

"If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation."

SERVICE OF PRAYER AND MISSION

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

STANDING STRONG + GROWING TOGETHER + REACHING OUT

The Third Sunday After Pentecost

June 13, 2021

AS WE GATHER

Many of the parables of Jesus have to do with agriculture—from the parable of the sower to this short description of the Kingdom like a mustard seed. There are so many little details with application to our lives, but today the focus is on the seed and the mystery of how it grows. What brings the seed from planting to harvest is the providence of God and His goodness and power. This is both the object of our interest and the domain of faith that trusts what the eye does not see and the mind does not comprehend. At the end of it all is the harvest; God brings into His storehouse all the fruits of His seed planted in good soil. The blissful ignorance we have of this process should not deprive us of the joy of its outcome.



Bruce Nehring, organ
Pastor Stephen Heimer

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION TO WORSHIP

MISSION PRAYER

Almighty God, Heavenly Father Your mercies are new to us each morning and your faithfulness reaches to eternity. Today You again invite us to celebrate Your gift of life in Christ and to pray for Your Church and world. We offer You new this day our lives, our thanks, and also the heartaches and hopes of the world; we bring before You the names and needs of our families and friends, our neighborhoods and our nation, our city and our world, Pour out Your Holy Spirit upon Your Church and upon this congregation that we boldly live the joy and healing power of Your Son's resurrection. In the precious Name of Jesus. Amen.

OPENING HYMN

"Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings" v.1-2 LSB 782



1 Gra - cious God, You send great bless - ings
2 By Your Word You formed cre - a - tion



New each morn - ing all our days. For Your mer - cies
Filled with crea - tures large and small; As we tend that



nev - er end - ing, For Your love we of - fer praise.
end - less trea - sure May our care en - cir - cle all.

Refrain



Lord, we pray that we, Your peo - ple Who Your gifts un - num - bered claim,



Through the shar - ing of Your bless - ings May bring glo - ry to Your name.

INVOCATION AND BAPTISMAL REMEMBRANCE

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

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

ADORATION

- L** This is the day which the Lord has made;
- C** **let us rejoice and be glad in it.**
- L** From the rising of the sun to its setting,
- C** **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**
- L** Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;
- C** **I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.**
- L** Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.
- C** **Teach me Your paths.**
- L** Sanctify us in Your truth.
- C** **Your Word is truth.**
- L** From the rising of the sun to its setting,
- C** **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C** **who made heaven and earth.**
- P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- C** **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**
- P** Because we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition and have sinned in thought, word, and deed, let us employ the faith the Holy Spirit has given us and go to our gracious heavenly Father, asking His forgiveness for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**
- P** Almighty God has given His only Son to bear the punishment of our sins on the cross so that we might know the peace of His presence now and the joys of heaven hereafter. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

ENTRANCE HYMN

"Faith and Truth and Life Bestowing" v.1-2 LSB 584



1 Faith and truth and life be - stow - ing, O - pen now the
2 May the Spir - it's pow'r un - ceas - ing Bring to life the



Scrip - tures, Lord, Seed to life e - ter - nal sow - ing,
hid - den grain, Dai - ly in our hearts in - creas - ing,



Scat - tered on the wind a - broad. Let not hearts, Your
Bear - ing fruit that shall re - main. So in Scrip - ture,



Word re - ceiv - ing, Like a bar - ren field be found, Choked with
song, and sto - ry, Sav - ior, may Your voice be heard. Till our



thorns and un - be - liev - ing, Shal - low earth or ston - y ground.
eyes be - hold Your glo - ry Give us ears to hear Your Word.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 1

- P** Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,
C **nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on His law he meditates day and night.**
- I** *He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither.*
- II** *In all that he does, he prospers. The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.*
- C** **Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; for the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish. 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.**

PRAYER

- P** Let us pray. Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

+ READINGS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE +

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Ezekiel 17:22–24

(The Lord promises to make it grow into a noble tree, bearing good fruit.)

²²Thus says the Lord GOD: "I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of the cedar and will set it out. I will break off from the topmost of its young twigs a tender one, and I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. ²³On the mountain height of Israel will I plant it, that it may bear branches and produce fruit and become a noble cedar. And under it will dwell every kind of bird; in the shade of its branches birds of every sort will nest. ²⁴And all the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD; I bring low the high tree, and make high the low tree, dry up the green tree, and make the dry tree flourish. I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it."

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

EPISTLE LESSON

(We walk by faith and not by sight.)

2 Corinthians 5:1–17

¹We know that if the tent, which is our earthly home, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. ²For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling, ³if indeed by putting it on we may not be found naked. ⁴For while we are still in this tent, we groan, being burdened—not that we would be unclothed, but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. ⁵He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. ⁶So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, ⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil. ¹¹Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others. But what we are is known to God, and I hope it is known also to your conscience. ¹²We are not commending ourselves to you again but giving you cause to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast about outward appearance and not about what is in the heart. ¹³For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. ¹⁴For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; ¹⁵and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised. ¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. ¹⁷Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

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

RESPONSE

- L** Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.
- C** **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**
- L** Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.
- C** **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**
- L** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

GOSPEL LESSON

(The kingdom of God is like a seed.)

Mark 4:26–34

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the fourth chapter.
- C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²⁶[Jesus] said, "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. ²⁷He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how. ²⁸The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come." ³⁰And he said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable shall we use for it? ³¹It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown on the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it. ³⁴He did not speak to them without a parable, but privately to his own disciples he explained everything.

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And 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.

I 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. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Consider How the Birds Above" v.1-3,6 LSB 736



1 Con - sid - er how the birds a - bove Feed day by
2 The lil - ies grow, they do not toil; How fair is
3 Set not your heart on food or drink, Nor be weighed
6 Seek first God's reign, His bound-less grace, His ho - ly



day with care - free ease— Does God not keep them
their fra - gil - i - ty— If God clothes these, which
down by world - ly care; A - bout such things the
name in all you do: Christ first and last in



in His love? Are we not worth much more than these?
quick - ly spoil, Will He not clothe both you and me?
god - less think, Yet nev - er thank the Lord in prayer.
ev - 'ry place; All else will then be giv - en you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated" sts. 1-2, 6 LSB 783



1 Take my life and let it be Con-se - crat - ed, Lord, to Thee;
 2 Take my hands and let them move At the im - pulse of Thy love;
 6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour At Thy feet its trea - sure store;



Take my mo - ments and my days, Let them flow in cease - less praise.
 Take my feet and let them be Swift and beau - ti - ful for Thee.
 Take my - self, and I will be Ev - er, on - ly, all for Thee.

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BLESSING OF 2021 GRADUATES

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

The congregation's response may begin just as the leader's petition ends so that the word "Lord" is sung simultaneously by both leader and congregation.



L In peace let us pray to the Lord:



C Lord, have mer - cy.

- L** For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For all pastors in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For our president, for all public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**

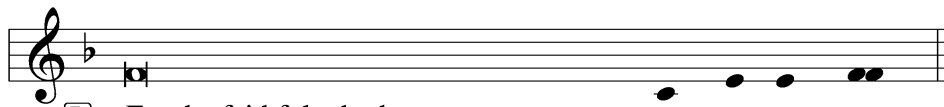
L For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For . . . [*additional bids for prayer may be inserted here*] . . . let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

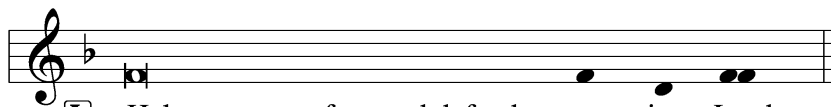
The prayers then continue:



L For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:

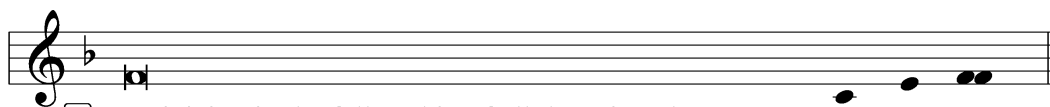


C Al - le - lu - ia.



L Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.

Silence for individual prayer may follow.



L Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord:



C To You, O Lord.

COLLECT FOR THE MORNING

C Almighty God, Your mercies are new every morning and You graciously provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your goodness, give thanks for Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience all our days; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

MORNING PRAYER

(Martin Luther)

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. Amen.

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) **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

"Children of the Heavenly Father" LSB 725



1 Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther Safe - ly
2 God His own doth tend and nour - ish; In His
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er From the
4 Though He giv - eth or He tak - eth, God His



in His bos - om gath - er; Nest - ling bird nor star in
ho - ly courts they flour - ish. From all e - vil things He
Lord His chil - dren sev - er; Un - to them His grace He
chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth; His the lov - ing pur - pose



heav - en Such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
spares them; In His might - y arms He bears them.
show - eth, And their sor - rows all He know - eth.
sole - ly To pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

Bruce Nehring, organ

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Offerings

You can contribute offerings using four methods:

In-Person donations: You can place your donation in the offering plate as you enter the sanctuary or in the secure box as you exit after the service.

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!

+ + +

ZION STEWARDSHIP OF + TIME + TALENT + TREASURE

Preacher & Liturgist:	Pastor Stephen Heimer
Organist:	Bruce Nehring
Elders:	Dane Rasmussen, Jim Smith
Reader:	Pauline Rasmussen
Acolytes:	Gabryelle Rodriguez, Jaden Heimer
Camera Operator:	Andrew Batts
Sound Director:	Brenna Rodriguez
Offering Counter:	Mike & Claudia Vrahnos

THIS WEEK AT ZION

6/14	Monday	5:00 PM	Berea Bible Study
6/15	Tuesday	5:00 PM	Confirmation Class
		6:30 PM	Mariachi Practice
6/16	Wednesday	10:30 AM	Worship Service in Anapra
		6:00 PM	Council Meeting
6/17	Thursday	6:00 PM	New Member Class
		7:00 PM	"Acts" Bible Study
6/19	Saturday	9:30 AM	Handbell Choir Practice
6/20	Sunday	8:00 AM	Outdoor Worship Service w/ Communion
		9:15 AM	"Exodus" Bible Study
		10:30 AM	Worship Service w/ Communion

Outdoor Worship at Zion!

Join us next week for an outdoor communion service in the Zion courtyard at **8:00am on Sunday, June 20th**. There is plenty of shade at 8:00am to keep you cool and comfortable. If you are unable to attend the 10:30am service, or if you simply prefer to worship outside in the fresh air, join us this Sunday! We look forward to seeing you there!



We will continue to have outdoor services on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month. If you have any questions or thoughts on how we can improve these services, please call the church office at (915) 566-4667 or email us at info@zionelpaso.org.

Altar Flowers today are given to the glory of God and in thanks for His many blessings!

Outdoor Worship at Zion! Join us next week for an outdoor communion service at **8:00am on Sunday, June 20th**. We will continue to have outdoor services on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month!

Offering Envelopes. If you would like a box of weekly offering envelopes for 2021, please call Shirley Batts or the church office at (915) 566-4667.



Collecting Backpacks and School Supplies for YLM's Back-to-School

Distribution: LWML is inviting all the members and friends of Zion to join us in collecting backpacks and school supplies to assist The Ysleta Lutheran Mission in their annual distribution to children and families in need. With the help of a Thrivent Action Grant, we will be collecting items beginning in mid-May and continue through the month of June, and into mid-July. Items needed for this collection are: **backpacks, notebook paper, spiral notebooks, pencils, pens, crayons, watercolor markers, colored pencils, glue sticks, and/or bottles of glue.** Items may be placed on the designated table in the Auditorium or may be dropped off at the church office during office hours. Thanks, in advance, for supporting this outreach project!

CPH Reads Summer Reading Program. CPH Reads is a summer reading program through Concordia Publishing House. From June 1 to August 13, 2021, children of all ages can keep track of the books they read to earn points and possibly win prizes! If you would like some inspiration on what your children could read, you can find reading lists for all age ranges at cph.org/reads. To find more information on CPH Reads, create a family account, and log your points, visit cph.org/reads. If you would like a physical card to track your points, you can pick them up in the Zion office. If you log 1,000 points by August 13, your family will be entered to win an Amazon Fire HD Tablet!



Interested in Volunteering?

Each week we aim to thoughtfully spread the Word of God and keep all members of our Zion family connected to our church. Our volunteer opportunities include:

- Updating our marquee sign with the weekly Bible verse
- Preparing candles for worship services
- Putting up and taking down the outdoor flags
- Designing posters and graphics
- Maintaining and beautifying church grounds
- Making trips to the post office
- Folding monthly newsletters
- And more!



No matter your skillset, we are happy to welcome anyone interested in stewardship opportunities at Zion. If you are interested, please call the church office at (915) 566-4667 or send us an email at info@zionelpaso.org. We would love to have you help in any way you can!

This Week's Memory Verse: June 7-13, 2021



Zion Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 10:00am—3:00pm

Visit our website: zionelpaso.org

Follow us on Facebook: facebook.com/zionlutheranelpaso/



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

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