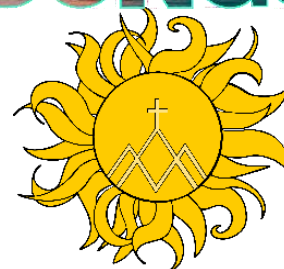


513.231.2253 • ZIONLC.ORG

Jason Hoerth, Pastor • jhoerth@zionlc.org

Chris Graves, Dir. of Children and Youth Min. • cgraves@zionlc.org

Julia Witt, Diaconess Intern • jwitt@zionlc.org



AUGUST 24, 2025 • 8:30 AM • ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

TRUTH MEANT TO HEAL

Welcome! We're excited you're here. In our service, we gather before Almighty God to offer Him our worship and praise. We come together to be strengthened by His Word to be His witnesses.

Families, if you brought your children with you today, we want you to know that the spiritual well-being of your child is very important to us. Many families wish to teach and encourage their younger child(ren) to be in church and get what they can out of it. If you feel that you need to take your child out for whatever reason; there is a cry room near the back of the sanctuary and a restroom with a baby changing station is located by the elevator (to the left as you exit the sanctuary). **Guests**, we welcome you. If you will, please help us to get to know you by filling out the Guest side of the Welcome Card found in the pews/ chair backs and place it in the offering plates.

As We Gather: The word *discipline* is derived from the Latin word *discipulus*, which means "learner." One of the most interesting documents found among the Dead Sea Scrolls, is called *The Manual of Discipline*. It outlined the expectations for new members joining the group. As part of the of their community's discipline, they were to have evidence in their lives of faithfulness to God, to show justice toward all people, and to love truth and hate falsehood. As our God's beloved sons and daughters, may we continue that blessed learning through all the seasons of our lives!

WELCOME

Please Stand

CALL TO WORSHIP

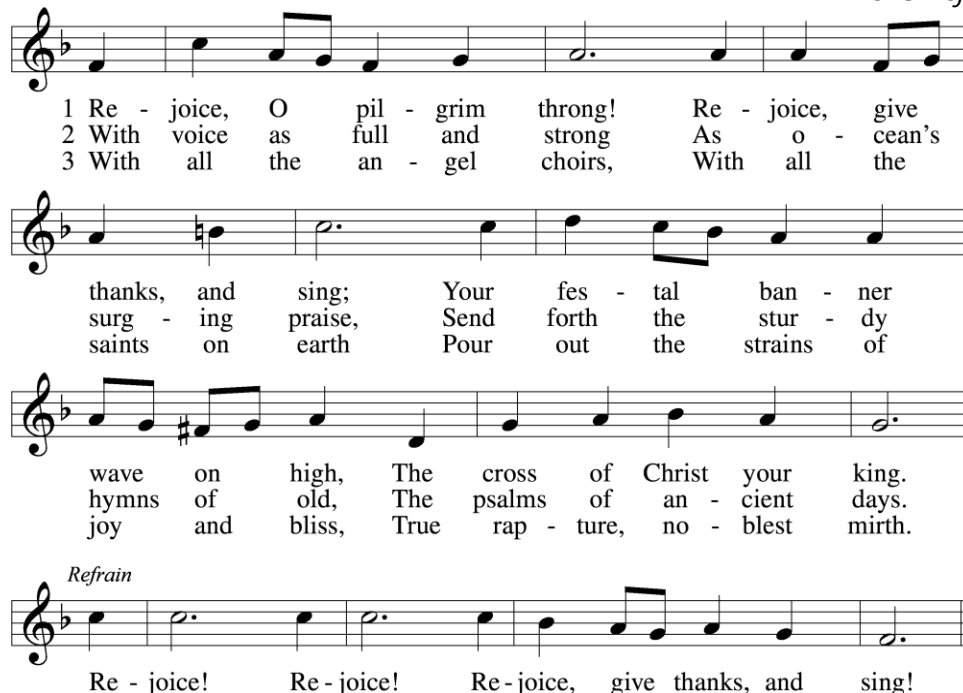
P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

OPENING HYMN

813 Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng



1 Re - joice, O pil - grim throng! Re - joice, give
2 With voice as full and strong! As o - cean's
3 With all the an - gel choirs, With all the

thanks, and sing; Your fes - tal ban - ner
surg - ing on praise, Send forth the stur - dy
saints on earth Pour out the strains of

wave on high, The cross of Christ your king.
hymns of old, The psalms of an - cient days.
joy and bliss, True rap - ture, no - blest mirth.

Refrain

Re - joice! Re - joice! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!

Text and tune: Public domain

Taking the cross of grace and peace to form a community of uncommon servants.

OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 103:1–2, 8, 13, 21–22

P Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name!

C Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits.

P As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear Him.

C The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

P Bless the LORD, all His hosts, His ministers, who do His will!

C Bless the LORD, all His works, in all places of His dominion. Bless the LORD, O my soul!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

[Silence for personal confession and absolution.]

P Let us now confess our sins to God, our Father.

C Have mercy on us, Lord, and grant us Your forgiveness. We confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We repent of our sins, those known to us and those unknown as well. Create in us clean hearts, gracious Lord, and put new and right spirits within us that we may be reconciled to You and at peace with all people. We trust in Christ alone for the forgiveness that we seek today and at all times. Give us the Holy Spirit to guide and direct us into paths of righteousness and finally bring us to everlasting life. Amen.

P The almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

GREETING

HYMN

463 Christ the Lord is Risen Today; Alleluia

1 Christ the Lord is ris'n today; Alleluia! Christians, hasten on your way; Alleluia!
Offer praise with love replete, Alleluia! At the paschal victim's feet. Alleluia!

3 Hail, the victim undefiled, Alleluia! God and sinners reconciled, Alleluia!
When contending death and life, Alleluia! Met in strange and awesome strife. Alleluia!

4 Christians, on this holy day, Alleluia! All your grateful homage pay; Alleluia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia! Now He lives, no more to die. Alleluia!

Text: Public domain

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. O Lord, You call us to be faithful and to heed Your fatherly discipline. Preserve us by Your perpetual mercy, guide us in ways of peace and love, keep us from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Be Seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

+ WORD +

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalms 50:1-15
(God Himself is Judge.)

50 The Mighty One, God the Lord, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting. ² Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth. ³ Our God comes; he does not keep silence; before him is a devouring fire, around him a mighty tempest. ⁴ He calls to the heavens above and to the earth, that he may judge his people: ⁵ "Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!" ⁶ The heavens declare his righteousness, for God himself is judge! *Selah* ⁷ "Hear, O my people, and I will speak; O Israel, I will testify against you. I am God, your God. ⁸ Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you; your burnt offerings are continually before me. ⁹ I will not accept a bull from your house or goats from your folds. ¹⁰ For every beast of the forest is mine, the cattle on a thousand hills. ¹¹ I know all the birds of the hills, and all that moves in the field is mine. ¹² "If I were hungry, I would not tell you, for the world and its fullness are mine. ¹³ Do I eat the flesh of bulls or drink the blood of goats? ¹⁴ Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and perform your vows to the Most High, ¹⁵ and call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

To My Dear Father
Words and Music written by, and sung by Julia Witt

EPISTLE

Hebrews 12:4-24
(An exhortation to faithful, peaceful living.)

⁴ In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. ⁵ And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? "My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. ⁶ For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives." ⁷ It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? ⁸ If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. ⁹ Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? ¹⁰ For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. ¹¹ For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. ¹² Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, ¹³ and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed. ¹⁴ Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord.

¹⁵ See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no "root of bitterness" springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; ¹⁶ that no one is sexually immoral or unholy like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal. ¹⁷ For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears. ¹⁸ For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest ¹⁹ and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. ²⁰ For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned." ²¹ Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear." ²² But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, ²³ and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴ and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please Stand

VERSE

Luke 13:29

P Alleluia. People will come from east and west, and from north and south,
C **and recline at table in the kingdom of God. Alleluia.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 13:22–30

(Jesus shares insights into His kingdom that is to come.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the thirteenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²² He went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying toward Jerusalem. ²³ And someone said to him, "Lord, will those who are saved be few?" And he said to them, ²⁴ "Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. ²⁵ When once the master of the house has risen and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, open to us,' then he will answer you, 'I do not know where you come from.' ²⁶ Then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets.' ²⁷ But he will say, 'I tell you, I do not know where you come from. Depart from me, all you workers of evil!' ²⁸ In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God but you yourselves cast out. ²⁹ And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God. ³⁰ And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Be Seated – Children Dismissed for Children's Church

MESSAGE HYMN

868 *Awake, My Soul, and With the Sun*

- 1 Awake, my soul, and with the sun Thy daily stage of duty run;
Shake off dull sloth and joyful rise To pay thy morning sacrifice.
- 2 In conversation be sincere, Thy conscience as the noonday clear;
Think how the all-seeing God thy ways And all thy secret thoughts surveys.
- 3 All praise to Thee, who safe hast kept And hast refreshed me while I slept;
Grant, Lord, when I from death shall wake, I may of endless light partake.

Text: Public domain

MESSAGE

Please Stand – Children return from Children's Church

HYMN

953 *We All Believe in One True God*



1 We all be-lieve in one true God, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost,
Ev - er - pres - ent help in need, Praised by all the heav'n - ly host;
All He made His love en-folds, All cre - a - tion He up-holds.

(Vs. 2 & 3 next page)

HYMN (cont.)

- 2 We all believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary’s son,
Who descended from His throne And for us salvation won;
By whose cross and death are we Rescued from all misery.
- 3 We all confess the Holy Ghost, Who from both in truth proceeds,
Who sustains and comforts us In all trials, fears, and needs.
Blessèd, holy Trinity, Praise forever be to Thee!

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OFFERING (Thanks for your ongoing stewardship and support of God’s mission here!)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (Prayer response after each petition...)

Psalm 40:3

- P Lord, in Your mercy,
- C Hear our prayer.

LORD’S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9–13

SENDING

- P Go in peace as you serve the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24–26

- 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.
- C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

813 Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng

- 4 Yet on and onward still, With hymn and chant and song,
Through gate and porch and columned aisle The hallowed pathways throng. *Refrain*

Refrain Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!
- 5 Still lift your standard high, Still march in firm array,
As pilgrims through the darkness wend Till dawns the golden day. *Refrain*
- 7 Praise Him who reigns on high, The Lord whom we adore:
The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, One God forevermore. *Refrain*

Text: Public domain

DISMISSAL

Into the world having the truth and grace of Christ to heal and mend...

A HUGE “Thank you” to those that served to make worship happen today...

Pastor	Rev. Jason Hoerth	Reader	Nina Wichard
Children’s Message	Chris Graves, DCE	Organist	Carol Trumbo
Elder	Jon Dreier	Acolyte	Isabelle Ripak

Acknowledgments

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