

**A Prayer
Upon
Entering
Church**

Lord God of power and might, nothing is good which is against your will, and all is of value which comes from your hand. Place in our hearts a desire to please you and fill our minds with insight into love, so that every thought may grow in wisdom and all our efforts may be filled with your peace. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 9, 2018 + 9:00 and 11:00 A.M.

Welcome to the Lord's Day. As one pastor likes to say: the Gospel is *touch*. Jesus touched those whom He healed; the touch itself was healing. Here is the scandalous joy of the Christian faith: God became flesh — *He became touchable* — in order to fill His creation with renewed joy and health. Still today, our Lord Jesus Christ touches you through the gifts of His grace, promising that your flesh has been marked for the kingdom of God and the redemption that it holds for all creation.

Sharing God's Blessings Today

- Sunday's Radio Broadcast is sponsored in memory of Alice Beethe by her family.
- The flowers at the altar are sponsored by Mark and Shelley Gehrke in celebration of their 40th wedding anniversary (September 9, 1978).
- The sponsor charts for 2018 for Broadcasts and Flowers are available for you to sign up. The charts are by the stairs by the northwest entry.

A Welcome for Those With Young Children

This house is your children's home, too. Relax and enjoy your time here:

- Jesus knows that children tend to wiggle and squawk, so please don't feel embarrassed by it. Your children are welcome at Zion.
- To make it a bit easier on your family, please consider sitting towards the front where your children can easily see the worship leaders, hear the words, note the colors, wonder about some of the images up there, and embrace the action at the altar.
- As we go along, softly explain the liturgy to your children, encouraging them to chime in with their parts: *Amen! Lord have mercy! And also with you! I believe! Our Father!* All of that belongs to them, too.
- Be sure to sing and pray your parts as you stand and kneel and sit. Your children learn by following your lead.
- If you and your child must leave, please hurry back. There is a nursery downstairs for those who would like to use it, but like Jesus, we want your children in the liturgy, not out. *Let the little children come unto me.* (Luke 18:16).

If you need help, just ask. There are lots of folks here who will lend a hand.

Announcements

Parish announcements may be found in the weekly newsletter, *For You*, provided by the ushers.



PRELUDE

Partita on "Azmon"

... Paul Bouman

RINGING OF THE BELLS

Please stand.

INVOCATION

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

C: **Amen**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Please kneel. Silence for reflection.

[The apostles] announce the message of reconciliation already accomplished through the cross of Christ. Simultaneously this message is also a request and an invitation to enter into this event of reconciliation. Paul's message, "Be reconciled to God," (2 Cor 5:20) is substantially the post-Easter version of Jesus' call to conversion, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near" (Matt 4:17) . . .

[continued next page]

[from previous page]

... The church is comprised of these people who have heard this call, who have been converted by the Holy Spirit, and who have accepted by faith God's active reconciliation. The church is thereby the space in which God's reign is recognized and has already begun."

~ Fred L. Precht, "Confession and Absolution," Lutheran Worship: History and Practice, 1982 A.D.

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church, and by the authority of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

Please stand.

ENTRANCE HYMN

"Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" green hymnal #559

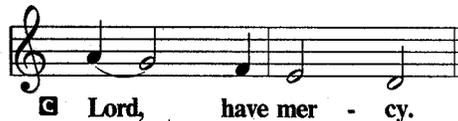
THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

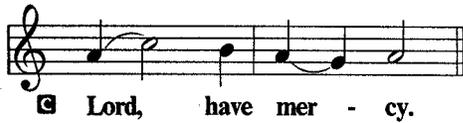
C: And also with you.

KYRIE

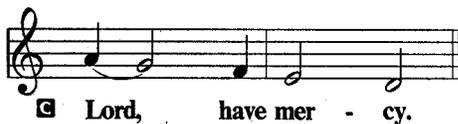
P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



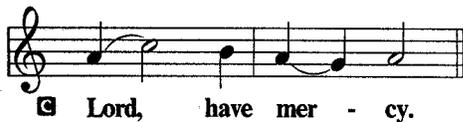
P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the holy Church, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

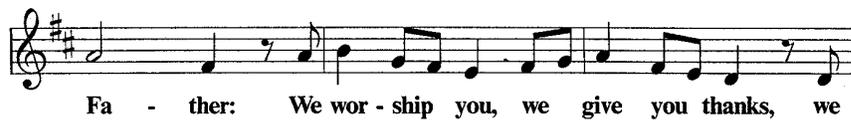


P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



GLORIA

P: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.



Deafened ears, of sound unconscious, every passage blocked and closed,

At the word of Christ responding, all the portals open wide,

Hear with joy friendly voices and the softly whispered speech.

Every sickness now surrenders, every listlessness departs,

Tongues long bound by chains of silence are unloosed and speak aright,

While the joyful paralytic bears his pallet through the streets.

*~ Prudentius,
348-413
A.D.,
Hymns 9*

praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly
Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God: You
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on
us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the
Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer. For you a - lone are the
Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a -
lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,
in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - - men

SALUTATION and PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

☐ And al - so with you.

P: Let us pray . . . O Lord, let your merciful ears be open to the prayers of your humble servants and grant that what they ask may be in accord with your gracious will; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen**

Please be seated.

OLD TESTAMENT Isaiah 35:4-7a

⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you." ⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; ⁷the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 146

L: Hallelujah! | Praise the LORD 'O my soul!*
I will praise the LORD as long as I live; |
I will sing praises to my God while I 'have my being.

C: **Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any 'child of earth,*
for there is no 'help in them.**

L: When they breathe their last, they re'turn to earth,*
and in that day 'their thoughts perish.

*The Spirit is called the finger of God. When the Lord put His fingers into the ears of the deaf mute, He was opening the soul of man to faith through the gifts of the Holy Spirit.
~ Gregory the Great, Homilies on Ezekiel, died 604 A.D.*

The infinite value of each human soul is not a Christian doctrine. God did not die for man because of some value He perceived in him. The value of each human soul considered simply in itself, out of relation to God, is zero. As St. Paul writes, to have died for valuable men would have been not divine but merely heroic; but God died for sinners. He loved us not because we were lovable, but because He is Love.

*~ C. S. Lewis,
The Weight of Glory*

**C: Happy are they who have the God of Jacob 'for their help,*
whose hope is in the 'LORD their God;**

L: who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that
'is in them;*
who keeps his prom'ise forever;

**C: who gives justice to those who 'are oppressed,*
and food to 'those who hunger.**

L: The LORD sets the prisoners free; |
the LORD opens the eyes 'of the blind;*
the LORD lifts up those who 'are bowed down;

**C: the LORD loves the righteous; |
the LORD cares 'for the stranger;*
he sustains the orphan and widow, |
but frustrates the way 'of the wicked.**

L: The LORD shall 'reign forever,*
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. |
' Hallelujah!

**All: Glory 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**

EPISTLE James 2:1-10, 14-18

¹My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. ²For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, ³and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, "You sit here in a good place," while you say to the poor man, "You stand over there," or, "Sit down at my feet," ⁴have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my be-

loved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor man. Are not the rich the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? ⁷Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called? ⁸If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well. ⁹But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. ¹⁴What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? ¹⁷So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. ¹⁸But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

VERSE

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

So be zealous to meet together more frequently to give thanks to God and glorify him. For when you meet together frequently, Satan's powers are destroyed and his destructiveness comes to nothing through the harmony of your faith.
 ~ Ignatius, 35-108 A.D., Epistle to the Ephesians

That power which may not be handled came down and clothed itself in members that may be touched, that the desperate may draw near to Him, that in touching His humanity they may discern His divinity. For that speechless man the Lord healed with the fingers of His body. He put His fingers into the man's ears and touched His tongue. At that moment with fingers that may be touched, He touched the Godhead that may not be touched. Immediately this loosed the string of His tongue . . .

GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 7th chapter.



³¹Then [Jesus] returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³And taking him aside from the crowd privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. ³⁴And looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." ³⁵And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶And Jesus charged them to tell no one. But the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, "He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



APOSTLES CREED

P: Let us confess the faith with one heart:

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he

rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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

Please be seated.

SUNDAY SCHOOL (9:00 a.m.)

During the singing of the hymn, children of preschool age through grade 4 may leave for Sunday School classes downstairs in the church hall. Please reclaim your children at 10:25 a.m. after their music time in the balcony.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Praise the Almighty” green hymnal #539

SERMON

“When Silence is Impossible”

Please kneel.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all creation according to its needs.

P: . . . Lord in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen**

. . . and opened the clogged doors of his ears. For the very architect of the body itself and artificer of all flesh had come personally to him, and with His gentle voice tenderly opened up his obstructed ears. Then his mouth which had been so closed up that it could not give birth to a word, gave birth to praise Him Who made its barrenness fruitful.

*~ Ephrem the Syrian,
306-373
A.D.,
Homily on Our Lord
10*

Larry the Sad Boy was [back home for Christmas], who was saved twelve times in the Lutheran church, an all-time record. Between 1953 and 1961, he threw himself weeping and contrite on God's throne of grace on twelve separate occasions Twelve times. Even we fundamentalists got tired of him. Granted, we're born in original sin and are worthless and vile, but twelve conversions is too many. God didn't mean us to feel guilt all our lives . . .

Please be seated.

OFFERING

While the offerings are received, please pass in your row the **Friendship Register**, and add your name(s). If you are a guest or visitor, please include your address.

VOLUNTARY

"Praise the Almighty, My Soul Adore Him"

... Irene (Grueber) Beethe

Please stand.

OFFERTORY



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our



cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and



dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble



with your pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray . . . Merciful Lord,

C: **we do not come to your table trusting in our own righteousness but in your manifold and great mercies. Grant us so to eat the flesh of your dear Son, Jesus Christ, and so to drink his blood that we may ever dwell in him, and he in us. Amen**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.



☐ And al - so with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.



☐ We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



☐ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right and salutary . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS ("Holy")



☐ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of

. . . There comes a point when you should dry your tears and join the building committee and start grappling with the problems of the church furnace and the church roof and make church coffee and be of use, but Larry kept on repenting and repenting. He came up for Christmas and got drunk and knocked over the Christmas tree. That was before 2:00 p.m. He spent the next eight hours apologizing for it, and the penance was worse than the crime.
~ Garrison Keillor, "Exiles", Listening for God, 2003 A.D.

O come, all
you people!
Let us sing
the praises
Of the Sav-
ior's third-
day Resurrec-
tion,

For we have
been delivered
by it from the
unbreakable
bonds of hell,

And, having
received in-
corruption
and life,
let us cry out:

O crucified,
buried and
risen Lord,
Save us by
your Resur-
rection,

For You only
love Your
whole crea-
tion!
~ Byzantine
liturgy



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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me."

In the same way also he took the cup after the supper, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink of it, in remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

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

ACCLAMATION

P: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup,

C: we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

AGNUS DEI ("Lamb of God")



□ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of
God, you take a-way the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.

Please be seated.

The congregation is ushered forward for Communion. If you cannot use the steps to the altar, you may either ask an usher to have Communion brought to you, or you may go to the altar in the side (west) chapel. Those not communing may cross their arms over their chest for a blessing.

Holy Communion is the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ which He joyfully gives to His Church to eat and to drink. This gift bestows tremendous benefits. His body and blood forgives ours sins, strengthens our faith, binds us to the Lord, and unites us with each other. In this is life and salvation.

The Lord therefore invites to His altar baptized Christians who trust that they will receive in Holy Communion all that He promises there: His body and blood, the forgiveness of sins, union with Christ and His Church, life, and salvation. Know that He gives it to you with great joy.

COMMUNION HYMNS

“O God of Mercy, God of Light” green hymnal #425

“Let Children Hear the Mighty Deeds”



1 Let chil - dren hear the might - y deeds Which God per -
 2 So make to them His glo - ries known, His works of
 3 Our sons and daugh - ters we shall tell And they a -
 4 O teach them with all dil - i - gence The truths of
 5 To learn that in our God a - lone Their hope se -



formed of old, Which in our youn - ger
 pow'r and grace; And we'll con - vey His
 gain to theirs That gen - er - a - tions
 God's own Word, To place in Him their
 cure - ly stands, That they may nev - er



days we saw, And which our par - ents told.
 won - ders down Through ev - 'ry ris - ing race.
 yet un - born May teach them to their heirs.
 con - fi - dence, To fear and trust their Lord,
 doubt His love But walk in His com - mands.

Please stand after all have received the sacrament.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

1. O Je - sus, bless - ed Lord, to Thee
 2. Break forth, my soul, in joy and say:

My heart - felt thanks for - ev - er be,
 What wealth has come to me to - day,

Who hast so lov - ing - ly be - stowed
 What health of bod - y, mind, and soul!

On me Thy bod - y and Thy blood.
 Christ dwells with - in me, makes me whole.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen**

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.

A - - - - - **men**

**A Prayer
 As You Go**
 Grant unto us,
 O heavenly
 Father, Thy
 peace that pas-
 seth under-
 standing, that
 we amid the
 storms and
 troubles of this
 our life, may
 rest in Thee,
 knowing that
 all things are
 in Thee, under
 Thy care, gov-
 erned by Thy
 will, guarded
 by Thy love; so
 that with a
 quiet heart we
 may face the
 storms of life,
 the clouds and
 the thick dark-
 ness; through
 Jesus Christ
 our Lord.
 Amen.
 ~ *Anonymous*

SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE

“Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” ... Robert A. Hobby

+ Soli Deo Gloria +

To God alone be glory

Serving at Worship

Presiding: The Rev. Dr. Steven K. Gjerde

Organist: Kantor Irene Beethe

Lector: (9:00) Landis Holdorf

(11:00) Carl Boettcher

Radio Announcer: (9:00) Scott Schubring

Acolyte: (9:00) Asa Rich

(11:00) Sam Schubring

Elder: (9:00) Robb Halverson

(11:00) Donna Nuernberg

Ushers: (9:00) Marty and Janet Dettmering;

Jewell Charbarneau; Landis Holdorf;

Gary and Sue Wolslegel;

(11:00) Al Lippert; Herbert Zahrt

Communion Assistants:

(9:00) Rob Kittel; Vicky Radunz

(11:00) Dave Gisselman; Gary Gisselman

Altar Guild: Peggy Lawonn; Anna Mae Zeinemann

Acknowledgements

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Zion Lutheran Church

Sixth and Grant Streets, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403

Those who trust in the Lord shall be like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but abides forever. (Psalm 125:1)

Church Telephone: 715-848-7286

Senior Pastor Steven K. Gjerde
Visitation Pastor Theodore B. Gulhaugen
Pastoral Assistant Joseph C. Pinzl
Kantor Irene Beethe
Parish Nurse Lenore Grosinske
Office Manager Pam Gabriel
Secretary Anna Mae Zeinemann
Custodian Michael Renken

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Host of the Wausau Lutheran Hour
Sundays, 9:00 am, WSAU Radio 550AM (or
click "Listen Live" at www.wsau.com)

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