

Zion Lutheran Church



***11 a.m. Traditional Worship
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 27, 2026***

As a people of God, we share Christ's love, grow in faith, and serve others.

Sunday 11:00 a.m. Worship Service

**Denotes Congregation is to stand, if able*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Partita on "Old 124th" - Genevan Psalter Tune with* Kirk Denton, organ
Zwischenspiel and Canon – David P. Dahl

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,

we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine Love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

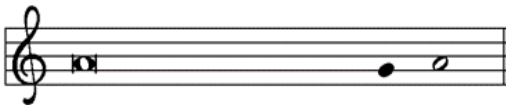
Amen.

*HYMN *O Master, Let Me Walk with You*

ELW 818

*APOSTOLIC GREETING (☩ And also with you.)

*KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



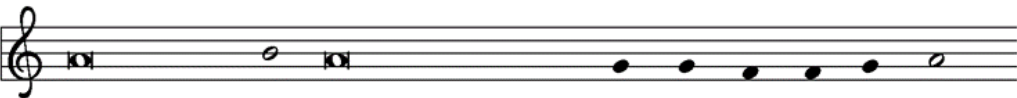
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

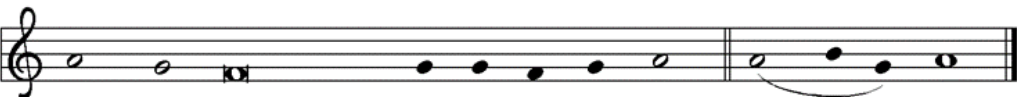


For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - - men.

***CANTICLE OF PRAISE**



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



***PRAYER OF THE DAY** (☒ Amen.)

FIRST READING (☒ Thanks be to God.)

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

SECOND READING

Philippians 2:1-13

***GOSPEL VERSE**



***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the 21st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

***GOSPEL READING**

Matthew 21:23-32

(After the reading of the Gospel)

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

HYMN

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

ELW 517

***APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

***INSTALLATION OF SEMINARIAN RITA SAAVEDRA**

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

***PEACE (☞ And also with you.)**

Please take a moment to look around at your sisters and brothers and offer a sign of peace through a wave, a smile, or a message.

OFFERING

Thank you all for the gifts of time, talent, and treasures you give to support the mission at Zion. We cannot do our work without your participation in all three areas. To give financially, please give either online or in the offering plate that the ushers will pass in between pews. You can also scan the QR code to be taken to our online giving portal.



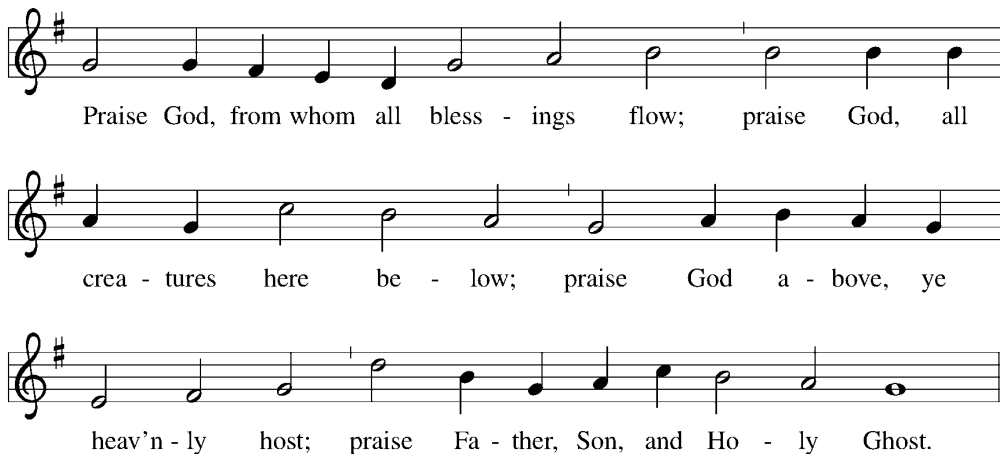
CHOIR ANTHEM

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart
- Joan Pinkston

Worship Choir

***OFFERTORY CANTICLE**

ELW 885



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all
crea - tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711, alt.

Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

***OFFERTORY PRAYER (☞ Amen.)**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*SURSUM CORDA

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*PROPER PREFACE

It is indeed...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,

heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER (☩ Amen.)

***LORD'S PRAYER**

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.

***FRACTION SENTENCE**

AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion this day. During communion distribution, an usher will invite your pew row to come forward. If you need the pastor to bring you communion, please let an usher know. There is a gluten free and grape juice option available if you need this. Return your empty glass to the baskets. Children and those not ready to receive communion this day may receive a blessing.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Old 124th" - Aria and Harpeggio – D. Dahl

Kirk Denton, organ

***POST-COMMUNION BLESSING (℣ Amen.)**

***POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (℣ Amen.)**

***BENEDICTION (℣ Amen.)**

***SENDING HYMN**

Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

ELW 772

***DISMISSAL**

The worship has ended. Now the service begins. As we go out into the world, let us remember our mission.

As a people of God, we share Christ's love, grow in faith, and serve others.

Go in peace. Christ is among us!

Thanks be to God.

PRELUDE

"Old 124th" – Fugue – D. Dahl

Kirk Denton, organ

Servants in God's House

September 27, 2026

11 a.m. Traditional Worship

Sue Whitter (Greeter)
Bruce McIntosh (Acolyte)
Sharon Finley (Asst Minister)
Linda Kinna-Engel (Lector)
Jim Huckleberry (Head Usher)
Bruce McIntosh (Sanctuary Usher)
Linda Kinna-Engel (Comm Asst)
Bob Staples (Live Stream)

Servants in God's House

October 4, 2026

11 a.m. Traditional Worship

Lee Ropp (Greeter)
Clinton Appleby (Acolyte)
Doug Davis (Asst Minister)
Clinton Appleby (Lector)
Bob Rockwell (Head Usher)
Michael Ferguson (Sanctuary Usher)
Bruce McIntosh (Comm Asst)
9 a.m. (Live Stream)



The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the 64th wedding anniversary of Bruce & Fran Taylor, September 29th. And, in celebration of the wedding of Coby & Marissa Taylor on September 12th, the Grandson of Bruce & Fran.

Donuts and coffee are dedicated to the glory of God and in celebration of their 56th wedding anniversary on Saturday by Vince and Jackie Bello.



Zion Prayer 9-27-2026

Requests remain on the prayer list for 30 days unless requested otherwise.

Jim and Pat McMorro, Jennifer Shankle, Eric Saxton, Tristan Swiney, Susan Dirndorfer, Mike Fath, Bill Blair, Karen Carpenter, Jake Straits, Dave Moser, Linda Stottlemeyer, Sarah Routzahn, Jim Allen, Sarah Gladhill, Graham Haverfield, Katana Lewis, Sue Whitter, Ron and Marsha Niemi, Karen Muscolino, Mackenzie Miessau, Pat McIntosh, Natalie, Margaret Guyton, Kim Buhrman, Harriett Hahn, Gary Fulmer, Carrie Basler, Robert Berkey, Brittany Mushuda, Benedict Phelps, Colin Sweigert, Shirley Hyssong, Samn Huffer, Marty Appleby, Judith Smith, Jackie Bello, Trish Tollefson, Addison Hopson, Deb Kahihikolo

Please be sure the church is notified if you are hospitalized and if you wish to be placed on the Prayer List or would like visitation.

Our Mission

As a people of God,
we share Christ's love,
grow in faith, and
serve others



Our Vision

Zion aspires to be a
church where all are
welcomed and loved;
God's purpose for each of
us is found; and lives are
transformed.

Our Value Statement: Zion is a Christian **spiritual community** brought together by God's **love** to be strengthened through worship and study of the Bible in order to be sent out to **serve** with **integrity**. We acknowledge we will fall short but through forgiveness and practice, we will strive to follow Christ's commands and grow into the loving people God has created us to be.



Zion Lutheran Church

**107 West Main Street
Middletown, MD 21769
301-371-6500**

Website: www.zionmiddletown.org

*For emergency pastoral care or to schedule
an appointment, please call the church office
for additional information.*

The Rev. Diane Day—Co-Pastor

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The Rev. Matt Day—Co-Pastor

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Alix Albright —Joint Director of Children, Youth and Family

Ext. 203, cyfdirector@zionmiddletown.org

Deb Reichelt – Office Business Manager

ext. 204, treasurer@zionmiddletown.org

Kaye Derr-Financial Secretary

financialsecretary@zionmiddletown.org

Matt Puziss - Director Contemporary Worship Team

mattpuziss@gmail.com

Katelyn McClinton- Director of Traditional Music Ministry

katelynmccclinton@gmail.com

Kirk Denton- Organist

kirk.denton@rhosymedre.com

Emily Hopson – Children's Choir Director

emilyfulton1031@gmail.com

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