

# September 29, 2024 – Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost



## WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

We are glad to be gathered with you. If you are visiting with us for the first time, please ask an usher to answer any questions you may have. Cameras are in use for livestreaming the worship service.

The altar flowers are given by the Nicholas family to the glory of God.

### 8:30 a.m.

Assisting Minister — Gerry Dehkes  
Acolyte — Olivia Bryson  
Greeters — Michele & Todd Stevens  
Ushers — Steve & Barb Surhoff  
Altar Guild — Bonnie Stanski

### 11:00 a.m.

Assisting Minister — Leah Wintemute  
Acolyte — Natalie Ronaldo  
Greeters — Mike & Anissa Mikitiuk  
Ushers — Einar Bredeson & John McAleer  
Altar Guild — Sue Swanson

Opening Hymn	<i>"Gather Us In"</i>	ELW 532
Hymn of the Day	<i>"How Clear is Our Vocation, Lord"</i>	ELW 580
Closing Hymn (11 a.m.)	<i>"Guide My Feet"</i>	ACS 987



## September 22nd Attendance

<u>8:30 a.m.</u>	<u>11:00 a.m.</u>
36	34



The **2025 Stewardship campaign**, "An Invitation to Fuel God's Work", kicks off today. Please watch your mailbox for a letter and pledge card from the Stewardship committee as you prayerfully consider your support for Zion's ministries in 2025. Commitment Sunday will be on October 20th.

## Financial Summary YTD

INCOME  
\$238,401

EXPENSES  
-\$258.752

DIFFERENCE  
**-20,351**



On October 13th Zion's youth & families will gather in the Great Room at 12:15 p.m. for our first **Second Sunday Social!** We'll enjoy a pizza lunch and then head out to Schaefer Farms in Flemington, leaving from the CEB at 1:00 p.m. (Families will provide their own transportation.)

Once at Schaefer Farms we will enjoy a hayride, corn maze, and lots of fall fun. The cost for the hayride to the pumpkin patch & corn maze is \$18 per person (\$15 if paying with cash), and children under 8 ride for free. Please sign up via the link emailed from the Parish Office if you plan to attend!



**CHANGE OF DATE!** All are invited to join the Women of Zion at the CEB on Wednesday, October 23rd at 7 p.m. for a **Balance Class** led by Shalini. Class participants will work on balance, strength and concentration in this one-hour session. The cost is \$10 per person, sent or delivered to the Parish Office by October 20th. Participants should wear stretchy clothing and sneakers. Please sign up online or call the Parish Office no later than October 20th.



Give to Zion  
from your phone!

Scan the QR code to  
be directed to Tithely's  
electronic giving site.



All are invited to join Betty Lanka at the CEB on Thursday, October 24th at 6:30 p.m. for a **Chrismon Class**. We'll be making descending dove ornaments to be given as gifts to this year's confirmands. Participants do not need to bring anything and beginners are more than welcome! Please sign up via the link that was emailed from the Parish Office.

## First Reading: Esther 4:1, 4-17

<sup>1</sup>When Mordecai learned all that had been done, Mordecai tore his clothes and put on sackcloth and ashes, and went through the city, wailing with a loud and bitter cry; <sup>4</sup>When Esther's maids and her eunuchs came and told her, the queen was deeply distressed; she sent garments to clothe Mordecai, so that he might take off his sackcloth; but he would not accept them. <sup>5</sup>Then Esther called for Hathach, one of the king's eunuchs, who had been appointed to attend her, and ordered him to go to Mordecai to learn what was happening and why. <sup>6</sup>Hathach went out to Mordecai in the open square of the city in front of the king's gate, <sup>7</sup>and Mordecai told him all that had happened to him, and the exact sum of money that Haman had promised to pay into the king's treasuries for the destruction of the Jews. <sup>8</sup>Mordecai also gave him a copy of the written decree issued in Susa for their destruction, that he might show it to Esther, explain it to her, and charge her to go to the king to make supplication to him and entreat him for her people.

<sup>9</sup>Hathach went and told Esther what Mordecai had said. <sup>10</sup>Then Esther spoke to Hathach and gave him a message for Mordecai, saying, <sup>11</sup>All the king's servants and the people of the king's provinces know that if any man or woman goes to the king inside the inner court without being called, there is but one law — all alike are to be put to death. Only if the king holds out the golden scepter to someone, may that person live. I myself have not been called to come in to the king for thirty days. <sup>12</sup>When they told Mordecai what Esther had said, <sup>13</sup>Mordecai told them to reply to Esther, "Do not think that in the king's palace you will escape any more than all the other Jews. <sup>14</sup>For if you keep silence at such a time as this, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another quarter, but you and your father's family will perish. Who knows? Perhaps you have come to royal dignity for just such a time as this." <sup>15</sup>Then Esther said in reply to Mordecai, <sup>16</sup>Go, gather all the Jews to be found in Susa, and hold a fast on my behalf, and neither eat nor drink for three days, night or day. I and my maids will also fast as you do. After that I will go to the king, though it is against the law; and if I perish, I perish. <sup>17</sup>Mordecai then went away and did everything as Esther had ordered him.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading: Psalm 121

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills — from where will my help come? <sup>2</sup>My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth. <sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. <sup>4</sup>He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. <sup>5</sup>The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade at your right hand. <sup>6</sup>The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. <sup>7</sup>The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. <sup>8</sup>The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation



## Gospel: Mark 9:38-50

<sup>38</sup>John said to [Jesus], "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." <sup>39</sup>But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. <sup>40</sup>Whoever is not against us is for us. <sup>41</sup>For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

<sup>42</sup>"If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. <sup>43</sup>If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire.

<sup>45</sup>And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. <sup>47</sup>And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, <sup>48</sup>where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

<sup>49</sup>"For everyone will be salted with fire. <sup>50</sup>Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM** (11:00 a.m.) *"Bread of Life"* arr. Lee G. Barrow

Break Thou the Bread of Life, dear Lord to me, as once You broke the loaves beside the sea.  
Beyond the sacred page, I seek Thee, Lord; my spirit waits for Thee, O Living Word.

O send Your spirit, Lord, now unto me that You may touch my eyes and make me see.  
Show me the truth concealed within Your word, for in Your book revealed, I see You, Lord.

Let us break bread together on our knees.

When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,  
Oh, Lord, have mercy on me.



## CALENDAR

	First Sunday	Second Sunday	Third Sunday	Fourth Sunday	Fifth Sunday
September	9/1	9/8	9/15	9/22	9/29
<b>Sunday School</b> Theme: Creation	No programming. Final summer Sunday.	Rally Day! Service Project: Creation Care	Bible Story: Creation	Bible Story: Noah's Ark	Bible Story: Manna in the Wilderness
<b>Special Events</b>					
October	10/6	10/13	10/20	10/27	
<b>Sunday School</b> Theme: Community	All School Event: Stewardship	Service Project: Church Care	Bible Story: Ruth and Naomi	NO SUNDAY SCHOOL	
<b>Special Events</b>		Second Sunday Social! Pizza lunch and a trip to Schaefer Farms for some fall family fun!		10am Single Service: Confirmation, Youth Sunday	