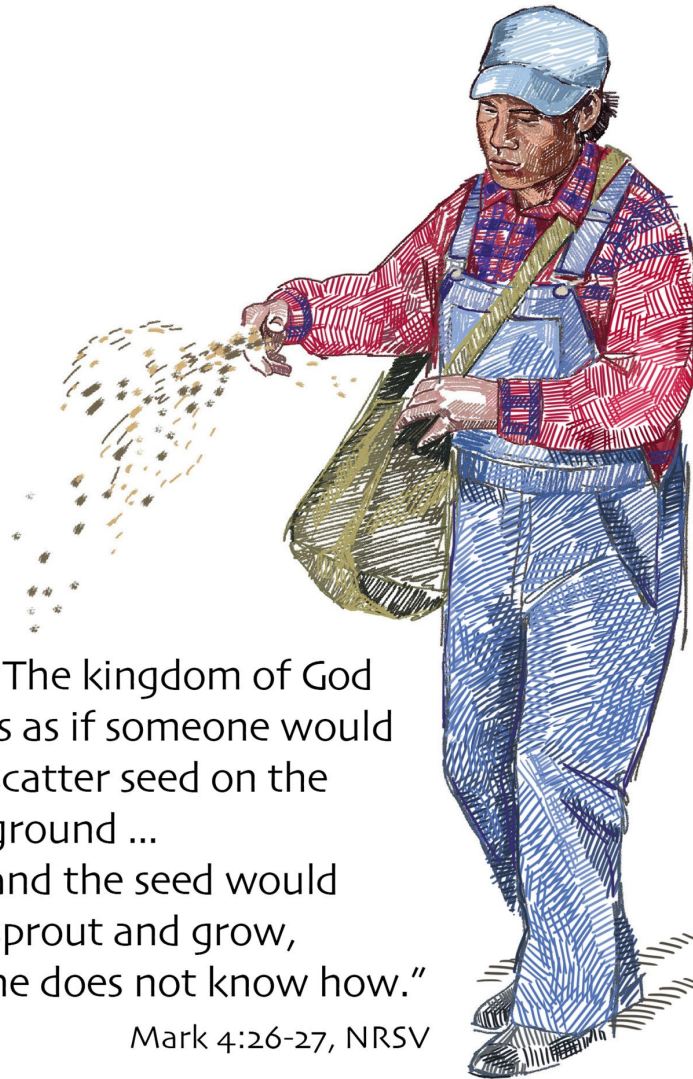




"The kingdom of God
is as if someone would
scatter seed on the
ground ...
and the seed would
sprout and grow,
he does not know how."

Mark 4:26-27, NRSV

18th Sunday after Pentecost

October 12, 2025

*A little faith goes a long way is Jesus' point in the gospel. A mustard seed's-worth of faith has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in holy baptism, holy communion, and the word read and proclaimed in this assembly. Anticipate them.
Receive them with thanksgiving.*

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

PRELUDE

Savior Again To Thy Dear Name We Raise

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I Will Sing of Thy Great Mercies

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WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve

**you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of **✝** Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.
Amen.

HYMN

***Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast* RED ELW #516
(Vs. 1 & 4)**

- 1** Almighty God, your word is cast
like seed into the ground;
now let the dew of heav'n descend
and righteous fruits abound.
- 4** So when the precious seed is sown,
life-giving grace bestow,
that all whose souls the truth receive
its saving pow'r may know.

Text: John Cawood, 1775-1852, alt.
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GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
And the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

KYRIE

***Kyrie Eleison* RED ELW page #184**

Refrain

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,
Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all;
for this holy house, for all who worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord
(Refrain)

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor;
that we may live out truth and justice and grace,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord
(Refrain)

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family;
for life and for love, for our work and our play,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord
(Refrain)

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word;
that you nourish our souls with your body and blood,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord
(Refrain)

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Let Us Break Bread Together RED ELW #471

Let us break bread together on our knees;
let us drink wine together on our knees. *Refrain*

Refrain

When I fall on my knees,
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us praise God together on our knees;
let us praise God together on our knees. *Refrain*

Text: African American spiritual
Public Domain

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Almighty and most merciful God,

your bountiful goodness fills all creation. Keep us safe from all that may hurt us, that, whole and well in body and spirit, we may with grateful hearts accomplish all that you would have us do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 25:6-9

⁶ On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

⁷ And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the covering that is spread over all nations;

⁸ he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.

⁹ It will be said on that day,
“See, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Proverbs 11:24-25

- ²⁴ Some give freely yet grow all the richer;
others withhold what is due and only suffer want.
²⁵ A generous person will be enriched,
and one who gives water will get water.

SECOND READING: Phillipians 4:15-20

¹⁵ You Philippians indeed know that in the early days of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving except you alone. ¹⁶ For even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me help for my needs more than once. ¹⁷ Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the profit^[a] that accumulates to your account. ¹⁸ I have been paid in full and have more than enough; I am fully satisfied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God. ¹⁹ And my God will fully satisfy every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. ²⁰ To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

PLEASE RISE FOR THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia RED ELW page 142

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia. Alleluia.

GOSPEL: Mark 4:26-29

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁶ He also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground ²⁷ and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸ The earth produces of itself first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹ But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle because the harvest has come."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON ON THE STEPS

SERMON

“Understanding the Heart of Generosity”

HYMN OF THE DAY

***What Feast of Love* RED ELW #487**

- 1 What feast of love is offered here,
what banquet come from heaven?
What food of everlasting life,
what gracious gift is given?
This, this is Christ the king,
the bread come down from heaven.
Oh, taste and see and sing!
How sweet the manna given!**
- 2 What light of truth is offered here,
what covenant from heaven?
What hope of everlasting life,
what wondrous word is given?
This, this is Christ the king,
the sun come down from heaven.
Oh, see and hear and sing!
The Word of God is given!**
- 3 What wine of love is offered here,
what crimson drink from heaven?
What stream of everlasting life,
what precious blood is given?
This, this is Christ the king,
the sweetest wine of heaven.
Oh, taste and see and sing!
The Son of God is given!**

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

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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

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

Amen.

THE PEACE

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

The Potter's Hand

CCLI #2449771

OFFERING HYMN

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful RED ELW #182

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with your presence,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.
**Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time,
and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with
your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

HOLY HOLY HOLY

RED ELW page 207

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest,
hosanna in the highest.**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord, Jesus Christ took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to the disciples saying, "Take and eat. This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me."

Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them.

Come to this meal of mercy.

COMMUNION

(Zion practices an open table. God welcomes everyone to come forward. Young children may receive bread and a blessing. If you prefer not to receive, fold your hands and receive a blessing. Grape juice and gluten free wafers are available; please ask your servers. Come to the Lord's table and share in the feast!)

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Seek Ye First

CCLI #1352

One Bread, One Body

One License #230252

Bind Us Together

CCLI #1228

COMMUNION BLESSING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

O God,
through this meal you have strengthened us
and appointed us to be your servants.
Send us to do good and to share our possessions
with all in need.
We ask this in Jesus' name.
Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

The God of righteousness,
who gives justice to the oppressed,
who gives food to the hungry,
who sets the prisoners free,
✝ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

On What Has Now Been Sown RED ELW #550
(Vs. 1)

- 1 On what has now been sown
your blessing, Lord, bestow;
the pow'r is yours alone
to make it sprout and grow.
O Lord, in grace the harvest raise,
and yours alone shall be the praise!

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt.
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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Postlude on Salvation

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Weekly Announcements



Please keep these family, friends and members in your prayers: Dilshad & Sonya Perani, Gary Revier, Deb Otto and Marlene Fure

Welcome Guests!

Please sign the visitor book in the entrance to the sanctuary.

We are glad you are here!

Hunger Jar for the month of October is designated to Feed My Starving Children

Sunday, October 12th, Elephant Joe's coffee truck will be in the parking lot of Maverick gas station on the corner of Highway 5 and Main Street 8:00 -11:00 am. They have more options than coffee if you aren't a coffee drinker. We hope that everyone will have an Elephant Joe's cup in their hand at worship!

Nativity Collection Tour

Do you have a collection of Nativity sets? The Stewardship Board is planning a Nativity Collection Tour in the basement at Zion the day of Arlidazzle. We would love to see everyone's beautiful displays. The plan is to have everyone set up their own display for the community to walk through to look at them.

Please see one of the Stewardship board members for details: Starla Schilling, Jane Scharpe, Jackie Alsleben, Mary Kallhoff, Pam Schiroo or Janet Rowe.

Wheelchair—The wheelchair at the ramp entrance is no longer usable and has been removed. If anyone has a wheelchair that they would consider donating to Zion Lutheran, please contact one of the Trustees: Larry Schiroo, Dale Stern, or Rich Nagel

Pastor Gretchen Pierskalla

952-237-1060
pastor@zionarlington.org

Hours for the week of October 12

Monday, October 13—12p-5p

Tuesday, October 14—3p-5p

Or by appointment

Stacy's Office Hours

Monday—Thursday, 2:30p-5:00p



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Church ArtPro

Account #73982207—6/30/2025

Worship Assistants

October 12

Usher: Francis Rowe, Diane Wink

Dale & Laurie Stern

Greeter: Brad Danielson

Acolyte: Jeremiah Vazquez

Reader: Scott Bergs

AV Team: Joe Prasad &

Tim Michaelis

Altar Guild: Jackie Alsleben,

Stacy Haggenmiller

Bread Maker: Larry Schiroo

Paraments: Jackie Alsleben

October 19

Usher: Deb Stenzel, Scott Bergs

Cindy Vazquez, Jeremiah Vazquez

Greeter: Jerry & Diane Ebersviller

Acolyte: Cooper Heeren

Reader: Bruce Kallhoff

AV Team: Tim Michaelis &

Elton Hazelwood

Paraments: Jackie Alsleben

Pr. Gretchen will be out of the office

Wednesday, October 15—Sunday, October 19

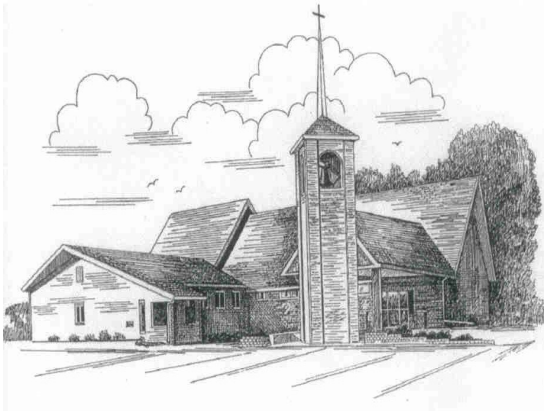
If you have a pastoral need please contact

Pastor Kay Roloff—507-339-7947

Zion Lutheran Church
814 West Brooks St. P.O. Box 371
Arlington, MN 55307
Church: 507-964-5454

Email: zion.elca.814@gmail.com

Web: zionarlington.org // YouTube: Zion ELCA Arlington MN



Zion Lutheran Church ELCA

This Week at Zion:

Sunday, October 12	8:00-11:00a	Elephant Joe's Coffee @ Maverick corner
	8:15a	Zion Choir Rehearsal
	9:00a	Worship w/Holy Communion
	10:00a	Sunday School
Wednesday, October 15	9:00a	Lefse Making
Thursday, October 16	10:00a	Adult Bible Study
	11:00a	Prayer Shawl
Saturday, October 18	8:00a	Men's Prayer Breakfast
Sunday, October 19	8:15a	Zion Choir Rehearsal
	9:00a	Contemporary Worship
	10:00a	Sunday School

LSS Meals on Wheels Monday—Friday 9:00a—12:00p

