



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.

Assisting Minister — John Rustwick
Acolyte — Nate Brokaw
Greeters — Michele & Todd Stevens
Ushers — Barb & Steve Surhoff
Altar Guild — Cindy Rupprecht

Opening Hymn	<i>"What is This Place"</i>	ELW 524
Hymn of the Day	<i>"God is Here!"</i>	ELW 526
Closing Hymn	<i>"Soon and Very Soon"</i>	ELW 439



July 12th Attendance

9:30 a.m.
32



SAVE THE DATES! On August 23rd at 9:30 a.m. worship, we will have Back-to-School Sunday to bless backpacks, commission our Sunday School volunteers, and present Bibles.

On September 13th, we will kick-off the Sunday School year with Rally Day, featuring a single service at 9:30 a.m., time to meet teachers, and a Ministry Fair!



SAVE THE DATE! On Saturday, September 12th, the annual 5K Fun Run/Walk to benefit Good News Home for Women will be held at 10:00 a.m. Volunteers and runners will be needed. Watch online for sign-ups.



On Zion's **Anniversary Sunday**, August 2nd, we will celebrate the history of our church and recognize the 250th anniversary of our nation. The planned flag-raising has been postponed.



A Year of Growing in Faith: Chapter Three

Find connections between creation and your faith! The summer season with its warm temperatures and long sunlit days is the perfect time for "A Walk Outside with God," the third chapter of "A Year of Growing in Faith." Youth and adults are welcome to join Pastor Kat for an exploration of how nature helps us grow closer to God. Services will be held at the CEDS on Sunday, September 8th, 9:30 a.m.

Financial Summary YTD

INCOME
\$210,088

EXPENSES
-\$204,461

DIFFERENCE
\$5,627



Scan the QR code to make a contribution to Zion via Venmo.



Blood Drive

dreamed that there was a stairway set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. ¹³ And the LORD stood beside him and said, "I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring, ¹⁴ and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. ¹⁵ Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go and will bring you back to this land, for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." ¹⁶ Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place—and I did not know it!" ¹⁷ And he was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

¹⁸ So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. ^{19a} He called that place Bethel.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalmody: Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24 (*read responsively*)

¹ LORD, you have searched me out; O LORD, you have known me.

² **You know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.**

³ You trace my journeys and my resting-places and are acquainted with all my ways.

⁴ **Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, but you, O LORD, know it altogether.**

⁵ You encompass me, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

⁶ **Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain to it.**

⁷ Where can I go then from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?

⁸ **If I climb up to heaven, you are there; if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.**

⁹ If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

¹⁰ **even there your hand will lead me and your right hand hold me fast.**

¹¹ If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, and the light around me turn to night,"

¹² **darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day; darkness and light to you are both alike.**

²³ Search me out, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my restless thoughts.

²⁴ **Look well whether there be any wickedness in me and lead me in the way that is everlasting.**

Second Reading: Romans 8:12-25

¹² So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³ for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us.

¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, ²⁰ for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴

For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what are already seen? ²⁵ But if we



Gospel: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

²⁴ [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field,²⁵ but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷ And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' ²⁸ He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹ But he replied, 'No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.' "

³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷ He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸ the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"



Second quarter giving statements are available at the CEB for those who elect to receive a paper copy. If you have any questions about your statement, please contact Financial Secretary John Rustwick at 908-638-6339 or jrustwick@gmail.com.