

Zion Lutheran Church
925 5th Avenue - Rockford, Illinois
June 29, 2025 at 9:15am

www.facebook.com/zionlutheranrockford

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



PRELUDE “I Want Jesus to Walk With Me”
arr. by Mark Hayes

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin. Merciful God,
**you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors
and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and
peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.
You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity,
but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy,
forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life. Amen.**

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God’s children
through faith. In the cross of + Christ, and through the power
of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ,
you are a new creation.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG

"Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death"

Red Hymnal #452



- 1 A - wake, O sleep-er, rise from death, and Christ shall give you light;
- 2 To us on earth he came to bring from sin and fear re - lease,
- 3 There is one bod - y and one hope, one Spir - it and one call,
- 4 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save;
- 5 For us Christ lived, for us he died, and con - quered in the strife.



so learn his love, its length and breadth, its full - ness, depth, and height.
 to give the Spir - it's u - ni - ty, the ver - y bond of peace.
 one Lord, one faith, and one bap - tism, one God who made us all.
 with kind and gen - tle hearts for - give as God in Christ for - gave.
 A - wake, a - rise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.

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. Sovereign God, ruler of all hearts, you call us to obey you, and you favor us with true freedom. Keep us faithful to the ways of your Son, that, leaving behind all that hinders us, we may steadfastly follow your paths, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE WORD

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

FIRST READING 1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21

¹⁵ Then the LORD said to [Elijah,] “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶ Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place.” ¹⁹ So he set out from there, and found Elisha son of Shaphat, who was plowing. There were twelve yoke of oxen ahead of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and threw his mantle over him. ²⁰ He left the oxen, ran after Elijah, and said, “Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you.” Then Elijah said to him, “Go back again; for what have I done to you?” ²¹ He returned from following him, took the yoke of oxen, and slaughtered them; using the equipment from the oxen, he boiled their flesh, and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he set out and followed Elijah, and became his servant.

Word of God. Word of Promise.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 16

(Congregation reads the bold)

¹ Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;
I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord,
my good above all other."

² **All my delight is in the godly that are in the land,
upon those who are noble among the people.**

³ But those who run after other gods
shall have their troubles multiplied.

⁴ **I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods,
never take their names upon my lips.**

⁵ O LORD, you are my portion and my cup;
it is you who uphold my lot.

⁶ **My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;
indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**

⁷ I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me night after night.

⁸ **I have set the LORD always before me;
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**

⁹ My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.

¹⁰ **For you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor let your holy one see the pit.**

¹¹ You will show me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy,
and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

SECOND READING: Galatians 5:1, 13-25

¹ For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. ¹³ For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. ¹⁴ For

the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁵ If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another. ¹⁶ Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. ¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²² By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. ²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

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 9th Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 9:51-62

⁵¹ When the days drew near for [Jesus] to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. ⁵² And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; ⁵³ but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. ⁵⁴ When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, “Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?” ⁵⁵ But he turned and rebuked them. ⁵⁶ Then they went on to another village. ⁵⁷ As they were going along the road, someone said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.” ⁵⁸ And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.” ⁵⁹ To another he said, “Follow me.” But he said, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.” ⁶⁰ But Jesus said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.” ⁶¹ Another said, “I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home.” ⁶² Jesus said to him, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.”

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

SERMON

Student Pastor Rachel Perkins-Gama

SERMON SONG

"O Master, Let Me Walk With You"

Red Hymnal #818



1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with you in low - ly
2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear,
3 Teach me your pa - tience; share with me a clos - er,
4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the



paths of ser - vice true; tell me your se - cret;
win - ning word of love; teach me the way - ward
dear - er com - pa - ny, in work that keeps faith
fu - ture's broad - 'ning way, in peace that on - ly



help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.
feet to stay, and guide them in the home - ward way.
sweet and strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong,
you can give; with you, O Mas - ter, let me live.

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.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

MUSIC & OFFERING “Awake My Soul (A Thousand Tongues)”

By Matt Maher Tim Krug

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

"O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts"

Red Hymnal #658



1 O Je - sus, joy of lov - ing hearts, the fount of
 2 We taste you, ev - er - liv - ing bread, and long to
 3 For you our rest - less spir - its yearn, wher - e'er our
 4 O Je - sus, ev - er with us stay! Make all our



life, the light of all: from ev - 'ry bliss that earth im -
 feast up - on you still; we drink of you, the foun - tain -
 chang - ing lot is cast; glad, when your smile on us you
 mo - ments fair and bright! Oh, chase the night of sin a -



parts we turn, un - filled, to hear your call.
 head; our thirst - ing souls from you we fill.
 turn, blest, when by faith we hold you fast.
 way! Shed o'er the world your ho - ly light.

"Just A Closer Walk With Thee"

Red Hymnal #697



Just a clos - er walk with thee, grant it, Je - sus, is my plea;



dai - ly walk - ing close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.



1 I am weak but thou art strong: Je - sus, keep me from all wrong;
 2 Through this world of toil and snares, if I fal - ter, Lord, who cares?
 3 When my fee - ble life is o'er, time for me will be no more;



I'll be sat - is - fied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee.
 Who with me my bur - den shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee.
 guide me gent - ly, safe - ly o'er to thy king - dom shore, to thy shore.

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 abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit ✝ bless you and give you peace.

Amen.

THE SENDING

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

SENDING SONG "Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus" Red Hymnal #802
(Words on next page)

SENDING

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

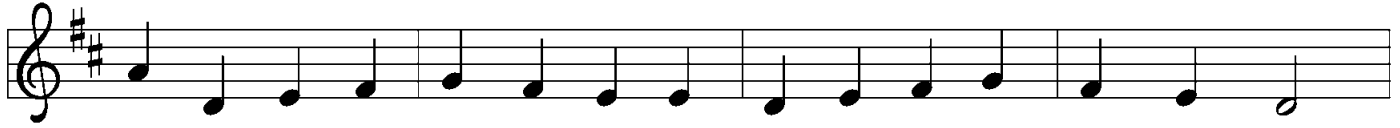
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE "Just A Closer Walk With Thee"

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, fol - low his ex - am - ple pure,
2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus, and with pa - tience bear our cross.
3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death he con - quered death,
4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en from the dead



through a world that would de - ceive us and to sin our spir - its lure.
Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; where he is there is no loss.
he will free us from de - struc - tion, give to us im - mor - tal breath.
that to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus, you are now our head,



On - ward in his foot - steps tread - ing, trav - 'lers here, our home a - bove,
Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter, we shall reap ce - les - tial joy:
Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion that would lead us in - to sin;
we are your own liv - ing mem - bers; where you live, there we shall be



full of faith and hope and love, let us do our Sav - ior's bid - ding.
all dis - com - forts that an - noy shall give way to mirth here - af - ter.
and the grave that shuts us in shall but prove the gate of heav - en.
in your pres - ence con - stant - ly, liv - ing there with you for - ev - er.



Faith - ful Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where you guide.
Je - sus, here I share your woe; help me there your joy to know.
Je - sus, here with you I die, there to live with you on high.
Je - sus, let me faith - ful be; life e - ter - nal grant to me.

2025 SYNOD ASSEMBLY HIGHLIGHTS

"Each of you has a call and gifts for living Jesus' work in the world. And you are given opportunities every day to live that out, to be the body of Jesus to someone else and to grow as a disciple. Because you, Beloved Child of God, have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. God is with you in the questions."
- Bishop Stacie Fidler



ACTIONS TAKEN

- Blessed new synod paraments, thanks to the 38 congregations who pieced together quilt blocks
- Heard from Deacon Jessica Noonan from LEAD Connects about learning from our neighbors
- Passed the Fiscal Year 2027 Northern Illinois Synod Budget
- Passed the 2026 Rostered Minister Compensation Guidelines
- Elected several members to serve on Synod Council and synod committees
- Heard from Bishop Fidler about discovering our why
- Heard from Ms. Becca Payne and Mrs. Rahel Mwitula Williams from the ELCA
- Blessed those who will be voting members at the 2025 ELCA Churchwide Assembly
- Celebrated our Rostered Minister ordination anniversaries and remembered our Rostered Ministers who died in the last year

RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were passed by the assembly:

- **R-1: Resolution for National Day of Remembrance for Indian Boarding School**
- **R-2: Northern Illinois Synod to Be a Reconciling in Christ Synod**

ELECTIONS

Synod Council

Trace Gallagher, Ms. Janice Forrest, Mr. Bill Wescott, The Rev. Shellie Knight, The Rev. Rob James

Congregational Life Committee

Mrs. Somar Bryson, Deacon Laura Gorton, The Rev. Tom Redig

Global Missions Committee

The Rev. Amy Michelson, The Rev. Ron Larson

Ministry Support Committee

Ms. Susan King, The Rev. Dr. Sharon Rogers

Outreach Committee

Ms. Cortney Breeden, Mr. Don Kinney, Mr. Dirk Hellinga, The Rev. Anthony Windau

Social Ministry Committee

Mrs. Kim Halper, The Rev. Frank Langholf

Committee on Discipline

Ms. Marcia Clausen, Mr. Shawn Wolfe, The Rev. Elise Rothfusz, The Rev. Joel VanderWal

Consultation Committee

Ms. Bev Lindsay, Mr. Ray Bergles, The Rev. Jill Flynn, The Rev. Bill Callister,



Growing Disciples
Northern Illinois Synod 2025

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 June we are requesting donations of **Ramen Noodles, Pasta or Rice** 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!

The WOZ board



WORSHIP SERVICES ONLINE

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

^ <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/articles/come-let-us-adore-him-advent-candle-lighting-liturgy-2024>

PRAYER CORNER! WE ASK YOU TO PRAY FOR:



- ◇ The ELCA, Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Bishop Stacie Fidler, Pastor Thomas, Student Pastor 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 Parish (Tanzania)
- ◇ Pastor Selvakumar and Arcot Lutheran Church in India and Pastor Mytch Dorvilier in Senegal.
- ◇ 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: family of Phyllis Mott, family of Tina Myers.
- ◇ For healing: Eloise Anderson, Phyllis Brynteson, Colette Buchert, Linda Callahan, Yolanda Churchill, Jim Duhigg, Jim McDowel, Neal Tolodxi, Linda Reinhardt, Betty Jo Rodey, Wayne Spitzer, Carrie Steder, Jeanne Thomas, Brian Veitch, and Mary Wedel.

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

Fellowship: Bonnie Dahlberg

Media:

Music: Jodi Beach

Reader:

Sound: Deangelo Brunson

Usher: Charlie Dahlberg & Kamyra Brunson

PROGRAMS AND MINISTRIES THIS WEEK

Sunday	9:15am	Worship
	11:00am	Burmese Worship Service—Chapel
	1:00pm	New Life Worship Service-Conrad Room
Wednesday	8:00am	Book Study—Stockholm Inn
Saturday	9:00am	Cars and Coffee Rockford
	1:00pm	Ruthie's Kitchen
Sunday	9:15am	Worship
	11:00am	Burmese Worship Service—Chapel
	1:00pm	New Life Worship Service-Conrad Room

UPCOMING

July 12 8:00am Bike Midtown (starts at Katie's Cup)