Zíon Lutheran Church +

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September 7, 2025



Zion Lutheran Church

Sundays with Zion

Worship 9:30 a.m. Sunday Bible Hour 11:00 a.m.

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost - September 7, 2025

Please observe a few minutes of quiet time as you prepare for worship. We invite you to **pray** and read the **Scriptures** for the day.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER TODAY (Please see "Words to prepare our hearts and lives" on page 15)

ALL WORSHIPERS are asked to please fill out the information sheet in the bulletin. Before we begin, you are also invited to pray and to read the Scripture for today's worship.

WE LOVE OUR KIDS ... We love to have them in the service with us, but if your child needs a break, we do have a "cry room" in the entry way of the church.

A PRAYER AS WE GATHER

O Lord, our Creator, Redeemer, and Comforter, as You gather us together to worship You in spirit and in truth, prepare us to receive the preaching of Your Word and all Your lifegiving gifts such that we would repent of our sins, believe in Jesus Christ as our only Rescuer, and grow in caring service for all. Hear us for His sake. Amen.

Our Theme for Today

What is the most useful tool or apparatus that you have? Be it outdoors, around the house, or a hobby? What do you think is God's most helpful tool?

Stand

God Omniscient, God All Knowing

God omniscient God all-knowing
In His wisdom doth ordain
Every working of creation
To the glory of His name
Who His thoughts can dare to fathom
Who His judgments can contain
None His equal unassailable
He our God who ever reigns

God all-keeping omnipresent
In the passing days of man
First to last not one forgotten
By His strong and steering hand
He the sovereign Lord now praise we
He the fount of providence
On His word we rest unwavering
Yes His perfect word shall stand

God omnipotent and mighty
Inexhaustible His strength
Governments and fleeting powers
Melt before His majesty
How unsearchable His greatness
How inscrutable His ways
Sing His greatness and pre-eminence
Over all created things

God unchanging ever faithful
To His covenant of grace
We His people Christ did ransom
To the glory of His name
Now ascribe unending worship
Now ascribe immortal praise

Now ascribe immortal praise To the God whose kingdom cometh Blessed be His matchless name

Now ascribe unending worship Now ascribe immortal praise To the God whose kingdom cometh Blessed be His matchless name Blessed be His matchless name

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

Invocation Matthew 28:19

P In the name of the Father and of the

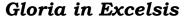
→ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Service of the Word



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.



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- **C** 1 To God on high be glo ry And peace to all the earth;
 - 2 To You, O sole-be got ten, The Fa-ther's Son, we pray;
 - 3 For You a lone are ho ly; You on ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth!

O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.

For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry, You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King. Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—In God the Fa-ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- P Let us pray.

O merciful Lord, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all. Grant us courage and strength to take up the cross and follow Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Deuteronomy 30:15–20

15"See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, ²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them."

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Epistle Philemon 1–21

¹Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To Philemon our beloved fellow worker ² and Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier, and the church in your house:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, ⁵because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and all the saints, ⁶and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full

knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ. ⁷For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you.

⁸Accordingly, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is required, ⁹yet for love's sake I prefer to appeal to you—I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus— ¹⁰I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment. ¹¹(Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me.) ¹²I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart. ¹³I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel, ¹⁴but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own free will. ¹⁵For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back forever, ¹⁶no longer as a slave but more than a slave, as a beloved brother—especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

¹⁷So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me. ¹⁸If he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. ¹⁹I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it—to say nothing of your owing me even your own self. ²⁰Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ.

²¹Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Stand







Holy Gospel

Luke 14:25-35

- The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourteenth chapter.
- Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁵Now great crowds accompanied [Jesus], and he turned and said to them, ²⁶"If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. ²⁷Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, ³⁰saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.' ³¹Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³²And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. ³³So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.

³⁴"Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? ³⁵It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Children's Message

Children are invited to the front for a brief teaching especially for them.

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of the Father.

And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead.

whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.



Ev - 'ry pow'r as

Thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it Thine, It shall be no longer mine; Take my heart, it is Thine own, It shall be Thy royal throne, It shall be Thy royal throne.

pow'r as

Thou shalt choose,

6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour At Thy feet its treasure store; Take myself, and I will be Ever, only, all for Thee, Ever, only, all for Thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-79
Tune: Henri A. C. Malan, 1787-1864
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Sit

Response to the Word

Stand

Confession and Absolution

- 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.

Kneel (Silence for reflection on our need for forgiveness)

- P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- 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 (John 20:22-23; 1 Corinthians 4:1), I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Sit

Offering

Please leave a yellow information sheet for your household in the plate that is passed with any offerings you may have as an act of worship in response to Christ's abundant kindness toward us.

(You can also click on the Online Giving button at ZionLutheranNH.org to set up one-time or recurring payments when you are at home or even now in worship, which may take you only 2 minutes)

Surrounding Me

In the caverns of my mind
There's demons I fight
And I know you know
And I'm running from the battle I can't win on my own
With nowhere to run too tired to fight
Come and save me come and save me
I'm needing You now

Chorus

You are my hope in the land of the living My Refuge when life's unrelenting My Hiding Place my shelter in the night You are my Fortress that nothing replaces The outstretched arms that embrace In your presence God, oh I have found my peace You are surrounding me

In the shadows of the tomb
It seemed that they'd won it was so dark
But the death that You had chosen
Was soon to be gone
You fought on Your own
You fought and You won
And now You hold me now You hold me close
I'm not alone

Chorus

Bridge

Through the darkest of nights
You are the Light that's leading me home
When I am afraid and hope starts to fade
I'll trust You alone
With arms stretched wide my Savior died
To rise up from the grave
Your victory alive in me
I know that I am safe

You are my hope in the land of the living My Refuge when life's unrelenting My Hiding Place my shelter in the night You are my Fortress that nothing replaces The outstretched arms that embrace In your presence God, oh I have found my peace In your presence God, oh I have found my peace You are surrounding me

Stand

Prayers of the People

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

You have granted us great privilege and mercy, O Lord, that we should be called Your people. Work in us by Your Spirit, that we may love what is good and obey Your command cheerfully. Keep us from an easy faith that costs us nothing, and preserve us so that we may be the salt of the earth and light in the darkness of a world that does not know You. Lord, in Your mercy,

• hear our prayer.

L O Lord, bless this congregation and all congregations of our Synod; Matthew, our Synod president; _______, our district president; and all servants of the Church, that they would be strengthened to cherish each member of Christ's Body as dearly beloved brothers and sisters. Lord, in Your mercy,

• hear our prayer.

L Heavenly Father, You are our life and length of days, and You set before us Your gift of life in Your Holy Word for us and for our children. Preserve Your institutions of marriage and family. Guard husbands and wives, parents and children, both from despising and from idolizing one another. Instead, let every relationship in the home exemplify Your unconditional love for us in Christ, and grant that all might follow Him in their service to one another. Lord, in Your mercy,

• hear our prayer.

© Give Your aid, O Lord, to all elected and appointed public officials, especially our president, the Congress of these United States, our governor, the legislature of this state and all who serve us in Your name in government. Grant peace to the nations, and prosper to the benefit of all people the cause of justice. Lord, in Your mercy,

• hear our prayer.

- L God, our King, You promise blessing to those who follow in Your way, yet You also call them to carry their crosses. Grant Your peace to those who suffer among us <code>[especially _____]</code>. Guide them by Your Word to follow Your way through the pains of this world to the glories of the world to come. Lord, in Your mercy,
- hear our prayer.
- L Gracious God, grant that all who come to the Lord's Supper this day may in faith receive Your Son's body and blood and with it the forgiveness of sins, the desire to amend our sinful lives, and the strength to confess the true faith in all that we say and do. Lord, in Your mercy,
- hear our prayer.
- Lord, may your blessing be upon our Call Committee as they seek your wisdom and guidance in their work of looking at possible candidates to call and serve as Zion's next Pastor. Lord in your mercy,
- hear our prayer.
- L Join these, our prayers and praises, with those of Your faithful servants of every time and place, and unite them in the ceaseless petitions of our great High Priest, until He comes again in power and glory as victorious Lord of all. Through Him, with Him and in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is Yours, almighty Father, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

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Preface

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- And also 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.

Sanctus 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san-na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer Matthew 6:9-13

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.

The Words of Our Lord

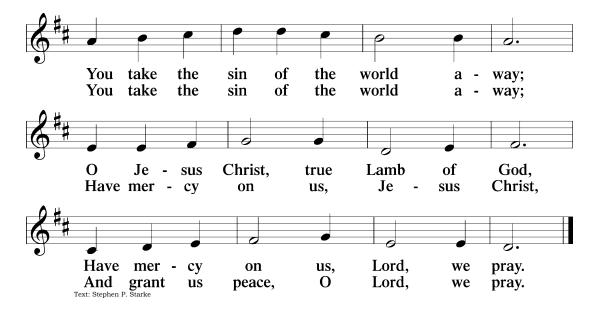
P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after 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 it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.





Sit

Distribution

Words to prepare our hearts and lives

The Lord's Supper is a wonderful means of grace given to us by God. Christ gives His body and blood to forgive sins, renew faith, and cause us to grow in His love and service. We also remember and praise God for the sacrifice Christ made on our behalf on the cross. Out of pastoral concern and care and taking to heart the word in 1 Corinthians 11:36, "A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup," before receiving this means of God's grace properly we should positively answer the following:

- Do I need forgiveness for sin?
- Do I believe in Christ as my Savior and have been Baptized?
- Do I believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine?
- Do I desire to turn from sin and live for God and others in love and service?

If you are unsure or desire to learn more about what it means to take the Lord's Supper, please speak with an elder or pastor before or after the service. Those not partaking of the Lord's Supper, including children, are invited to come forward with arms folded across the chest to receive a blessing

Grape juice is available in the center of the serving tray God's Blessings!

Prayer before Communing

O Lord, our God, in Holy Baptism You have called us to be Christians and granted us the remission of sins. Make me ready to receive the most holy Body and Blood of Christ for the forgiveness of all my sins and grant us grateful hearts that we may give thanks to You, O Father, to Your Son, and to the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

After Receiving Communion

Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding us the life-giving Body and Blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send us Your Holy Spirit that, having with our mouths feasted on this holy meal, we may by faith obtain and forever enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, eternal life in Christ, and unity with one another; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

When Your Grace Flows Down Again

We gather together in this holy place, And we stand in amazement and sing out in praise For the new life that comes in the water and Word When Your grace flows down again

As the water pours over, it washes us clean, And the Spirit takes hold of our faith and our deeds We can rise up in newness and go forth in joy When Your grace flows down again

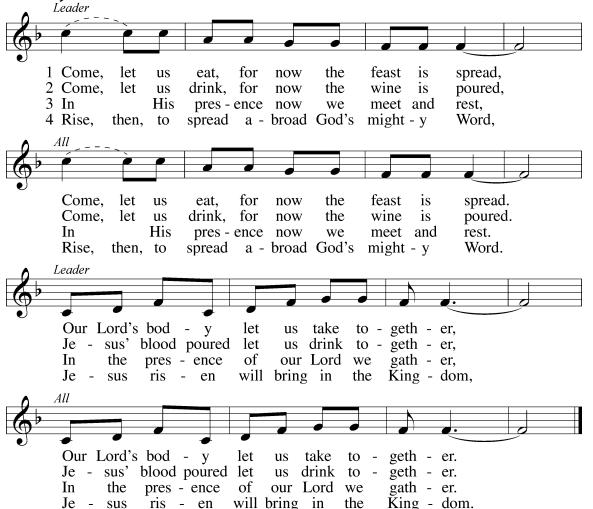
Chorus

Let Your grace flow down Let Your grace flow down

We gather together in this holy place, And we stand in amazement and sing out in praise And we kneel at the altar and reach out our hands When Your grace flows down again *Chorus*

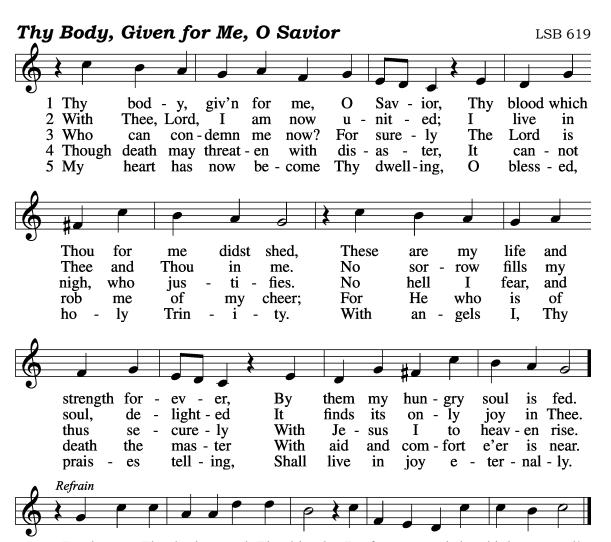
In the bread and the wine are Your Body and Blood And our sins are forgiven and wrongs are made good We can rise up in newness and go forth in joy When Your grace flows down again

Hallelujah Let Your grace flow down Hallelujah Let Your grace flow down



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Lord, may Thy bod - y and Thy blood Be for
Text: Friedrich Christian Heyder, 1677–1754; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, abr.
Tune: Emskirchner Choral-Buch, 1756, Leipzig
Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000463 Be for my soul the high-est good!

Tune: Public domain

Stand

Thank the Lord

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



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice 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 Collect

A Let us pray.

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.

Benediction Numbers 6:23-26

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.

In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found;
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My comforter, my all in all
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh, Fullness of God in helpless babe! This gift of love and righteousness, Scorned by the ones He came to save.

Till on that cross as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied; For every sin on Him was laid Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain.
Then bursting forth in glorious day,
Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death This is the pow'r of Christ in me. From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.

No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, Can ever pluck me from His hand; Till he returns or calls me home here In the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

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♦ The VISION of Zion Lutheran Church ♦

In response to God's amazing grace and love Zion Lutheran Church is a place of refuge where children, youth and adults are:

GROUNDED in God's unchanging Word,

REACHING OUT with the Good News of Jesus Christ locally and globally,

ACCEPTING others in the same loving way God has accepted us,

CHANGING into committed Christ followers, and EMPOWERED to be Christ's hands and feet joyfully serving others.

Our Core Values

We Believe:

- ♦ We are saved by Grace through Faith in Jesus Christ. (Eph. 2: 8-9; Rom. 3:22-24; Titus 3:4-7)
- ♦ Jesus is the Way, the Truth & the Life! No one comes to the Father except through Him! (John 14:6; Acts 4:12)
- ♦ Scripture is the Word of God. It is without error and our only source for life and faith! (2 Tim. 3:16; John 20:31; 2 Peter 1:20-21)
- ♦ Baptism & the Lord's Supper are the means by which God touches our lives with His grace. (Rom 6:1-7; 1 Peter 3:21; Matt 26:26-28; 1 Cor 11:23-26)
- ♦ God has chosen us to proclaim the Gospel to our community and world. (Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; 1 Peter 3:15)
- ♦ In the power of God working through the Holy Spirit & Prayer. (John 14:26; Acts 4:31; Mark 11:24; Phil 4:6-7)
- ♦ We desire to remain a loving (1Cor 13; 1John 4:7-11), caring family of God.
- ♦ We cherish our Lutheran heritage.