

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God our defender,

Storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The First Reading

1 Kings 19:9-

18

⁹There he went into a cave and spent the night.

And the word of the LORD came to him: “What are you doing here, Elijah?”

¹⁰He replied, “I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too.”

¹¹The LORD said, “Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.”

Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. ¹²After the earthquake came a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. ¹³When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave.

Then a voice said to him, “What are you doing here, Elijah?”

¹⁴He replied, “I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too.”

¹⁵The LORD said to him, “Go back the way you came, and go to the Desert of Damascus. When you get there, anoint Hazael king over Aram. ¹⁶Also, anoint Jehu son of Nimshi king over Israel, and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah to succeed you as prophet. ¹⁷Jehu will put to death any who escape the sword of Hazael, and Elisha will put to death any who escape the sword of Jehu. ¹⁸Yet I reserve seven thousand in Israel—all whose knees have not bowed down to Baal and whose mouths have not kissed him.”

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

Psalm 85:8-13 will be read responsively

⁸ I will listen to what God the LORD says;
he promises peace to his people, his faithful servants—
but let them not turn to folly.

⁹ **Surely his salvation is near those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.**

¹⁰ Love and faithfulness meet together;
righteousness and peace kiss each other.

¹¹ **Faithfulness springs forth from the earth,
and righteousness looks down from heaven.**

¹² The LORD will indeed give what is good,
and our land will yield its harvest.

¹³ **Righteousness goes before him
and prepares the way for his steps.**

The Second Reading

Romans 10:5-15

⁵ Moses writes this about the righteousness that is by the law: “The person who does these things will live by them.” ⁶ But the righteousness that is by faith says: “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷ “or ‘Who will descend into the deep?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸ But what does it say? “The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart,” that is, the message concerning faith that we proclaim: ⁹ If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. ¹¹ As Scripture says, “Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame.” ¹² For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, ¹³ for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

¹⁴ How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? ¹⁵ And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

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

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 14:22-33

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

²² Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. ²³ After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, ²⁴ and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.

²⁵ Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. ²⁶ When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear.

²⁷ But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."

²⁸ "Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water."

²⁹ "Come," he said.

Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. ³⁰ But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!"

³¹ Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?"

³² And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. ³³ Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

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

ASSISTING MINISTER and LECTOR: Thom Cipro

GREETERS: Tim & Bev Brosenitsch

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

CALENDAR

MONDAY 6:00 Council picnic and dinner at the home of JaLeen Anderson

ALTAR FLOWERS

Are Given to the Glory of God by Jenifer McMurray in honor of her and Jason's 25th wedding anniversary on August 15.

FOOD CUPBOARD – SUMMER NEEDS

Rice, Mac & Cheese, Canned fruit, Canned Vegetables, Meal kits, Jelly, Peanut Butter, Spaghetti Sauce, Pasta, dessert mixes, cereal, canned chicken.

Sharon Kailber is resigning as Director of the Food Cupboard for personal reasons. She has done a fantastic job. We have hired a new Director. Her name is Erin Makowski. She is a Zelenople resident and we believe she will be a good fit. I will keep everyone posted. Food needs stay the same. Please continue to leave donations in the box in the vestibule. Monetary donations can be given to Phyllis or mailed to the Food Cupboard.

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.

We have also purchased a supply of face masks that are available to anyone who needs one.

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.

COMBINED WORSHIP

On the fifth Sunday of August (August 30) we will have a combined worship with Zion Lutheran. The worship will be outside in the Zion picnic pavilion. Worship will be at 10:45. Everyone is to bring a lawn chair in order to be able to spread out and maintain safe distance requirements.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION

Pastor Brewer will be celebrating his 50th anniversary of ordination this year, and will be recognized at the online Synod assembly in November. Pastor Brewer served as a pastor of St. Paul from 1989 to 2011. Beginning in 2017, in recognition of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation and the inauguration of the United Lutheran Seminary, the synod began honoring each of their pastors celebrating 50 years of ordination with a \$500 gift to the seminary toward a new scholarship that will in time honor each year's group of 50-year anniversary pastors and benefit seminarians just entering into public ministry in the church.

If you would like to send Pastor Brewer a congratulatory greeting, his address is 219 S. Pittsburgh Street, Zelienople. Those who wish to help fund the scholarship that will in time help a new generation of faithful servants of the Gospel with seminary expenses may certainly do so. Congratulatory greeting and scholarship contributions may be directed to the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod, 9625 Perry Highway, Pittsburgh, PA 15237. Please note in the memo line "50th" Anniversary Scholarship Fund.

CAMP LUTHERLYN

FREE ONLINE WEEK OF CAMP: Enjoy a FREE week of virtual camp for Day Camp/Small Fries (1st-3rd grade), Juniors (4th-6th grade), and Jr. High/Sr. High (7th-12th grade). Go to www.lutherlyn.com/virtualcamp for more info.

Weekly campfire every Thursday this summer. Visit their website for campfire.

You are invited to visit camp this summer. You can rent a cabin for a family retreat weekend or come for the day on a Thursday or Friday. There is even the opportunity to swim in the pool and go on a guided nature hike with Todd or Holly! Visit www.lutherlyn.com and select "Day and Overnight Visits to Camp". They have just added more August dates. Reservations must be made by the Monday before your visit.

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.