

Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2026



In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name. Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity that Jesus had with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world, eager for the unity that God intends for the whole human family.



ZION
Ministries Under the Cross

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Welcome to Zion!

“Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said.”

(Matthew 28:5-6)

Welcome – whether this is your home congregation or your first visit, we’re glad you’re here!

We welcome all people in the name of Christ to experience God’s goodness and grace in Word, water, and meal. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, there is a place for you to belong at Zion.

Get Connected at Zion

The best ways to stay connected are to visit our website, follow us on social media (@zionchurchdfb on Facebook and Instagram), and subscribe to our weekly newsletter.

Children in Worship

Children are God’s gift to our church! They are not the future of our church; they are the right now. The way we welcome children here directly affects the way they respond to the Church, to God, and to one another.

We welcome children and their families to sit near the Playground at the front of the sanctuary. There are coloring activities, puzzles, books, and a toolbox to engage in our worship together.

Giving

We appreciate your stewardship of treasure, talent, and time at Zion. You may leave your offerings in the offering plates or give online via our website or this QR code.



Livestreaming

Zion livestreams all our services on Facebook and YouTube. Any person present gives consent to being filmed or photographed.



Zion is a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) community, and extends God's radical welcome to all people, because we're all created in God's image.

We Gather

CALL TO WORSHIP

How joyful it is to celebrate the good news of God's love!

We are called to be Easter people!

The tomb is empty!

Hope is alive!

Darkness cannot claim us!

Fear cannot bind us!

Christ has conquered the grave!

New life has begun!

This good news cannot be contained!

Let us lift our hearts in praise and our voices in song!

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

GATHERING HYMN

ELW Hymn #392

"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

ELW pp. 140-141

"This is the Feast of Victory for Our God"

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray together...**O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

We Hear & Respond to God's Word

FIRST READING

Acts 1:6-14

...Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**

SECOND READING

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

...Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

GOSPEL

John 17:1-11

Before the reading: The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After the reading: The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW Hymn #496

“One Bread, One Body”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & SHARING OF PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always! **And also with you.**

OFFERTORY HYMN & PRAYER

ELW Hymn #362

“At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing”

Verses 1, 2, 4, and 6

Let us pray together...**Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, Amen.**

We Feast at the Lord's Table

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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 death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - low - ed be your
name, hal - low - ed be your name. Your king - dom come, your
will be done, on earth as it is in hea - ven, on earth as it is in hea - ven.
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread and for - give us all our
sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us, as we for - give those who sin a -

gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al and de - li - ver us from
 e - vil, de - liv - er us from - e - vil. For yours is the
 king-dom, the pow - er and the glo - ry, for - e - ver and e - ver, for
 e - ver and e - ver. A - men, a - men. A - men.

SHARING THE MEAL

“Bread of Life from Heaven”

ELW Hymn #474

“Lord, You Give the Great Commission”

ELW Hymn #579

We Are Sent into the World

BLESSING FOR STRENGTH

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ comfort, strengthen, and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together...**Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, Amen.**

BLESSING

Beloved in the Lord, God does not leave things as they are; with God, all things are made new.

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you this day and forevermore. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

“Hallelujah, He is Risen!”

DISMISSAL

The worship has ended. Now the service begins. Go in peace.
Share the good news that Christ is risen! **Thanks be to God.**
Alleluia! Alleluia!

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Psalm, continued

¹⁰Your people found their ¹ home in it;
in your goodness, O God,
you have made provision ¹ for the poor.

³²Sing to God, O kingdoms ¹ of the earth;
sing praises ¹ to the Lord.

³³You ride in the heavens, O God,
in the ¹ ancient heavens;
you send forth your voice,
your ¹ mighty voice.

³⁴Ascribe pow-¹ er to God,
whose majesty is over Israel;
whose strength is ¹ in the skies.

³⁵How wonderful you are
in your holy places,
O ¹ God of Israel,
giving strength and power
to your people! ¹ Blessed be God!

Second Reading

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

^{5:6}Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷Cast all your

anxiety on him, because he cares for you.

⁸Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour.

⁹Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

Gospel

John 17:1-11

After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples,] he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ²since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. ⁴I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

⁶"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and

they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one."

TODAY'S READINGS May 17, 2026

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Next Sunday's Readings: Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21; John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39.

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