

**Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost**  
**September 13, 2026**  
**Pastor Bert Tegtmeier**

For it is written, As I live,  
saith the Lord, every knee  
shall bow to me, And  
every tongue shall confess  
to God. So then every one  
of us shall give account of  
himself to God.  
Romans 14:11-12



***Zion Lutheran Church***

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[www.ZionVassar.org](http://www.ZionVassar.org)

***Growing Together in Christ's Love and Grace***

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TXT the Keyword CONNECT  
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simple online form or  
submit a prayer request.



**Members: TXT "CHECK" to Check-In.**

**Thank You!**

# + WELCOME - AS WE GATHER + + PREPARATION +

## 816 From All That Dwell Below the Skies



1 From all that dwell be - low the skies Let the Cre - a - tor's  
2 E - ter - nal are Thy mer - cies, Lord; E - ter - nal truth at -  
△ 3 All praise to God the Fa - ther be, All praise, e - ter - nal



praise a - rise; Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
tends Thy Word. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Son, to Thee. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Let the Re - deem - er's name be sung Through ev - 'ry land by  
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore Till suns shall rise and  
Whom with the Spir - it we a - dore For - ev - er and for -



ev - 'ry tongue. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
set no more. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
ev - er - more: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text (sts. 1-2): Isaac Watts, 1674-1748; (st. 3): William W. How, 1823-97  
Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1623, Köln  
Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand - The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

## + *Confession and Absolution* +

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

**P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## + *Service of the Word* +

### INTROIT

*Psalm 143:1–2; antiphon: v. 9*

Deliver me from my enemies, O LORD!

I have fled to you for refuge!

Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for mercy!

In your faithfulness answer me, in your righteousness!

Enter not into judgment with your servant,  
for no one living is righteous before you.

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.

Deliver me from my enemies, O LORD!

I have fled to you for refuge!

## KYRIE

LSB 204



**C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

## GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

LSB 204



**C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shipped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.  
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—  
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

## **SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

O God, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, hear the devout prayers of Your Church, especially in times of persecution, and grant that what we ask in faith we may obtain; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

## **OLD TESTAMENT READING**

*Genesis 50:15–21*

<sup>15</sup>When Joseph’s brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, “It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him.” <sup>16</sup>So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, “Your father gave this command before he died, <sup>17</sup>‘Say to Joseph, Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.’ And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father.” Joseph wept when they spoke to him. <sup>18</sup>His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, “Behold, we are your servants.” <sup>19</sup>But Joseph said to them, “Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup>As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. <sup>21</sup>So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones.” Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## **EPISTLE**

*Romans 14:1–12*

<sup>1</sup>As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. <sup>2</sup>One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. <sup>3</sup>Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. <sup>4</sup>Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

<sup>5</sup>One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. <sup>6</sup>The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. <sup>7</sup>For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. <sup>8</sup>If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord’s. <sup>9</sup>For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

<sup>10</sup>Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; <sup>11</sup>for it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,  
and every tongue shall confess to God.”

<sup>12</sup>So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## ALLELUIA AND VERSE



**C** Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



**C** These things are writ-ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



**C** Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## HOLY GOSPEL

*Matthew 18:21–35*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>21</sup>Peter came up and said to [Jesus], “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” <sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.

<sup>23</sup>“Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. <sup>24</sup>When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. <sup>25</sup>And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup>So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ <sup>27</sup>And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup>But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay what you owe.’ <sup>29</sup>So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ <sup>30</sup>He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. <sup>31</sup>When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup>Then his master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup>And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ <sup>34</sup>And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. <sup>35</sup>So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## **APOSTLES’ CREED**

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

**And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence 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.**

*Sit*

# 611 Chief of Sinners Though I Be



1 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed His  
 2 Oh, the height of Je - sus' love, High - er than the  
 3 On - ly Je - sus can im - part Balm to heal the  
 4 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Christ is all in  
 5 O my Sav - ior, help af - ford By Your Spir - it



blood for me, Died that I might live on high,  
 heav'ns a - bove, Deep - er than the depths of sea,  
 wound - ed heart, Peace that flows from sin for - giv'n,  
 all to me; All my wants to Him are known,  
 and Your Word! When my way - ward heart would stray,



Lives that I might nev - er die. As the branch is  
 Last - ing as e - ter - ni - ty! Love that found me—  
 Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n, Faith and hope to  
 All my sor - rows are His own. He sus - tains the  
 Keep me in the nar - row way; Grace in time of



to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.  
 won - drous thought! Found me when I sought Him not.  
 walk with God In the way that E - noch trod.  
 hid - den life Safe with Him from earth - ly strife.  
 need sup - ply While I live and when I die.

Text: William McComb, 1793–1873, alt.  
 Tune: Richard Redhead, 1820–1901  
 Text and tune: Public domain

## SERMON - "What Matters Most?"

*Stand*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*Sit*

## OFFERING

*Stand*

## LORD'S PRAYER

**C** 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.

## BENEDICAMUS

*LSB 212*

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## BENEDICTION

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

# 685 Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, Fol - low His ex -  
 2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus And with pa - tience  
 3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death He  
 4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en



am - ple pure, Through a world that would de - ceive us And to  
 bear our cross. Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; Where He  
 con - quered death, He will free us from de - struc - tion, Give to  
 from the dead That to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus,



sin our spir - its lure. On - ward in His foot - steps tread - ing,  
 is, there is no loss. Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter,  
 us im - mor - tal breath. Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion  
 You are now our head. We are Your own liv - ing mem - bers;



Pil - grims here, our home a - bove, Full of faith and  
 We shall reap ce - les - tial joy; All dis - com - forts  
 That would lead us in - to sin; And the grave that  
 Where You live, there we shall be In Your pres - ence



hope and love, Let us do the Fa - ther's bid - ding. Faith - ful  
 that an - noy Shall give way to mirth here - af - ter. Je - sus,  
 shuts us in Shall but prove the gate to heav - en. Je - sus,  
 con - stant - ly, Liv - ing there with You for - ev - er. Je - sus,



Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where You guide.  
 here I share Your woe; Help me there Your joy to know.  
 here with You I die, There to live with You on high.  
 let me faith - ful be, Life e - ter - nal grant to me.

## **Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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## **RECORD OF FAITHFULNESS**

Attendance Last Sunday: 53

Offering Last Sunday: \$2619 (Needed weekly = \$3193)

Building Fund: \$95

## **IN OUR PRAYERS**

**HEALING AND CARE:** for those suffering from cancer: Jenny Peimann, Dan Henderson, Sheri Bravenec, Frank Wagner, Barbara Feltner, Tom Arb, Kathy Bigham, Terry Murphy

**CONTINUED HEALING:** Christopher Smith, Gabriella Schultz, Michael Nally, Charlie Timberlane, Logan Brady, Jean Curtis, Carl Sluder, Raymond Zorn, Lyn Wren, David Wagner, Cecil McMullen, Mark Feltner, Diane Schulze, Pete Scheid, Glenn Templeton, Harley Browning, Ruby Zorn, Lavon Haney, Pastor Jim Kirschenmann, Pam Templeton, JoEllen Haufler, Bill McDonald, Diane Harries, Don Bauck, Kevin Lewis (Debbie Bauck brother-in-law)

**SHUT-INS:** Don Becker, Virginia Elmore, Jim & Pat Croucher

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**WELCOME** to all who worship with us this morning, especially our guests. You are invited to coffee and snacks following the service then Bible Study and Sunday School at 10:30.

**Pastor** Tegtmeier will be in the office on Tuesday Mornings or he can be reached at 620-343-4371.

**Office Hours** – Debbie will be on vacation, September 14-23 but Karen will be in the office on September 15th and 22nd.

**Lutherans** for Life group is collecting baby food for the Hope House in Ottawa. Thrivent will give Hope House \$150 if people collect 150 baby food items by September 20. There will be a table in the entryway through Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup> for the baby food items.

**Noisy** Offering will be collected on September 20<sup>th</sup>.

**There** is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall for Scripture readers during the service. If you are interested please sign-up for the Sunday(s) you are available.

**SERVANTS IN THE LORD’S HOUSE**

|                             | Sunday 9/13                                                    | Next Sunday 9/20                                           |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i><b>Greeters</b></i>      | Larry & Toni                                                   | Delmer & Jo                                                |
| <i><b>Organist</b></i>      | SOS                                                            | Tanya Fraker                                               |
| <i><b>Acolyte</b></i>       | Loren Eissler                                                  | Phillip Wendling                                           |
| <i><b>Ushers</b></i>        | Jeff Heidenreich©, Clint Sturdy©, Donice Browning, Reed Silver | Shane Anschutz©, Clint Silver©, Reed Silver, Loren Eissler |
| <i><b>Elder</b></i>         | Clint Sturdy                                                   | Clint Sturdy                                               |
| <i><b>Lay Assistant</b></i> |                                                                | Greg Schultz, Phillip Wendling                             |

**NOTE TO OUR GUESTS AND VISITORS**

We are very glad you are here! Our services may look and sound different (other worldly, perhaps), but please bear with us! We worship the way we do for a reason and there is a certain rhythm involved. We gather to receive the gifts of salvation our Living Triune God comes to serve through His Word and Sacrament. In these gifts we receive the enlivening of our faith, forgiveness from our sins, and life eternal. Worship is the unwrapping of these gifts. The liturgy, hymns, and preaching proclaim His Word to us. They remind us of the promise of salvation as a gift we have in our baptism, and they prepare our hearts and minds to receive the Lord’s Supper. Through these means of grace God comes to serve us in this Divine Service, and so our worship is centered around receiving these gifts of God through faith.

You may Call or TXT the Church Office Phone  
Number at ANYTIME: **785-828-4482** OR Email: [Office@ZionVassar.org](mailto:Office@ZionVassar.org)

Service Time: Sunday 09:00 am Bible Study and Sunday School: 10:30 am

**Services Streamed on Social Media...**<https://bit.ly/m/zionvassar>

*Take this WITH you - Pass this bulletin along to someone and invite them...*