathers, listen to me!

⁵¹ “You stiff-necked people, with uncircumcised hearts and ears! You are just like your fathers: You always resist the Holy Spirit! ⁵² Was there ever a prophet your fathers did not persecute? They even killed those who predicted the coming of the Righteous One. And now you have betrayed and murdered him — ⁵³ you who have received the law that was put into effect through angels but have not obeyed it.”

⁵⁴ When they heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. ⁵⁵ But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ “Look,” he said, “I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.”

⁵⁷ At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, ⁵⁸ dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their clothes at the feet of a young man named Saul.

⁵⁹ While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰ Then he fell on his knees and cried out, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he fell asleep.

Psalm 8

Page 67, CW

Second Scripture Lesson

1 John 5:1-6

St. John explains that everyone born of God overcomes the world.

¹ Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well. ² This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands. ³ This is love for God: to obey his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, ⁴ for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. ⁵ Who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

⁶ This is the one who came by water and blood — Jesus Christ. He did not come by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth.

Verse of the Day: John 14:18

Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Alleluia.

Gospel Lesson

John 17:11b-19

Jesus, our great high priest, prays that his Father would sanctify us with his truth and enable us to overcome the world.

¹¹“Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name — the name you gave me — so that they may be one as we are one. ¹²While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled.

¹³“I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. ¹⁴I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. ¹⁵My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. ¹⁷Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.”

Sermon John 17:11b-19
THE LORD'S PRAYER FOR YOU

Apostles' Creed p. 41, CW

Our Thank Offering to Our God

Prayer of the Church

P: Abiding Savior, we thank and praise You that through faith in Your death and resurrection, we are assured of a heavenly home and our own resurrection. We are confident, therefore, that our death will be a gain and that You will be exalted through it. And so we pray,

C: In death, O Lord, abide with me.

P: We thank and praise You that through faith in Your death and resurrection, we are assured of Your presence in our lives right here and now. We are confident, therefore, that our life has meaning and purpose regardless of our circumstances, and that You will be exalted through it. And so we pray,

C: In life, O Lord, abide with me.

P: We thank and praise You that whether we live or die we are Yours and that You will be exalted. And so we pray,

C: In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

P: May Your abiding presence be with those who are facing death. Help them trust in You and Your timing. Help them trust that as long as You give life, You give life meaning and purpose. Remove their fears and give them the joyful and certain hope of eternal life. And so we pray,

C: O Lord, abide with them.

P: May Your abiding presence be with those who are facing difficult circumstances. Help them trust in You and Your strength and Your ability to be at work in all things. And so we pray,

C: O Lord, abide with them.

P: May Your abiding presence be with those who have made mistakes and wrong choices in life and death issues. Help them trust in Your grace and mercy and assure them of Your rich and daily forgiveness. And so we pray,

C: O Lord, abide with them.

P: May Your abiding presence be with Your people that we may be bold in

proclaiming the message of Your presence and the difference it can make in the lives of people who are tempted to turn to death as a solution to their problems. And so we pray,

C: O Lord, abide with us.

P: May Your abiding presence be with those in this congregation who have special joys or needs.

[Special petitions may be offered here.]

Heavenly Father, you are the source of life, wisdom, and all good things. Look with favor on all mothers who have given life to their children and who nurture them with loving concern and faithful instruction. May their children honor them and call them blessed. When they become weary, sustain them with physical and spiritual rest. Hear us for the sake of your Son, Jesus, who cared for his earthly mother and in whom you are well pleased. And so we pray,

C: O Lord, abide with them and in Your name we pray. Amen.

Lord's Prayer (Traditional Version) p. 43, CW

Hymn "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me" 389, CW

Closing Prayer p. 44, CW

Benediction p. 44, CW

Closing Hymn "Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me" 433, CW

SERVING TODAY

Pastor: Rev. Richard Russow, H: 715-678-2204; C: 715-965-1782; O: 715-678-2208; RussowRnK@aol.com

Chairman: Jeff Lange, 715-748-4815

Organists: Kelly Hartl; Luanne Olson; Barbara Reiter

Ushers & Greeters: Volunteers needed

Altar Care: Esther Kraus; Jean Pitzke

ZION'S PARISH CALENDAR

Thursday (5/9) 7:00 P.M. Easter 7 Worship

Sunday (5/12) 9:30 A.M. Easter 7 Worship

10:30 A.M. Fellowship

10:45 A.M. Sunday School

10:45 A.M. Gospel of John Bible Study

Tuesday (5/14) 3:45 P.M. Confirmation Class

Thursday (5/16) 7:00 P.M. Pentecost Worship with Holy Communion
 Sunday (5/19) 9:30 A.M. Pentecost Worship with Holy Communion

STEWARDSHIP RECORD




May 2 & 5, 2024

17 + 49 = 66 Attended Easter 6Worship
 14 + 38 = 52 Attended the Lord's Supper Easter 6
 6 Streamed views

Offerings: General Fund - \$2,747.25
 Mission - \$105.00
 Copier - \$50.00
 Fellowship Freewill - \$9.00
 Total - \$2,911.25

STEWARDSHIP FOCUS ON THE SCRIPTURES: John 17:11b-19

 From the time you were a child you knew the rules about how to act in the church sanctuary. Don't run. Don't yell. Don't goof around. The church sanctuary is someplace special. It is set apart for a special purpose. That's what the word "sanctuary" means.

You, too, have been set apart. That's what the word "sanctify" means. Jesus' prayer for you is that you would be set apart for a special purpose. You are set apart by the gospel to be a child of God. You have the blessed inheritance of heaven. As a child of God, you are also set apart for a special purpose during your life in this world. Your purpose now is to honor God with all your time, energy, and all you have.

Through My Bible In 3 Years

Below is part of a 3 year Bible Reading schedule. The more we grow in God's Word, the more we will be anchored on the solid foundation of Christ crucified and arisen. The more we grow in God's Word, the more we will be prepared to give the reason for the hope that we have. (1 Peter 3:15)

5/9 Deut 28:15-66	5/10 Deut 29, 30	5/11 Deuteronomy 31
5/12 Deut 32:1-47	5/13 Deut 32:48-34:17	5/14 Mark 10:1-16
5/15 Mark 10:17-31	5/16 Mark 10:32-52	5/17 Mark 11:1-19
5/18 Mark 11:20-33	5/19 Mark 12:1-27	5/20 Mark 12:28-44

Announcements

- ✘ Look around yourself today. Is there a family member who could/should be sitting next to you? Is there a friend absent from the place where he or she would usually sit? Is there a neighbor who needs God's Word? Pick up the phone, go over to their house, and invite them to worship.
- ✘ Zion is seeking a voter to serve as the lay delegate to the Western Wisconsin District Convention, June 10-11, at Luther Prep School, Watertown, WI. Please contact Pastor Russow ASAP.
- ✘ **Large Print** editions of the order of worship are available.
- ✘ The next issue of *Meditations* is available on the counter in the entryway. We ask for a donation of \$3.00 for each regular print and \$5.00 for each Large Print. Devotions begin June 4th.
- ✘ The May *Forward In Christ*, entitled, *Faith and Fellowship*, is available on the entryway counter.
- ✘ Gifts are appreciated toward paying the \$4,000 plus for the new copier.
- ✘ The **Capital Improvement Fund** has been established to fund repairs and improvements needed for the Church property, such as replacing an air conditioning unit or the flooring. Gifts to that fund are welcome.
- ✘ **Circuit Call News:** Rev. Andrew DeGier, Trinity, Town of Berlin, has returned the Divine Call to serve Crown of Life, West Saint Paul, MN.
- ✘ **Newsletter:** Are you receiving your monthly newsletter in your preferred way? Please register your preference on the sheet on the church counter.
- ✘ **Kwik Trip Scrip:** The Ladies of Zion thank you for your participation in the Kwik Trip Scrip card program. Scrip cards may be purchased from one of the Ladies of Zion serving during Fellowship.
- ✘ **Private Communion:** If physical problems or other concerns prevent you from attending the Lord's Table, please schedule a visit with the Pastor.
- ✘ **Hospital:** Please notify Pastor Russow of your hospital stay. Some hospitals will allow limited visitation. Even if Pastor Russow is not allowed to visit, by notifying him, he can include you in his private prayers, and in the Prayer of the Church in worship, if you so desire.