DIVINE SERVICE SETTING FIVE

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

STANDING STRONG + GROWING TOGETHER + REACHING OUT

The Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 5, 2021

AS WE GATHER

In today's Readings, James encourages us toward good works of service and love, and Jesus does the good work of healing by restoring a man's hearing and speech. Our faith in Jesus is marked by our reflection of His love and service. While we are not able to do all the things Jesus can do, we are called to reflect His faithful work as we serve in our vocations by loving our neighbors.



Bruce Nehring, organ Pastor Howard Patten

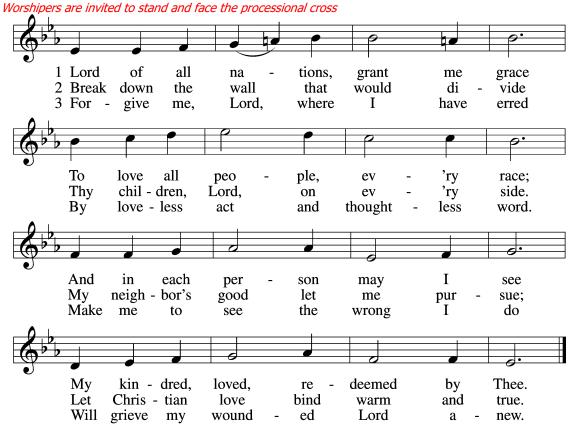
PRE-SERVICE MUSIC "Trumpet Tune" by John Stanley WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION TO WORSHIP

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 Your congregation that we live with confidence the joy and healing power of Your Son's resurrection. In the precious Name of Jesus. Amen.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Peace" v. 1-3 LSB 844



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The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Beloved in the Lord, let us now draw neat with a true heart and confess our sins to God our heavenly Father, praying to Him and asking that for the sake and in the Name of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, He would grant us His forgiveness.

Silence for reflection.

- P Heavenly Father,
- we have failed to love others as You love them. We have failed to reflect Your grace to the world in service and sacrifice. We have failed in our actions and in our unwillingness to act. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may follow You in joy. Amen.
- P Almighty God in His mercy sent Jesus Christ into our world to serve and save all people, showing no partiality or favoritism. By His death, He forgives all our sins. By His resurrection, He destroys death forever and offers us eternal life. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- Amen. We are forgiven in Christ. We set free to love and serve our neighbors. Amen.



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INVOCATION AND PRAISE

P Praise the LORD, O my soul!

1 Cor 10:12–13; Heb 4:15–16

- I will praise the LORD as long as I live.
- P Blessed are those whose hope is in the LORD;
- **G** the LORD sets the prisoners free.
- **P** The LORD opens the eyes of the blind.
- The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down.
- **P** The LORD upholds the widow and the fatherless.
- **G** The Lord will reign forever!

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS HYMN

"Holy, Holy, Holy" LSB 507



SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

2 Timothy 4:22

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, Your grace and mercy overflow to all people. Lead us to love our neighbors, regardless of their differences from us, so that all people might know the good news of Your death and resurrection for their eternal life and salvation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

(God will come and restore all things.)

Isaiah 35:4-7a

⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you." ⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; ⁷the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water."

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

EPISTLE

(What good is a dead faith?)

James 2:1-18

¹My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. ²For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, ³and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, "You sit here in a good place," while you say to the poor man, "You stand over there," or, "Sit down at my feet," ⁴have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who

love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor man. Are not the rich the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? ⁷Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called?

⁸If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well. ⁹But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. ¹¹For he who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not murder." If you do not commit adultery but do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. ¹²So speak and so act as those who are to be judged under the law of liberty. ¹³For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? ¹⁷So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

¹⁸But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

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

HOLY GOSPEL

(Jesus looks up to heaven...with a deep sigh.)

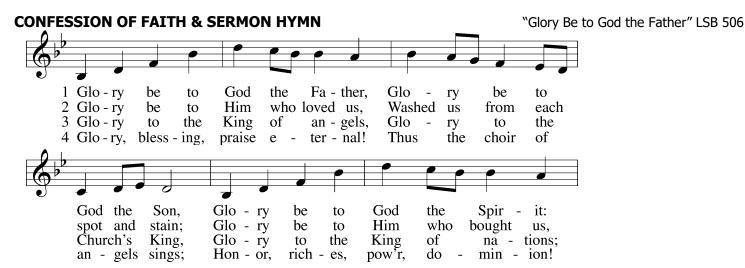
Mark 7:24-37

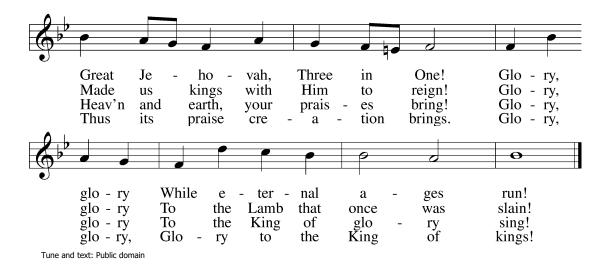
- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the seventh chapter.
- Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁴From there [Jesus] arose and went away to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And he entered a house and did not want anyone to know, yet he could not be hidden. ²⁵But immediately a woman whose little daughter was possessed by an unclean spirit heard of him and came and fell down at his feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a Gentile, a Syrophoenician by birth. And she begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷And he said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." ²⁸But she answered him, "Yes, Lord; yet even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." ²⁹And he said to her, "For this statement you may go your way; the demon has left your daughter." ³⁰And she went home and found the child lying in bed and the demon gone.

³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³And taking him aside from the crowd privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. ³⁴And looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." ³⁵And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶And Jesus charged them to tell no one. But the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, "He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

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





SERMON

"Royal Servants of THE ROYAL LAW!"

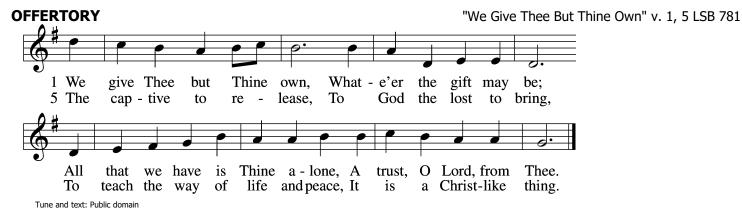
The Epistle

OFFERING

"Be Still, My Soul (Finlandia)"

Bruce Nehring, organ

Offerings can be placed in the offering plate located on the stand while entering the church, placed in the offering box when leaving, mailed to the Zion office, or given online at www.zionelpaso.org.



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(Based upon the Prayer of our Lord by Pastor Martin Luther)

Friends in Christ, I urge you all to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me as Christ our Lord has taught us and freely promised to hear us.

OUR FATHER WHO ART IN HEAVEN, HALLOWED BE THY NAME:

God, our Father in heaven, look with mercy on us, Your needy children on earth, and grant us grace that Your holy name be hallowed by us and all the world through the pure and true teaching of Your Word and the fervent love shown forth in our lives. Graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living whereby Your precious name is blasphemed and profaned. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

THY KINGDOM COME:

P May Your kingdom come to us and expand. Bring all transgressors and those who are blinded and bound in the devil's kingdom to know Jesus Christ, Your Son, by faith that the number of Christians may be increased. Lord, in Your mercy,

• hear our prayer.

THY WILL BE DONE:

- P Strengthen us by Your Spirit according to Your will, both in life and in death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that our own wills may be crucified daily and sacrificed to Your good and gracious will. Into Your merciful hands we commend [name(s)] and all who are in need, praying for them at all times: Thy will be done. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.

GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD:

- P Grant us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and help us trust in You to provide for all our needs. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **©** hear our prayer.

FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES, AS WE FORGIVE THOSE WHO TRESPASS AGAINST US:

P Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may be at peace and may rejoice in a good conscience before You, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us. Lord, in Your mercy,

© hear our prayer.

LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION:

Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us by Your Spirit to subdue our flesh, to turn from the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil with all his wiles.

(Here we offer special petitions for our family and friends, our sick and shut-in, our nation and state)

Lord, in Your mercy,

• hear our prayer.

PROTECT US FROM THE EVIL ONE:

- And lastly, O heavenly Father, deliver us from all evil of both body and soul, now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy,
- hear our prayer.
- **P** We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

PREFACE 2 Tim 4:22; Col 3:1; Psalm 136

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- And also 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.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by His perfect, faithful work of death and resurrection.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, in trust and humility, we ask You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to receive Christ's body and blood as He bids us do in His own New Covenant. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful from every nation, language, and people the Eucharistic Feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

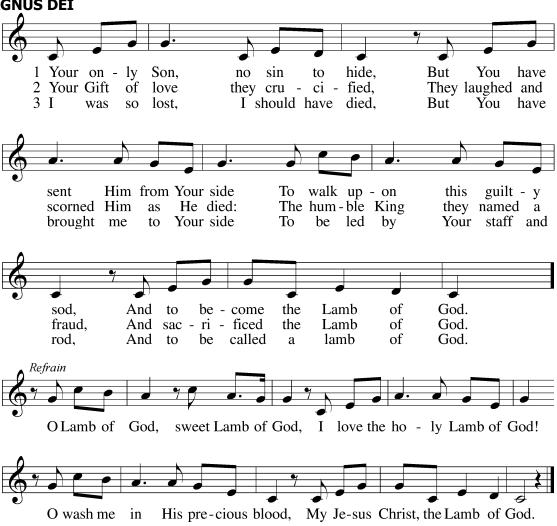
Amen.

WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI John 20:19

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- Amen.

AGNUS DEI "Lamb of God" LSB 550



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Today we celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Here our Heavenly Father promises anew His unconditional love, renews His pledge of forgiveness in Christ, and offers His Holy Spirit as strength for daily faith and life. If you are a visitor to Zion, we invite you in the Name of Jesus to commune with us. However, since God reminds us that thoughtless or faithless reception of the Sacrament can incur His judgment (1 Corinthians 11:27-32), the Scriptures call those who commune to personally examine themselves and in their communing publicly confess:

- 4 I am a baptized Christian and I trust in Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior.
- **⅓** I am a sinner in need of God's forgiveness.
- 4 I believe that Christ is truly present with His body and blood under the bread and wine offering me forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation.
- 4 Through His grace and strength, I will live to God's glory, in ministry with His people, in mission to His world.

Children are invited to accompany parents to the altar for the blessing. A non-alcoholic wine for the sacrament is available upon request when you come forward. We trust that your communion with Christ and His people will strengthen your faith, increase your love, and empower your witness to Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. If you have questions about your communing, please speak with the Pastor.

DISTRIBUTION

If you will be receiving the Lord's Supper today, please wait as ushers guide each row or household forward. You may kneel at the rail or remain standing at the center stand and the pastor will serve you the sacrament in plastic cups. Take those cups with you as you return to your seat, placing them in one of the baskets located at either side of the sanctuary.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

+ "Here. O My Lord, I see Thee Face to Face" LSB 631 (Tune 878)

- "What is this Bread" LSB 629

+ "Just As I Am" LSB 570

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

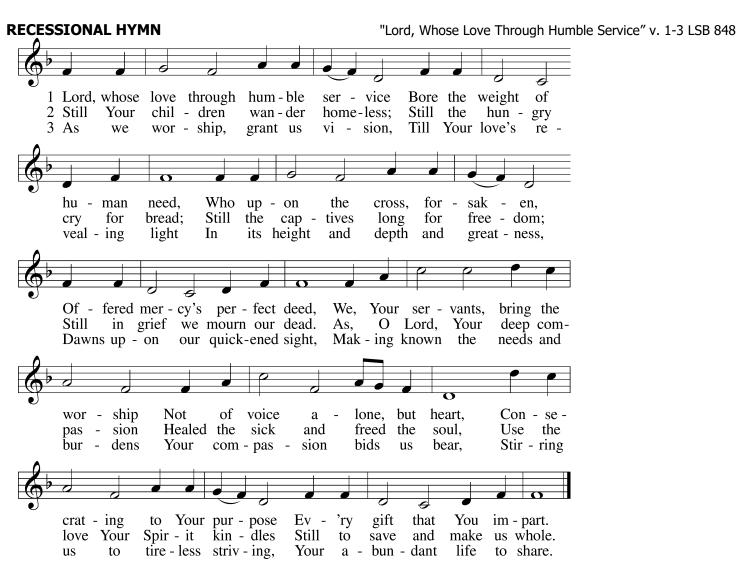
Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have renewed us by the body and blood of Christ. Empower and energize us to serve our neighbors in faith toward You and fervent love toward all people; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and

→ give you peace.



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Offerings

You can contribute offerings using any of the following 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 donate 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 & Celebrant: Pastor Howard Patten
Organist: Bruce Nehring
Reader: Barbara Fourzan
Jim Smith

Acolyte:Gabryelle RodriguezCamera Operator:Andrew BattsSound Director:Brenna RodriguezOffering Counters:Jerry & Shirley Batts

THIS WEEK AT ZION

			Bible Study Walk-Through
		12:00 PM	Grow in the Word Sunday:
		10:30 AM	Worship Service with Communion & Chase Baptisms
9/12	Sunday	9:15 AM	Adult Bible Study
9/11	Saturday	12:00 PM	Baptism at Zion
9/9	Thursday	7:00 PM	"Gospel of John" Bible Study
9/7	Tuesday	9:00 AM	Rio Grande Circuit Pastors Meeting

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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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.

Altar Flowers today are given by Wayne & Mariann Porter to the glory of God and in celebration of Wayne's birthday! Thanks be to God for His countless blessings!



Grow in the Word Sunday!

On Sunday, September 12th, we will have an informational event on the upcoming Bible studies at Zion! We will have information booths and sign-up opportunities for each of our Bible studies set up in the church auditorium. You will have an opportunity to learn about the topics for each Bible study, ask the group leaders any questions you have, and seek ways to *grow in the Word!*

Thursday Bible Study Returns! Beginning on Thursday, September 9, at 7:00pm, Pastor Howard Patten will be leading a study of one of the most popular, yet least studied writings in the New Testament, the Gospel of John. Unique among the four Gospels, John's "Life of Jesus" leads us not so much through a biography of Jesus' life and ministry, but into the deep and somewhat unknown dimensions of the mission of the Anointed One, the Old Testament Messiah, the New Testament Christ. Through John's intimacy with Jesus alone we learn of the casual



event of a Cana wedding, the disbelief of His four brothers, and the six chapters of a 20 chapter "book" devoted to both the last week leading to His death and the deepest theology of His Holy Spirit. We will gather on Zoom from 7:00—8:30pm each Thursday before taking a break for Advent. You can say as much or as little as you are comfortable with. We ordinarily cover one chapter per meeting. Please contact Pastor Patten, Mary Sanchez, or the church office for more information.



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

Stephen E. Heimer, Pastor David Garcia, Music Director Andrew Batts, Administrative Assistant



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