

Zion Lutheran Church The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod
413 Avenue D East, Bismarck, ND * Phone: (701) 223-8286
Website: zionbismarck.org
Email: zionlcmbsbis@gmail.com
Find us on Facebook, search: *Zion Lutheran Church*
The Rev. Thomas R. Marcis Jr. – Senior Pastor
Aidan Moon – Vicar Naomi Moon – Deaconess Intern
Kristin Nistler – Director of Family Ministry

Sermon: Pastor Marcis
Organist: Thomas Wyatt

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—PROPER 24

Blessing the Day—Evening
October 17, 2021 – 10:45 AM

AS WE GATHER

Some of the most loved hymns in the hymnal are in the “Evening” section, including “Abide with Me,” “Now Rest beneath Night’s Shadow,” and “God, Who Made the Earth and Heaven,” set to the Welsh melody to which the classic lullaby “All through the Night” is sung. The evening hours bring special worship opportunities for God’s people. The psalmist writes, “Let my prayer be counted as incense before You, and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice!” (Psalm 141:2). May we be aware of God’s blessing of each day—especially the special hours of the evening.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN:

“Blessed Jesus, at Your Word” *LSB* 904

- 1 **Blessèd Jesus, at Your Word**
We are gathered all to hear You.
Let our hearts and souls be stirred
Now to seek and love and fear You,
By Your teachings, sweet and holy,
Drawn from earth to love You solely.
- 2 **All our knowledge, sense, and sight**
Lie in deepest darkness shrouded
Till Your Spirit breaks our night
With the beams of truth unclouded.
You alone to God can win us;
You must work all good within us.
- 3 **Gracious Savior, good and kind,**
Light of Light, from God proceeding,
Open now our heart and mind;
Help us by Your Spirit’s pleading.
Hear the cry Your Church now raises;
Hear and bless our prayers and praises.
- 4 **Father, Son, and Spirit, Lord,**
Praise to You and adoration!
Grant that we may trust Your Word,
Confident of our salvation,
While we here below must wander,
Till we sing Your praises yonder.

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INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 92:1–4; 93:5*

Pastor: It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praises to Your name, O Most High;
People: **to declare Your steadfast love in the morning, and Your faithfulness by night, to the music of the lute and the harp, to the melody of the lyre.**

Pastor: For You, O LORD, have made me glad by Your work;
People: **at the works of Your hands I sing for joy.**

Pastor: Your decrees are very trustworthy;
People: **holiness befits Your house, O LORD, forevermore.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: It is good and right that we should make confession of our sins. The section on “Confession” in the Small Catechism informs and directs us with these words, which summarizes it well.

People: **Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.**

Pastor: Humble yourselves then before God, confess your sins to Him, and implore His forgiveness.

People: **O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your present and eternal punishment. By nature, I am a sinful creature. By thought, word, and deed, I have continually transgressed Your law. For the sake of the sufferings and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a penitent and contrite being. Forgive me all my sins, and grant me the power of Your Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful life.**

Pastor: God be gracious to you and strengthen your faith.
People: Amen.

Pastor: As you believe, so let it be. As a called and ordained servant Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.

☩ WORD ☩

INTROIT *Psalm 34:1–4, 17; antiphon: v. 18*

Pastor: The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.
People: **I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth.**

Pastor: My soul makes its boast in the LORD;
let the humble hear and be glad.

**People: Oh, magnify the LORD with me,
and let us exalt His name together!**

Pastor: I sought the LORD, and He answered me
and delivered me from all my fears.

**People: When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears
and delivers them out of all their troubles.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Pastor: The LORD is near to the brokenhearted
and saves the crushed in spirit.

Song "Worthy Is the Lamb / Crown Him With Many Crowns"

**Thank you for the cross Lord
Thank you for the price You paid
Bearing all my sin and shame
In love You came
And gave amazing grace**

**Thank you for this love Lord
Thank you for the nail pierced hands
Washed me in Your cleansing flow
Now all I know
Your forgiveness and embrace**

**Worthy is the Lamb
Seated on the throne
Crown You now with many crown
You reign victorious
High and lifted up
Jesus Son of God
The Darling of Heaven crucified
Worthy is the Lamb
Worthy is the Lamb**

**Crown him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon his throne,
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns
All music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing**

Of him who died for thee,
And hail him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity.

Thank you for the cross Lord
Thank you for the price You paid
Bearing all my sin and shame
In love You came
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Crown him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon his throne,
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns
All music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of him who died for thee,
And hail him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of life,
Who triumphed o'er the grave,
And rose victorious in the strife
For those he came to save.
His glories now we sing,
Who died, and rose on high,
Who died, eternal life to bring,
And lives that death may die.

Crown him the Lord of peace,
Whose power a scepter sways

From pole to pole, that wars may cease,
And all be prayer and praise.
His reign shall know no end,
And round his pierced feet
Fair flowers of paradise extend
Their fragrance ever sweet.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, Your divine wisdom sets in order all things in heaven and on earth. Put away from us all things hurtful and give us those things that are beneficial for us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
People: **Amen.**

THE OLD TESTAMENT – *Ecclesiastes 5:10-20*

He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves wealth with his income; this also is vanity. When goods increase, they increase who eat them, and what advantage has their owner but to see them with his eyes? Sweet is the sleep of a laborer, whether he eats little or much, but the full stomach of the rich will not let him sleep. There is a grievous evil that I have seen under the sun: riches were kept by their owner to his hurt, and those riches were lost in a bad venture. And he is father of a son, but he has nothing in his hand. As he came from his mother's womb he shall go again, naked as he came, and shall take nothing for his toil that he may carry away in his hand. This also is a grievous evil: just as he came, so shall he go, and what gain is there to him who toils for the wind? Moreover, all his days he eats in darkness in much vexation and sickness and anger. Behold, what I have seen to be good and fitting is to eat and drink and find enjoyment in all the toil with which one toils under the sun the few days of his life that God has given him, for this is his lot. Everyone also to whom God has given wealth and possessions and power to enjoy them, and to accept his lot and rejoice in his toil—this is the gift of God. For he will not much remember the days of his life because God keeps him occupied with joy in his heart.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING – *Hebrews 4:1-6*

Therefore, while the promise of entering his rest still stands, let us fear lest any of you should seem to have failed to reach it. For good news came to us just as to them, but the message they heard did not benefit them, because they were not united by faith with those who listened. For we who have believed enter that rest, as he has said, "As I swore in my wrath, They shall not enter my rest," although his works were finished from the foundation of the world. For he has somewhere spoken of the seventh day in this way: "And God rested on the seventh day from all his works." And again in this passage he said, "They shall not enter my rest." Since therefore it remains for some to enter it, and those who

formerly received the good news failed to enter because of disobedience, again he appoints a certain day, "Today," saying through David so long afterward, in the words already quoted, "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts." For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken of another day later on. So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, for whoever has entered God's rest has also rested from his works as God did from his. Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience. For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account. Jesus the Great High Priest Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

VERSE Alleluia. With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *Mark 10:23–31* (With God all things are possible.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the tenth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

And Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How difficult it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" And the disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how difficult it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God." And they were exceedingly astonished, and said to him, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God." Peter began to say to him, "See, we have left everything and followed you." Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last first."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"My Hope is Built on Nothing Less" *LSB 575*

**1 My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
No merit of my own I claim
But wholly lean on Jesus' name. Refrain**

Ref On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;

All other ground is sinking sand.

**2 When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
In ev'ry high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil. Refrain**

**3 His oath, His covenant and blood
Support me in the raging flood;
When ev'ry earthly prop gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay. Refrain**

**4 When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh, may I then in Him be found,
Clothed in His righteousness alone,
Redeemed to stand before His throne! Refrain**

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THE SERMON

**"Cutting Through the Gobbledygook"
Hebrews 4:12-13**

HYMN

"Amazing Grace" LSB 744

**1 Amazing grace—how sweet the sound—
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found,
Was blind but now I see!**

**2 The Lord has promised good to me,
His Word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.**

**3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
His grace has brought me safe thus far,
His grace will lead me home.**

**4 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail
And mortal life shall cease,
Amazing grace shall then prevail
In heaven's joy and peace.**

**5 When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.**

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APOSTLES' CREED

**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 Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ☩ everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.**

OFFERING

SONG

"10,000 Reasons"

**Bless the Lord, O my soul,
O my soul, worship His holy Name.
Sing like never before, O my soul.
I'll worship Your holy Name.**

**The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning;
It's time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,
Let me be singing when the evening comes.**

**Bless the Lord, O my soul,
O my soul, worship His holy Name.
Sing like never before, O my soul.
I'll worship Your holy Name.**

**You're rich in love and You're slow to anger,
Your Name is great and Your heart is kind;
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing,
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.**

**Bless the Lord, O my soul,
O my soul, worship His holy Name.
Sing like never before, O my soul.
I'll worship Your holy Name.**

And on that day when my strength is failing,
The end draws near and my time has come;
Still my soul sings Your praise unending,
Ten thousand years and then forevermore.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
O my soul, worship His holy Name.
Sing like never before, O my soul.
I'll worship Your holy Name.

Worship His holy Name.
Lord I'll worship Your holy Name.

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

People: 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.

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: 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.
People: Amen.

HYMN

“Go My Children, With My Blessing” *LSB 922*

1 Go, My children, with My blessing,
 Never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you;
 You are My own.
In My love's baptismal river
 I have made you Mine forever.
Go, My children, with My blessing—
 You are My own.

2 Go, My children, sins forgiven,
 At peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you,
 What I can cure.
Here you heard My dear Son's story;
 Here you touched Him, saw His glory.

**Go, My children, sins forgiven,
At peace and pure.**

**3 Go, My children, fed and nourished,
Closer to Me;
Grow in love and love by serving,
Joyful and free.
Here My Spirit's power filled you;
Here His tender comfort stilled you.
Go, My children, fed and nourished,
Joyful and free.**

**4 I the Lord will bless and keep you
And give you peace;
I the Lord will smile upon you
And give you peace:
I the Lord will be your Father,
Savior, Comforter, and Brother.
Go, My children; I will keep you
And give you peace.**

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