



Zion's Weekly Announcements

Sunday, October 10, 2021

"Seek the Lord and live," declares the prophet Amos (5:6). So we gather now to hear from God and to be nourished with abundant life. **We are**

glad that you have joined us!

All visitors to Zion, are encouraged to wear your mask as COVID cases are on the climb in our community. If you are feeling sick, please stay home to rest and recover.

Jesus reassured the disciples, "For God all things are possible" (Mark 10:27, NRSV). So today we bring our doubts and fears, our questions and struggles to God, who will guide us through.

All worshipers, please sign **the Fellowship Registry** book at the end of your pew. Thank you!

Need **prayers** for healing or any other concerns? Request the Pastor or elders to pray for you in public worship or privately as the needs arise (James 5:14-16.) Call the church office to contact Pastor Matt (507) 373-8609.



WEEKLY MEMORY PASSAGE

"All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned—every one—to his own way;
and the LORD has laid on Him
the iniquity of us all." - **Isaiah 53:6**

Summary of Today's Lessons

THE 20th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Christ Jesus Is the One and Only God by Whom You Inherit Eternal Life

The Lord is the Author and Giver of life, as well as a consuming fire of judgment against all *"who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe, and turn aside the needy in the gate"* (Amos 5:12). *"Seek the LORD and live,"* therefore, by hating what is evil, loving what is good and doing what is just and right, according to His Word. *"And so the LORD, the God of hosts, will be with you"* (Amos 5:6, 14–15). Understand that *"no one is good except God alone"* (Mark 10:18). The life that you are called to live is found neither in your *"great possessions,"* nor in your good works, but only in Christ Jesus. Let go of *"all that you have"* and follow Him, even unto death, and *"you will have treasure in heaven"* (Mark 10:21–22). Do not harden your heart against His voice, nor turn away from Him, lest you *"fall away from the living God."* Rather, hear and heed His call, cling to His Word, and *"exhort one another every day,"* that you may remain steadfast in Christ and *"firm to the end"* (Heb. 3:12–15).

STEWARDSHIP PONDERINGS

Hebrews 3:18-19 – "And to whom did he swear that they would not enter his rest, but to those who were disobedient? So we see that they were unable to enter because of unbelief." Unbelief leads to disobedience – that is, every sin expresses the opposite of faith. True and living faith guides us into the Lord's way and the Lord's plan. And when we fall into sin it's because we are not trusting the Lord's goodness and provision.

OUTREACH THOUGHTS

Mark 10:17-22: There are so many things in this earthly life that can lead us away from Jesus as our Lord and Savior. One of the

biggest things that can lead us astray is earthly wealth. The problem is that earthly wealth can never satisfy a hungry soul. We who have experienced the real meaning of life in Jesus have something much more valuable than earthly wealth to share with people who have hungry souls-the love of Jesus Christ.



BIBLE QUIZ

Hebrews 11 is called the Hall of Faith because it's a partial list of ancestors who lived out their belief in God. Who is named in this chapter?

- A. Adam, Eve and Seth
- B. Abel, Enoch, Noah and Sarah
- C. Moses' parents, Moses and Rahab
- D. Deborah, Bathsheba and Huldah
- E. A and B
- F. B and C
- G. C and D

Answer: see Hebrews 11

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS

Join Pastor Matt, 10:15 AM, in the Conference Room for Bible Class. Today's study, "Playing Favorites," on James 2:1-13.



Join us
ladies of Zion . . .
Monday, October 11
9:30 AM
Conference Room
Led by Donna Bailey

"Ever, Only, All for Thee"

We will study how we can take our life, our hands, our voice, our silver and gold, our will and our love and dedicate them to God.

MEN'S EARLY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Monday, October 11 at 6:30 AM



In *A Man Named Martin - Part 1: The Man* viewers encounter a 15th-century religious reformer from Germany who broke ranks with the Catholic Church.

This Bible study is the first of a three-part series devoted to Martin Luther -- a monk whose Spirit-inspired grasp of God's justification of sinners through faith in the Savior was the cornerstone of the Protestant Reformation.

In this five-session Bible study, Luther's life and times are examined through the lens of history, religion and theology. Expanding on commentary from Rev. Gregory Seltz, Speaker for **The Lutheran Hour**, numerous scholars add their expertise and perspective to render an illuminating portrait of the life of this extraordinary human being.

The influence and impact of Luther's life is the stuff of serious study. As a forlorn sinner feeling lost and desperate before a stern and exacting Judge, Luther desponded of all hope for eternity. But as one who came to cling to the Spirit-delivered truths of justification by faith and the liberty believers experience by God's grace, he rebounded to become a triumphant ambassador for the Gospel.

The details of Luther's life -- his childhood with his parents Hans and Margaret, his university pursuits, his decision to become a monk, his protestation of Catholic practices, his voluminous and erudite scholastic output, his life in hiding, and his roles as husband and father -- are all considered in this study. *A Man Named Martin* is a fresh and explorative look at an individual who, down through the centuries,

has increased in importance and vitality to the Christian church.

To this day, Luther's staunch faith and the extent of his outreach, remain a standard for Christ-centered living to believers in the 21st-century.



CONFIRMATION CLASS

Wednesday, October 13, 2021
6:00-7:15 PM

Study Topic: LIFE

Memory Work:

- 4th and 5th Commandments/Meanings
- Matthew 22:39-40
- Old Testament Books: Genesis-Song of Songs

DAILY REMINDERS OF BAPTISM

One way Satan attacks Christians is by reminding us of our sins, both of commission and omission. And one way we can fight back is by remembering our baptism. The reformer Martin Luther recommended pondering that sacrament daily, whenever we wash our face, because "in baptism sins are drowned."



Getting dressed can serve as another frequent reminder, Luther says, because baptism is the "daily garment ... the Christian is to wear all the time." He writes, "Christ instituted holy baptism ... to clothe you with his righteousness. It is tantamount to his saying, 'My righteousness shall be your righteousness; my innocence, your innocence. Your sins indeed are great, but by baptism I bestow on you my righteousness; I strip death from you and clothe you with my life.'"

TRUNK OR TREAT

October 30th

4-6 PM

Central Park
Albert Lea, MN



Trunks and Candy Wanted!!!

Looking for people to decorate their car trunks and hand out candy.

Cannot participate that day? You can donate a bag or two of candy instead!! Collection basket is between the office doors.

+ CHRISTIAN SYMBOL +

RAINBOW—The Rainbow represents God's pardon and his promises. It also symbolizes his reconciliation to faithful Christians. After the Flood, God placed a rainbow in the sky as a symbol of his promise to never destroy the earth that way again (Genesis 9:12-16). A rainbow can also represent the throne of Christ, as well as his glory and final judgment.



Pass on the word of encouragement in an honest compliment

Pass on the look of encouragement in a generous smile

Pass on the touch of encouragement in a hearty handshake

Pass on the kindness of encouragement in a thoughtful deed

And let the encouragement of Christ flow through you.

STEWARDSHIP - October 2021

Why do we give? Is it simply because God commands us to? Or is there more to it? To be sure, the Word and instruction of God in the Bible says we should give, and this is sufficient to encourage us to give (Luke 6:38; Acts 20:35; 1 Cor. 16:2; 2 Cor. 8:7; Gal. 6:6).

But there's more to it than just obligation. We're not just trying to fulfill a work of the law. We are bearing fruits of the Spirit given to us by our Father in heaven through His Son our Lord Jesus Christ. In other words, we're not just doing what our Father said, we're also doing what He did.

Children emulate their parents. When they grow up, they often carry many of the same mannerisms and characteristics as their parents. But there is more to it than that. Children copy their parents even on a more mundane level. They watch how their parents cross their legs, how they fold their hands, how they stand and sit and walk, and how they do and say most everything. Then children try to copy it.

This can be quite humorous when caught in the act. They do this even when parents don't want them to. Everyone has been in the uncomfortable – and embarrassing situation – where a child does or says something one of their parents have done or said that is less than polite. Sitcoms thrive on these. It only works because of the truth that children emulate their parents, and they do it because they want to be like them.

We are the children of God – by grace through faith. In Holy Baptism, God the Father declares of us what He declared of Jesus at His Baptism in the Jordan, "You are my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." God the Father claims us as His own. He takes away all our sins. In exchange, He gives us His righteousness, His purity, His holiness, and His Spirit – by which

we cry out, "Abba, Father."

We are born again – born from above, born of water and the Spirit – to a new life in Christ as His children. We are sons of God in Christ through Baptism. Since we are sons, we are heirs who share in the glory of the Son of God. The inheritance is ours because of the Father's grace, mercy, and generosity in sending His Son in time to save us for all eternity.

This is why we give generously of our income to the work of the church. We want to be like our heavenly Father. We want to emulate His generosity by being generous ourselves. We give to the work of the church because we have witnessed the generous giving of our Father in heaven.

More than that, we are recipients of it. It is because we have received our Father's gifts that we desire to give ourselves. His gifts are not just spiritual. They are temporal and earthly as well. As *Luther's Small Catechism* teaches in the Fourth Petition of the Lord's Prayer:

Give us this day our daily bread.

What does this mean? God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

What is meant by daily bread? Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

In other words, He gives us everything that we need for the care of both body and soul. His generosity knows no bounds.

Therefore, we sit down at the beginning of the year, the beginning of the month, or the beginning of the week and set aside a generous portion of God's daily bread for His work in the church. This is not done because He has commanded us so to do but rather because we, as His children by grace, want to emulate His generosity in our own lives. He is our Father; we are His children. And children want to be like their parents.



FALL CLEANING
CHURCH CLEANING WEEK

October 18-22

The Zion Ladies Society members will be tackling several areas around the church during the fall cleaning week. Cleaning areas and tasks will be available later this week.

QUILTS TOTAL

The Zion quilter sent 76 to Lutheran World Relief. PRAISE THE LORD! Thank you to the quilters for their service of love and care!

Puzzle!

Complete this Bible passage by adding the missing vowels.



F_r by gr_c_ y_ _ h_v_
b_ _n s_v_d thr_ _gh
f_ _th, _nd th_s _s n_t
y_ _r _wn d_ _ng; _t _s
th_ g_ft _f G_d — n_t th_
r_s_lt _f w_rks, s_ th_t
n_ _n_ m_y b_ _st.

_ph_s_ _ns 2:8-9, NRSV



Answer: For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God — not the result of works, so that no one may boast. Ephesians 2:8-9, NRSV

+ This Week's Calendar +

Sunday, October 10, 2021 – Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

- 9:00 AM – Online Service and In-Person Service with Holy Communion
- 10:15 AM – Christian Education Hour for All Ages
- 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM – Drive-In Communion
- 6:00 PM – Lutheran Hour on KATE Radio (1450 AM)

Monday, October 11, 2021

- 6:30 AM – Men's Bible Class @ Zion (Conference Room)
- 9:30 AM – Ladies Fall Bible Study @ Zion (Conference Room)
- 6:45 PM – Albert Lea Cantori Rehearsal @ Zion (Sanctuary)

Tuesday, October 12, 2021

- 6:00 PM – Council Meeting @ Zion (Conference Room)

Wednesday, October 13, 2021

- 9:00 AM – Quilters @ Zion (Quilting Rooms)
- 6:00 PM – Confirmation (Conference Room)

Thursday, October 14, 2021

- Recording the Online Service (afternoon)
- 6:45 PM – GA Meeting @ Zion (Conference Room)

Friday, October 15, 2021 - Pastor's Day Off (Office Closed)

Saturday, October 16, 2021

- 9:00 AM – Communion Set-up (Flower and Altar)

Sunday, October 17, 2021 – Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

- 9:00 AM – Online Service and In-Person Service with Holy Communion
- 10:15 AM – Christian Education Hour for All Ages
- 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM – Drive-In Communion
- 6:00 PM – Lutheran Hour on KATE Radio (1450 AM)



PREPARE FOR NEXT SUNDAY: The appointed Scripture readings for **Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost** – Ecclesiastes 5:10-20; Psalm 119:9-16; Hebrews 4:1-13; and Mark 10:23-31.

LWML Sunday – October 3, 2021

In-Person Attendance:	97
YouTube Views:	25
In-Person Communion:	90
Drive-In Communion:	0
Sunday Bible Class:	14
Men's Bible Class	9
Women's Bible Study	11
Confirmation:	10

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Faith, like light, should always be simple and unbending; while love, like warmth, should beam forth on every side and bend to every necessity of our brethren." – Martin Luther

Church Office Hours

Monday-Thursday: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
and afternoon by appointment
Friday: Office Closed • Saturday: by appointment

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