

Zion Lutheran Church
925 5th Avenue - Rockford, Illinois

October 12, 2025 at 9:15am

www.facebook.com/zionlutheranrockford

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



PRELUDE

“Day by Day”

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, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

Amen.

Trusting in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Merciful and loving God,

we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of ✝ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

Amen.

1 Here in this place the new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings
brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken, gather us in, the blind and the lame;
all to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

2 We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry,
we are the old who yearn for your face;
we have been sung throughout all of hist'ry,
called to be light to the whole human race.

Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,
gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.

3 Here we will take the wine and the water,
here we will take the bread of new birth,
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.

Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

4 Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away—
here in this place the new light is shining,
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.

Gather us in and hold us forever,
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

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.

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. Almighty and most merciful God, your bountiful goodness fills all creation. Keep us safe from all that may hurt us, that, whole and well in body and spirit, we may with grateful hearts accomplish all that you would have us do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE WORD

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

FIRST READING 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

¹ Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favor with his master because by him the LORD had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from a skin disease. ² Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. ³ She said to her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his skin disease." ⁷ When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his skin disease? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me." ⁸ But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel." ⁹ So Naaman came with his horses and chariots and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. ¹⁰ Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean." ¹¹ But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, "I thought that for me he would surely come out and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God and would wave his hand over the spot and cure the skin disease! ¹² Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?" He turned and went away in a rage. ¹³ But his servants approached and said to him, "Father, if the proph-

et had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, ‘Wash, and be clean’?” ¹⁴ So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean. ^{15a, b, c} Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company; he came and stood before him and said, “Now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel.”

Word of God. Word of Promise.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 111

(Congregation reads the bold)

¹ Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

² **Great are your works, O LORD,
pondered by all who delight in them.**

³ Majesty and splendor mark your deeds,
and your righteousness endures forever.

⁴ **You cause your wonders to be remembered;
you are gracious and full of compassion.**

⁵ You give food to those who fear you,
remembering forever your covenant.

⁶ **You have shown your people the power of your works
in giving them the lands of the nations.**

⁷ The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice;
all of your precepts are sure.

⁸ **They stand fast forever and ever,
because they are done in truth and equity.**

⁹ You sent redemption to your people
and commanded your covenant forever;
holy and awesome is your name.

¹⁰ **The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
all who practice this have a good understanding.
God’s praise endures forever.**

SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 2:8-15

⁸ Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David—that is my gospel, ⁹ for which I suffer hardship, even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. ¹⁰ Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, so that they may also obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory. ¹¹ The saying is sure: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; ¹² if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he will also deny us; ¹³ if we are faithless, he remains faithful—he cannot deny himself. ¹⁴ Remind them of this, and warn them before the Lord that they are to avoid wrangling over words, which does no good but only ruins those who are listening. ¹⁵ Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth.

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 17th Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 17:11-19

¹¹ On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. ¹² As he entered a village, ten men with a skin disease approached him. Keeping their distance, ¹³ they called out, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” ¹⁴ When he saw them, he said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they

were made clean. ¹⁵ Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. ¹⁶ He prostrated himself at Jesus's feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷ Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? So where are the other nine?" ¹⁸ Did none of them return to give glory to God except this foreigner?" ¹⁹ Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

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

SERMON Student Deaconess Janice Forrest

SERMON SONG "Give Thanks"

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son. (repeat)

And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"
Let the poor say, "I am rich,"
Because of what the Lord has done for us.
And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"
Let the poor say, "I am rich,"
Because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

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.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

MUSIC & OFFERING “For the Autumn Sky”

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 forward for communion today up front.
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.
Dispose of them in the lobby.*

COMMUNION SONGS

“Come to the Table” Red Hymnal #481

Come to the table of mercy,
prepared with the wine and the bread.

All who are hungry and thirsty,
come, and your souls will be fed.

Come at the Lord's invitation;
receive from his nail-scarred hand.

Eat of the bread of salvation;
drink of the blood of the Lamb.

“Fill My Cup, Lord”

Fill my cup, Lord

I lift it up, Lord

Come and quench this thirsting of my soul
Bread of Heaven, feed me 'til I want no more
Fill my cup, fill it up and make me whole

“Baptized and Set Free” Red Hymnal #453

1 We are people created, chosen by God.
Then we're washed, ever gently, in mercy and love.
Sin has power no more. Jesus opened the door
to a fountain bringing healing, and wholeness and more.

2 We are fed and we're nourished, filled and refreshed.
Then our hunger returns and again we are blessed.
For whatever the need, God is greater indeed:
endless ocean, always deeper than all of our need.

3 We are nourished by water, all living things,
and by life that the Spirit abundantly brings.
As we journey toward home, may your presence be known:
precious river, ever-flowing, now carry us home.

4 Now with praise and thanksgiving, we join the song.
All are welcome! We gather to sing loud and strong.
Not enslaved, but set free! From now on, all will be
one in Jesus, one in water, baptized and set free!

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 God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who
gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, ✚ bless you now
and forever.

Amen.

THE SENDING

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

SENDING SONG

“I’m So Glad Jesus Lifted Me” Red Hymnal #860

- 1 I'm so glad Jesus lifted me.
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me.
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me,
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.
- 2 Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me.
Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me.
Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me,
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.
- 3 When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me.
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me.
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me,
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.

SENDING

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“I’m So Glad Jesus Lifted Me”

WORSHIP SERVICES ONLINE

[https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/zionlutheranrockford)

[zionlutheranrockford](https://www.facebook.com/zionlutheranrockford)

www.youtube.com/zionrockford

Please subscribe to the Zion YouTube channel

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YouTube

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twitter

BAG FLUFFING

FOR CORNUCOPIA FOOD PANTRY

Fourth Monday at 1:00pm

Zion Lutheran Church – Youth Center!

Cornucopia



Flower ministry sponsorships are available.

Today's altar flowers are sponsored by

Jodi Beach & Jim McDowell

In Honor of their 10th Anniversary on October 2.

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 October we are requesting donations of **Canned meats—tuna, chicken, etc.** (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!

Please join the Women of Zion on October 16th at 1:00 for a wonderful Fall day in the country! We will meet at Zion then carpool to a cute farm wagon near Genoa to pick out our pumpkins. From there we'll head to Prairie State Winery for more fun and conversation. Please let Karen (815-494-3864) or the church office (815) 964-4909 know if you plan to join us. The WOZ board

CELEBRATION FOR JODI BEACH

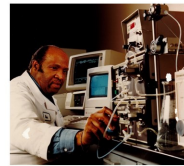
Join us today as we celebrate Jodi Beach's 20th Anniversary at Zion Lutheran Church as the Director of Music. Our Fellowship time will include a time to offer thanks for her service.

ZION FORUM
October 12, 2025
10:30am in Fellowship Hall

**Fall Faith
Festival**

TOPIC: CENTERED FAITH

A CONVERSATION WITH PASTOR THOMAS



ZION FORUM
October 19, 2025
10:30am in Fellowship Hall

RON SIMMONS "GOOD TROUBLE"

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

A CONVERSATION WITH RON SIMMONS AND OTHER

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

All Saints Day

November 2, 2025
9:15am Worship

"Light A Candle...and
Remember Your Loved Ones..."

Zion Lutheran Church



Thank you Sunday! Student Pastor Rachel!

November 2, 2025
10:15am
Fellowship & Photos

Student Pastor Rachel Perkins-Gama has been called to
serve Alpine Lutheran Church in Rockford, IL.
Worship includes a "Godspeed & Farewell" service!

Zion Lutheran Church - 925 Fifth Avenue - Rockford, IL



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



ROOFTOP REFLECTIONS

Join Pastor Mike as we discuss: "Seasons of Faith"
October 29, 2025 from 4:00-6:00pm
Embassy Suites Rooftop - Rockford, IL



PRAYER CORNER! WE ASK YOU TO PRAY FOR:



- ◇ The ELCA, Presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry, Bishop Stacie Fidler, Pastor Thomas, Pastor Elect 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 Elihuruma Ndoghwe, and Pastor Evan S. Killing of Sepuka Parish (Tanzania)
- ◇ Bishop Peter Paul Thomas of Arcot Lutheran Church in India.
- ◇ 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: Ryan Knoll, Jeanne Thomas and Harriet Basel.
- ◇ For healing: Eloise Anderson, Colette Buchert, Linda Callahan, Yolanda Churchill, Charlie Dahlberg, Danielle, Norma Daugherty, Karen Eiseman, John Hoyt, Gary Johnson, Jim McDowell, Les Morgan, Linda Reinhardt, Betty Jo Rodey, Wayne Spitzer, Carrie Steder, Jerry Stalcup, Carl Stoutenberg, Neal Tolodxi, Brian Veitch, and Gary Wegner, Jr.

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

WORSHIP LEADER'S TODAY

Communion Asst.	Laurie Pellant
Fellowship:	Sponsored by the Fall Faith Festival
Music:	Zion Combo -Jodi Beach, Tom Marken, Jim McDowell
Reader:	Pastor Denver Bitner
Usher:	Charlie Dahlberg

PROGRAMS AND MINISTRIES THIS WEEK

Sunday	9:15am	Worship
	10:15am	Fellowship
	10:30am	Forum: Centered Faith A Conversation with Pastor Mike
	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
Thursday	8:30am	RVC ESL Class—Marander Room
	8:30am	RVC ESL Class—Marander Room
	1:00pm	WOZ Wonderful Fall Day in the Country outing
Sunday	9:15am	Worship
	10:15am	Fellowship
	10:30am	Forum: Ron Simmons "Good Trouble" Scholarship Fund
	11:00am	Burmese Worship Service—Chapel
	1:00pm	New Life Worship Service-Conrad Room

UPCOMING

October 29	4:00pm	Rooftop Reflections—Embassy Suites Rooftop
November 2	9:15am	All Saints Day of Remembrance & Last Sunday for Pastor Elect Rachel
November 23	9:15am	Worship in the Fellowship Hall
	10:30am	Decorating the church for Christmas, all are welcome
December 9	Noon	WOZ Christmas Lunch/White Elephant Gift Exchange—Stockholm Inn

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