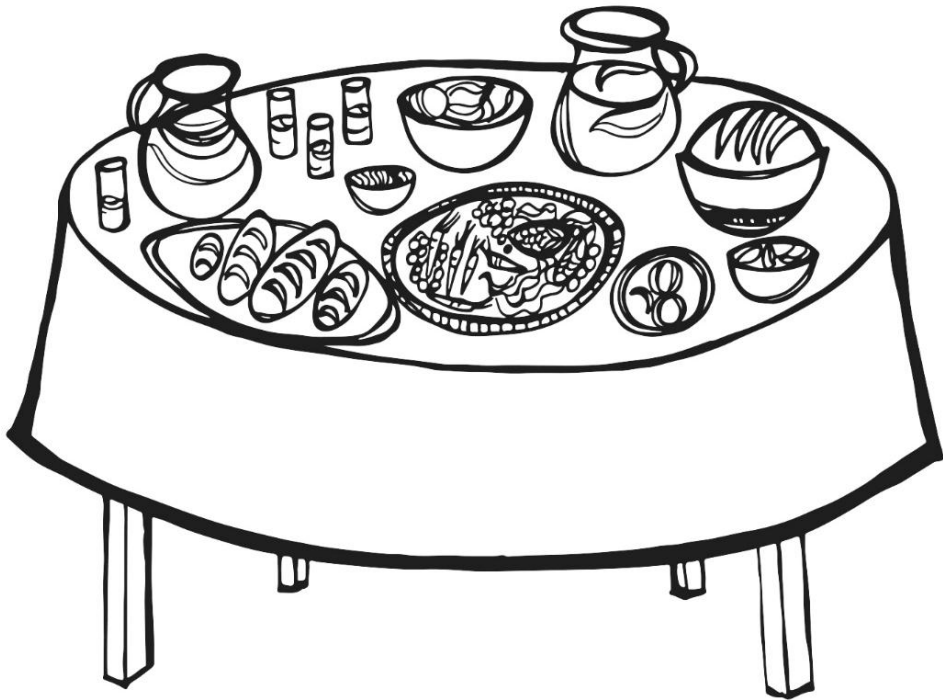


20th Sunday after Pentecost
October 11, 2026



Zion Lutheran Church
814 West Brooks St. P.O. Box 371
Arlington, MN 55307
Church: 507-964-5454
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Web: zionarlington.org // YouTube: Zion ELCA Arlington MN

In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus' parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungering and thirsting for the abundant life of God.

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

Holy, Holy, Holy

One License #106281

Andante Religioso

One License #1020297

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,

**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.**

**Creation groans from overuse.
Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.
Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.
Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love
to others.
Turn our hearts back to you.
Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.
Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

Hear this good news:

We have peace with God through † Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.
Amen.

HYMN

***Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies* RED ELW #553
(Vs. 1 & 3)**

- 1 Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true and only light,
Sun of righteousness, arise,
triumph o'er the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near;
Daystar, in my heart appear.**
- 3 Visit then this soul of mine,
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
fill me, radiancy divine,
scatter all my unbelief;
more and more thyself display,
shining to the perfect day.**

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—*Now the Feast and Celebration*

RED ELW #167

Refrain

**Now the feast and celebration,
all of creation sings for joy
to the God of life and love and freedom;
praise and glory forevermore!**

- 1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain,
whose blood has freed and united us
to be one great people of God. *Refrain***
- 2 Power and riches, wisdom and might,
all honor and glory to Christ forever. *Refrain***
- 3 For God has come to dwell with us,
to make us people of God;
to make all things new. *Refrain***

Text: Marty Haugen b. 1950

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lord of the feast,
**you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with
abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just,
and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus
Christ, our Savior and Lord.**
Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 25:1-9

After a hymn of praise acknowledging God as a shelter for the poor, the prophet portrays a wonderful victory banquet at which death—which in ancient Canaan was depicted as a monster swallowing up everyone—will be swallowed up forever. The prophet urges celebration of this victory of salvation.

¹ O LORD, you are my God;

I will exalt you; I will praise your name,
for you have done wonderful things,
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

² For you have made the city a heap,
the fortified city a ruin;

the palace of foreigners is a city no more;
it will never be rebuilt.

³ Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.

⁴ For you have been a refuge to the poor,
a refuge to the needy in their distress,
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.

When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,

⁵ the noise of foreigners like heat in a dry place,
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

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: Psalm 23 (Unison)

¹ The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

² He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

³ He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

⁴ Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

⁵ Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

SECOND READING: Philippians 4:1-9

Though writing from prison and facing an uncertain future, Paul calls on the Philippians to rejoice and give thanks to God no matter what the circumstance. God's peace is with us and binds together our hearts and minds in Jesus Christ, especially when things around us do not seem peaceful.

¹ My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

² I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³ Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my coworkers, whose names are in the book of life.

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

PLEASE RISE FOR THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Open Our Eyes, Lord BC #176

**Open our eyes, Lord,
We want to see Jesus,
To reach out and touch him
And say that we love Him.
Open our ears, Lord,
Help us to listen,
Open our eyes, Lord,
We want to see Jesus.**

CCLI #1572

GOSPEL: Matthew 22:1-14

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus tells a parable indicating that the blessings of God's kingdom are available to all, but the invitation is not to be taken lightly.

¹ Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ² "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴ Again

he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' ⁵ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶ while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸ Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹ Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' ¹⁰ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad, so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹ "But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹² and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. ¹³ Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' ¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

STEWARDSHIP ON THE STEPS

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Now We Join in Celebration RED ELW #462
(Vs. 1 & 2)

**1 Now we join in celebration
at our Savior's invitation,
dressed no more in spirit somber,
clothed instead in joy and wonder;
for the Lord of all existence,
putting off divine transcendence,
stoops again in love to meet us,
with his very life to feed us.**

**2 Lord, as round this feast we gather,
fill our hearts with holy rapture!
For this bread and cup of blessing
are for us the sure possessing
of your loving deed on Calv'ry,
of your living self, our vict'ry,
pledge of your unfailing presence,
foretaste here of heav'nly gladness.**

Text: Joel W. Lundeen

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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

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE PEACE

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

My Heart Ever Faithful

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OFFERING HYMN

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful RED ELW #184

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 dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer.
Grace our table with your presence,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of creation,

you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.

All blessings are from you;

make us generous with what we have.

Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts

in service to you and in love to our neighbors,

today and always.

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 144

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of pow'r and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

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

Christ invites you to this table.

All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

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

RED ELW page 146

**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

Take My Life, That I May Be

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My Shepherd, You Supply My Need

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Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

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COMMUNION BLESSING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Sustaining God,

with this bread and cup,

you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.

By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.

Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,

following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

Amen.

SENDING

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

BLESSING

The God of love

draw you into full accord and one mind,

in the body of Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope

grant you strength and joy in all circumstances

through the interceding of the Spirit.

Amen.

The God of grace
✠ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

***Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!* RED ELW #873**
(Vs. 1, 2 & 6)

- 1 Rejoice, ye pure in heart!**
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing;
your festal banner wave on high,
the cross of Christ your king.

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

- 2 With voice as full and strong**
as ocean's surging praise,
send forth the sturdy hymns of old,
the psalms of ancient days. *Refrain*

- 6 Praise God who reigns on high,**
the Lord whom we adore:
the Father, Son, and Spirit blest,
one God forevermore. *Refrain*

Text: Edward H. Plumptre, 1821-1891, alt.
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DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Come, Ye, Thankful People
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Account #73982207—6/30/2026

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 October is designated to Feed My Starving Children.

Our sympathy to the family of Rhoda Woehler. Rhoda passed away on Wednesday, October 7. Funeral services are pending.

Harvest Dinner dates:

Tuesday, October 20 at 9:00a – Lefse Making

Wednesday, October 28 at 1:00p – Squash & Cranberry Sauce Making

Trick or Treat on Main Street – Board of Education has a collection bin in the Narthex for candy donations. Thank you for supporting this outreach into our community. Contact Cindy Vazquez or Pastor Gretchen if you'd like to help with distributing candy on October 31.

Date	Weekly Operating Offerings	Weekly Operating Goal	ELCA Missions	Hunger Jar	Parking Lot
10/4/2026	\$ 4,120.00	\$ 4,038.31	\$ 770.00	\$ 39.00	\$ 60.00

Zion Lutheran Church services can be viewed on:

YouTube at

www.youtube.com

Search: Zion ELCA Arlington MN

www.zionarlington.org

Worship Assistants

October 11

Usher: Jon Hazelwood, Elton Hazelwood
Francis Rowe, Jan Wark
Greeter: Matt & Jan Giesen
Acolyte: Murdock Krueger
Reader: Starla Schilling
AV Team: Tim Michaelis & Matt Giesen
Altar Guild: Starla Schilling,
Stacy Haggenmiller
Bread Maker: Larry Schiroo

October 18

Usher: Jim & Wendy Pederson
Jane Scharpe, Dave Breyer
Greeter: Tim & Stacy Haggenmiller
Acolyte: Emmilia Wark
Reader: Jane Scharpe
AV Team: Tim Michaelis & Joe Prasad

Pastor Gretchen Pierskalla

952-237-1060

pastor@zionarlington.org

Hours for the week of October 11

Monday, October 12 – 1p-4p

Tuesday, October 13 – 1p-4p

Wednesday, October 14 – 2:30p-5p

Stacy's Office Hours

Monday—Thursday, 2:30p-5:00p



Zion Lutheran Church ELCA

This Week at Zion:

Sunday, October 11	9:00a 10:00a	Worship w/Holy Communion Sunday School
Tuesday, October 13	10:00a	Zion Quilting
Wednesday, October 14	6:00p 7:00p	Committee Night Church Council
Thursday, October 15	10:00a	Adult Bible Study
Friday, October 16		Newsletter Deadline
Sunday, October 18	9:00a	Worship

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

