

**A Prayer  
Upon  
Entering  
Church**

Lord,

bestow on  
me two gifts:

To forget my-  
self,

Never to for-  
get thee.

~ *Eric Milner-  
White*



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**The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**

July 24, 2022 + 9:00 A.M.

**Welcome to the Lord's Day.** Have you asked your Father in heaven for the Holy Spirit? By the Holy Spirit, God gives Himself to sinners, reveals His truth, raises the dead, comforts the poor, and creates faith. The Holy Spirit ushers in a whole new creation—have you asked for Him? In today's Gospel, our Lord Jesus promises that your Father is more ready to give the Holy Spirit to you than a father is ready to give good food to His children. Ask! Seek! Knock!



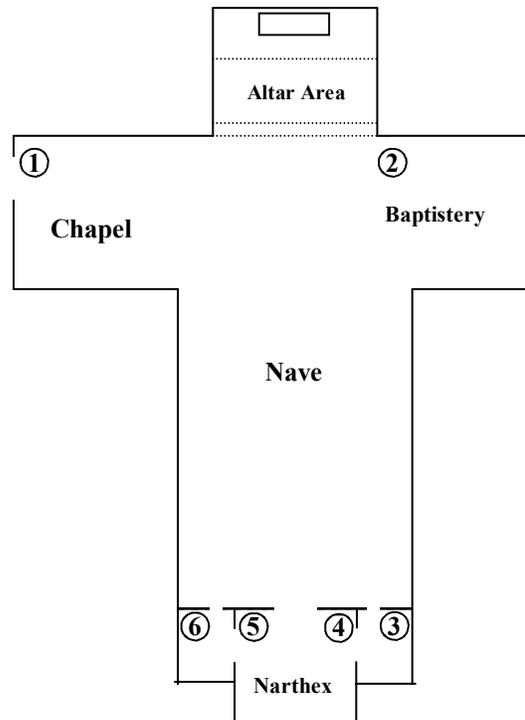
## Sharing God's Blessings Today

- Sunday's Radio Broadcast is sponsored by Marge Nienow in honor of her 90th birthday on July 7.
- The flowers at the altar are sponsored by Donna Nuernberg in celebration of all July birthdays. "Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise, the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of His grace!"
- The sponsor charts for Radio Broadcasts, Flowers and Bulletins for the remainder of 2022 are available for you to sign up. The charts are by the stairs by the northwest entry.

## To Share Your Offering

Offerings are received in **Zion's wooden offering boxes built into the walls of the church.** Please see the map, where the boxes are labeled by **number (1-6)** or ask an usher for assistance.

This returns us to an older and beautiful tradition of the Lutheran church in which offerings are not collected during worship so as to focus more intently on God's gifts and offerings to us.





## PRELUDE

“Sonata VI (‘Vater unser im Himmelreich’)” ... Felix Mendelssohn

## 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: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: **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.*

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. 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 you and, for his sake, forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore

*Christ isn't  
our adversary  
in times of  
suffering:  
He's our cure.  
~ Dr. Gregory  
A. Boyd and  
Edward K.  
Boyd,  
Letters from  
a Skeptic; a  
Son Wrestles with  
His Father's  
Questions  
about Christianity,  
1994 A.D.*

*Everything in Christ astonishes me. His spirit over-awes me, and his will confounds me. Between him and whoever else is in the world, there is no possible term of comparison. He is truly a being by himself....I search in vain in history to find the similar to Jesus Christ, or anything which can approach the gospel. Neither history, nor humanity, nor the ages, nor nature, offer me anything with which I am able to compare it or explain it. Here everything is extraordinary. ~ Napoleon Bonaparte*

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 "Praise, My Soul"**

... LSB #793

**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.



**☩ Lord, have mer - cy.**

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



**☩ Lord, have mer - cy.**

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.



**☩ Lord, have mer - cy.**

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



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

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



**C** A - men.

## GLORIA

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



**C** Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we 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,

On praying with open, outstretched hands: On one occasion I gained new insight into this ancient gesture, when I read somewhere that the Assyrians had a word for prayer which meant "to open the fist." The fist, and especially a fist raised threateningly, is the sign of a high-handed, even violent person. People grasp things in closed hands when they are unwilling to let go of them; they use clenched fists to assault and hurt and, even worse . . .



**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 COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.



**And al - so with you.**

P: Let us pray . . . O Lord, let Your merciful ears be attentive to the prayers of Your servants, and by Your Word and Spirit teach us how to pray that our petitions may be pleasing before You; 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 Genesis 18:17-33

<sup>17</sup>The LORD said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do, <sup>18</sup>seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? <sup>19</sup>For I have chosen him, that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice, so that the LORD may bring to Abraham what he has promised him." <sup>20</sup>Then the LORD said, "Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great and their sin is very grave, <sup>21</sup>I will go down to see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me. And if not, I will

know.” <sup>22</sup>So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the LORD. <sup>23</sup>Then Abraham drew near and said, “Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? <sup>24</sup>Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city. Will you then sweep away the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous who are in it? <sup>25</sup>Far be it from you to do such a thing, to put the righteous to death with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?” <sup>26</sup>And the LORD said, “If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will spare the whole place for their sake.” <sup>27</sup>Abraham answered and said, “Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. <sup>28</sup>Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking. Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?” And he said, “I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there.” <sup>29</sup>Again he spoke to him and said, “Suppose forty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of forty I will not do it.” <sup>30</sup>Then he said, “Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak. Suppose thirty are found there.” He answered, “I will not do it, if I find thirty there.” <sup>31</sup>He said, “Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it.” <sup>32</sup>Then he said, “Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak again but this once. Suppose ten are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.” <sup>33</sup>And the LORD went his way, when he had finished speaking to Abraham, and Abraham returned to his place.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM 138

L: I give you thanks, O LORD, with | my whole heart,\*  
before the gods I | sing your praise;

C: **I bow down toward your holy temple  
and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and  
your | faithfulness,\*  
for you have exalted above all things  
your name | and your word.**

*... Those who pray, however, are saying before God that they are renouncing all highhandedness, all pride in their own sufficiency, all violence. They open their fists. They hold up their empty hands to God: "I have nothing that I have not received from you, nothing that you have not placed in my empty hands. Therefore I do not keep a frantic hold on anything you have given me . . . For I myself am dependent on him who fills my empty hands with his gifts."  
~ Balthasar Fischer*

*We must be aware of those legalists about us who attempt to cram God into some ethical formula that they pass out as a requisite for God's acceptance and salvation. Their man-made religions are popular with multitudes of people because they assume to provide handles or rungs on a ladder by which human beings can ultimately approach and please the Deity. They are preaching the Law, not grace, or mostly Law with a smattering of grace . . .*

L: On the day I called, you | answered me;\*  
my strength of soul | you increased.

C: **All the kings of the earth shall give you thanks, | O LORD,\*  
for they have heard the words | of your mouth,**

L: and they shall sing of the ways | of the LORD,\*  
for great is the glory | of the LORD.

C: **For though the LORD is high, he regards the | lowly,\*  
but the haughty he knows | from afar.**

L: Though I walk in the midst of trouble,  
you pre- | serve my life;\*  
you stretch out your hand against the wrath of my enemies,  
and your right hand de- | livers me.

C: **The LORD will fulfill his pur- | pose for me;\*  
your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.  
Do not forsake the work | of your hands.**

**All: Glory be to the Father and | to the Son,\*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;  
as it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen**

**EPISTLE** Colossians 2:6-19

<sup>6</sup>Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, <sup>7</sup>rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. <sup>8</sup>See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ. <sup>9</sup>For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, <sup>10</sup>and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. <sup>11</sup>In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, <sup>12</sup>having been buried with him

in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead. <sup>13</sup>And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, <sup>14</sup>by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. <sup>15</sup>He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him. <sup>16</sup>Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath. <sup>17</sup>These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. <sup>18</sup>Let no one disqualify you, insisting on asceticism and worship of angels, going on in detail about visions, puffed up without reason by his sensuous mind, <sup>19</sup>and not holding fast to the Head, from whom the whole body, nourished and knit together through its joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from God.

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, al-le-lu-ia.

### GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 11th chapter.

Glo-ry to You, O Lord.

*... As attractive as may be their declarations and as devoted as may be their religious activities and promotions, they are proclaiming a false gospel. "And you, who were dead in trespasses... God made alive together with Christ, having forgiven all our trespasses, have cancelled the bond which stood against us with its legal demands; this He set aside, nailing it to the cross." Meditate on this – and take time to grow.*

*~ Leslie F. Brandt, Meditations on a Loving God, 1983 A.D.*

*The fact that Luke places the Our Father in the context of Jesus' own praying is therefore significant. Jesus thereby involves us in his own prayer; he leads us into the interior dialogue of triune love; he draws our human hardships deep into God's heart, as it were . . .*

<sup>1</sup>Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." <sup>2</sup>And he said to them, "When you pray, say:

"Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

<sup>3</sup>Give us each day our daily bread,

<sup>4</sup>and forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us.

And lead us not into temptation."

<sup>5</sup>And he said to them, "Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves, <sup>6</sup>for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him'; <sup>7</sup>and he will answer from within, 'Do not bother me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed. I cannot get up and give you anything'? <sup>8</sup>I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his impudence he will rise and give him whatever he needs. <sup>9</sup>And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. <sup>10</sup>For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. <sup>11</sup>What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; <sup>12</sup>or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? <sup>13</sup>If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



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

## APOSTLES CREED

P: Let us confess the faith with one heart:

**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 catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life  $\times$  everlasting. Amen**

*Please be seated.*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

**“Our Father, Who from Heaven Above” (St. 1-4) ... LSB #766**

*The Choir will sing Stanza 1*

*The Congregation will sing Stanzas 2-4*

## **SERMON**

**“Ask!”**

*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**

*Please be seated.*

*... This also means, however, that the words of the Our Father are signposts to interior prayer, they provide a basic direction for our being, and they aim to configure us to the image of the Son. The meaning of the Our Father goes much further than the mere provision of a prayer text. It aims to form our being, to train us in the inner attitude of Jesus.  
~ Joseph Ratzinger, Jesus of Nazareth, 2007 A.D.*

*If the communicant views his action not simply as reception of private forgiveness, but as a pilgrimage with his brothers and sisters back to the upper room where the Lord chose Pass-over as the moment to institute His supper, and as a participation in the life of God through the very body and blood of Christ that are offered – would this not be a fuller appropriation of the Scriptural witness concerning the sacrament?*

*~ Dean O.  
Wenthe,  
Shepherd  
the Church,  
2002 A.D.*

## OFFERTORY

“Our Father, Who from Heaven Above” (St. 5-9) ... LSB #766

*The Choir will sing Stanza 5*

*The Congregation will sing Stanzas 6-9*

*Please stand*

## 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 truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising you and saying:

## SANCTUS ("Holy")



## 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."

## 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**

*God became one like us and continues to be present and recognizable in everything human. Our desires, actions, experiences and hopes, indeed all human realities, are God-charged. Sacraments are efficacious moments that make God present at the very core of human longings for fulfillment.*  
~ Joseph A. Favazza,  
*One at the Table*, 1995  
A.D.

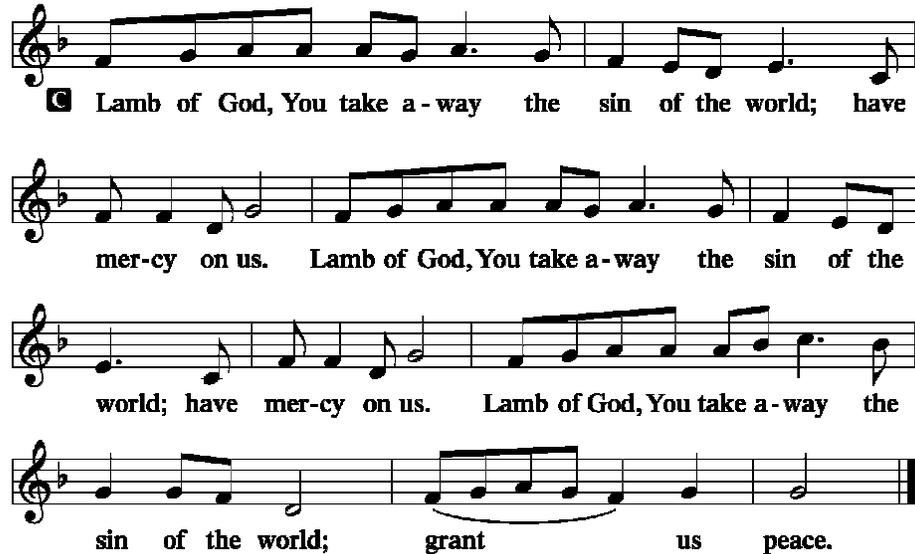
the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.  
Amen

### ACCLAMATION

P: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
C: we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

*If now I seek the forgiveness of sins, I do not run to the cross, for I will not find it given there. Nor must I hold to the suffering of Christ in knowledge or remembrance, for I will not find it there either. But I will find in the sacrament or gospel the word which distributes, presents, offers, and gives to me that forgiveness which was won on the cross . . .*

### 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.

*Please be seated.*

### DISTRIBUTION

*The congregation is ushered forward for Communion. The pastor will hand you the holy Body. Please take a cup of the holy Blood as directed. Those who do not commune may cross their arms over their chest as they come forward to ask 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 our 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

“In Holy Conversation” (sung by all) ... LSB #772

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus” (sung by all) ... LSB #770

Please stand after all have received the sacrament.

## POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: We give thanks to you, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore you that of your mercy you would strengthen us through the same in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

... Therefore,  
[I have]  
rightly  
thought that  
whoever has a  
bad conscience  
from his sins  
should go to  
the sacrament  
and obtain  
comfort, not  
because of the  
bread and  
wine, not be-  
cause of the  
body and blood  
of Christ, but  
because of the  
word which in  
the sacrament  
offers, pre-  
sents, and  
gives the body  
and blood of  
Christ, given  
and shed for  
me. Is that not  
clear enough?  
~ Martin  
Luther,  
Against the  
Heavenly  
Prophets,  
1525 A.D.

**A Prayer  
As You Go**  
Let thy love  
pass

Into the  
depths of  
my heart,

Into the  
heart of my  
prayer,

Into the  
prayer of  
my whole  
being;

So that I de-  
sert myself

And dwell  
and move in  
thee,

In peace,  
now and  
evermore.

~ *Eric Milner*  
~ *White*

## **BENEDICTION**

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



## **SILENT PRAYER**

### **POSTLUDE**

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

... Charles W. Ore

**+ Soli Deo Gloria +**  
*To God alone be glory*

## **Serving at Worship**

Presiding: The Rev. Christopher S. Johnson

Preaching: The Rev. Dr. Steven K. Gjerde

*(Pr. Johnson to Bethany 10:30am)*

Organist: Kantor Irene Beethe

Trumpet: Chad Premeau

Choir: Ivan Beethe; Vicky Radunz; Cyndi Reuter  
Steve Zeinemann

Radio Announcer: Paul Fandrey

Lector: Beth Oestreich

Acolyte: Brennan Hochberger

Communion Assistant: Sally Christoffersen

Elder: Keith Watson

Altar Guild: Connie Lemmer; Donna Nuernberg

## **Acknowledgements**

*The liturgy is reprinted from the Lutheran Service Book via Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House, unless otherwise indicated.*

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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)

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**Associate Pastor** Christopher S. Johnson  
**Int. Assoc. Pastor** Theodore B. Gulhaugen  
**Kantor** Irene Beethe  
**Office Manager** Jessica G. Ray  
**Custodian** Cody Augustine  
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