

Zion Lutheran Church

925 5th Avenue - Rockford, Illinois

October 29, 2023 at 9:15am

www.facebook.com/zionlutheranrockford

REFORMATION SUNDAY



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.

PRELUDE “A Mighty Fortress” arr. By Wilhelmi

WELCOME

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be God, the one who forms us, + Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

Amen.

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin. Steadfast and faithful God,

you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world’s violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Beloved in Christ, God’s justice stretches beyond all understanding. God’s compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In + Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

Red Hymnal #504



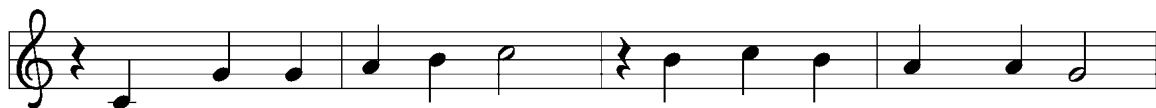
1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
 vour us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

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 (*Kyrie eleison means "Lord, have mercy"*)

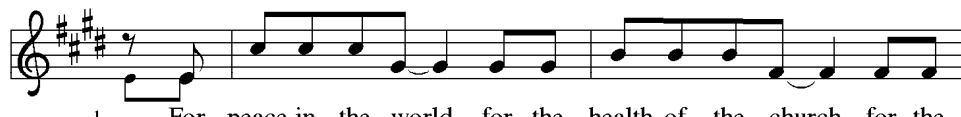
Refrain



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.



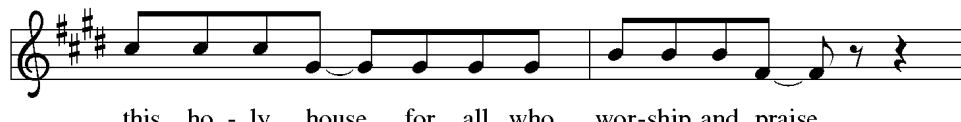
Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
2 That we may live out your im - passionate re - sponse to the
3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the




u - ni - ty of all; for
hun - gry and the poor; that
friends and fam - i - ly; for
wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,

Refrain



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

SONG OF PRAISE "Now the Feast and Celebration"

Red Hymnal #167

Refrain



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God. *Refrain*



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er. *Refrain*



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



God; to make all things new. *Refrain*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

MUSIC & OFFERING

“My Lord, What a Mornin”

Elizabeth LaGrande O’Leary, American Spiritual arr. By Mark Hayes

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 WORD

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

FIRST READING Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 46

(Congregation read bold)

¹God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

²**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

³though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

⁴**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;
God shall help it at the break of day.

⁶**The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth melts away.**

⁷The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

⁸**Come now, regard the works of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**

⁹behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

¹⁰**“Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”**

¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith

in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus. ²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

BIBLE RETIREMENT

Let us pray:

We give thanks to you, O Lord of Knowledge and Truth, that you have provided for us the written word for our guidance and growth. While words written on paper may decay, we ask that the Word made flesh, our Lord Jesus Christ, may always live in our hearts and minds. And may we seek guidance and knowledge in the wonderful array of media that is provided for us in today's world. In the name of the Living Word, Jesus Christ, we pray.

Amen.

We remember now the person(s) from whom this/these (Bible, Bibles, book, books) have come. [You may now bring your bibles up] ***(Speak the name/names or remember in silence.)***

The pages once read, now brittle and yellowing, are now returned for renewal. May they make new paper on which truth, beauty, and joy may be known.

Amen.

(If you would like a new bible they are on the Prayer Table)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



God's word is our great her - i - tage and shall be ours for - ev - er;



to spread its light from age to age shall be our chief en - deav - or.



Through life it guides our way; in death it is our stay. Lord, grant while



time shall last your church may hold it fast through-out all gen - er - a - tions.

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 8th Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

³¹Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." ³³They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?" ³⁴Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

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

SERMON

Pastoral Intern Rachel Perkins

SERMON SONG "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

Red Hymnal #596



- 1 My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je-sus' blood and righ-teous-ness;
- 2 When dark-ness veils his love-ly face, I rest on his un - chang-ing grace;
- 3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus - tain me in the rag - ing flood;
- 4 When he shall come with trum-pet sound, oh, may I then in him be found,



no mer-it of my own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
 in ev-'ry high and storm - y gale my an - chor holds with-in the veil.
 when all sup-ports are washed a-way, he then is all my hope and stay.
 clothed in his righ-teous-ness a-lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

Refrain



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is



sink - ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

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.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

TABLE BLESSING “Amazing Grace, My Chains Are Gone”

by John Newton, John P. Reese, Edwin Othello Excell, Chris Tomlin and Louie Giglio

1. Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now am found, Was blind but now I see.
2. ‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear, The hour I first believed.

Chorus: My chains are gone. I’ve been set free,
My God my Savior has ransomed me.
And like a flood His mercy reigns, Unending love, amazing grace.

3. The Lord has promised good to me, His word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be, As long as life endures. (Chorus)
4. The earth shall soon dissolve like snow, The sun forbear to shine.
But God, who called me here below,
Will be forever mine, will be forever mine.
You are forever mine.

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 GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

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

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

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

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 Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

Amen.

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.

BLESSING

The God of glory, + Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

THE SENDING

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

SENDING SONG "The Church's One Foundation" Red Hymnal #654
(next page)

SENDING

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

The Church's One Foundation



1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,



she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:
by schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.



From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
Oh, bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,



with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

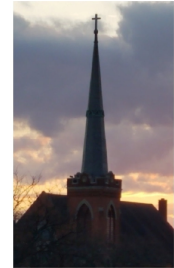


Ruthie's Kitchen

Open Saturdays
1:00-3:00pm

Zion Lutheran Church
964 Fifth Avenue - Rockford, IL 61104

Because God created everyone....
NO HUMAN IS ILLEGAL
BLACK LIVES MATTER
love is love
PEOPLE & PLANET OVER PROFITS
CELEBRATE DIVERSITY
Women's Rights are Human Rights
ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH - ROCKFORD, IL



TRICK OR TREAT PARTY


PATRIOTS GATEWAY COMMUNITY CENTER PARKING LOT

October 31, 2023
5:00-7:00pm



SAVE THE DATE

RALM TRIVIA NIGHT 2023



The big night for Rockford Area Lutheran Ministries is back on **Friday, November 3rd**. Tickets go on sale October 1st. Start assembling your teams of 6-8 people and do us proud with the breadth of your trivial knowledge!



CONGRATULATIONS!

Pastor Sui Thawng (Caleb) Uk celebrated on Saturday October 21st his ordination in his faith tradition. His church group worships in our chapel and he's been serving 10 years. He also celebrated 10 years of marriage and recent USA citizenship. We thank God for his ministry and partnership at Zion!

WELCA & Food Pantry!

Cornucopia Food is in short supply of **CEREAL** and it can't be obtained from the Food Bank. Peggy King, Cornucopia Director informs us there is a great need for **CEREAL**! A grocery cart will be in the back of the worship space for donations or you can leave them in the church office. November items: **Hamburger Helper**.

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

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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, 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 Parish
- ◇ Pastor Selvakumar and Arcot Lutheran Church in India and Sepuka/Msisi Church, Tanzania
- ◇ 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: Fred Pierce.
- ◇ For healing: Eloise Anderson, Stephanie Aitken, Colette Buchert, Yolanda Churchill, Norma Daugherty, Jim Duhigg, Deanna Hartenberg, Vanda Nielsen, Debbie Raymond, Linda Reinhardt, Becky Sharpe, Wayne Spitzer, and Neal Tolodxi.



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.

WOZ—Save the Dates

We have many fun activities planned for the Women of Zion!

November 19th Sunday Help with the reception for Pastor Katrina after the service.
We will need help serving and bringing food.

December 12th Tuesday Christmas Luncheon 12:00 Stockholm Inn.
Remember your White Elephant gift. All are welcome!
RSVP Karen K. 815.494.3864



SUNDAY WORSHIP LEADERS

Reader Jane Lightcap and Pastor Caleb Uk
Ushers
Musician Jodi Beach

OUR WORSHIP SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE 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 - Bible Retirement
Monday	8:00am	RVC ESL—Marander Room
	9:30am	Book Study—Library
Tuesday	8:00am	RVC ESL—Marander Room
	5:00pm	Trunk or Treat—Patriots Center
Wednesday	8:00am	RVC ESL—Marander Room
	8:00am	Bible Study—Stockholm Inn
	5:00pm	Private Music Lessons—Choir Room
	5:00pm	WOW—Fellowship Hall
Thursday	8:00am	RVC ESL—Marander Room
	9:00am	Miss Carly's Sandwich Prep—Kitchen
	4:30pm	Katie's Cup Board
Friday	9:00am	Private Music Lessons –Youth Center
	6:00pm	RALM Trivia Night (6-8pm) - Our Saviors
Saturday	9:00am	Indoor Market begins—Katie's Cup
	1:00pm	Ruthie's Kitchen (Emerald Grove)
Sunday	9:15am	Worship -All Saints Day
		(turn names into office by October 30th, readers needed)
	10:30am	Zion 101 Joining Zion

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

- November 16 Surviving the Holidays—Katie's Cup, 12:30-2:30pm
- November 22 Thanksgiving Eve Worship—Virtual/Prerecorded
- November 25 Stroll on State, Cars and Coffee, 2-9pm
- December 24 Christmas Eve Worship, 10:00pm (Sunday)

HOLIDAY MEAL BOXES - \$20.00 Donations for the Holiday Meal boxes for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Please send or drop off your donation or donations to Zion Lutheran Church, 915 5th Street, Rockford, IL 61104. You can also go online at www.zionrockford.com, or you can click on the QR code to donate electronically, just select Christmas Ham Baskets. You can call Jolyn at 815-964-0469, Zion Office for any questions or to request a holiday basket. Your donation will feed families that need a blessing to have a nice meal for the holidays. Romans 12:13 God wants you to take the blessings you have received and share them with others who you encounter, especially those who are in need. We don't have a date when the Holiday Meal boxes will be delivered, we will keep you updated. Volunteers and Trucks, Vans, SUV and Cars are needed to deliver the Holiday Meal boxes to Patriots Gateway Center, Blackhawk Buddy House and to Zion Lutheran Church. Contact Janice for details, 815-904-0064.

