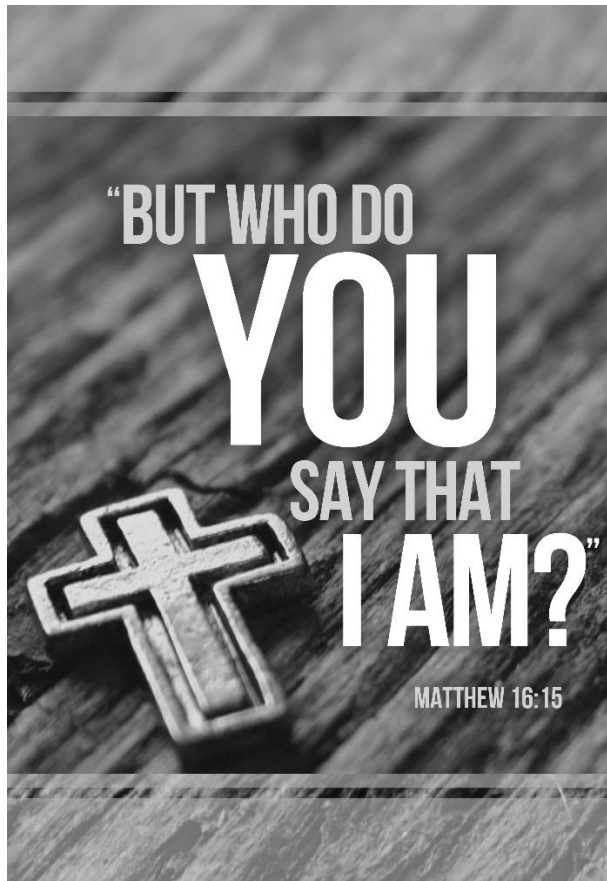


13th Sunday after Pentecost
August 23, 2026



Zion Lutheran Church
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Arlington, MN 55307
Church: 507-964-5454
Email: zion.elca.814@gmail.com
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In Isaiah the people are advised to look to their spiritual ancestors as the rock from which they were hewn. Jesus declares that the church will be built on the rock of Peter's bold confession of faith. God's word of reconciliation and God's mercy are keys to the church's mission. Paul urges us to not be conformed to this world but to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice, using our individual gifts to build up the body of Christ. From the table we go forth to offer our spiritual worship through word and deed.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

Holy, Holy, Holy

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Jesus Loves Me

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Praise God, From Whom All Blessing Flow

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WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,

we confess to you all our sins.

Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, call us back to you.

**Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.
Restore us to dwell in your peace.
In Christ's name we pray,
Amen.**

Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."
In the name of God,
Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Rest in God's love.
Amen.

HYMN

***Give Me Jesus* RED ELW #770
(Vs. 1 & 5)**

**1 In the morning when I rise,
in the morning when I rise,
in the morning when I rise,
give me Jesus.**

Refrain

**Give me Jesus,
give me Jesus.
You may have all the rest,
give me Jesus.**

**5 And when I want to sing,
and when I want to sing,
and when I want to sing,
give me Jesus. *Refrain***

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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE—*Glory be to God in Heaven*

RED ELW page 204

**Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth.
Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth:
we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.**

**Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav'n above;
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.**

**Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call;
Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:
Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father's splendor bright.
For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

**O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life.
Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly
minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

FIRST READING: Isaiah 51:1-6

Just as God had called Abraham and Sarah and given them many descendants, so now God offers comfort to Zion. God's deliverance will come soon and will never end.

¹ Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness,
you who seek the LORD.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

² Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah, who bore you,
for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him many.

³ For the LORD will comfort Zion;
he will comfort all her waste places
and will make her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the LORD;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴ Listen to me, my people,
and give heed to me, my nation,
for a teaching will go out from me
and my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵ I will bring near my deliverance swiftly;
my salvation has gone out,
and my arms will rule the peoples;
the coastlands wait for me,
and for my arm they hope.

⁶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens
and look at the earth beneath,

for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats,
but my salvation will be forever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 138

- ¹ I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart;
before the gods I will sing your praise.
- ² **I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness;
for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.**
- ³ When I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength within me.
- ⁴ **All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD,
when they have heard the words of your mouth.**
- ⁵ They will sing of the ways of the LORD,
that great is the glory of the LORD.
- ⁶ **The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty from afar.**
- ⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.
- ⁸ **You will make good your purpose for me;
O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.**

SECOND READING: Romans 12:1-8

In response to God's merciful activity, we are to worship by living holistic, God-pleasing lives. Our values and viewpoints are not molded by the time in which we live but are transformed by the Spirit's renewing work. God's grace empowers different forms of service among Christians, but all forms of ministry function to build up the body of Christ.

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. ² Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸ the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

PLEASE RISE FOR THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia RED ELW page 205

Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word.

Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.

Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL: Matthew 16:13-20

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At a climactic point in Jesus' ministry, God reveals to Peter that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God," and Jesus responds with the promise of a church that will overcome the very gates of Hades.

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴ And they said, "Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵ He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of

Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON ON THE STEPS

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less RED ELW #597
(Vs. 1 & 4)

- 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

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand.

- 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 the throne! *Refrain*

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

Merciful God, receive our prayer.

**Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the
name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

THE PEACE

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

Fairest Lord Jesus

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This Is My Father's World

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OFFERING HYMN

Praise and Thanksgiving RED ELW #689

(Vs. 1)

**1 Praise and thanksgiving, God, we would offer
for all things living, you have made good:
harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard,
hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.**

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-1984, alt.

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

Loving God,

we offer the gifts of our hearts and our hands.

Signs of your gracious love.

Help us share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance.

We ask this in the name of Jesus,

through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

SENDING

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

BLESSING

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,
✠ one God,
bless, heal, and hold you
today and always.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

O Savior, Precious Savior RED ELW #820
(Vs. 1 & 2)

- 1 My faith looks up to thee,
thou Lamb of Calvary,
Savior divine!
Now hear me while I pray,
take all my guilt away,
oh, let me from this day
be wholly thine!
- 2 May thy rich grace impart
strength to my fainting heart,
my zeal inspire;
as thou hast died for me,
oh, may my love to thee
pure, warm, and changeless be,
a living fire!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808-1887
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DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Praise to The Lord, The Almighty

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Amazing Grace

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Weekly Announcements

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

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 August is designated to Sibley County FoodShare.

Pictures for the Announcements: What are you doing this summer? Send a picture into the office to be included on the announcement slides.

Ecumenical Music In The Park will be on Sunday, August 30 at 5:30 at Four Seasons Park. Refreshments available for purchase from 5-6:30p. An offering of canned food or cash will be taken for the Sibley County Food Shelf.

Blessing of the Backpacks will be held on Sunday, August 30.

Worship Assistants

August 23

Usher: Mary Sylwester, Scott Bergs
Deb Stenzel, Starla Schilling
Greeter: Alex & Cassidy Battcher
Acolyte: Jack Ruehling
Reader: Elton Hazelwood
AV Team: Tim Michaelis & Joe Prasad

August 30

Usher: Mary Lietz, Nancy Mathwig
Gordon & Barb Bergs
Greeter: Gordon & Barb Bergs
Acolyte: Daphne Hazelwood
Reader: Bruce Kallhoff
AV Team: Matt & Jan Giesen

Date	Weekly Operating Offerings	Weekly Operating Goal	Hunger Jar	Parking Lot
8/16/2026	\$ 1,212.00	\$ 4,038.31	\$ 12.85	\$ 525.00

Zion Lutheran Church services can be viewed on:

YouTube at

www.youtube.com

Search: Zion ELCA Arlington MN

www.zionarlington.org



Zion Lutheran Church ELCA

This Week at Zion:

Sunday, August 23	9:00a 6-8p	Worship w/Holy Communion Bonfire (Grades 6-12)
Tuesday, August 25	10:00a	Quilting
Wednesday, August 26	9:00a 11:00a	Visitation for Lyle Woehler Service for Lyle Woehler
Thursday, August 27	10:00a	Adult Bible Study
Saturday, August 29		Basement Reserved
Sunday, August 30	9:00a 5:30p	Contemporary Worship Ecumenical Music In The Park

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