

"Let your requests be made known to God."

SERVICE OF PRAYER AND MISSION - A.C.T.S.
ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

STANDING STRONG + GROWING TOGETHER + REACHING OUT

The Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

October 11, 2020

AS WE GATHER

The classic table prayer, "Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest, and let these gifts to us be blessed," acknowledges that God provides for all of our needs in body and soul. This prayer reminds us that Jesus is present with us and that He works blessing. In our lesson from Philippians today, we hear God's invitation to turn our worried thoughts into prayer, to remember His presence, receive His peace, and trust in Him so our thoughts can turn toward His ways and will, His excellence and beauty. Prayer doesn't have to rhyme or use fancy words. It is often messy. God loves the messy prayer of His baptized children (young and old). Pray together at home. Read God's Word together. Worship and speak of the peace you have in Jesus.



2020 STEWARDSHIP THEME

Our 2020 Fall Stewardship Theme is "Spiritually Vibrant Homes." Together we will learn of how our homes are vital places where faith is nurtured and transmitted to others. May the Lord guide, provide for, and energize our households of faith.

- Week 1 - "A Harvest for Eternal Joy" (Philippians 3:12)
- Week 2 - "Homes of Messy Prayers" (Philippians 4:6)**
- Week 3 - "Homes with Open Doors" (Luke 10:5)
- Week 4 - "Homes of Loud Tables" (1 Thessalonians 2:4)
- Week 5 - "Homes of Eternal Love" (Matthew 5:12)



PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION TO WORSHIP

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus" Lutheran Service Book 770

David Garcia, organ
Pastor Stephen Heimer



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, All our sins and griefs to bear!
2 Have we tri - als and temp-ta-tions? Is there trou-ble an - y-where?
3 Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, Cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!
We should nev - er be dis - cour-aged— Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge— Take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; Oh, what need-less pain we bear—
Can we find a friend so faith - ful Who will all our sor-rows share?
Do thy friends de-spise, for-sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



All be - cause we do not car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!
Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak-ness— Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In His arms He'll take and shield thee; Thou wilt find a sol - ace there.

INVOCATION AND BAPTISMAL REMEMBRANCE

The sign of the Holy Cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance and celebration of their baptism.

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

ADORATION

Isaiah 61:10; antiphon: Psalm 146:2

- P** I will praise the LORD as long as I live;
C **I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**
P I will greatly rejoice in the LORD;
C **my soul shall exult in my God,**
P for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation
C **he has covered me with the robe of righteousness. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**
P I will praise the LORD as long as I live;
C **I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- 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 perfectly love You and worthily magnify Your holy name, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.
C Amen.
P Assured of God's great mercy, let us speak to our God as loving children speak to their loving father, confessing that we are by nature and by deed filled with sin and are powerless to save ourselves. Let us confess that we have sinned against our gracious God and deserve His punishment now and eternally, and with repentant hearts let us ask that He would show us His unfailing mercy and love.
C **Almighty God, we repent of our sins in thought and in word and in deed. Be merciful to us, and for the sake of Jesus grant us Your forgiveness, so that as Your redeemed people, we serve You faithfully in time and joyfully in eternity.**
P In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

+ HOLY BAPTISM +

BAPTISMAL ENTRANCE HYMN

"Father Welcomes" v. 1-2 LSB 605

Refrain

Fa - ther wel - comes all His chil - dren To His fam - 'ly
through His Son. Fa - ther giv - ing His sal - va - tion,
Life for - ev - er has been won.
1 Lit - tle chil - dren, come to Me, For My king - dom
2 In the wa - ter, in the Word, In His prom - ise,

is of these. Life and love I have to give,
 be as - sured: Those who are bap - tized and be - lieve

Mer - cy for your sin.
 Shall be born a - gain.

Refrain

Tune and text: © 1986 Kevin Mayhew Ltd. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005077

BAPTISMAL ADDRESS

THE NAMING

THE SIGN OF THE CROSS

THE BAPTISMAL PRAYER

P Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, according to Your strict judgment You condemned the unbelieving world through the flood, yet according to Your great mercy You preserved believing Noah and his family, eight souls in all. You drowned hard-hearted Pharaoh and all his host in the Red Sea, yet led Your people Israel through the water on dry ground, foreshadowing this washing of Your Holy Baptism. Through the Baptism in the Jordan of Your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, You sanctified and instituted all waters to be a blessed flood and a lavish washing away of sin. We pray that You would behold this child according to Your boundless mercy and bless her with true faith by the Holy Spirit, that through this saving flood all sin in her, which has been inherited from Adam and which she herself has committed since, would be drowned and die. Grant that she be kept safe and secure in the holy ark of the Christian Church, being separated from the multitude of unbelievers and serving Your name at all times with a fervent spirit and a joyful hope, so that, with all believers in Your promise, she would be declared worthy of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

G Amen.

PROMISES OF THE PARENTS AND GODPARENTS

P From ancient times the Church has observed the custom of appointing sponsors for baptismal candidates and catechumens. In the Evangelical Lutheran Church sponsors are to confess the faith expressed in the Apostles' Creed and taught in the Small Catechism. They are, whenever possible, to witness the Baptism of those they sponsor. They are to pray for them, support them in their ongoing instruction and nurture in the Christian faith, and encourage them toward the faithful reception of the Lord's Supper. They are at all times to be examples to them of the holy life of faith in Christ and love for the neighbor.

P Is it your intention to serve this child as sponsors in the Christian faith?

R Yes, with the help of God.

P God enable you both to will and to do this faithful and loving work and with His grace fulfill what we are unable to do.

G Amen.

HOLY GOSPEL FOR BAPTISM

P Hear the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

They brought young children to [Jesus] that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them. But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it." And He took them up in His arms, put His hands on them, and blessed them.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

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.

HOUSEHOLD PROFESSION OF FAITH

- P** Do you renounce the devil?
R Yes, I renounce him.
- P** Do you renounce all his works?
R Yes, I renounce them.
- P** Do you renounce all his ways?
R Yes, I renounce them.
- P** Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?
R Yes, I believe.
- P** Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead?
R Yes, I believe.
- P** Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting?
R Yes, I believe.
- P** Do you desire to be baptized?
R Yes, I do.

THE BAPTISM

- P** I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

BLESSING OF THE NEWLY BAPTIZED

PRESENTATION OF THE WHITE GARMENT

PRESENTATION OF THE BAPTISMAL CANDLE

ZION FAMILY WELCOME

- A** In Holy Baptism God the Father has made you a member of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and an heir with us of all the treasures of heaven in the one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We receive you in Jesus' name as our sister in Christ, that together we might hear His Word, receive His gifts, and proclaim the praises of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.
- C** Amen. We welcome you in the name of the Lord.

PRAYER

Lord, I thank You that You are willing to receive this child through Holy Baptism as Your child. Be in our midst according to Your promise. Grant that this child may learn to grasp Your great gift in faith and live as a thankful and joyful child of God. Grant this each day also to me and to all the congregation of the baptized, that Your name may be glorified and Your kingdom come; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

THE PEACE

- P** Peace ☩ be with you.
C Amen.

BAPTISMAL HYMN

"Father Welcomes" v.3 LSB 605

Refrain

Fa - ther wel - comes all His chil - dren To His fam - 'ly

through His Son. Fa - ther giv - ing His sal - va - tion,
 Life for - ev - er has been won.
 3 Let us dai - ly die to sin; Let us dai - ly
 rise with Him, Walk in the love of Christ our Lord,
 Live in the peace of God. *Refrain*

Tune and text: © 1986 Kevin Mayhew Ltd. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005077

READINGS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

OLD TESTAMENT READING

(Wait for the Lord)

Isaiah 25:6–9

⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined. ⁷And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. ⁸He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. ⁹It will be said on that day, "Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the LORD; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING

(Do not worry. Pray.)

Philippians 4:4–13

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you. ¹⁰I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. ¹¹Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. ¹²I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. ¹³I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

PREPARATION FOR READING OF THE HOLY GOSPEL

P Alleluia! In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

G But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

(God's Kingdom is described as a banquet with many invited guests)

Matthew 22:1-14

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.

G **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹Again Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying, ²"The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son, ³and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come. ⁴Again he sent other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast.' ⁵But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. ⁷The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. ⁸Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding feast is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.' ¹⁰And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good. So the wedding hall was filled with guests. ¹¹"But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. ¹²And he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. ¹³Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' ¹⁴For many are called, but few are chosen."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Oh, Blest the House" v.1-2,4-5 LSB 862



1 Oh, blest the house, what - e'er be - fall, Where Je - sus
2 Oh, blest that house where faith is found And all in
4 Oh, blest that house; it pros - pers well. In peace and
5 Then here will I and mine to - day A sol - emn



Christ is all in all! A home that is not whol - ly
hope and love a - bound; They trust their God and serve Him
joy the par - ents dwell, And in their chil - dren's lives is
prom - ise make and say: Though all the world for - sake His



His— How sad and poor and dark it is!
still And do in all His ho - ly will!
shown How rich - ly God can bless His own.
Word, I and my house will serve the Lord!

SERMON

Spiritually Vibrant Homes: "Homes of Messy Prayer"

Philippians 4:6

PSALM OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Psalms 23

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

- L** Lord God, Heavenly Father we lift up our hearts in gratitude to you, and for all your Loving kindness we bless your holy Name.
- L** For life and health, for love and friendship, and for the goodness and mercy with which you have guided us all the days of our life...
- C** **we thank you!**
- L** For the wonder and beauty of your creation, and for all things true and honorable, just and pure, lovely and gracious...
- C** **we praise you!**
- L** For the gift of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord; for the grace and truth that have come by Him; and for his obedience unto death, even death on a cross...
- C** **we worship you!**
- L** For His glorious resurrection and ascension to your right hand, and for His kingdom and glory and everlasting dominion...
- C** **we glorify you!**
- L** For the Holy Spirit, the Counselor, the Lord and Giver of life; for your holy Church throughout the world; for all the means of grace; and for the fellowship of the redeemed in heaven and on earth...
- C** **we thank you!**
- L** For the early leadership gifts to Your Church of Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors, Teachers, Deacons, Saints, Martyrs ... and for their lives of service to You and mission to a dying world we bless Your grace and thank You for their example to us as Servant Leaders...
- C** **we thank you!**
- L** For the Servant Leaders and the leadership gifts You have breathed so abundantly into this congregation in the past, now in the present, and toward a promising future...
- C** **we thank you!**
- L** We lift up our thanksgiving, praise, adoration and love to You, Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.
- C** **Amen!**

PRAYERS OF SUPPLICATION

- P** Almighty God, because you have committed to your people the ministry of intercession hear us as we pray for others, and fill our spirits with your grace:
- P** For your holy Church throughout all the world, that you would pour out upon Your ministers of Word and Sacrament the abundance of your grace and truth and that you would create in all your people a hunger for your Word, a love for your church, a passion for your mission and a compassion for those in need, Lord in your mercy,
- C** **Hear our prayer**
- P** For the nations and for our nation, especially our president Donald Trump, Congress, our state, city, and county leaders that you would breathe on them the spirit of peace and understanding: For those in authority, that you would inspire in them a true desire for peace, a zeal for Justice, a heart for the weak, and a love of concord, Lord in your mercy,
- C** **Hear our prayer**
- P** For all the schools and colleges of our nation and world; for all who teach in them and all who learn, that in humility of heart they may ever look to you, the fountain of all wisdom, Lord in your mercy,
- C** **Hear our prayer**
- P** For all in sickness and distress that you would give strength to the weary, relief to the suffering, and comfort to the dying ... today heavenly Father we remember before your throne of grace particularly Lord in your mercy,
- C** **Hear our prayer**
- P** (Here other supplications may be offered)
- P** For all your servants who have departed this life in your faith and fear we give you our highest thanks, and we pray you to give us grace to follow them as they followed Christ. Bring us, with them, into your eternal kingdom of peace and life and "to those things which eye has not seen, nor ear heard, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.
- C** **Amen**

MORNING PRAYER

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.

BLESSING

P Go out into the world in Christ's peace; have courage; hold to what is good; return no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the suffering; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. And Almighty God the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you. (Romans 12:9-12)

CLOSING HYMN

"Entrust Your Days and Burdens" LSB 754



1 En - trust your days and bur - dens To God's most lov - ing
2 Re - ly on God your Sav - ior And find your life se -
3 Take heart, have hope, my spir - it, And do not be dis -
hand; He cares for you while rul - ing The
cure. Make His work your foun - da - tion That
mayed; God helps in ev - 'ry tri - al And
sky, the sea, the land. For He who guides the
your work may en - dure. No anx - ious thought, no
makes you un - a - fraid. A - wait His time with
tem - pests A - long their thun - d'rous ways Will
wor - ry, No self - tor - ment - ing care Can
pa - tience Through dark - est hours of night Un -
find for you a path - way And guide you all your days.
win your Fa - ther's fa - vor; His heart is moved by prayer.
til the sun you hoped for De - lights your ea - ger sight.

Tune: © 2002 Stephen R. Johnson. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005077

Text: © 1982 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005077

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

David Garcia, organ

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 4. Copyright © 2020 Concordia Publishing House.

All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2018 Concordia Publishing House.

Offerings

You can contribute offerings using three main methods:

Online donations: You can make a secure contribution from your credit card or bank account at www.zionelpaso.org. We use Vanco, a reputable agency which specializes in donations to churches and nonprofits. Your contribution can be set up to be recurring, such as each week or month, or as a one-time donation.

Mail donations: Mail your check to the Zion church office at 2808 Pershing Drive, El Paso, TX 79903. The mail is checked every day.

Donations via an app: If you prefer using your phone or tablet, you can download the Vanco Give Plus app. You can easily set up an account and donation through the app.

Your offerings and support are crucial to our congregation and we are very grateful for your support!

Today we rejoice in the Baptism of Layla Lynn Ramos, daughter of Michael Ramos and Jacquelyn Barron. Welcome all who are with us today as guests at Zion and online to witness this joyous receiving of God's grace.

Altar Flowers today are given to the glory of God by Angie Gutierrez in celebration of her father, Henry Bernal's 87th birthday. Altar flowers are also given in loving memory of Angie and Michael Gutierrez's grandparents.

Vacation Bible School Final Day. We invite your family to join us for our final day of VBS this Sunday, October 11th at 4:00pm. Children through 12 years old are welcome to participate and we invite any older youth or parents to join us as helpers. This was our first virtual VBS, and we have had a great kick off since August. We will gather via Zoom Sunday afternoon at 4:00pm for songs and more fun!

Questions? Call 915.566.4667. **Register children and helpers at:** www.zionelpaso.org/vbs/

Collecting Toys for YLM's Christmas Gift Distribution: LWML will be collecting toys (in the \$10 to \$12 price range) to donate to YLM for their annual Christmas Gift Distribution, this year entitled, "2020 Joy Distribution". We are inviting the members and friends of Zion to join us, once again, in this Outreach project. A Thrivent Action Grant is being applied for to help us kickstart the project; we will be collecting toys during the months of October and November, as toys need to be delivered to YLM by December 5th. You may bring your donations to church and place them, unwrapped, in the designated bins in the Auditorium or you may call Lydia Williams at (915) 630-2131, if you would like to have a member of LWML pick up your donation at your home. In addition, if you are not able to go out and shop/purchase a toy, contact Lydia, and a member of LWML will be happy to do that for you. Thanks, in advance, for your support in this special outreach to families in need! **(This will be the only Christmas toy collection/outreach at Zion this year; because of the pandemic, Zion will not be participating in Angel Tree this year. If you were planning to buy an Angel Tree gift, you are asked to please consider contributing to this collection for YLM's toy distribution. Thanks!!)**

Eastside Bible Study group finished the series we have been studying, "Faith on the Edge: The Unexplained" last night. We will be taking a two-week break and **resume meeting on Tuesday, October 27th, at 7:00 p.m., on Zoom**. The next study we will be doing is: *Called to Vote: A Christian's Approach to Elections*, a 4 week study, published by Concordia Publishing House, that "doesn't tell Christians which political party to vote for. It sparks thoughtful and biblical conversation about voting in a democracy and our duty to do so as Christian citizens." We will conclude this study on Tuesday, November 17th. New members are always welcome and encouraged to join us! For more information, you may contact Lydia Williams, at (915) 630-2131 or the church office.

Join Any Zion Bible Study From Home!

We are working to continue being a channel for the Holy Spirit through God's word, and to help keep our Zion family connected.

All are invited, please contact the Zion office for login information or questions. Never attended an online meeting? No problem! Call 915.566.4667 for assistance.

Sundays 9:15 AM

The book of Exodus (and its important prequel in Joseph's story in Genesis) offers us a great deal of insight and confidence as we live out our lives today. Adults and teens are all welcome in-person in the Zion auditorium and online via Zoom. Sign up at the Zion website to receive weekly Zoom links for online participation. If attending in person, enter the Auditorium through the playground gate on Pershing, and then up the ramp.

Mondays 7:00 PM (Every second and fourth Monday)

Join our "Berea" Bible study. We are exploring the book of Revelation. Join us as we look into the meanings found in the challenging text. (Informal group with no "homework.") Call Jim Smith.

Tuesdays 7:00 PM

Eastside Bible Study group will be taking a two-week break and resume meeting on Tuesday, October 27th, at 7:00 p.m., on Zoom. The next study we will be doing is: "Called to Vote: A Christian's Approach to Elections", a 4 week study, published by Concordia Publishing House, that "doesn't tell Christians which political party to vote for. It sparks thoughtful and biblical conversation about voting in a democracy and our duty to do so as Christian citizens." We will conclude this study on Tuesday, November 17th. New members are always welcome and encouraged to join us! For more information, you may contact Lydia Williams, at (915) 630-2131 or the church office.

Wednesdays 7:00 PM

God's calling for you *is* important, no matter how small it might seem. This eight-week study will utilize the book, *Wherever Love May Lead: Your Place in God's Plan*, which provides scripture and modern examples of people discovering and living with purpose. Use each daily lesson's discussion questions and journal prompt to evaluate the path you're on and how God might be calling you in ways you hadn't seen before. Each week's lessons will remind you to let God guide your path wherever He may lead you.

Book: *Wherever Love May Lead: Your Place in God's Plan* by Catherine Duerr

To order from CPH: <https://www.cph.org/p-32205-wherever-love-may-lead-your-place-in-gods-plan.aspx>

Register at www.zionelpaso.org

Thursday 7:00 PM

We are enjoying our study of the book of ACTS, focusing particularly on the mission and ministry of Saints Peter and Paul. I would also like to include with this study of the 1st century of our "Mother Church," some side trips into the 2nd and perhaps even 3rd centuries (the Nicene Creed 325 A.D.). I am suggesting a weekly study of the Acts of the Apostles (Thursday evenings 7:00 - 8:15...30) beginning August 20. The schedule will likely be as follows: Fall, August 20 - November 19 (Thanksgiving 11/26); Winter, January 9 - February 11 (Ash Wednesday 2/17); Post Easter April 8 - Close (to be determined by the study group). Questions? Call Zion or Pastor Patten.

Fridays 10:00 AM

Our study is guided by the book "Faith That Sees Through The Culture". Books will be \$17. Please rsvp to Krysia Heimer or the Church office if you would like to order one. God's Word is filled with paradoxes. It's tempting to see these paradoxes as either-or statements—one must be true and the other must be false. End of story. Case closed. But the paradoxes in the Word of God are different. They are both-and statements, at once seeming contradictory but both being wholly and completely true. As Christians, we live in this tension, embracing that two sides of the same coin can be true at the same time. We live in what is visible and invisible. We have the old man and the new man. We speak to those offered both an inclusive and an exclusive Gospel. We are citizens of both church and state. We live in the now and the not yet. We speak a Word that is both Law and Gospel. Faith That Sees through the Culture provides lenses to open whole new vistas for faith to see more clearly and be lived out more effectively in our culture.

THIS WEEK AT ZION

10/12	Monday	7:00 PM	Berea Bible Study
10/14	Wednesday	7:00 PM	"Wherever Love May Lead: Your Place in God's Plan" Bible Study
10/15	Thursday	7:00 PM	"Acts" Bible Study
10/16	Friday	10:00 AM	"Faith That Sees Through the Culture" Bible Study
10/18	Sunday	9:15 AM	"Exodus" Bible Study
		10:30 AM	Worship Service

ZION STEWARDSHIP OF + TIME + TALENT + TREASURE

Preacher & Liturgist:	Pastor Stephen Heimer
Organist:	David Garcia
Elder:	Jim Smith
Reader:	Tim Kludt
Camera Operator:	David Davis
Sound Operator:	Andrew Batts
Offering Counter:	Jim Smith