



The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost + September 11, 2011 AD + 9:00 and 11:00 AM

“Forgiveness: Your Constant Companion”



A Prayer Upon Entering Church

Lord, you have compassion for the sinner, as a father has compassion for his children. Heal the weakness of your people and save us from everlasting death, that with the saints and angels we may praise and glorify you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen ~ *prayer for Psalm 103*

Welcome. Even as the world experiences and remembers all kinds of heartache and trouble, the Lord would have you surrounded with His comfort. He expresses this comfort, in part, through the forgiveness of sins, and today He invites us to see all of life, from home to work to church, in the light of that forgiveness.

Parents: Children are welcome at our services. For parents who desire it, a nursery with an attendant is downstairs.

*All pardon
comes from
God. In fact,
He pardons
even those
sins that re-
main in us
after confes-
sion.
~ Hilary of
Poitiers,
around
345 A.D.*

PRELUDE

“Praise and Thanksgiving”

arr. Paul Haack

RINGING OF THE BELLS

Please stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Please kneel.

(silence for reflection)

P: Most merciful God,

C: **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church, and by the authority of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen**

Please stand.

ENTRANCE HYMN

“All People That on Earth Do Dwell” green hymnal #245

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

P: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:
We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your
glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,
Lord God, Lamb of God: You take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer-cy on us. You are seat-ed at the right hand of the
Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer. For you a -
lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,
in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men

The liturgy is a continual immersion in God's grace. By repeating the angels' announcement at Christmas—"peace to his people on earth"—the liturgy once again announces that God comes to you in peace: no sins are held against you at all!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray . . . O God, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness: hear the devout prayers of your Church, especially in times of persecution, and grant that what we ask in faith we may obtain; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

Please be seated.

FIRST LESSON Genesis 50:15-21

¹⁵When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." ¹⁶So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph, Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.' And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. ²¹So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 103:1-13

L: Bless the LORD, 'O my soul,*
and all that is within me, bless his 'holy name.

**C: Bless the LORD, 'O my soul,*
and forget not 'all his benefits.**

L: He forgives 'all your sins*
and heals all 'your infirmities;

**C: he redeems your life 'from the grave*
and crowns you with mercy and 'lovingkindness;**

L: he satisfies you 'with good things,*
and your youth is renewed 'like an eagle's.

**C: The LORD executes 'righteousness*
and judgment for all who 'are oppressed.**

L: He made his ways 'known to Moses*
and his works to the chil'dren of Israel.

**C: The LORD is full of compas'sion and mercy,*
slow to anger and 'of great kindness.**

L: He will not al'ways accuse us,*
nor will he keep his an'ger forever.

**C: He has not dealt with us according 'to our sins,*
nor rewarded us according 'to our wickedness.**

L: For as the heavens are high a'bove the earth,*
so is his mercy great upon 'those who fear him.

**C: As far as the east is 'from the west,*
so far has he removed our 'sins from us.**

L: As a father cares 'for his children,*
so does the LORD care for 'those who fear him.

SECOND LESSON Romans 14:1-12

¹As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. ²One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. ³Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand. ⁵One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. ⁷For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living. ¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; ¹¹for it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God." ¹²So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

VERSE

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

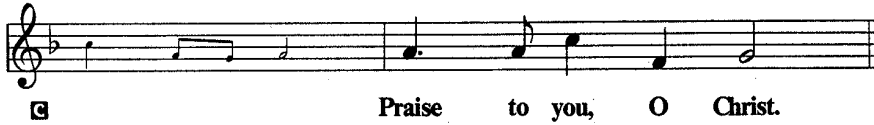
GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 18th chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

²¹Then Peter came up and said to [Jesus], “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” ²²Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven. ²³“Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. ²⁵And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. ³²Then his master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. ³⁵So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



THE APOSTLES' CREED

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 \times resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

Please be seated.

SUNDAY SCHOOL (9:00 a.m.)

During the singing of the hymn, children of preschool age through grade 4 may leave for Sunday School classes downstairs. Note: Grades 5 & 6 meet on the first and third Sundays of the month.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Come Down, O Love Divine” green hymnal #508

SERMON

“Forgiveness: Your Constant Companion”

Please kneel.

PRAYERS

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

P: . . . Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

Please be seated.

“Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.” It is not as though God did not forgive sin without and even before our prayer (He has given us the Gospel, in which is pure forgiveness before we prayed or even thought about it, Romans 5:8). But the purpose of this prayer is that we may recognize and receive such forgiveness . . .

OFFERING

While the offerings are received, please pass in your row the *Friendship Register*, and add your name(s). If you are a guest or visitor, please include your address.

VOLUNTARY

“Abide With Me”

... J.S. Bach

Please stand.

OFFERTORY

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were
sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the
hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence, and
give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

P: Let us pray . . . Merciful Father,
C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.



☐ And al - so with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.



☐ We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



☐ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right and salutary . . . we praise your name and join their un-
ending hymn:



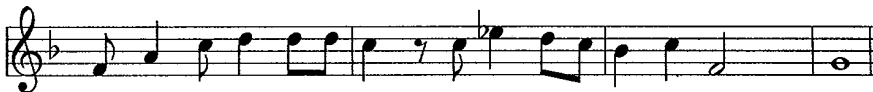
☐ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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

. . . For this same reason, he adds this necessary and even comforting addition: "as we forgive." It's not that God forgives you because you forgive others, as though you have earned it by merit . . . For God forgives freely and without condition, out of pure grace, because He has so promised, and the Gospel teaches. But if you forgive others, then you have the comfort and assurance that you are forgiven . . .

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

THE DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

... Like Baptism and the Lord's Supper, [our forgiveness of others] can serve to confirm our consciences and cause them to rejoice. It is especially given for this purpose, so that we may use and practice forgiveness at every hour, as something that we have with us at all times.

~ Martin Luther, 1528 A.D.

☐ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION HYMNS

“Today Your Mercy Calls Us” green hymnal #304

“Jesus Sinners Will Receive” green hymnal #291 (*alternate tune*)

Please stand after all have received the sacrament.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

☐ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.
Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud - ly bear his name.

He re-calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with
shouts of thanks-giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Pour out on us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

A - men

SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE

“All People That On Earth Do Dwell” ... Purcell

+ **Soli Deo Gloria** +
To God alone be glory

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**A Prayer
As You Go**
O Holy Spirit, good Comforter: having so comforted me with the forgiveness of all my sins in Jesus Christ, grant that I may meet and receive all people with the same compassion that you have shown me. Without you, I am nothing, yet you are pleased to be with me. Amen

✠ HOLY COMMUNION ✠

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Zion in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord therefore invites to His altar baptized Christians who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Children may receive the sacrament after completing first communion class. Zion holds this class at the end of the child's 4th grade year.

Distribution: You may receive the Supper at either the altar rail or the chapel. To commune at the chapel, please proceed down the center aisle with the other communicants, and inform the usher at the front pew that you desire to commune at the chapel.

Communion Cards: Both members and visitors are asked to use a "Communion Registration" card. This enables our pastors to provide ministry and personal attention within the Zion family. When visitors include a church name and city on the card, we will mail it to that church.

Today's Participants:

Presiding Pastor: Rev. Ted Gulhaugen

Preaching Pastor: Rev. Steven Gjerde

Organist: Virginia Giese

Trumpeter: Mark Wendorff

Vocalist: Steve Zeinemann

Lector: (9:00) John Ahrens

(11:00) Craig Bergendorf

Radio Announcer: (9:00) Dick Ames

Acolyte: (9:00) Aleashia Feehrer

(11:00) Teague Layman

Elder: (9:00) Marlene Kroening

(11:00) Al Lippert

Ushers: (9:00) Marty Dettmering; Lee Anderton; Janet Dettmering;

Ruth Draeger; Roger Ormond

(11:00) Al Lippert; Herbert Zahrt

Communion Assistants:

(9:00) John Ahrens; Sally Christoffersen

(11:00) Dave Gisselman; Judy Radloff

Altar Guild: Dianne Ames; Janet Dettmering

Sharing God's Blessings

- Sunday's Radio Broadcast, and the flowers at the altar, are sponsored by Marge Ebersold in loving memory of her husband, Norm, on the occasion of their 34th wedding anniversary (September 17).

Wedding

Jessica Glenetski and Justin Hoerter were married at Zion's altar on Saturday, September 10 with Pr. Gjerde presiding. May God grant rich blessings in Jessica and Justin's married life.

Death

Genevieve Bittner, age 95, mother of Anna Mae Zeinemann, fell asleep in the Lord on September 7 and now awaits the return of Christ and the resurrection of all flesh. May God comfort Anna Mae, Steve and Christina Zeinemann, and all the other family members and friends in their mourning.

Bible Study in the Church Hall

- Sunday, 10:15 a.m., Study in Acts of the Apostles
- Tuesday, 9:00 a.m., Matthew 19:23
- Thursday, 7:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast; Ezekiel 36:13

Midweek Worship

10:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Genesis 1: The First Calling Given to Mankind

Confirmation Classes Begin

Wednesday, September 14: 6:30 p.m., Parent Vespers; 7:15 p.m., Parent Meeting
Wednesday, September 21: 6:30 p.m., Students begin instruction

Studies this Fall: Since Jesus is the Life, what is Living?

Sunday Study, Starting September 25 at 10:15 a.m.: A Catechism in Human Life. What is real life? What is real living? What does it mean to be created? To be a family? To face down death? How do Baptism and Holy Communion guide our bodily life? We meet in the church hall.

Wednesday Study, Starting September 21 at 7:15 p.m.: Readings in Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Dietrich Bonhoeffer was a Lutheran pastor, theologian, and martyr. Confronted with a decadent social and political situation in Germany in the 1930's and 40's, he wrote profoundly on the Christian life. For eight weeks we will read a collection of those writings and talk about their impact on our lives in 21st-century America. We meet in the church hall.

5th and 6th Grade Students and Their Parents

... will be meeting with Pr. Gulhaugen this Sunday morning, September 11 at 10:15 a.m. in the south end of the church hall to talk about this year's pre-confirmation program.

Is it Hard to Forgive?

People often worry that, because they have not forgiven someone, they are not forgiven. On pages 8-10 of this bulletin, an extended quote from Martin Luther reflects on God's command that we forgive others, and how it relates to His free forgiveness of us. Good news!

**Volunteers
needed for
Jail Ministry**

If you would consider being a volunteer for Jail Ministry, and would like more information, please call the church office; or talk to one of Zion's pastors.

**Ushers for
Saturday
Night**

More ushers for Saturday night worship are needed. Please contact the church office if you are interested.

**Every
Sunday**

The Wausau Daily Herald may be purchased in the narthex or near the church office to benefit Zion youth.

Altar Guild Meeting

Zion's Altar Guild will begin the 2011-12 year with a meeting this Monday, September 12 at 7:00 p.m. in the church hall. All Guild members should be present to receive their new schedule, and to hear Pastor Gjerde speak to our group. Guests are welcome.

Lutheran CORE Guest

Lutheran Coalition for Renewal is a network of Lutheran congregations dedicated to supporting churches in the traditional faith and moral teachings of the Church. Zion's church council has recommended that Zion begin relating to CORE. On Monday, October 10, Pastor Roy Harrisville III will visit Zion for an informational meeting, held at 7:00 p.m. in the church hall.

September Missions of Zion:

New Tribes Missions, Kirk and Mary Thornton: Zion's goal is \$1,000

Lutheran Bible Translators, Chris, Janine and Sean Plugger: Zion's goal is \$2,000: Chris, Janine, and Sean Plugger are truly indebted to Zion for our love and generosity towards them and their upcoming work to translate the Bible in Zambia. The Pluggers know that the way Zion would have them repay that debit is by sharing that love and generosity to the Nsenga people on our behalf, and by faithfully doing the work that we are sending them to do in Africa. ... *From the bottom of our hearts, thank you! The Pluggers*

Health Kit Project

It is time again to be planning for the annual Health Kit Project spearheaded by the Concordia Guild. Your contribution of any of the following items will enable us to again assemble and send to Lutheran World Relief 100 kits. **The items needed this year are:** toothbrushes, large combs (8" or larger), fingernail clippers, bath size wrapped soap, Band aids (boxes of all one size works best), washcloths, and hand towels. Donated items may be put in the box outside the church office labeled "Health Kits." Thank you for your generous donations which will be assembled on Tuesday, September 27 and sent out on October 1.

Workshop from Thrivent Financial

Do you know what your Social Security benefits are? Find out how to read and understand your statement and what it could mean to your financial future. Join us for a free educational workshop on Thursday, September 15, 7:00 p.m. at the Thrivent Financial office at 411 Grand Ave., Rothschild. The workshop is presented by Eric Jacobson, Financial Associate and Gene Hellman, Financial Consultant. Wine and cheese will be served during the workshop. Please RSVP Lois at: **715-355-0605** (this was erroneously listed in the Sept. newsletter as 715-355-0606) or email: lois.stasko@thrivent.com; or register at Thrivent.com/findaworkshop by September 14.

THIS WEEK AT ZION:

September 10—18, 2011

- Sat. 2:30 pm** Glenetski / Hoerter wedding
5:15 pm Communion Service
- Sun. PENTECOST 13**
9:00 am Communion Service, broadcast on WSAU Radio
9:15 am Sunday School Starts
10:15 am Bible Study
11:00 am Communion Service
- Mon. 6:00 pm** Mission Team
7:00 pm Altar Guild meeting
- Tues. 9:00 am** Adult Bible Study
10:30 am Staff Meeting
4:00 pm Morality in Media
5:15 pm Thrivent East Marathon Co. Chapter meeting
6:30 pm Elders
- Weds. 10:00 am** Matins
1:00 pm Jail Ministry
6:30 pm Vespers
7:15 pm Catechism – Parents Meeting
- Thurs. 7:00 am** Men’s Bible Class
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal
- Sat. 5:15 pm** Communion Service
- Sun. PENTECOST 14**
9:00 am Communion Service, broadcast on WSAU Radio
9:15 am Sunday School
10:15 am Bible Study
11:00 am Communion Service

ATTENDANCE: 9/3, 4 & 7:

<u>Saturday 5:15 pm:</u>	58
<u>Sunday:</u>	
9:00 am	117
11:00 am	49
<u>Wednesday:</u>	
10:00 am	7
6:30 pm	<u>11</u>
Total:	242

**Zion Singles
Retreat**

... for all single adults (unmarried, divorced, widows and widowers), **Saturday, Sept. 17,** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at St. Anthony’s Retreat Center in Marathon City. What does it mean to follow Jesus as a single person? Explore the answer with Zion’s pastors. Lunch is provided. Cost: \$10. Call the church office (715-848-7286) to sign up.

**Strassenfest
is October 8**

Refer to the response sheet in today’s bulletin, to let us know how you can participate in this yearly event!

Zion Lutheran Church

Sixth and Grant Streets, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403

Those who trust in the Lord shall be like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but abides forever. (Psalm 125:1)

Telephone: 715-848-7286

Steven K. Gjerde, Senior Pastor
Theodore B. Gulhaugen, Associate Pastor
Virginia Giese, Kantor
Pam Gabriel, Office Manager
Anna Mae Zeinemann, Secretary
Michael Renken, Head Custodian
Roger Ormond, Custodian

Learning Center: 715-845-7404

Theresa Blake, Directress

To contact us by email:

zion@dwave.net

**For more information,
please visit our webpage:**

www.zionlutheranwausau.com

Host of the Wausau Lutheran Hour

Sundays, 9:00 am, WSAU Radio 550AM

Live Streaming on the Internet

WSAU.com; "Listen Live"