

Zion Lutheran Church

925 5th Avenue - Rockford, Illinois

August 13, 2023 at 9:15am

Sanctuary & Facebook Live

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



140TH ANNIVERSARY

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

Merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

Righteous God,

we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ.

Amen.

1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

Refrain: All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

2 Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek; to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: *Refrain*

3 Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us: *Refrain*

4 Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger: *Refrain*

5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: *Refrain*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us
to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters
from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and
Lord.

Amen.

MUSIC & OFFERING

Special Music

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 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.



FIRST READING 1 Kings 19:9-18

⁹At [Horeb, the mount of God,][Elijah] came to a cave, and spent the night there. Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” ¹⁰He answered, “I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.” ¹¹He said, “Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.” Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; ¹²and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. ¹³When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” ¹⁴He answered, “I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.” ¹⁵Then the LORD said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶Also 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. ¹⁷Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. ¹⁸Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 85:8-13

⁸I will listen to what the LORD God is saying;
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.

⁹**Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,
that your glory may dwell in our land.**

¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

¹¹**Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

¹²The LORD will indeed grant prosperity,
and our land will yield its increase.

¹³**Righteousness shall go before the LORD
and shall prepare for God a pathway.**

SECOND READING: Romans 10:5-15

⁵Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.” ⁶But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷“or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸But what does it say? “The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” ¹⁴But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

You are holy, you are whole. You are always ever more
than we ever understand. You are always at hand.

Blessed are you coming near. Blessed are you coming here
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.

You are holy, you are wholeness, you are present.

Let the cosmos praise you, Lord!

Sing hosanna in the highest! Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna to our God!

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 14th Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Matthew 14:22-33

²²[Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee], while he dismissed the crowds. ²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." ²⁸Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³²When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

The gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Chrissy Salser



1 Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleans-ing wa-ters flow.
2 We who bring them long for nur-ture; by your milk may we be fed.
3 Oh, how deep your ho-ly wis-dom! Un-im-ag-ined, all your ways!



Num-ber them a-mong your peo-ple; bless as Christ blessed long a-go.
Let us join your feast, par-tak-ing cup of bless-ing, liv-ing bread.
To your name be glo-ry, hon-or! With our lives we wor-ship, praise!



Weave them gar-ments bright and spark-ling; com-pass them with love and light.
God, re-new us, guide our foot-steps; free from sin and all its snares,
We your peo-ple stand be-fore you, wa-ter-washed and Spir-it-born.



Fill, a-noint them; send your Spir-it, ho-ly dove and heart's de-light.
one with Christ in liv-ing, dy-ing, by your Spir-it, chil-dren, heirs.
By your grace, our lives we of-fer. Re-cre-ate us; God, trans-form!

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

“One Bread, One Body”

Red Hymnal #496

Refrain: One bread, one body, one Lord of all;
one cup of blessing which we bless,
and we, though many throughout the earth,
we are one body in this one Lord.

1 Gentile or Jew, servant or free, woman or man, no more. *Refrain*

2 Many the gifts, many the works, one in the Lord of all. *Refrain*

3 Grain for the fields, scattered and grown, gathered to one for all. *Refrain*

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 who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed + bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

Shine, Jesus, Shine

Red Hymnal #671

Chorus: Shine, Jesus shine, fill this land with the Father's glory;
Blaze Spirit blaze, set our hearts on fire.

Flow, river flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy;
Send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light.

1. Lord, the light of Your love is shining, in the midst of the darkness shining;
Jesus, light of the world shine upon us; Set us free by the truth you now bring us.
Shine on me, shine on me. (Chorus)

2. As we gaze on your kingly brightness, So our faces display your likeness;
Ever changing from glory to glory, Mirrored here, may our lives tell your story.
Shine on me, shine on me. (Chorus)

SENDING

Go in peace. Share the harvest. Dance in community.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Please join us for Zion's 140th Anniversary Celebration!



Date: September 10, 2023 from 11:00am-2:00pm
 Place: Mau-Nah-Tee-See Club
 5151 Guilford Road, Rockford, IL 61107

CONTACT NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

Please list all attendees and food preference:

FOOD SELECTIONS

Monterey Chicken \$25.00 each # _____ \$ _____
 Chicken breast stuffed with Monterey
 cheese & prosciutto wrapped in a puffed pastry

Garlic Crusted Salmon \$25.00 each # _____ \$ _____
 5 ounce salmon served with a sauce

Vegetable Lasagna \$25.00 each # _____ \$ _____
 served with marinara sauce

ANNIVERSARY DONATIONS

I would like to Sponsor a table of eight \$200.00 _____
 Contact office with names and food choices.

Here is my donation to help defray the cost so all may attend \$ _____

Zion Lutheran Church
HOMECOMING CHOIR
October 15, 2023
9:15 a.m.



Dear Zion Choir Friend,

This year, 2023, marks the 140th Anniversary for Zion Lutheran Church and throughout the year, we are celebrating this significant occasion with many special events. On October 15th, our church will host a “Homecoming Sunday” with the Rev. Dr. Denver Bitner preaching, and we hope that you will consider “coming home” to worship with us on that day.

Through the leadership of various organists, choir directors, soloists, and members of our A Cappella and bell choirs, Zion has, indeed, carried on the tradition of our strong Lutheran musical heritage. So, in recognition of this anniversary year, we invite you to be part of our **Zion Homecoming Choir** for the service on Sunday, October 15th. There will be just one rehearsal beginning at 8:00 a.m. in the choir room on that day.

The anthem for our worship will be the song “For the Beauty of the Earth” composed by John Rutter. This piece has a tender melody with deep and lush harmonies. The text proclaims the wonder of God’s love and goodness through the gift of community with “friends on earth and friends above.” If you would like to practice this song before October 15th, please let Jodi or Mary know and they will send the music to you.

We ask that you mark your calendars and plan to join in the joy of singing and worshipping together on Sunday, October 15, 2023. Please email us so that we will know if you are able to participate or not. We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at Zion this fall!

Peace,

The Zion Worship Team

Jodi Beach, Pam Bitner, Intern Alana Harms, Mary Shore & Pastor Thomas

Contact information

jodibeach3@gmail.com

mary.shore2021@gmail.com

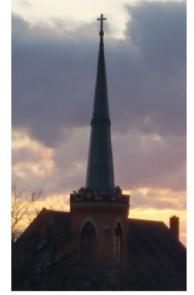


Ruthie's Kitchen

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



ZION MULTICULTURAL TEAM is asking the Zion congregation to join them in participating in this towel drive in memory of Charmaine Logwood, a Zion member, former social worker at Jubilee Center who passed in October, 2022. What we still need for reopening the showers are white towels (so they can be bleached). Specifically large towels, like a beach towel (at least 30x60).

WELCA will be collecting food for Cornucopia Food Pantry. Food is in short supply and hard to obtain from the Food Bank. Peggy King, Cornucopia Director, will give me a quarterly list of what they need, but any food item is appreciated. A grocery cart will be in the Narthex for your donations or you can leave them in the volunteer office. August items: **Canned Fruit** Thank you for your support.



ZION'S 140TH ANNIVERSARY IN 2023—How wonderful it is to celebrate the legacy of Zion.

We are looking for ideas and volunteers to lead in areas of celebration.

Please continue to help us plan events and activities.

The Chairs are Ron Simmons and Jane Lightcap

Contact them, or Pastor Mike with ideas, questions or to volunteer. Thank you.

Please join us for Zion's
140th Anniversary Celebration!

Date: September 10, 2023 from 11:00am-2:00pm

Place: Mau-Nah-Tee-See Club

5151 Guilford Road, Rockford, IL 61107

Please return reservation with payment by August 25th to:
Zion Lutheran Church—925 Fifth Avenue—Rockford, IL 61104
(Forms are available in the Narthex, and office)

OUR WORSHIP SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE

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

www.youtube.com/zionrockford

Please subscribe to the Zion YouTube channel

<https://twitter.com/ZionRockford>



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PROGRAMS AND MINISTRIES THIS WEEK

Sunday	9:15am	Worship—Guest Preacher, Pastor Chrissy Salser
	10:00am	Intern Alana preaching at Christ Lutheran Church, Stockton, IL
Monday	9:00am	Miss Carly's Sandwich Prep—Kitchen
Tuesday	3:30pm	Building and Grounds
Wednesday	8:00am	Bible Study—Stockholm Inn
	5:00pm	Private Music Lessons—Choir Room
Thursday	9:00am	Grapevine Mailing
	9:00am	Rockford Midtown Market—Katie's Cup (until 1pm)
	11:00am	Finance Committee
Friday	9:00am	Private Music Lessons—Youth Center
Saturday	1:00pm	Ruthie's Kitchen
Sunday	9:15am	Worship—Guest Preach, Pastor Julane Nease
	10:15am	Around the Tables
	1:00pm	Deanna Hartenberg's 80th Birthday Celebration—Fellowship Hall

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

August 18	Game Night at the Blackhawk Farm, 2-4pm
August 27	Farewell and Godspeed Reception for Pastoral Intern Alana Harms
September 2	Cars and Coffee — RPS Parking Lot
September 9	Midtown Strong Block Party— 201 7th Street, Noon-6pm
October 20	Harvest Celebration/Watermelon Festival, 2-4pm - Buddy House

GUEST WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY



Welcome back to our guest preacher today, Pastor Chrissy Salser. Chrissy was a member of Zion, until graduating from seminary and being ordained as a Pastor. Chrissy is now the Pastor at Christ Lutheran Church in Stockton, IL. Welcome back Pastor Chrissy!

We thank our musicians today: Pastor Bitner and Brad Roos on guitar; Kate Blair on flute and vocals; John Mueller on musical saw and percussion

PRAYER CORNER! WE ASK YOU TO PRAY FOR:

- ◇ The ELCA, Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Bishop Stacie Fidler, Pastor Thomas, Pastoral Intern Alana Harms, 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 Shadrack Langu of Sepuka Parish
- ◇ Pastor Selvakumar and Arcot Lutheran Church in India and Sepuka/Msisi Church in 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: Sharon Habing.
- ◇ For healing: Eloise Anderson, Kurt Brown, Colette Buchert, Yolanda Churchill, Jim Duhigg, Deanna Hartenberg, Mike Nelson, Vanda Nielsen, Debbie Raymond, Linda Reinhardt, Becky Sharpe, Wayne Spitzer and Ingrid Tryggestad.



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