## Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost - August 24, 2025

#### Isaiah 66:18-23 NIV

<sup>18</sup> "And I, because of what they have planned and done, am about to come and gather the people of all nations and languages, and they will come and see my glory.

19" I will set a sign among them, and I will send some of those who survive to the nations – to Tarshish, to the Libyans and Lydians (famous as archers), to Tubal and Greece, and to the distant islands that have not heard of my fame or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory among the nations. 20 And they will bring all your people, from all the nations, to my holy mountain in Jerusalem as an offering to the LORD - on horses, in chariots and wagons, and on mules and camels," says the LORD. "They will bring them, as the Israelites bring their grain offerings, to the temple of the LORD in ceremonially clean vessels. <sup>21</sup> And I will select some of them also to be priests and Levites," says the LORD.

<sup>22</sup>" As the new heavens and the new earth that I make will endure before me," declares the LORD, "so will your name and descendants endure. 23 From one New Moon to another and from one Sabbath to another, all mankind will come and bow down before me," says the LORD.

#### Hebrews 12:4-24 NIV

<sup>4</sup> In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. 5 And have you completely forgotten this word of encouragement that addresses you as a father addresses his son? It says,

"My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, <sup>6</sup> because the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son."

<sup>7</sup> Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father? 8 If you are not disciplined - and everyone undergoes discipline - then you are not legitimate, not true sons and daughters at all. 9 Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of spirits and live! 10 They disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share in his holiness. 11 No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees. 13 "Make level paths for your feet," so that the lame may not be disabled, but rather healed.

<sup>14</sup> Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. 15 See to it that no one falls short of the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many. 16 See that no one is sexually immoral, or is godless like Esau, who for a single meal sold his inheritance rights as the oldest son. <sup>17</sup> Afterward, as you know, when he wanted to inherit this blessing, he was rejected. Even though he sought the blessing with tears, he could not change what he had done.

<sup>18</sup> You have not come to a mountain that can be touched and that is burning with fire; to darkness, gloom and storm; 19 to a trumpet blast or to such a voice speaking words that those who heard it begged that no further word be spoken to them, <sup>20</sup> because they could not bear what was commanded: "If even an animal touches the mountain, it must be stoned to death." 21 The sight was so terrifying that Moses said, "I am trembling with fear."

<sup>22</sup> But you have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, 23 to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the Judge of all, to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, 24 to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

#### Luke 13:22-30 NIV

<sup>22</sup> Then Jesus went through the towns and villages, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem. 23 Someone asked him, "Lord, are only a few people going to be saved?"

He said to them, <sup>24</sup> "Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to. <sup>25</sup> Once the owner of the house gets up and closes the door, you will stand outside knocking and pleading, 'Sir, open the door for us.'

"But he will answer, 'I don't know you or where you come

<sup>26</sup> "Then you will say, 'We ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets.'

<sup>27</sup>"But he will reply, 'I don't know you or where you come from. Away from me, all you evildoers!'

<sup>28</sup> "There will be weeping there, and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but you yourselves thrown out. <sup>29</sup> People will come from east and west and north and south, and will take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God. <sup>30</sup> Indeed there are those who are last who will be first, and first who will be last."

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ZION **Lutheran Church** 

2122 Bronson Blvd Kalamazoo, MI 269.382.2360 zionkazoo.org YouTube QR



FRIENDS OF **JESUS** Preschool

**Senior Pastor** Mike Saylor

Director of Christian Ed Aaron Grube

**Preschool Director** Jen LaPorte

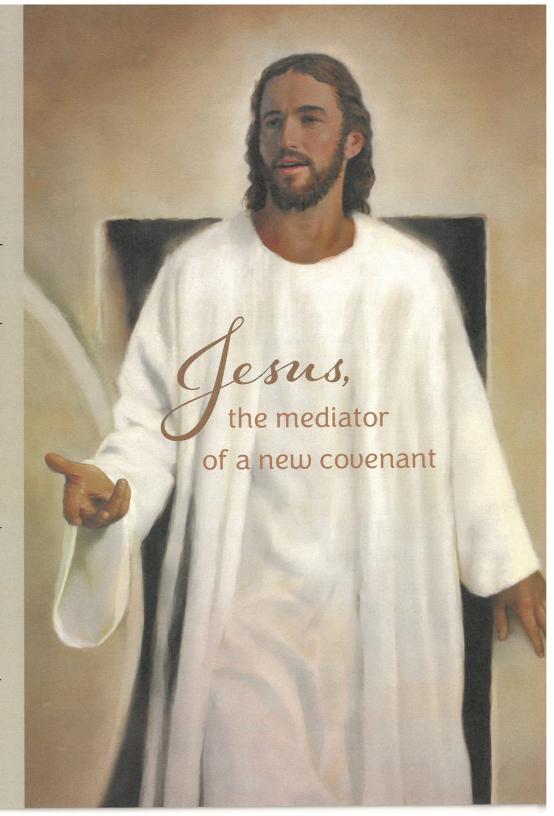
Office Administrator Brenna Harrington

Saturday Worship 5:30pm

**Sunday Worship** 8:00am and 10:30am

Sunday School and **Bible Study** 9:15am

Radio Broadcast Sunday @ 9:30am WKZO AM 590 106.9 FM



#### **CONCLUDING COLLECT**

P: Let us pray.

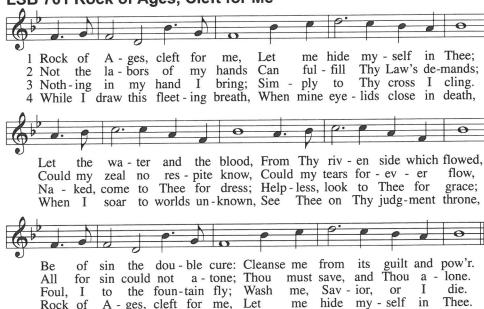
P: Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that, by patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **C: Amen.** 

#### BENEDICTION

P: 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. **C: Amen** 

## LSB 761 Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me



Text and tune: Public domain

#### **POSTLUDE**

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Prelude: "Llanfair" by G. Krapf. ©1983 The Sacred Music Press.

Offertory: "Allegretto" by W. Boyce. © 1966 Augsburg Publishing House.

Postlude: "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" by P. Manz. @1964 Concordia Publishing House.

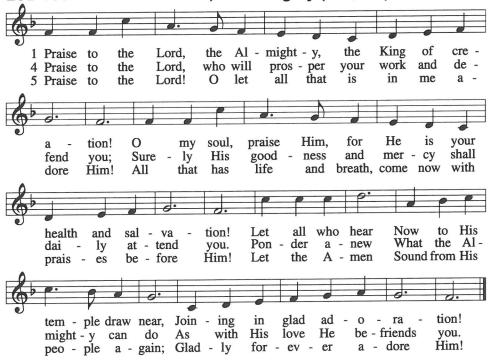
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Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 24, 2025

# PRELUDE WELCOME





Text and tune: Public domain

## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. C: Amen

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

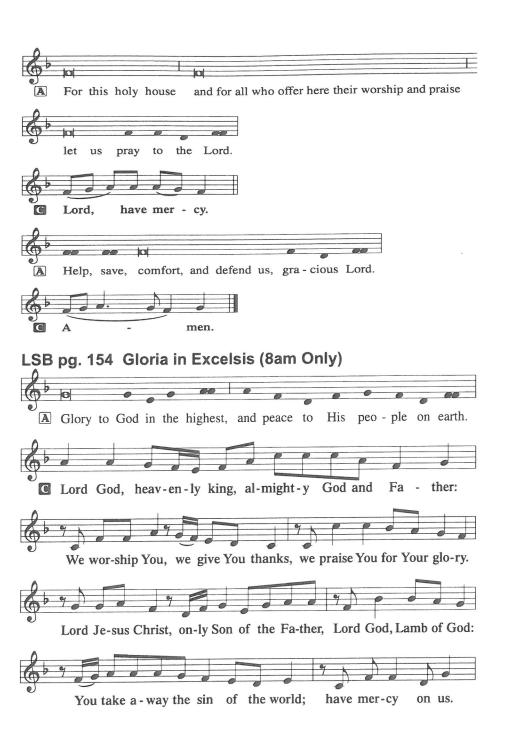
Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

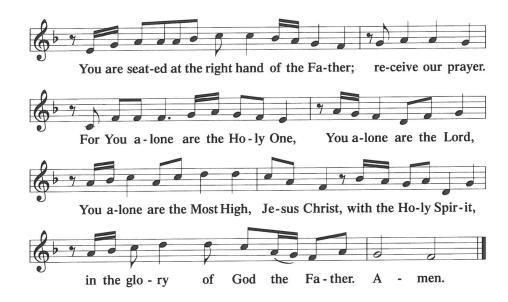
P: Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of you and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and 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.** 







## SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: O Lord, You have called us to enter Your kingdom through the narrow door. Guide us by Your Word and Spirit, and lead us now and always into the feast of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen.** 

## **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**Old Testament Reading** 

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

**Gospel Reading** 

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

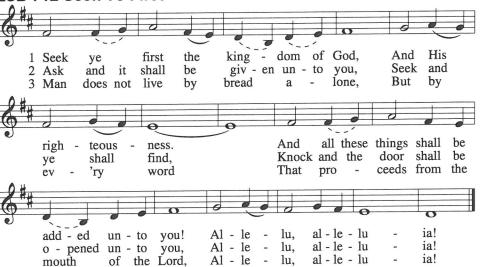
C: Praise to You, O Christ.

**Epistle Reading** 

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

## LSB 712 Seek Ye First



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#### SERMON

#### **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.

### SHARING OF PEACE

## **OFFERING (8am Only)**



## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, grant us repentant faith to strive to enter ever more deeply into Your blessings of forgiveness, life and salvation. By the witness of Your saints, gather many from the very corners of this world to enter Your kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

O Lord, prosper Your Church, the preaching of the Word, and the work of all missionaries, pastors and church workers. Guide and strengthen all who teach and learn Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

Lord God, heavenly Father, You have called fathers to bring up their children in Your fear and love. Sanctify and sustain them through Your Word, that they would lovingly discipline their children and so show forth Your own divine care for Your baptized children. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Eternal King, the kingdoms and nations of this world rise and fall while Your Church remains before You. Give Your Church a holy confidence in Your eternal life so she fears no worldly threat and ministers to the nations boldly and faithfully. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Almighty God, bless all those who care for the sick and attend to the dying; all those who care for our children; and our police, firefighters, emergency personnel and disaster-relief workers. Increase our generous support of those in need. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord, be with the sick and those who suffer, those troubled in mind or heart, the grieving in their sorrow, and the dying in their last days on earth. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

Lord God, You have drawn to Yourself believers from all nations and sanctified them in Holy Baptism as priests and Levites in Your Church. Fortify their faith and embolden their witness, that many may be gathered into the new heavens and new earth; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

#### LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

**About the Cover:** Our crucified and risen Lord has ascended to the right hand of the Father and is "the mediator of a new covenant." His intercession is perfect because He is the perfect Son of the Father. He intercedes for us on the basis of the blood that He shed once for all on the cross (Hebrews 10:10). Because of Him and Him alone, we have confidence that we stand righteous before God today and forever.

## WELCOME to Zion! May God bless your time with us today!

- Children are welcome in worship! Should parents need quiet time for their child, please utilize the Gathering Place behind the rear of sanctuary. There you will find comfortable seating and a broadcast of the worship service.
- Baby changing tables are located in both restrooms.
- As a baptized Christian who believes in the real presence of Christ in the sacrament of Holy Communion and the forgiveness this gift offers, you are invited to join in this sacred meal.
- For those unable to consume alcohol, red grape juice is available in the center cups of the communion trays.

## **CHURCH STAFF**

Senior Pastor	Mike Saylor
Director of Christian Education	Aaron Grube
Preschool Director	Jen LaPorte
Campus and Visitation Pastor	Mark Couch
Assistant Pastor	Tim Seeber
Deaconess Intern	Adelheid Jones
Bookkeeper	Cody Collmenter
Office Administrator	Brenna Harrington

Zion Lutheran Church | 2122 Bronson Blvd Kalamazoo MI 49008 | 269.382.2360



TODAY	8:00am 9:15am 10:30am 11:30am	Early Worship Service Youth Gathering Talk - New Orleans Experience Late Worship Service Tailgate to follow after Late Service
Mon Aug 25	ALL WEEK	FOJ Closed
Tue Aug 26	6:00pm	FOJ Back to School Night
Wed Aug 27	9:00am	Sewing Guild
Sat Aug 30	5:30pm	Worship with Communion
Sun Aug 31	8:00am 10:30am	Early Service with Communion Late Service with Communion
Mon Sept 1	ALL DAY	Office Closed
Sat Sept 6	5:30pm	Worship with Communion
Sun Sept 7	8:00am 9:15am 10:30am 11:30am	Early Service with Communion First Day of Sunday School Late Service with Communion Annual Church Picnic after Late Service

**SYMBOL IN THE WINDOW:** Isaiah was one of the four individuals in the Bible to view the concept of Zion as the City of God. You will find Isaiah on the Old Testament side at the very top of the fourth panel. Below is his symbol, tongs, holding a coal taken from the heavenly altar.

# SERVING TODAY

Worship Leader Pastor Mike Saylor Musician Roxanne Nieboer

	8am Worship	10:30am Worship
Ushers	Marvin Young	Bob Folck
	Stan Leitz	Ken Lundquist
		Dave Borak
Cantor	Linda Stieve	N/A
Lector	Carol Daenzer	Chris Wilkins