

Zion Lutheran Church
September 15, 2024



Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed are you Creator of the universe. You made us in your image and made us partners with you in the ongoing creation and care of the earth and all that lives on it. We confess that we have too often forsaken our divine likeness and our vocation. We confess those sins before you and one another.

Silence for reflection

God of Grace, we confess that we have sinned against you and your creation in our thoughts, words and deeds. We have lived selfishly and exploited the earth's resources for our own sake. We have judged, neglected, and mistreated others. Forgive our sins and bring us to walk joyfully in communion with you, our neighbors near and far, and all your creation.

P: With the whole church, we affirm that we are made in God's image, redeemed by Christ, and empowered by the Spirit. In Christ, your sins are forgiven and we stand forgiven and redeemed before God. May God the Spirit guide us and strengthen us to walk in the Way of Jesus. **Amen**

Gathering Hymn *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* **ELW 257 vv. 1, 6-8**
Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also with you.

Kyrie

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord

R: Lord have mercy

For the reign of God and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord

Lord have mercy

For your people here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your word let us pray to the Lord

Lord have mercy

Help, save, and defend us, O God.

Amen

Canticle of Praise *Give to Our God Immortal Praise* **ELW 848**

Prayer of the Day

God of hope, Two unexpected pregnancies, two special babies. May we too experience the joy of Elizabeth and Mary as we contemplate the incarnation of Jesus. In Jesus' name we pray,

Amen.

Gospel – Luke 1:26-56

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹ But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³ He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴ Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a

virgin?" ³⁵The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born^[c] will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

³⁹In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴²and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

⁴⁶And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,

⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

⁴⁸ for he has looked with favor on the lowly state of his servant.

Surely from now on all generations will call me blessed,

⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me,

and holy is his name;

⁵⁰ indeed, his mercy is for those who fear him

from generation to generation.

⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm;

he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

⁵² He has brought down the powerful from their thrones

and lifted up the lowly;

⁵³ he has filled the hungry with good things

and sent the rich away empty.

⁵⁴ He has come to the aid of his child Israel,

in remembrance of his mercy,

⁵⁵ according to the promise he made to our ancestors,

to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

⁵⁶And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.

Silence

Children's sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day *For All the Faithful Women* **ELW 419 vv 1, 6, last**

Apostle's 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 Intercession

Exchange of Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you all

R: And also with you.

Please share the peace with one another

Offering

Offertory

Create in Me

ELW 186

Offertory Prayer

Lords prayer

ELW pg. 145

Benediction

May the Lord bless and keep you; the Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy; the Lord upon you with favor and give you peace.

Amen

Sending Hymn

Canticle of the Turning

ELW 723

Dismissal

Go in peace to love God and your neighbor

Thanks be to God.

Announcements

Zion at the Fair – September 29

ELCA Youth Gathering report – September 29

Carol Joy Holling Camp – there are lots of activities over the next several months at camp including family campout, couples retreat, youth retreats, mother/daughter and father son retreats. Info is posted on the back bulletin board.

The Chosen – if you have a chance to watch Season 4 episode 1, I highly recommend it. The best place to watch Season 4 is on <https://watch.thechosen.tv/> You will have to create a sign in but it's free. It's also available on Prime, although it appeared to me it would be with ads. Season 4 Episode 1 begins with Elizabeth and Zechariah. The story moves back and forth from the beginning of Luke to the beheading of John. It's a powerful episode. Older seasons are available in a variety of places and we have a set of DVD's of season 1-3. Just let me know if you want to borrow one.

Vacation - Pastor Kris is gone Sept. 14 through Sept. 20. Coverage for Pastoral Emergencies—Pastor Dave Maloy, 402-306-3828
Carol is leading worship and sharing the message.