

8th Sunday After Pentecost



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Stratford, Ontario

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People of Zion

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Ministers

Pastor
Visitation Minister
Minister of Music
Organist
Pianist

PENTECOST 8

July 18, 2021

CONFESSON AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, powerful and compassionate, you shepherd your people, faithfully feeding and protecting us. Heal each of us, and make us a whole people, that we may embody the justice and peace of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING: *Jeremiah 23:1-6*

A reading from Jeremiah.

Jeremiah prophesied before the exile in 587 BCE. In this passage, he uses the metaphor of a shepherd to describe the bad kings who have scattered the “flock” of Israel. God promises to gather the flock and to raise up a new king from David’s line to save Israel and Judah.

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.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: *Psalm 23*

¹The LORD¹ is my shepherd;
I shall not ¹ be in want.

**²The LORD makes me lie down ¹ in green pastures
and leads me be- ¹ side still waters.**

³You restore my ¹ soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways ¹ for your name's sake.

**⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall ¹ fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they ¹ comfort me.**

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence ¹ of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is ¹ running over.

**⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days ¹ of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the ¹ LORD forever.**

SECOND READING: *Ephesians 2:11-22*

A reading from Ephesians.

The author of this letter reminds his audience that originally they were not part of God's chosen people. Through Jesus' death, however, they are included in God's household of faith, whose cornerstone is Jesus Christ.

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.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM: “The Lamb,” T. Chanler

GOSPEL: *Mark 6:30-34; 53-56*

The holy gospel according to Mark.
Glory to you, O Lord.

When Jesus sends his disciples out to teach and heal, they minister among large numbers of people. Their work is motivated by Christ’s desire to be among those in need.

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.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON:

<https://1drv.ms/v/s!Alrwdlq5Yza1ijboCfjQzMdZhVg1>

(Click on the link above to view Pastor Jeff’s sermon (or you can find it on the website under the separate heading “Sermons”)

HYMN OF THE DAY

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rooted in Christ and sustained by the Spirit, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

Tend your church, O God. Encourage bishops, pastors, and deacons in their proclamation of the gospel. Raise up new leaders and encourage those pursuing a call to ministry. Embolden all the baptized to embody your love and justice. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Restore your creation, O God. Sustain croplands and pastures and safeguard all farm animals and livestock. Preserve lakes, rivers, and streams that offer refreshment. Revive lands recovering from natural disasters and protect coastlands threatened by rising oceans. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Reconcile the nations, O God. Break down the dividing walls that make us strangers to one another and unite us as one human family. Equip leaders to deal wisely with conflict and guide diplomats who seek peaceful solutions. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Heal your people, O God. Look with compassion on immigrants, exiles, and all who are afraid or feel lost. Give rest to those who are weary, comfort to those who are grieving, and recovery to those who are ill (*especially Bea, Brian, Barbara, Mary, Ardath, Doreen, Margaret, Lynnette, Hildegard, Glenn, Beryl, Cathy, Robb, Jack, John, Ralph, Katana, Ralph, Rose Marie, Nya, Muriel, Ron, Brian, and Kolby*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Nourish this congregation, O God. Prepare a table where we receive food for our hungering spirits. Renew our commitment to provide for one another and revitalize our ministries of feeding and nurturing hungry neighbors. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace.

Amen.

You lead us home, O God. We give thanks for all who have died, now citizens with the saints. As you have received them into your heavenly home, so welcome all of us to dwell in your house forever. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.
You are most holy,
and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,
and the promise of his coming again,
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favour and + give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

“LIMITED” WORSHIP HAS RETURNED

WELCOME BACK!!!!

COVID-19 PROTOCOL IS IN PLACE. YOU ARE REQUIRED TO CALL IN TO THE OFFICE AT 519-271-8527 MONDAY TO THURSDAY 8:00 A.M. TO 1:30 P.M. AND FRIDAY FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M. TO REGISTER AND BE PLACED ON THE ATTENDANCE.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CALL THE OFFICE.

VOLUNTEERS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, JULY 25, 2021

***GREETER: To Be Asked From
Attendance Sheet***

READER: Brian Wilker

USHERS: Steve Lamont Team

COUNTING TEAM: Dianne Yundt Team

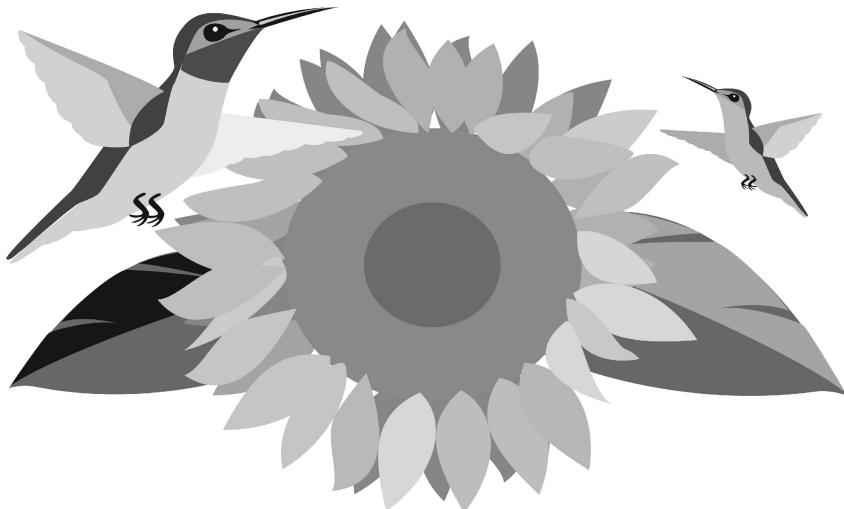
YOUR HELP IS NEEDED



We are currently in the planning stage of organizing Schedules for Readers, Greeters and Ushers for when we are able to re-open our doors for Worship; and, when we are able to do so at full capacity.

If you are able to help by volunteering to be a Reader, Greeter and/or Usher, please call and speak with Jane in the office at 519-271-8527 Monday to Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

We deeply appreciate ALL of our current volunteers and are excited to add you to this list of "special" people



ALL EVENTS REMAIN CANCELLED



TODAY'S PRAYER

A Prayer for Changing Times

DEAR LORD,

CHANGE IS HARD, BUT WE KNOW THAT YOU ARE OUR
HELPER. YOU ARE HOLDING OUR HAND AS THE CHALLENGES
OF LIFE COME OUR WAY. SO AS WE GO THROUGH THE
MOTIONS OF SAD ENDINGS AND SCARY BEGINNINGS HELP US
TO KNOW THAT YOU ARE HERE WITH US. HELP US TO TRUST
YOUR PLAN, FOR WE KNOW THAT YOU HAVE PLANS FOR US
TO PROSPER AND NOT TO HARM US. AS WE GROW AND
PROSPER ALONG YOUR PATH REMIND US TO BE THANKFUL
FOR YOUR LOVE AND GUIDANCE THROUGH OUR MOST
CHALLENGING TIMES. YOU ARE THE SOURCE OF LIFE,
HAPPINESS, AND LOVE. THANK YOU FOR BEING OUR SAVIOR,
OUR LEADER, AND OUR PROTECTOR.

IN CHRIST'S NAME I PRAY FOR STRENGTH AND GUIDANCE
THROUGH CHANGING TIMES,

AMEN

• *adore & desire* •

Thanks
for
Joining Us



IT HAS BEEN NICE TO SEE YOU !

*WE HOPE TO SEE YOU AGAIN
NEXT SUNDAY !*