

**THE PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Righteous God,

**Our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*Sit*

**THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**The First Reading**

**Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18**

<sup>7</sup> Be silent before the Sovereign LORD,  
for the day of the LORD is near.

The LORD has prepared a sacrifice;  
he has consecrated those he has invited.

<sup>12</sup> At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps  
and punish those who are complacent,  
who are like wine left on its dregs,  
who think, 'The LORD will do nothing,  
either good or bad.'

<sup>13</sup> Their wealth will be plundered,  
their houses demolished.

Though they build houses,  
they will not live in them;  
though they plant vineyards,  
they will not drink the wine."

<sup>14</sup> The great day of the LORD is near—  
near and coming quickly.

The cry on the day of the LORD is bitter;  
the Mighty Warrior shouts his battle cry.

<sup>15</sup> That day will be a day of wrath—  
a day of distress and anguish,  
a day of trouble and ruin,  
a day of darkness and gloom,  
a day of clouds and blackness—

<sup>16</sup> a day of trumpet and battle cry  
against the fortified cities  
and against the corner towers.

<sup>17</sup> "I will bring such distress on all people  
that they will grope about like those who are blind,  
because they have sinned against the LORD.

Their blood will be poured out like dust  
and their entrails like dung.

<sup>18</sup> Neither their silver nor their gold  
will be able to save them  
on the day of the LORD's wrath."

In the fire of his jealousy  
the whole earth will be consumed,  
for he will make a sudden end  
of all who live on the earth.

The Word of the Lord, C: **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 90:1-8, 12 will be read responsively.**

<sup>1</sup> Lord, you have been our dwelling place  
throughout all generations.

<sup>2</sup> **Before the mountains were born  
or you brought forth the whole world,  
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.**

<sup>3</sup> You turn people back to dust,  
saying, "Return to dust, you mortals."

<sup>4</sup> **A thousand years in your sight  
are like a day that has just gone by,  
or like a watch in the night.**

<sup>5</sup> Yet you sweep people away in the sleep of death—  
they are like the new grass of the morning:

<sup>6</sup> **In the morning it springs up new,  
but by evening it is dry and withered.**

<sup>7</sup> We are consumed by your anger  
and terrified by your indignation.

<sup>8</sup> **You have set our iniquities before you,  
our secret sins in the light of your presence.**

<sup>12</sup> Teach us to number our days,  
that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

**The Second Reading**

**1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

<sup>5</sup> Now, brothers and sisters, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, <sup>2</sup> for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup> While people are saying, "Peace and safety," destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

<sup>4</sup> But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. <sup>5</sup> You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness.

<sup>6</sup> So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be awake and sober. <sup>7</sup> For those who sleep,

sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. <sup>8</sup> But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet. <sup>9</sup> For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>10</sup> He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. <sup>11</sup> Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

The Word of the Lord, **C: Thanks be to God**

**The Holy Gospel**

**Matthew 25:14-30**

Gospel Response **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>14</sup> “Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. <sup>15</sup> To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. <sup>16</sup> The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. <sup>17</sup> So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. <sup>18</sup> But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money.

<sup>19</sup> “After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup> The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.’

<sup>21</sup> “His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’

<sup>22</sup> “The man with two bags of gold also came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.’

<sup>23</sup> “His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’

<sup>24</sup> “Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. <sup>25</sup> So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.’

<sup>26</sup> “His master replied, ‘You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? <sup>27</sup> Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.’

<sup>28</sup> ““So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. <sup>29</sup> For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. <sup>30</sup> And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

The Gospel of the Lord – **C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

ASSISTING MINISTER and LECTOR: Christian Muthler

GREETER: Eileen Saunders

CHILDREN: Available on the back pew are coloring books and crayons.

### **CALENDAR**

WEDNESDAY 6:30 Worship Meeting

THURSDAY 1:00 Bible study at Zion Lutheran

SATURDAY 9:00 to 12:00 Cookie Walk

### **FOOD CUPBOARD – NOVEMBER NEEDS**

Canned Soup.

### **BOILER REPAIR**

The church boiler is now up and working. As stated in your November newsletter to help with the cost of this expensive but needed repair, any donation will be greatly appreciated. Just mark the white pew envelope or your check as “boiler repair” and leave in the offering plate.

### **WORSHIP NOTES**

As we worship together once again, we want everyone to feel safe and comfortable during worship. Therefore, with that in mind the following steps will be taken:

**We will sit every third pew to keep a safe distance from each other.**

**The offering plates will not be passed around, instead you will leave your offering in the plate as you leave worship along with the attendance form.**

**Hymns are also included in your bulletin as an insert. Hymns and liturgy will be sung by a cantor at this time. We will not have a Gathering Hymn. If you wish to sing along you may do so, but we request that you keep your mask on during any singing.**

**Communion will also be done together in the pews from the prepackaged wafer and juice you picked up on your way into the sanctuary. A waste receptacle will be on the table in the narthex for you to dispose of your communion as you leave worship.**

**Open the clear cellophane for the wafer first and then open the purple tab for the juice.**

**Included in your bulletin is an attendance form, please fill out and leave in the offering plate. This is to help us keep track of our members each Sunday.**

### **ST, PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN LAKE CHARLES, LA**

As a congregation with whom we share a namesake in the Apostle Paul, St. Paul Church in Louisiana is appealing to us for help in rebuilding their sanctuary. Their sanctuary was completely destroyed, and fellowship hall damaged by Hurricane Laura and endured additional damage from Hurricane Delta. Destruction included pews, hymnals, pulpit, baptismal font, altar, artwork and stained glass, music, and all musical instruments including a three-manual organ, piano, and keyboard. The sanctuary and contents are a total loss. Please pray for their recovery and rebuilding. They also humbly ask for any

donations to help them rebuild. If you wish to make a donation just make your check out to St. Paul Lutheran and mark in the memo line St. Paul of Lake Charles. Use the pew envelopes and leave in the offering plate as you leave the church. We will collect donations till December 20.

### **BUDGET AND COUNCIL NOMINEES**

2021 Budget was approved and elected to council, serving a three year term; Thom Cipro, Linda Flora and Jeff Miller. Elected to council serving a one year term is Bobi-Jean Alexander.

### **THE SEASON OF ADVENT**

A sign up sheet is in the narthex for volunteers in the lighting of the Advent wreath. This usually involves a member of a family reading a short history of the candle to be lit and another member lighting the candle. First Sunday of Advent will be November 29.

### **WOMEN'S JOINT CHRISTMAS PARTY**

We will be hosting the Christmas Party with the women of Zion Lutheran on Thursday, December 10, at 6:00 PM. Dinner will be \$15 and also bring a \$10 Grab Bag. **Please sign the signup sheet in the narthex or RSVP to Linda Flora 724-452-1347, 724-272-2563 or [lflora604@gmail.com](mailto:lflora604@gmail.com) by November 26.**

### **MIRACLE ON MAIN STREET – DECEMBER 3**

Zelienople is still planning on holding the Miracle on Main Street event on December 3. Due to Covid-19 restrictions some activities will not take place. The month of November we will be collecting new or almost new children's coats, plus hats and gloves. Box for your donation will be in the back of the church next Sunday. Coats will be given out to those in need at the Miracle on Main tent. We are also planning on taking part again with handing out free hot chocolate and coffee. **A sign up sheet is in the narthex for you to volunteer to help for an hour plus donations of instant hot chocolate. We need everyone's participation for this community event. Please consider the giving of your time. Help is also needed at 4:00 to help set up and again at 8:30 to clean up.**

### **VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS SHOW**

Nathan Brewer will be performing his annual Christmas show virtually this year, meaning that friends from afar can watch from home. Zelienople resident, Traci Fucsko (Butia), will be performing live in the show from the stage of Strobel Hall. Christian music legend Sandi Patty will also be singing in the show from her home in Oklahoma. Saturday December 12 at 7:00 PM. Tickets can be purchased at [nathanbrewer.simplenetix.com](http://nathanbrewer.simplenetix.com)

### **HARVEST SUNDAY-NOVEMBER 22**

Remember to bring your nonperishable food items for the SWBC Food Cupboard next Sunday. Monetary donations will also be accepted.

### **COOKIE WALK 2020-NOVEMBER 21**

Sign up sheets for donations of ingredients are on the flower chart in the narthex. Cookie Walk will be held on Saturday, November 21 from 9 to 12.

### **BIBLE STUDY**

No Bible study Wednesday night, Thursday afternoon at 1:00 at Zion, we will be studying the following readings: **Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24, Psalm:1-7a, Ephesians 1:15-23, Matthew 25:31-46.**

### **VISITORS**

If you are a visitor, please fill free to take a copy of the newsletter in the pamphlet rack in the narthex. We welcome all visitors and invite you to make our church your church.

