



The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost + September 25, 2011 AD + 9:00 and 11:00 AM

“The Joy of the Kingdom”



A Prayer Upon Entering Church

Lord our God, you show us your ways of compassion and love, and you spare sinners. Remember not our sins; relieve our misery; satisfy the longing of your people; and fulfill all our hopes for eternal peace through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

~ *Prayer for Psalm 25*

Welcome. In today’s Gospel lesson, Jesus faces down His critics with the story of two sons, one who at first ignores his father, and then obeys, and another who first promises to obey, but then strays. Which son truly did his father’s will, and what challenge or promise does his example speak to us today?

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

*If our mouths
are dumb,
then He
speaks. If we
with our wis-
dom and our
power are at
an end, then
He speaks
His great
Word to us:
“Behold, I am
with you al-
ways, until
the end of the
age!” With
these words
He once sent
His apostles
into the
world, to
tasks which
humanly
speaking
were impossi-
ble, to desti-
nations which
they knew
not. And they
joyously went
the unknown
way*

PRELUDE

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

“Come, Let Us Join Our Cheerful Songs” green hymnal #254

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

... They knew His forgiveness, His peace, His power were with them. "Behold, I am with you always"—this is the mystery of the Church. For upon what does the Church rest? No, not our faith, not on the holiness of our lives—then it would have long since dwindled out of history—but solely on Christ the Lord.
~ Herman Sasse, 1929 A.D.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray . . . Almighty God, you exalted your Son to the place of all honor and authority. Enlighten our minds by your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen**

Please be seated.

CHORAL RESPONSE

“The Only Son From Heaven”

German Chorale

Harmonization by J.S. Bach

FIRST LESSON Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

¹The word of the LORD came to me: ²“What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, ‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge’? ³As I live, declares the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die. ²⁵“Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? ²⁶When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. ²⁷Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. ²⁸Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? ³⁰“Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live.”

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 25:1-9

Choir/ To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul; | my God, I put my 'trust in you;*

L: let me not be humiliated, | nor let my enemies triumph 'over me.

C: Let none who look to you be 'put to shame;*
let the treacherous be disappointed 'in their schemes.

Choir/ Show me your 'ways, O LORD,*
L: and teach 'me your paths.

C: Lead me in your 'truth and teach me,*
for you are the God of my salvation; |
in you have I trusted all 'the day long.

Choir/ Remember, O LORD, your compas'sion and love,*
L: for they are from 'everlasting.

C: Remember not the sins of my youth and 'my transgressions;*
remember me according to your love |
and for the sake of your good'ness, O LORD.

Choir/ Gracious and upright 'is the LORD;*
L: therefore he teaches sinners 'in his way.

C: He guides the humble in 'doing right*
and teaches his way 'to the lowly.

Choir/ All the paths of the LORD are 'love and faithfulness*
L: to those who keep his covenant and his 'testimonies.

SECOND LESSON Philippians 2:1-4 , 14-18

¹So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ²complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. ¹⁴Do all things without grumbling or questioning, ¹⁵that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. ¹⁷Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. ¹⁸Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

In the words of the Gospel lesson, Christ comes to His people and speaks to them anew. This is the climax of the reading of the Scriptures to which the first two lessons point, and it is a principal way in which Christ is present in the liturgy . . .

VERSE

G 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 21st chapter.

G Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

²³And when [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴Jesus answered them, "I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?" And they discussed it among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' ²⁶But if we say, 'From man,' we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet." ²⁷So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁸"What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹And he answered, 'I will not,' but afterward he changed his mind and went. ³⁰And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, 'I go, sir,' but did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did not afterward change your minds and believe him."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to you, O Christ.

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 ☩ 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 in the church hall. Please reclaim your children after the divine service.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“O God, My Faithful God” green hymnal #504

SERMON

“The Joy of the Kingdom”

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.

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.*

*. . . . The Gospel, therefore, has a different character than the other readings The people stand when the Gospel is announced and greet Christ, who comes in the Gospel, with the acclamation, “Glory to you, O Lord.”
~ Manual on the Liturgy, 1979 A.D.*

VOLUNTARY

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 unending 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

In this Supper, therefore, you are given a sure sign from God Himself that you are united with Christ and His saints and have all things in common with them, that Christ's sufferings and life are your own, together with the lives and sufferings of the saints. Therefore whoever does injury to the believer does injury to Christ and all the saints, as He says through the prophet, "You are the apple of my eye"

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 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

☐ 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.

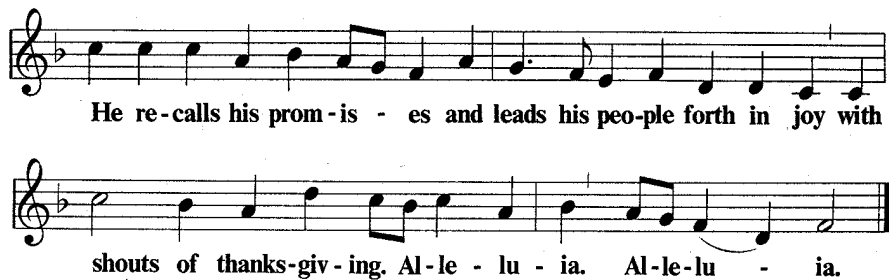
COMMUNION HYMNS

- “Renew Me, O Eternal Light” green hymnal #511
- “O Master, Let Me Walk with You” green hymnal #492

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 - joice and proud - ly bear his name.



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.



SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE

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

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*... On the other hand, whoever does the believer a kindness does it to Christ and all His saints, as He says in Matthew 25: "As you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me." Man must be willing to share all the burdens and misfortunes of Christ and His saints, the cost as well as the profit.
~ Martin Luther, 1519 A.D.*

A Prayer As You Go
O Lord, as you have shown me your grace and salvation, so also show me your ways and teach me your paths.
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

Guest Organist: Dr. Michael Burkhardt

Choir: (9:00) Zion Kantorei

Vocalist: (11:00) Jim Speckhard

Lector: (9:00) Michael Goetsch

(11:00) Jim Rosenberg

Radio Announcer: (9:00) John Rich

Acolyte: (9:00) Natasha Clark

(11:00) Henry Beam

Elder: (9:00) Marlene Kroening

(11:00) Bob Thomas

Ushers: (9:00) Kathy LaPorte; Sally Christoffersen;

Larry and Marilyn Schubring

(11:00) Al Lippert; Herbert Zahrt

Communion Assistants:

(9:00) Grace Mueller; Tom Olson

(11:00) Gary Gisselman; Judy Radloff

Altar Guild: Pam Hoppe; Wendy Sternberg

For You This Week September 24—October 2, 2011

Sharing God's Blessings

- Sunday's Radio Broadcast is sponsored in loving memory of Albert F. Beckman's September 29th birthday by family and friends.

Funeral

Althea Weik, age 93, fell asleep in the Lord on September 23 and now awaits the return of Christ and the resurrection of all flesh. Althea will be given Christian burial on Tuesday, September 27 at 11:00 a.m. at Peterson/Kraemer Funeral Home, 1302 6th St., Wausau, with visitation at 10:00 a.m. at the funeral home. May God comfort Althea's family and friends in their mourning.

Bible Study in the Church Hall

- Sunday, 10:15 a.m., A Catechism on Human Life: Being a Creature
- Tuesday, 9:00 a.m., Matthew 22:15
- Thursday, 7:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast; Ezekiel 39:1

Midweek Worship

10:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Revelation 14:1-13 (Second Commandment)

Guest Musician

We are blessed to have Dr. Michael Burkhardt as guest organist and director for our Sunday morning services. Dr. Burkhardt will also be the guest artist for Zion's hymn festival this Sunday at 3:00 p.m.

Organ Concert Series

Dr. Michael Burkhardt will present "Journeys—A Festival of Hymns" featuring Zion Lutheran Kantorei, Trinity Sanctuary Choir, brass, timpani, and handbells this Sunday, September 25 at 3:00 p.m. A reception will follow the festival. Join us for an inspiring and memorable afternoon!

Choir Open House

If you are interested in trying choir, Zion's Kantorei will have an open house this Thursday, September 29 at 6:30 p.m. in the south balcony.

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.

Free for the Taking

In our hymnals you will find a bookmark about the hymn festival. The bookmark is free for the taking—take home or share with someone else!

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.

September Missions of Zion

Lutheran Bible Translators, Chris, Janine and Sean Pluger: goal is \$2,000; New Tribes Missions, Kirk and Mary Thornton: goal is \$1,000

"We have met our new leadership and many new staff and missionaries in Salitiga, Java. One of our goals is to start an evangelism training program for our students and staff. We plan to start in English and God has shown us that we can find English speaking Indonesians to share with! This is the first year in some time that we are without an automobile due to the collision of March 2010 which totaled our vehicle so the dry days are a blessing. Please pray for God's direction and provision in the decision about getting another vehicle. Right now we don't have the finances." . . .
Sid (Kirk) and Mary Thornton

Health Kit Project

Concordia Guild is asking for your contribution of any of the following items which will enable us to assemble and send 100 kits to Lutheran World Relief.

URGENTLY NEEDED ITEMS: hand towels, washcloths, toothbrushes, and fingernail clippers. 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 this Tuesday, September 27 and sent out on October 1.

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. **Note: The Attic Treasures Booth is in need of vintage and antique hats and linens, and antique furniture.** Anyone may bring their donations to the gym on Friday, October 7 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Swiss Steak Luncheon tickets are available in the church office.

Abensessen is October 9

Refer to the insert sheet in today's bulletin for information about Abendessen. **Advance tickets only.** Tickets are available at the church office through Oct. 5.

Young at Heart

... meets on Wednesday, September 28 at 1:30 p.m. in the church hall. All adult seniors age 60+ are welcome to attend.

Bread Baking Fundraiser at Zion

Phyllis Bliese will be baking French bread loaves the morning of Friday, Sept. 30. Place your order by signing up on the sheet in the church office; or you may place your order by calling the church office by Thursday, September 29.

Concordia Guild

... meets on Thursday, October 6 at 7:00 p.m. in the church hall. The program will be "Butterflies, Butterflies, and More Butterflies" given by Zion parishioner, Darla Zastrow, who is the Associate Lecturer in the Biology Department at the U.W. Marathon County. Darla is also a volunteer at the Robert W. Monk Gardens, located at 1895 N. 1st Avenue in Wausau.

THIS WEEK AT ZION:

September 24—October 2, 2011

- Sat.** 9:30 am Brass Rehearsal
1:30 pm Choir Rehearsal
5:15 pm Holy Communion
- Sun.** **PENTECOST 15**
9:00 am Holy Communion, broadcast on WSAU Radio
9:15 am Sunday School
10:15 am 5th & 6th Grade meet with the Pastor
10:15 am Bible Study: A Catechism on Human Life
11:00 am Holy Communion
3:00 pm Michael Burkhardt “Hymn Festival” Concert
- Mon.** 10:00 am Christmas Tea Committee (church hall)
- Tues.** 9:00 am Adult Bible Study
10:30 am Staff Meeting
11:00 am Althea Weik funeral (Peterson/Kraemer on 6th St.)
1:00 pm Health Kits assembled in church hall
- Weds.** 10:00 am Matins
1:00 pm Jail Ministry
1:30 pm Young at Heart
6:30 pm Vespers
7:15 pm Catechism
7:15 pm Readings on the Christian Life
- Thurs.** 7:00 am Men’s Bible Class
6:30 pm Choir Open House (south balcony)
- Sat.** 5:15 pm Holy Communion
- Sun.** **PENTECOST 16**
9:00 am Holy Communion, broadcast on WSAU Radio
9:15 am Sunday School
10:15 am Bible Study: A Catechism on Human Life
11:00 am Holy Communion

ATTENDANCE: 9/17, 18 & 21:

<u>Saturday 5:15 pm:</u>	61
<u>Sunday:</u>	
9:00 am	189
11:00 am	57
<u>Wednesday:</u>	
10:00 am	9
6:30 pm	<u>34</u>
Total:	350

Altar Guild Members

If you were unable to attend our meeting on September 12, please pick up your 2011-12 informational booklet, which is on the counter top in the Altar Guild sacristy. Also, your \$10 yearly dues may be dropped off at the church office, and they will be directed to the Altar Guild treasurer.

Soup and Sandwich Benefit for Merrill Tornado Families

... Sunday, October 9 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at St. Andrew Lutheran Church, 3200 N. Mountain Rd., Wausau.

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"