



CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2026

In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name. Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity that Jesus had with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world, eager for the unity that God intends for the whole human family.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

PRELUDE

Be Thou My Vision

Arr. Paul Manz

One License #94190

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Arr. Albin C. Whitworth

One License #694406

Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Arr. Robert Lau

One License #63532

WELCOME

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne
and to the Lamb!

Amen.

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.

Merciful God,

you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.

You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation:
morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.
We thank you for the waters that nourish us.
Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness
who accompanies us on our journeys.
We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.
We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.
Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.
Break down barriers that divide us.
Fill us with the breath of peace.
Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,
and for making us a new creation.
We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,
now and forever.

Amen.

HYMN

Borning Cry RED ELW #732

**1 "I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold.
I was there when you were but a child,
with a faith to suit you well;
in a blaze of light you wandered off
to find where demons dwell."**

- 2 "When you heard the wonder of the Word
I was there to cheer you on;
you were raised to praise the living Lord,
to whom you now belong.
If you find someone to share your time
and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme
from dusk till rising sun."
- 3 "In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night,
complete what I've begun.
When the evening gently closes in
and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been,
with just one more surprise."
- 4 "I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold."

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937
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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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray

Almighty and ever-living God,
you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 45:1-7

From east to west, there is no other God

¹ Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him
and to strip kings of their robes,
to open doors before him—
and the gates shall not be closed:

² I will go before you
and level the mountains;
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron;

³ I will give you the treasures of darkness
and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

⁴ For the sake of my servant Jacob
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name;
I give you a title, though you do not know me.

⁵ I am the LORD, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god.
I arm you, though you do not know me,

⁶ so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.

⁷ I form light and create darkness,
I make weal and create woe;
I the LORD do all these things.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 21:1-7

¹ The king rejoices in your strength, O LORD;
how greatly he exults in your victory!

² **You have given him his heart's desire;
you have not denied him the request of his lips.**

³ For you meet him with blessings of prosperity,
and set a crown of fine gold upon his head.

⁴ **He asked you for life, and you gave it to him:
length of days, forever and ever.**

⁵ His honor is great, because of your victory;
splendor and majesty you bestow upon him.

⁶ **For you will give him everlasting blessings
and will make him glad with the joy of your presence.**

⁷ For the king puts his trust in the LORD;
because of the lovingkindness of the Most High, he will not fall.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

Our faith in Christ does not make us immune from the scorn of others. Nevertheless, we are to resist the designs of evil when we experience disparagement from others because we trust God's grace will strengthen and guide us.

¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

^{5:6} Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸ Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰ And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹ To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

PLEASE RISE FOR THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil RED ELW #512

Lord, let my heart be good soil,
open to the seed of your word.
Lord, let my heart be good soil,
where love can grow and peace is understood.
When my heart is hard, break the stone away.
When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.
When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.
Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart,
Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950

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CCLI #806698

GOSPEL:

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

John 17:1-11

On the night before his crucifixion, Jesus prays to his heavenly Father, asking that those who continue his work in this world will live in unity.

¹ After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples,] he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ² since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³ And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. ⁴ I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵ So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

⁶ “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, ⁸ for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹ I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in

them. ¹¹ And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON ON THE STEPS

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me RED ELW #767

- 1 Lord, take my hand and lead me
upon life's way;
direct, protect, and feed me
from day to day.
Without your grace and favor
I go astray;
so take my hand, O Savior,
and lead the way.

- 2 Lord, when the tempest rages,
I need not fear;
for you, the Rock of Ages,
are always near.
Close by your side abiding,
I fear no foe,
for when your hand is guiding,
in peace I go.

**3 Lord, when the shadows lengthen
and night has come,
I know that you will strengthen
my steps toward home,
then nothing can impede me,
O blessed Friend!
So, take my hand and lead me
unto the end.**

Text: Julie von Hausmann, 1825-1901; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
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AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

RED ELW page 234

PRESENTATION

P: Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these people, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of their baptism.

I present Jacqueline Christeson and Peyton Wieman, who desire to make public affirmation of their baptism.

P: Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you for this brother and sister, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.

C: Amen.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The presiding minister addresses those making public affirmation of baptism. The assembly may stand and join in the responses.

P: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

P: Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

Response by each confirmand: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

Response by each confirmand: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Response by each confirmand: I renounce them.

P: Do you believe in God the Father? (in unison)

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

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

AFFIRMATION

The presiding minister addresses those making public affirmation of baptism.

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,

to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,

to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people,
following the example of Jesus,

and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Each confirmand responds:

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

The minister addresses the assembly.

P: People of God, do you promise to support this brother and sister and pray for them in their life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Those making affirmation may kneel. Parents and Sponsors are asked to come forward and place their hands upon the confirmand, The presiding minister prays for God's blessing.

P: Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

The blessing may be repeated for each person. The minister may lay both hands on the head of the person and say:

Stir up in name the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

Let us rejoice with this brother and sister in Christ.

We rejoice with you in the gift of affirmation of baptism.

**Together we will give thanks and praise to God
and proclaim the good news to all the world. Amen.**

P: Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. **Amen.** (Matthew 5:16)

Presentation of Gifts

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

Amen.

THE PEACE

OFFERING

Take My Life and Let It Be

Arr. Albert Beck

One License #109996

OFFERING HYMN

***We Are an Offering* RED ELW #692**

**We lift our voices, We lift our hands,
We lift our lives up to You:
We are an offering.
Lord use our voices, Lord use our hands,
Lord use our lives they are Yours:
We are an offering.
All that we have, All that we are,
All that we hope to be,
We give to You, We give to You
We lift our voices, We lift our hands
We lift our lives up to You:
We are an offering
We are an offering**

Songwriters: Dwight Liles

We Are an Offering lyrics © Warner Chappell Music, Inc
CCLI #16220

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Merciful God,
**accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory.
You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day
when we will hunger and thirst no more.
Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus,
that goodness and mercy may follow us
and bless the world you love.
In the name of Jesus,
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

Come to the table of new life.

Receive the risen Lord.

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.**

RED ELW page 146

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Children of the Heavenly Father

Arr. Melvin Rotermund

One License #AF20210741

COMMUNION BLESSING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Holy One,

**through this meal you have made your home among us
and are making all things new.**

**Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts,
to love our enemies,
and to bring your healing to the nations.**

In the name of Jesus,

Amen.

SENDING

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

BLESSING

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,

✝ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Go, My Children, with My Blessing RED ELW #543

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 my tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.”

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.
Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House
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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Finale & Fughetta
Arr. J Kasper & F Fischer
One License #114751



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Account #73982207—6/30/2026

2026 CONFIRMATION CLASS

Jacqueline Elizabeth Christeson

Parents: Michael & Mary Christeson

Date of Birth: February 16, 2011

Date of Baptism: May 22, 2011

Sponsors: Andy Christeson, Fred Latzke, Jon Latzke

Favorite Bible Verse: Isaiah 40:31—

*³¹ but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength;
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;
they shall run and not be weary;
they shall walk and not faint.*

Peyton James Wieman

Parents: Mark Wieman and Jamie Wieman-Everson

Date of Birth: August 9, 2011

Date of Baptism: May 12, 2012

Sponsors: Ben Wieman, Pat Feltmen

Favorite Bible Verse: Psalm 104:14

*¹⁴ You cause the grass to grow for the cattle
and plants for people to cultivate,
to bring forth food from the earth*

Weekly Announcements



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

Congratulations to our Confirmation Students—Jacqueline Christeson and Peyton Wieman.

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

Coffee Hour—The confirmation youth have indicated they would like to go to Confirmation Camp at Camp House in 2027. They are looking to raise money to attend Camp. The proceeds from Coffee Hour from March through June have been designated for Camp.

Youth Retreat will be held May 22-23. The retreat is for youth in grades 6-12. We will start at 6:30pm Friday and go through 1:30pm Saturday. Sign up with Pastor Gretchen.

Summer Carnival is coming!

Please consider signing up with your family or group to make our “Paving the Way” summer fundraiser a success! Suggested activities are on the poster, but be creative and think of what you would like to do! The sign up deadline is May 17.

Date	Weekly Operating Offerings	Weekly Operating Goal	ELCA Missions	Hunger Jar	Parking Lot
5/10/2026	\$ 1,844.00	\$ 4,038.31	\$ 44.00	\$ 49.00	\$ 50.00

Worship Assistants

May 17—Confirmation

Usher: Francis Rowe, Jan Wark
Wayne & Ann Werner
Greeter: Jim & Wendy Pederson
Acolyte: Adilyn Kamps
Reader: Jacqueline Christeson
Peyton Wieman
AV Team: Elton Hazelwood
& Joe Prasad
Altar Guild: Lorraine Mielke,
Starla Schilling
Bread Maker: Dale Stern

May 24

Usher: John & Lana Woehler
Dale & Laurie Stern
Greeter: Jane Scharpe
Acolyte: Jazmyne Wark
Reader: Cassidy Battcher
AV Team: Matt & Jan Giesen

Pastor Gretchen Pierskalla

952-237-1060

pastor@zionarlington.org

Hours for the week of May 17

Monday, May 18—10a-2p

Wednesday, May 20—2:30p-4p

Thursday, May 21—1p-3p

by appointment

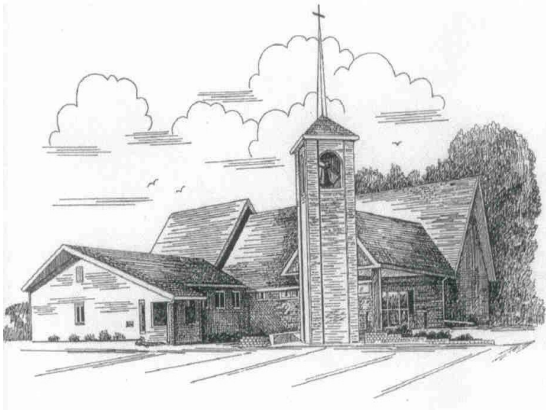
Stacy's Office Hours

Monday—Thursday, 2:30p-5:00p

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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, May 17	9:00a	Confirmation Worship w/Holy Communion Basement Reserved
Monday, May 18		June Newsletter Deadline
Thursday, May 21	10:00a	Adult Bible Study
Friday, May 22	6:30p	Start of the Youth Retreat
Saturday, May 23	1:30p	Conclusion of the Youth Retreat
Sunday, May 24	9:00a	Worship

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

