

July 18, 2021 – Eighth Sunday after Pentecost



WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

We are glad to be gathered with you. We no longer require masks for those who are fully vaccinated.

Today's worship assistants are John Minerowicz (assisting minister), Joanne Rupp (greeter), Sandy Matsen & Dan Matyola (ushers).

This morning's hymns:

"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say" ELW 611

"Lord, Speak to Us That We May Speak" ELW 676

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" ELW 789

The altar flowers are given by Rosi Delia in memory of her father and Joan.



Give to Zion from your phone! Scan the QR code to be directed to Tithely's electronic giving site.



Lutheran World Relief is providing a mission opportunity to bring COVID-19 vaccinations to vulnerable populations around the world. Please see details enclosed. If you would like to contribute, please make checks payable to Zion with LWR on the memo line.



Join Pastor Kat on Zoom for "Let's Talk LIVE!" this Wednesday at 7 p.m. This month's topic is *Let's Talk about strengthening our faith*. The discussion questions can be viewed in the Zion Friends and Family group on Facebook.



Jenny Gelson will be on vacation this week. Please address any administrative or pastoral needs to Pastor Kat. The Parish Office is also closed on Fridays in July and August. The office remains open Tues.-Thurs. from 9 to 2.



Zion Lutheran Church will celebrate our 307th anniversary on Sunday, August 1st. We are pleased to welcome former Zion Pastor Mark Summer as our guest. Please plan to join us for worship on this special day!



Second Quarter giving statements are available at the back of the church. Please pick yours up today. Contact John Rustwick, Financial Secretary, at 908-638-6339 or by email at jrustwick@gmail.com if you have any questions. Thank you.



Flat Jesus has arrived! Have you taken him on any adventures yet? Don't forget to take pictures and send them to Rhonda Rossi at youth@zionoldwick.com or share your photos on Facebook by joining the Zion Friends and Family group.



Please sign up to co-host Summer Social Hour via the link that was emailed from the Parish Office. All are welcome to join us following worship for fellowship on the church lawn.

Mark's gospel makes clear how great is the press of the crowd, with its countless needs to be met, on Jesus and his disciples. Yet in today's gospel Jesus advises his disciples to get away and rest, to take care of themselves. Sometimes we think that when others are in great need, we shouldn't think of ourselves at all; but Jesus also honors the caregivers' need. We are sent from Christ's table to care for others and for ourselves.

First Reading: Jeremiah 23:1-6

¹Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. ²Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. ³Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

⁵The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:11-22

¹¹Remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called "the uncircumcision" by those who are called "the circumcision" — a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands — ¹²remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. ¹⁵He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. ¹⁷So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; ¹⁸for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, ²⁰built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. ²¹In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; ²²in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

Gospel: Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

³⁰The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. ³¹He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. ³²And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. ³³Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. ³⁴As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

⁵³When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. ⁵⁴When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, ⁵⁵and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. ⁵⁶And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.