**9th sunday after pentecost, august 7, 2022**

**zion, philipsburg**

**GATHERING**

**The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.**

**land acknowledgement**

We acknowledge that we gather on the traditional territory of the Anishinabewaki, Mississauga’s, and Neutral peoples. We give thanks to the Creator for this great gift and recognize our responsibility as treaty people to care for the land and waters that nourish us and give us strength. We also acknowledge that it is our duty to do more to learn about the rich history of this land to better understand our roles as residents, neighbours, caretakers, and sojourners.

**announcments-**

Welcome to worship on this 9th Sunday of Pentecost, August 7, 2022. We’ve had a mixed bag of weather this week, some much needed rain, some heat, some instability due to humidity….just what summer is all about

This morning we will celebrate Holy Communion, it feels like it has been a while since we have shared in the sacrament. Folks at home, please gather some bread or crackers and wine or juice if you wish to participate.

This morning’s sermon was written by Bishop Jason Zinko of the Manitoba/Northwestern Ontario Synod as part of the summer sermon series. His sermon speaks to the witness of the gospel of Luke’s gospel so well this morning.

Any other announcements?

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity,☩ one God, whose steadfast love endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

Merciful God,

**we confess that we have not followed your path** **but have chosen our own way.**

**Instead of putting others before ourselves,** **we long to take the best seats at the table.** **When met by those in need,** **we have too often passed by on the other side.**

**Set us again on the path of life.** **Save us from ourselves** **and free us to love our neighbors.** **Amen.**

Hear the good news! God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy. In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

You are free to love as God loves. **Amen.**

**GATHERING SONG*God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens* (ELW 771)**

1 God, who stretched the spangled heavens infinite in time and place,  
flung the suns in burning radiance  
through the silent fields of space:  
we, your children in your likeness,  
share inventive pow'rs with you;  
great Creator, still creating,  
show us what we yet may do.  
  
2 We have ventured worlds undreamed of since the childhood of our race;  
known the ecstasy of winging  
through untraveled realms of space;  
probed the secrets of the atom,  
yielding unimagined pow'r,  
facing us with life's destruction  
or our most triumphant hour.  
  
3 As each far horizon beckons,  
may it challenge us anew:  
children of creative purpose,  
serving others, hon'ring you.  
May our dreams prove rich with promise;  
each endeavor well begun;  
great Creator, give us guidance  
till our goals and yours are one.

**GREETING (ELW p. 98)**

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 (ELW p. 102)**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**WORD**

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

**FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1-6**

A reading from Genesis.

1After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” 2But Abram said, “O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” 3And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” 4But the word of the Lord came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” 5He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” 6And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 33:12-22 – Read responsively by whole verse with congregation**

12Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord! Happy the people chosen to be God’s heritage!  
 13**The Lord looks down from heaven and sees all humankind.**  
 14God sits firmly enthroned and watches all who dwell on the earth.  
 15**God fashions all their hearts** **and observes all their deeds.**  
 16A king is not saved by the size of the army, nor are warriors rescued by their great strength.  
 17**The horse gives vain hope for victory;** **despite its great strength it cannot save.**  
 18Truly, your eye is upon those who fear you, O Lord, upon those who wait for your steadfast love,  
 19**to deliver their lives from death,** **and to keep them alive in time of famine.**  
 20Our innermost being waits for you, O Lord, our helper and our shield.  
 21**Surely, our heart rejoices in you,** **for in your holy name we put our trust.**  
 22Let your lovingkindness, O Lord, be upon us, even as we place our hope in you.

**SECOND READING: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16**

A reading from Hebrews.

1Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. 2Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. 3By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.  
 8By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. 9By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. 10For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. 11By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. 12Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.”  
 13All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, 14for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. 15If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. 16But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL: Luke 12:32-40**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] 32“Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. 33Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. 34For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.  
 35“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; 36be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. 37Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. 38If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.  
 39“But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. 40You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**SERMON (ELW p. 103)**

**HYMN OF THE DAY*Blessed Assurance* (ELW 638)**

1 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!  
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.  
  
Refrain  
This is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Savior, all the day long:  
this is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Savior all the day long.  
  
2 Perfect submission, perfect delight,  
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
angels descending bring from above  
echoes of mercy, whispers of love. Refrain  
  
3 Perfect submission, all is at rest;  
I in my Savior am happy and blest,  
watching and waiting, looking above,  
filled with his goodness, lost in his love. Refrain

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Trusting in God’s extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer. *A brief silence.*

Let your lovingkindness be upon your church. Fill all who proclaim the gospel with your Spirit. Equip your flock to speak your word of promise and hope in the midst of fear and uncertainty. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Let your lovingkindness be upon your creation. Dwell among us and sustain our earthly home. In places of famine, provide nourishment. In places of plenty, fashion us to be good stewards of your bounty. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Let your lovingkindness be upon your world. Be our helper and our shield in places torn by strife and violence *especially* Ethiopia, Yemen, Syria, Iran, Afghanistan, Ukraine, Libya, Somali, and Mexico. Raise up courageous leaders to govern with compassion and justice. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Let your lovingkindness be upon your children. Look upon all who wait for your steadfast love. Console those who grieve and embrace those who cry out to you *especially Sarah, Anne, Chris, John, Ruth, Phyliss, Marion, Rob, our members in long term care Esther, Robert, Barbara and Evelyn, and those we name out loud or in the silence of our hearts*. (pause) Help us to trust your promise and not be afraid. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Let your lovingkindness be upon this community. Fashion our hearts to strive for the way of peace. Strengthen the outreach ministries of this congregation including Project R.E.D, and all who care for those in need. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

With thanksgiving we remember all who have died in faith and now rest in you. As they placed their hope in you, so strengthen us to trust in your promise of new life. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom. **Amen.**

**PEACE (ELW p. 106)**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**MEAL**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

**OFFERING PResentation- *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow* #885**

**DIALOGUE (ELW p. 107)**

The Lord be with you.

**And also 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.**

**PREFACE (ELW p. 108)**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places

give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name.

**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy God,

our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer, in the harmonious world of your creation,

the plants and animals, the seas and stars were whole and well in your praise.

When sin had scarred the world, you sent your Son to heal our ills and to form us again into one.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his acts of healing, his body given up, and his victory over death, we await that day when all the peoples of the earth will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life. Send your Spirit upon us and this meal: as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread, so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,

in your holy Church, both now and forever. **Amen**

**LORD’S PRAYER (ELW p. 112)**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

In Christ’s presence there is fullness of joy. Come to the banquet.

**COMMUNION (ELW p. 112)**

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

**COMMUNION HYMNS** **856, 423**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Life-giving God, through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

**SENDING**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

**BLESSING**

The God of peace, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,

bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life this day and always. **Amen.**

**SENDING SONG*****On Our Way Rejoicing* (ELW 537)**

1 On our way rejoicing  
gladly let us go.  
Christ our Lord has conquered;  
vanquished is the foe.  
Christ without, our safety;  
Christ within, our joy;  
who, if we be faithful,  
can our hope destroy?  
  
Refrain  
On our way rejoicing;  
as we forward move,  
hearken to our praises,  
O blest God of love!  
  
2 Unto God the Father  
joyful songs we sing;  
unto God the Savior  
thankful hearts we bring;  
unto God the Spirit  
bow we and adore,  
on our way rejoicing  
now and evermore. Refrain

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Love your neighbor. **Thanks be to God.**

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