

**LAST SUNDAY OF END TIME**

November 18 / 21, 2021

## Zion Ev. Lutheran Church

6430 Hwy. D Allenton, Wisconsin 53002

Members of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

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### Welcome to God's House

The God-lived life is a life of showing God's love. Last month, we focused on letting that shine in serving others, doing things for them. In today's worship, the emphasis shifts a bit, and we look at the God-lived life as one that isn't only *doing* things for others but *opening our lives* to them. As we invite people into our lives and our homes, God gives us opportunities to show what we are all about and share who we are all about. Through hospitality, as messy and dangerous as it can be, relationships are built, and Jesus is shared.



This month, we focus especially on relationships in our lives that show and share Jesus.

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### ORDER OF SERVICE

#### Invocation

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

#### Confession and Absolution

*using stanzas of CW #467*

M: Heavenly Father, you give us time to use in service to others, including those not yet in the family of believers. We repent for times we have used our time selfishly and not considered how we can show hospitality to others. Forgive us and let your peace rule our lives.

**C:    ♪    **May the peace of God my Father rule my life in ev'rything,  
That I may be calm to comfort sick and sorrowing. (CW #467:3)****

**M:** Dear Savior, while we were still sinners, you died for us. You used every moment to live for us and willingly died to serve us with forgiveness and salvation. You involved yourself in the lives of everyone around you. We have often failed to reflect that love to those around us and share that love with those who don't know you. Forgive us and let your love fill our lives.

**C:    ♪    **May the love of Jesus fill me as the waters fill the sea,  
Him exalting self abasing – this is victory. (CW #467:4)****

**M:** O Holy Spirit, you give every person a time of grace to come to know Jesus' love. We are sorry for losing our focus on the mission you have given us as your Church and failing to consider how we can share and show your love for strangers. Forgive us and live within us.

**C:    ♪    **May his Spirit live within me as I seek the lost to win,  
And may they forget the channel, seeing only him. (CW #467:6)****

## **Absolution**

**M:** As a called servant of the Triune God, I announce to you his grace and forgiveness. On behalf of and by the command of our Savior Jesus Christ, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**C:    ♪    **May the mind of Christ my Savior live in me from day to day,  
By his love and pow'r inspiring all I do or say.****

**May the Word of God dwell richly in my heart from hour to hour,  
So that all may see I triumph only through his pow'r. (CW #467:1-2)**

**M:** Almighty God, you sent your Son to become one of us to cleanse us from our sins and claim us as your own. Give to us the same spirit of hospitality Jesus had to look on each stranger as someone you love, and therefore worthy of our time and concern; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

**C:** ♪ **May I run the race before me, strong and brave to face the foe,  
Looking only unto Jesus as I onward go. (CW #467:5)**

### **First Reading**

### **Genesis 18:1-15**

The Lord appeared to Abraham near the great trees of Mamre while he was sitting at the entrance to his tent in the heat of the day. <sup>2</sup> Abraham looked up and saw three men standing nearby. When he saw them, he hurried from the entrance of his tent to meet them and bowed low to the ground.

<sup>3</sup> He said, "If I have found favor in your eyes, my lord, do not pass your servant by. <sup>4</sup> Let a little water be brought, and then you may all wash your feet and rest under this tree. <sup>5</sup> Let me get you something to eat, so you can be refreshed and then go on your way—now that you have come to your servant."

"Very well," they answered, "do as you say."

<sup>6</sup> So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah. "Quick," he said, "get three seahs of the finest flour and knead it and bake some bread."

<sup>7</sup> Then he ran to the herd and selected a choice, tender calf and gave it to a servant, who hurried to prepare it. <sup>8</sup> He then brought some curds and milk and the calf that had been prepared, and set these before them. While they ate, he stood near them under a tree.

<sup>9</sup> "Where is your wife Sarah?" they asked him.

"There, in the tent," he said.

<sup>10</sup> Then one of them said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife will have a son."

Now Sarah was listening at the entrance to the tent, which was behind him. <sup>11</sup> Abraham and Sarah were already very old, and Sarah was past the age of childbearing. <sup>12</sup> So Sarah laughed to herself as she thought, “After I am worn out and my lord is old, will I now have this pleasure?”

<sup>13</sup> Then the Lord said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh and say, ‘Will I really have a child, now that I am old?’ <sup>14</sup> Is anything too hard for the Lord? I will return to you at the appointed time next year, and Sarah will have a son.”

<sup>15</sup> Sarah was afraid, so she lied and said, “I did not laugh.”

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 133 – 134

CW, page 115



How good and pleasant it is\*  
when brothers live together in unity!

For there the LORD bestows his blessing,\*  
even life forevermore. **Refrain**

Praise the LORD, all you servants of the LORD\*  
who minister in the house of the LORD.

Lift up your hands in the sanctuary\*  
and praise the LORD.

May the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth,\*  
bless you from Zion.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son\*  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. Amen. ***Refrain***

## **Second Reading**

**Acts 2:42-47**

<sup>42</sup>They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. <sup>43</sup>Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. <sup>44</sup>All the believers were together and had everything in common. <sup>45</sup>They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. <sup>46</sup>Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, <sup>47</sup>praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Acclamation**

**Hebrews 13:2**

C: **Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.**

## **Gospel**

**Matthew 9:9-13**

<sup>9</sup>As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him.

<sup>10</sup>While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples. <sup>11</sup>When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

<sup>12</sup>On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. <sup>13</sup>But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

### Hymn of the Day

### Blest Be the Tie That Binds CW #494

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;  
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

Before our Father's throne we pour our ardent prayers;  
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.

We share our mutual woes, our mutual burdens bear,  
And often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.

When here our pathways part, we suffer bitter pain;  
Yet, one in Christ and one in heart, we hope to meet again.

From sorrow, toil, and pain and sin we shall be free  
And perfect love and friendship reign through all eternity.

Sermon

Matthew 9:9-13

*Eating with Sinners*

## **Apostles' Creed**

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

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

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

## **Offering Hymn**

### **We Give Thee But Thine Own CW #485:1-2**

*The members of Zion have joined together to do the Lord's work in this community and around the world. If you are a visitor, please don't feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.*

**C:   ♪   We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.**

**May we thy bounties thus as stewards true receive  
And gladly, as thou blessest us, to thee our firstfruits give.**

## **Prayer of the Church**

**M:** Lord Jesus Christ, King of Kings and Lord of Lords, you humbled yourself to be born of a virgin. You became one of us. Your hospitality knew and knows no bounds. You invited fishermen, a tax collector, people from all walks of life to be your disciples. You welcomed little children and took them up in your arms. You spoke to the woman at the well and offered her living water—forgiveness and

life. Give us a rich measure of your Holy Spirit so that we take that same view of all people we meet. Lord in your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

M: Holy Spirit, you have turned our hearts from the darkness of sin and eternal death to the light of life and an eternity in heaven through Jesus Christ alone. You have given us eyes to see our Savior Jesus. Give us eyes to see each person we meet as one for whom our Savior died, and one God loves dearly. Give us the words to speak in love. Grow us in wisdom through our study of your word and grant us peace. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

M: Father, you created us and continue to provide and protect us. Give us the courage and trust to take you at your word. Your word tells us, "You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God" (2 Cor. 9). Give us the courage to be hospitable to others whether in the family of believers or those not yet in the family of believers. Protect and provide for us and let our generosity overflow to strangers. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow*

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayers*

M: Accept our prayers and grant all we need, not because we are worthy, but for the sake of Jesus Christ who lived a perfect life in our place, died for our sins and was raised again. Amen.

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Blessing**

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.  
Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

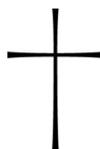
C: **Amen.**

### Closing Hymn

**Son of God, Eternal Savior CW #492:1 & 3**

Son of God, eternal Savior, Source of life and truth and grace,  
Word made flesh, whose birth among us, Honors all our human race,  
You our head, who, throned in glory, For your own will ever plead:  
Fill us with your love and pity; Heal our wrongs and help our need.

Bind us all as one together In your Church's sacred fold,  
Weak and healthy, poor and wealthy, Sad and joyful, young and old.  
Is there want or pain or sorrow? Make us all the burden share.  
Are there spirits crushed and broken? Teach us, Lord, to soothe their care.



### This Week at Zion

<b>Today:</b>	7:30 / 9:45 a.m.	Worship
	8:30 / 8:45 a.m.	Sunday School / Adult Bible study
<b>Mon:</b>	10:00 a.m.	OWLS meeting at Peace, Hartford
<b>Wed:</b>	2:30 p.m.	KM Gardens Devotion
	7:00 p.m.	Thanksgiving Eve Worship
	8:00 p.m.	Stage setup in fellowship hall

<b>Thur:</b>	9:00 a.m.	Thanksgiving Day Worship
<b>Sat:</b>	9:00 – 10:30 a.m.	Sunday School Christmas practice
<b>Sun:</b>	7:30 / 9:45 a.m.	Worship
	8:30 / 8:45 a.m.	Sunday School / Adult Bible study
	2:00 p.m.	Lutheran Chorale Advent / Christmas Concert – Trinity Waukesha

**In Our Prayers** Kim Karch, at St. Luke’s Hospital in Milwaukee; Joan Schuppel, back home after an extended stay at Froedtert Hospital in Milwaukee; also Tom White, undergoing a procedure at Froedtert – St. Joseph’s this coming Tuesday.

**Come and Give Thanks!** This coming week we celebrate a national day of Thanksgiving. Why is that? Not simply because it gives an opportunity to gather with family and friends around a delicious meal, but because we have countless reasons to give thanks to the God from whom all blessings flow. Don’t forget we have an opportunity to do just that on November 24<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. or Thursday, November 25<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. Because of the Thanksgiving service Thursday morning, please note that we will not be having a worship service that evening.

**A GOD-LIVED LIFE** Today in our worship service, we continue our stewardship focus we look at our God-lived lives as lives which are opened *to others*. As we invite people into our lives and our homes, God gives us opportunities to share Jesus as we build relationships with them.

**Advent Worship** Our single Advent service is scheduled for Wednesday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, at 7 p.m. The Ladies’ Aid is planning a soup supper that night, to start at 6 p.m. Bring the family for a delicious supper and stay for worship as we begin another Advent season. There is a signup sheet for desserts if you can bring something. Sign up on the bulletin board .

**Wreaths Across America** Have you signed up yet? This program honors veterans by placing Christmas wreaths on their headstones. If you would like to honor a veteran,

the wreaths cost \$15. Information / signup sheets are on the bulletin board. If you have questions, call Ralph Hagner at 262.224.5395 or e-mail [lahagner@gmail.com](mailto:lahagner@gmail.com).

**Deer Hunters** If you're going to be in the woods on Sunday mornings, please remember our Thursday night worship services at 7 p.m. Those Thursday services were intended for those who could not make it for worship on Sunday mornings...plan ahead and be fed spiritually on Thursdays when you can't make it on Sunday.

**We thank** Anne Drewa (Thursday) and Barb Olsen (Sunday) who served as our organists this weekend.

**The flowers** on the altar this weekend are placed to God's glory by Gerald & Elaine Schulz as they celebrate their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary; also by Kenn & Gail Kurtz to celebrate their granddaughter Josie's birthday.

**Food Drive** Our semi-annual food drive is coming to a close this Thursday on Thanksgiving. Any last – minute contributions will be used to purchase food to stock the shelves at the Kewaskum Area Food Pantry. You can still place your donations in the basket located on the stand before you walk into church.

**The new Meditations** devotionals are now on the cabinets in the entryway. You should still find newsletters and calendars for November there as well. Please take one home today.

**Advent Devotions** There are a limited number of Advent devotional booklets this year focusing on *The Jesse Tree*. We hope you enjoy this new booklet that retells the Old Testament stories leading to the birth of our Savior, Jesus, who was a descendant of King David and David's father, Jesse: *"A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit."* Pick one up on the table near the kitchen.

**Help!** Christmas season will be upon us before we know it. Therefore, we need volunteers to help with the following:

- 🔧 setting up the stage after the Thanksgiving Eve service (bring your screw guns & drills)

- Christmas decorating on December 5<sup>th</sup> after the late service – it won't take long if we have volunteers...it would be nice to see some new faces!

**WELS Connection** In the video this month we'll observe the process of starting new home mission churches. With the goal of starting 100 new or restarted missions in the next 10 years, this is an important part of the work the WELS does.

**The Christmas Concert season** kicks off next Sunday afternoon with the Lutheran Chorale of Milwaukee presenting an Advent / Christmas concert at Trinity, Waukesha at 2:00 p.m. Check the monthly calendar for December for the times and dates of other area Christmas concerts and prepare for Christ's coming with some beautiful music.