

Zion Lutheran Church
925 5th Avenue - Rockford, Illinois
November 9, 2025 at 9:15am

www.facebook.com/zionlutheranrockford

TWENTYSECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



PRELUDE "He Giveth More Grace/No One Ever Cared for Me Like Jesus"
Arr. By Mark Hayes

The Holy Spirit calls and gathers us together as the people of God

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

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

**you have shown us the ways of your heart, yet we stray from your
paths. We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression and do not embrace
the freedom of your faithful promises. We ignore our neighbors. We
exploit the earth. We reject your abundance, trusting our impulses
instead of your steadfast love. Repair our relationships, restore what
we have broken,
renew our hearts, and bring us to new life. Amen.**

Hear the good news: God the Faithful One loves you, + in Christ Jesus
your sins are forgiven, and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set
free.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG

“You Servants of God”

Red Hymnal #825

1 You servants of God, your Master proclaim,
and publish abroad his wonderful name;
the name, all-victorious, of Jesus extol;
his kingdom is glorious and rules over all!

2 Ascended on high, almighty to save,
yet still he is nigh, his presence we have.
The great congregation his triumph shall sing,
ascribing salvation to Jesus, our king!

3 Salvation to God who sits on the throne!
Let all cry aloud and honor the Son.
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
fall down on their faces, and worship the Lamb.

4 Then let us adore and give him his right,
all glory and pow'r and wisdom and might,
all honor and blessing, with angels above,
and thanks never ceasing, and infinite love!

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

Refrain

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way.
Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

Verses

- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church,
for the unity of all;
for this holy house, for all who worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Refrain

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way.
Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

- 2 That we may live out your impassioned response
to the hungry and the poor;
that we may live out truth and justice and grace,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3 For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family;
for life and for love, for our work and our play,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4 For your spirit to guide;
that you center our lives in the water and the word;
that you nourish our souls with your body and blood,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

SONG OF PRAISE

"Glorify Thy Name"

Father we love You, We worship and adore You.

(Chorus)

Glorify Thy name in all the earth

Glorify Thy name, Glorify Thy name Glorify Thy name in all the earth

Jesus, we love You, we worship and adore You. (Chorus)

Spirit, we love You, we worship and adore You. (Chorus)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. O God, our eternal redeemer, by the presence of your Spirit you renew and direct our hearts. Keep always in our mind the end of all things and the day of judgment. Inspire us for a holy life here, and bring us to the joy of the resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

THE WORD

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

FIRST READING Job 19:23-27a

²³ “O that my words were written down! O that they were inscribed in a book! ²⁴ O that with an iron pen and with lead they were engraved on a rock forever! ²⁵ For I know that my vindicator lives and that in the end he will stand upon the earth; ²⁶ and after my skin has been destroyed, then in my flesh I shall see God, ^{27a} whom I shall see on my side, and my eyes shall behold, and not another.”

Word of God. Word of Promise.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 17:1-9

(Congregation reads the bold)

¹ Hear a just cause, O LORD; give heed to my cry;
listen to my prayer, which does not come from lying lips.

² **Let my vindication come forth from your presence;
let your eyes be fixed on justice.**

³ Examine my heart, visit me by night,
melt me down; you will find no impurity in me.

⁴ **I have not regarded what others do;
at the word of your lips I have avoided the ways of the violent.**

⁵ My footsteps hold fast to your well-worn path;
and my feet do not slip.

⁶ **I call upon you, O God, for you will answer me;
incline your ear to me and hear my words.**

⁷ Show me your marvelous lovingkindness,
O Savior of those who take refuge at your right hand
from those who rise against them.

⁸ **Keep me as the apple of your eye;**
hide me under the shadow of your wings,
⁹ from the wicked who assault me,
from my deadly enemies who surround me.

SECOND READING: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

¹ As to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we beg you, brothers and sisters, ² not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as though from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord is already here. ³ Let no one deceive you in any way, for that day will not come unless the rebellion comes first and the lawless one is revealed, the one destined for destruction. ⁴ He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, declaring himself to be God. ⁵ Do you not remember that I told you these things when I was still with you? ¹³ But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth. ¹⁴ For this purpose he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁵ So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter. ¹⁶ Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, ¹⁷ comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

Word of God. Word of Promise.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

“Wind of the Spirit”

Wind of the Spirit, move fresh as we worship
and fill us with hope ev’ry day. Breath of creation, blow life in our being,
and gift us with purpose, we pray; so our life is filled with meaning,
and love is what we’re breathing in the wind of the Spirit,
wind of the Spirit.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 20th Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 20:27-38

²⁷ Some Sadducees, those who say there is no resurrection, came to [Jesus] ²⁸ and asked him a question: “Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man’s brother dies leaving a wife but no children, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother. ²⁹ Now there were seven brothers; the first married a woman and died childless; ³⁰ then the second ³¹ and the third married her, and so in the same way all seven died childless. ³² Finally the woman also died. ³³ In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had married her.” ³⁴ Jesus said to them, “Those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage, ³⁵ but those who are considered worthy of a place in that age and in the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. ³⁶ Indeed, they cannot die anymore, because they are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection. ³⁷ And the fact that the dead are raised Moses himself showed, in the story about the bush, where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. ³⁸ Now he is God not of the dead but of the living, for to him all of them are alive.”

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

SERMON

Pastor Michael Thomas

SERMON SONG “I Know That My Redeemer Lives!” Red Hymnal #619

1 I know that my Redeemer lives!

What comfort this sweet sentence gives!

He lives, he lives, who once was dead; he lives, my ever-living head!

2 He lives triumphant from the grave; he lives eternally to save;
he lives exalted, throned above; he lives to rule his church in love.

3 He lives to grant me rich supply; he lives to guide me with his eye;
he lives to comfort me when faint;
he lives to hear my soul's complaint.

4 He lives to silence all my fears; he lives to wipe away my tears;
he lives to calm my troubled heart; he lives all blessings to impart.

5 He lives to bless me with his love; he lives to plead for me above;
he lives my hungry soul to feed; he lives to help in time of need.

6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;
he lives and loves me to the end; he lives, and while he lives, I'll sing;
he lives, my prophet, priest, and king!

7 He lives and grants me daily breath;
he lives, and I shall conquer death; he lives my mansion to prepare;
he lives to bring me safely there.

8 He lives, all glory to his name! He lives, my Savior, still the same;
what joy this blest assurance gives:
I know that my Redeemer lives!

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

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.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

MUSIC & OFFERING “Trusting is Believing” by Flo Price Jodi Beach

Offering envelopes are available in the pews at your seat to designate gifts toward the ministries of Zion. The Offering Box is by the prayer table.

You can also go online at www.zionrockford.com
or you can click on the QR code.



TABLE BLESSING “We Eat the Bread of Teaching”

Red Hymnal #518

Refrain

We eat the bread of teaching, drink wine of wisdom,
are given here a taste of the kingdom.

Together joined, the greatest and the least,
we all are one at Wisdom's holy feast.

- 1 Wisdom calls throughout the city, knows our hunger, and in pity gives her loving invitation to the banquet of salvation. *Refrain*

2 Simple ones whose hearts are yearning,
come and gain from Wisdom's learning;
bread and wine she is preparing,
know her loving in the sharing. *Refrain*

3 Enter with delight and singing, for her richness now is bringing
us this joyful celebration; eat and drink in jubilation. *Refrain*

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, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Please come to the front for communion today.

Receive the wafer with an open hand.

The cups of wine are red and juice is in the center and the juice is clear.

There are individual communion cups at the prayer table. By the piano.

Dispose of them in the lobby.

COMMUNION SONGS

"There Is A Redeemer"

1 There is a Redeemer, Jesus God's own Son,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.

Chorus Thank You, O my Father For giving us Your Son,
And leaving Your Spirit 'til Your work on earth is done.

2 Jesus my Redeemer, Name above all names,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, O for sinners slain. *Chorus*

3 When I stand in glory I will see His face,
And there I'll serve My King forever, In that holy place. *Chorus*

"Spirit of God Descend Upon My Heart" Red Hymnal #800

1 Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
wean it from earth, through all its pulses move;
stoop to my weakness, strength to me impart,
and make me love you as I ought to love.

2 I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,
no sudden rending of the veil of clay,
no angel visitant, no op'ning skies;
but take the dimness of my soul away.

3 Have you not bid me love you, God and King;
all, all your own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?
I see your cross; there teach my heart to cling.
Oh, let me seek you and, oh, let me find!

4 Teach me to love you as your angels love,
one holy passion filling all my frame:
the baptism of the heav'n-descended dove,
my heart an altar, and your love the flame.

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 love of God the Sovereign strengthen you, God the Son save
you, and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead. The
holy Trinity bless you  and grant you a faithful and courageous
heart now and forever.

Amen.

THE SENDING

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

SENDING SONG “Soon and Very Soon” Red Hymnal #439

Soon and very soon we are going to see the King.
Soon and very soon we are going to see the King.
Soon and very soon we are going to see the King.
Hallelujah hallelujah, we’re goin’ to see the King!
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.

No more crying there, we are going to see the king
No more crying there, we are going to see the king
No more crying there, we are going to see the king
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.

No more dying there, we are going to see the king
No more dying there, we are going to see the king
No more dying there, we are going to see the king
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.

Soon and very soon we are going to see the king
Soon and very soon we are going to see the king
Soon and very soon we are going to see the king
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.

SENDING

Go in peace. Share the harvest.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE “Blessed Assurance” arr. by Mark Hayes

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 talk with Pastor or let the church office know if you are available, interested or have a question.

WOMEN OF ZION

During the month of November we are requesting donations of **Canned soups (highly recommend chicken noodle)**. Also cereal is always in demand) for distribution at the Cornucopia Food Pantry. There is a great need for these items! A grocery cart is in the Narthex for donations, or you can bring them to the church office. You can donate to Cornucopia on our church website and we pass along the donation to the pantry organization. Thanks so much!

December 9th Tuesday 12:30 "WOZ CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON" Stockholm Inn.

Everyone buys their own lunch. We will have an optional white elephant gift exchange. Mark your calendars and watch the weekly bulletins and Grapevine for further details.

If you have any questions, please ask one of the WOZ board members.

Thank you, Sue Drilling, Margaret Hallin, Karen Kermgard, Kathy Rasch, Mary Franzen

ZION FORUM

November 9, 2025

10:30am in Fellowship Hall



TOPIC: MEDICARE UPDATES!

LED BY MICHELLE HOFFMAN,

INDEPENDENT AGENT & SPONSOR @CARS & COFFEE ROCKFORD

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



Zion's Mosaic Meal!

November 22, 2025

1:00pm in Fellowship Hall

Join us for a community meal at Ruthie's Kitchen with the Burmese Church of Zion, New Life Church, Freedom Baptist Church and Zion Lutheran Church as we celebrate a diversity of people and food in this season of gratitude!

Zion Lutheran Church - 925 Fifth Avenue - Rockford, IL



ZION FORUM

November 30, 2025

10:30am in Fellowship Hall

TOPIC: NATIVE AMERICANS & THANKSGIVING!

RICHARD RUNDALL

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



FREE TURKEY BASKET

Call Zion Lutheran Church
For A FREE Basket!

PICK-UP TBD

Looking for donations!
\$25.00 each basket!
Checks made out to
Zion Lutheran Church

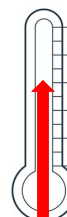


TURKEY BASKET

ORDERING 150

\$25.00 Each Basket!
\$3,750.00 Needed

Checks made out to
Zion Lutheran Church



150 Turkeys	\$3,750.00
25 Turkeys	\$625.00
25 Turkeys	\$625.00
13 Turkeys	\$325.00
88 Turkeys	\$2,150.00
88 Sponsored - 62 to go	

PRAYER CORNER! WE ASK YOU TO PRAY FOR:



- ◇ The ELCA, Presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry, Bishop Stacie Fidler, Pastor Thomas, 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.
- ◇ Senior Pastor Ndeshifose Akyoo, Assisting Pastor Evan Kiula, and Assisting Pastor Yohanna Samson Ntui of Sepuka Parish (Tanzania)
- ◇ Bishop Peter Paul Thomas and Pastor Selvakumar Arcot Lutheran Church in India and 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: Harriet Basel, Linda Reinhardt, Jerry Stalcup, and Scott Swan.
- ◇ For healing: Eloise Anderson, Colette Buchert, Linda Callahan, Yolanda Churchill, Charlie Dahlberg, Norma Daugherty, Karen Eiseman, John Hoyt, Gary Johnson, Leola LeGault, Jim McDowell, Dan Morgan, Betty Jo Rodey, Wayne Spitzer, Carrie Steder, Carl Stoutenberg, Brian Veitch, and Gary Wegner, Jr.

If you have a prayer request or a prayer of thanksgiving to share, please notify Pastor Mike. 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.

WORSHIP LEADER'S TODAY

Communion Asst.	Laurie Pellant
Fellowship:	Bonnie Dahlberg
Music:	Jodi Beach
Reader:	Pam Bitner
Usher:	Charlie Dahlberg

WORSHIP SERVICES ONLINE

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

www.youtube.com/zionrockford

Please subscribe to the Zion YouTube channel



PROGRAMS AND MINISTRIES THIS WEEK

Sunday	9:15am	Worship
	10:15am	Fellowship
	10:30	Forum: Medicare
	11:00am	Burmese Worship Service—Chapel
	1:00pm	New Life Worship Service-Conrad Room
Monday	9:30am	Book Study—Multipurpose Room
Tuesday	8:30am	RVC ESL Class—Marander Room
Wednesday	8:00am	Book Study—Stockholm Inn
	8:30am	RVC ESL Class—Marander Room
Thursday	8:30am	RVC ESL Class—Marander Room
Saturday	1:00pm	Ruthie's Kitchen
Sunday	9:15am	Worship
	10:15am	Fellowship
	11:00am	Burmese Worship Service—Chapel
	1:00pm	New Life Worship Service-Conrad Room

UPCOMING

November 23	9:15am	Worship in the Fellowship Hall
	10:30am	Advent and Christmas Decorating at Zion!
November 29 & 30	3:00pm	Handel's Messiah—Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Michael Beert Director
December 9	12:30am	WOZ Christmas Lunch/White Elephant Gift Exchange-Stockholm Inn

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