



*Therefore keep
watch, because you
do not know the day
or the hour.*

Matthew 25:13

Zion Lutheran Church
210 North Wayne St.
St. Marys, OH 45885

November 8, 2020
8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Setting 10

ATTENTION ALL WORSHIPERS AT ZION

My friends in Christ: Because of the Coronavirus, we have made some changes in our worship procedures for the health and safety of all who worship at Zion. If you are a visitor, we really are glad you are worshiping with us today and we do not wish to appear to be unfriendly, but your health and safety are our concern as well, and we hope you will understand why we may not shake your hand.

- **Instead of shaking hands or giving hugs at the Passing of the Peace, greet your neighbor verbally.**
- **I will not be in back on your way out of service so people can exit out of the church with ease.**

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Bill

PRELUDE

Lead Kindly Light

arr. Kim

(with organ sonata #1, 2nd movement by Mendelssohn)

Lead, kindly Light, amid th' encircling gloom,

Lead Thou me on;

The night is dark, and I am far from home,

Lead thou me on;

Keep Thou my feet; I do not ask to see

The distant scene; one step enough for me.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG

"Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult"

Insert

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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P In joy and thanksgiving we begin our worship in the name of the Father, and of the Son +, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P: Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven; whose sin is covered. Let us take time to reflect on our deep need for God's forgiveness and mercy in our lives. (Psalm 32:1)

(Silence for self-reflection and examination)

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

P Most merciful God,

C we confess that we are captive 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 In the mercy of almighty God,

Jesus Christ was given to die for us,
and for his sake God forgives us all our sins.

As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ,
and by his authority,

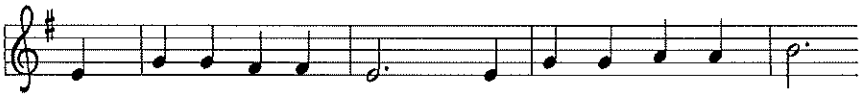
I therefore declare to you
the entire forgiveness of all your sins,
in the name of the Father,
and of the + Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

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.**



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
 Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
 Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



- 1 Come, let us join our cheer - ful songs with an - gels round the throne;
- 2 "Wor - thy the Lamb that died," they cry, "to be ex - alt - ed thus!"
- 3 Je - sus is wor - thy to re - ceive hon - or and pow'r di - vine;
- 4 Let all cre - a - tion join in one to bless the sa - cred name



ten thou-sand thou-sand are their tongues, but all their joys are one.
 "Wor - thy the Lamb," our lips re - ply, "for he was slain for us!"
 and bless - ings, more than we can give, be, Lord, for - ev - er thine.
 of God who sits up - on the throne, and to a - dore the Lamb.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Insert

FIRST READING

Amos 5:18-24

Insert

PSALM 70

Insert

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Insert



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

P The holy gospel according to Saint Matthew the twenty-fifth chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL

Matthew 25:1-13

Insert

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Bill

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Be Thou My Vision"

Insert

APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and 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 everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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P Lord in your mercy...

C Hear our prayer.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Blessed Assurance

arr. Wagner

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BLESSING

P Pray in the Spirit at all times so that you may discern the will of God. Keep alert as you walk in faith. Speak with the boldness of the apostles who came before you so that all might know the good news. And may the Lord bless you and keep you, now and forever, in the name of the Father, the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit. (Ephesians 6)

C Amen.

SENDING

"Jesus, Still Lead On"

Insert

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Rigandon

by Hegarts

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Memory Verse

Thessalonians 4:14

For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep.



***Happy Birthday
Veronica!***

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God in celebration of Veronica Mertz's 13th birthday today!

Today, November 8*

Acolytes: Elias Poe, Aiden Meinderding

Ushers: Rhonda Weaver & Chris White
Sandy Wierwille & Ken Ankerman

Greeters: Steven & Dora McAfee
Joni Immenschuh & Sandy Wierwille

Readers: Allison Brady, Kathy Lampert

Next Sunday, November 15*

Acolytes: Genevieve Brown, Jake Ackroyd

Communion Assistants: Mark & Connie Torsell
Allison Ackroyd, Ann Maki

Crucifers: Clara Poe, Savannah Slater

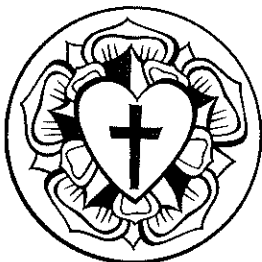
Ushers: Jeanne Wurster & Bob Hinschlager
Sandy Wierwille & Dana Cook

Greeters: Ryan & Brandy Yahl, Hoenie & Cheryl Macklem

Readers: Kathy Langsdon, Savannah Slater

**Subject to change, correct as of time printed*

ATTENDANCELast Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.: 30
..... Sunday 8 a.m.: 44, 10:30 a.m.: 48, Total for the Day: 92
..... Total for the Week: 122
ORGANIST Merilee Miller
DIRECTOR OF BOARD OF PARISH EDUCATION
.....Mindy Thiebeau, zionbpe@gmail.com
CONGREGATION PRESIDENT..... Stanley Brown
OFFICE MANAGER.....Kathy Bishir, kbishir@hotmail.com
OFFICE ASSISTANT Ann Maki, annmmaki@yahoo.com
YOUTH DIRECTOR Adam Poe, ympoe@yahoo.com
PASTOR.....William Maki,wllmmaki@yahoo.com
MINISTERSAll Members of Zion
CHURCH WEBSITE www.zionstmarys.org
CHURCH OFFICE..... 419-394-3115



Zion Lutheran Church is a congregation of
the North American Lutheran Church
(NALC). www.thenalc.org

Calendar for November 8-22, 2020

S/8	8:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship Service
	9:15 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
	9:15 a.m.	Crossroads
	10:30 a.m.	Traditional Worship Service
M/9	7:00 p.m.	Boy Scout Troop #360
	7:00 p.m.	Sola Bible Study
T/10	9:00 a.m.	Dorcas Quilting
	6:45 p.m.	Trust Meeting
W/11		Veteran's Day/Office Closed
	9:30 a.m.	Women's Council Meeting
	11:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting
	12:30 p.m.	Bulletin Information Deadline
	6:30 p.m.	Wednesday Night Worship
	7:00 p.m.	Confirmation
	7:00 p.m.	James Bible Study
T/12	9:00 a.m.	Workday
	2:00 p.m.	James Bible Study
S/14	9:00 a.m.	Men in Mission Bible Study
S/15	8:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship Service*
	9:15 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
	9:15 a.m.	Crossroads
	10:30 a.m.	Traditional Worship Service*
	7:00 p.m.	Men's Workshop
M/16	3:30 p.m.	Newsletter Article Deadline
	5:30 p.m.	OCC Drop-off
	7:00 p.m.	Boy Scout Troop #360
T/17	9:00 a.m.	Dorcas Quilting
	9:00 a.m.	OCC Drop-off

	7:30 p.m.	Youth Committee Meeting
W/18	11:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting
	12:30 p.m.	Bulletin Information Deadline
	5:30 p.m.	OCC Drop-off
	6:30 p.m.	Wednesday Night Worship*/ Women's Thankful Offering
	7:00 p.m.	Confirmation Test
T/19	9:00 a.m.	OCC Drop-off
	9:00 a.m.	Women's Workday
F/20	5:30 p.m.	OCC Drop-off
S/21	9:00 a.m.	OCC Drop-off
S/22	8:00 a.m.	Traditional Christ the King Sunday / Women's Thankful Offering
	9:15 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
	9:15 a.m.	Crossroads
	10:30 a.m.	Traditional Christ the King Sunday / Women's Thankful Offering
	12 Noon	OCC Drop-off
	7:00 p.m.	The Underground

**Holy Communion*

We invite you to include the following people in your daily prayers: Janet Dicke, Tanner Fortman, Judy Von Blon, Juli Clark, Brent Paulus, Jo Ann Cooper, Adam Poe, Judy Howell, Debbie Fishbaugh, Carol Singleton, Don Deitsch, Carla Sprague, Sandi Deerhake, Kim Peyton Reyes, Pastor Tim Smith, Marvin Elsass, Chad Reiher, Rick Moyar, Tammy Klosterman, Nathaniel Henline, Karmindy Mertz, Craig Suchland, Becky Hinschlager, Alma Kuffner, Caleb Yahl, LeeAnn Merricle, Brooks Burns, Family of Sandi Shoup,

Family of Larry Wilkins and all those living with or around the Corona virus.

Please pray for Sean Lawler, Andrew Johnson, Michael Carroll, Eli Handy, Nathan Adams, Jacob Yahl, Brad Platt, Jason Gross, Daniel C. Lukac IV, and Kyle Schmehl who are in the service. Please pray for them, their family, and their safe return home.

Our loose offerings each Wednesday and Sunday for the month of November are earmarked to support Wernle Children's Home.

Christian Sympathy to the families of Sandi Shoup and Larry Wilkins.

Virginia Loyer wishes to thank everyone who has sent her cards and letters, upon her retirement. She is profoundly grateful for the shower of cards.

The church office will be closed on **Wednesday, November 11**, in observance of Veterans Day. Normal office hours will resume on Tuesday, November 12, 8:30–12 and 12:30–4:30 p.m.

Men in Mission Bible Study has been moved to **Saturday, November 14**.

It's time to fill the shoeboxes! For the next few weeks shoeboxes will be available to pick up in the narthex for you to fill with small toys, hygiene items, school supplies and a WOW item. There are dresses for each age group, large stuffed animals for the younger age group and coloring pages for children or adults to fill out to put in the boxes. Filled boxes should be returned on **Sunday, November 15**.

Sign up to work at our Drop Off at Zion during National Collection Week, **November 16-23**, in 2 hour shifts either mornings or evenings. This year we will meet the donor at the car wearing masks and collect their boxes and information outside. Keeping an accurate count of boxes received and boxes packed in the cartons is still a priority.

Zion Men's Workshop – Our fledgling group has been interrupted by a leaky pipe, Covid, and summer but now it's time to start to work again. We're fortunate to have a couple big projects on our plate. We can now resume our workshop plans and the NALC has ordered the trailer for us to remodel into a disaster relief trailer for their use. Additionally, Cody Sharp has already outlined some electricity and wiring basics and in the near future we'll have a presentation on basic wood types, how they grow, and their characteristics.

Men, you are invited to join the fun on **Sunday evening, November 15**, at 7:00 in the Auditorium. We hope to see you there.

The Giving Thanks Meal will still be held this year with the change of the meals being carry out. Zion has been asked to supply desserts for this meal. The desserts are to be dropped off **Wednesday, November 25**, from 1-4 p.m. at Wayne Street United Methodist Church or from 5-7 p.m. at the High School.

Zion's Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service will be on **Wednesday, November 25**, at 7 p.m., in the sanctuary, with holy communion being served. Our loose offering from that service along with the canned goods we collect that night will go to Agape Food Pantry.

Christmas Decorating! Volunteers are needed to help decorate the church for the Advent/Christmas season, on **Saturday, November 28**, from 10:15 a.m. to 12 Noon. Sign up on your "I

Worshiped Today” or call the church office, 419-394-3115, to participate in decorating.

Extra Christmas Eve Service: The council has decided to include a 4:00 p.m. service along with our 7:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve services this year. Our hope is this allows everyone to attend who wishes to but still have social distancing. Anyone willing to be communion assistant or reader for this extra service, please let the church office know or mark on your “I Worshiped Today”.

Would you like to stay connected to activities here at Zion via text messages? We have the opportunity to join a program to keep you informed about church-wide events or specific group events within our church (i.e. youth group or confirmation, worship team, women's and men's ministry, etc.) by a text message. Let us know if this something you would participate in, by marking YES on your I worship today--along with your cell phone #.

The remote Sunday School bags are ready! They can be picked up from under the table in the narthex. The tubs are marked by age groups.

Can you play an organ, flute, etc. or sing a solo? Volunteer to play or sing special music during the service by calling Merilee at 419-953-9046.

Our 8 a.m. worship service is broadcast live on WCSM radio 96.7 FM. Thank you to our primary sponsor of our WCSM radio broadcast—St. Marys Chrysler. Volunteers are needed to help with the sound board. No experience needed! Anyone interested in running the sound board during worship will be trained. We would like to have more people for rotation purposes. Contact the church office, 419-394-3115, or Pastor Bill if you can help.

2020 Church Council

President Stan Brown
 Vice-President Ryan Yahl
 Secretary Lisa Hollenbacher
 Assistant Liz Ackroyd
 Treasurer Pete Ackroyd
 Assistant Marion Slater

COUNCIL AT LARGE: Cheryl Macklem, Lisa Hollenbacher, Marion Slater, Darl Bishir, Pete Ackroyd and Ryan Yahl

BOARD OF DEACONS: Keith Fledderjohann, Sandy Wierwille, Kermit Hecht,* Steve McAfee, Judy Schultz, Jeanne Wurster, Rhonda Weaver, Doug Stetler and Connie Torsell

BOARD ELDERS: Kathy Lampert, Chris White* and Vic Von Blon

BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Jerry Mertz, Kurt Rodeheffer, Eric Langsdon and Ed Yahl*

BOARD OF PARISH EDUCATION DIRECTOR: Mindy Thiebeau

BOARD OF PARISH EDUCATION: Kathy Miller, Mary Merricle,* Leslie Wobler, & Emily Meinerding

MEMBERS TO TRUST FUND: Rick Green, Doris Cook, Bill Kellermeyer, Marion Slater and John Lampert

YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE: Liz Ackroyd

*Committee Chairperson

Weekly Needs	Budget Y-T-D	Received 11/1	Offerings Y-T-D	On Hold
Current \$6,529	\$287,276	\$8,759	\$256,767	\$0
NALC Benev. \$290	\$12,760	\$100	\$10,080	
Bank Balance as of 11/2:				
		\$69,669—Includes Payroll Protection Plan Funds		

Listening for the Promise

WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL

Pentecost 23 – November 8, 2020

“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise.”

– Matthew 25:1–2 –

Jesus told a parable about being ready for Judgment Day that only shows up in Matthew’s Gospel. It’s the parable of the ten virgins: five wise and five foolish. In 1522, Martin Luther preached on this parable, citing that the ten virgins were ten Christians. However, not all of them were faithful to the Lord. The wise virgins, he said, represent true Christians, whereas the foolish virgins represent phony Christians. By phony, he meant those who were only acting as if they were Christians. Why and how would anyone want to give the appearance of being a follower of Christ if they really weren’t? In today’s world, would that even benefit a person?

We know that in times of persecution, Christians were killed. Why would you ever impersonate one? There are even places on earth today where Christians’ lives are threatened for worshipping Jesus or identifying with him. Who would risk such an association if it weren’t a real relationship? I imagine that during the era of Christendom, when major political powers ruled in the name of Christ and his church, saying you were a Christian would be helpful to maintain some semblance of a peaceful life. However, I can’t imagine any other time when claiming to be Christian would be of any real social or political benefit. Certainly today, as we live in an anti-Christian society that denigrates believers, claiming to be a Christian if you’re not would seem to cause more trouble than it would be worth. So, again, why be a phony Christian? Why act like it’s a way of life if it’s not?

Perhaps that’s exactly what Jesus was getting at. We know how often he warned the disciples that following him would be a costly experience. If they wanted to find their lives, they had to be willing to lose them for his sake. That’s why coming to meet the bridegroom with no oil was foolish. The lamps were all for show. They weren’t prepared for the long haul of waiting – which represents our daily life of faith. Immediacy was what was on their minds. The faithful, however, are prepared for the long haul, in case the bridegroom doesn’t return quickly. As true Christians we endure the daily trials of life by faith, trusting that Jesus will one day return, but no one knows if it’s today, tomorrow, or far in the future. Amen.