Welcome!



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

101 N. Greenwood Street, Tamaqua, PA 18252 (570) 668-2180 - Email: zionlcof@verizon.net

Our Mission: Empowered and Inspired by God to bring others to Christ.

The 9th Sunday after Pentecost

August 10, $2025 \sim 9:00$ am

The Liturgy of Word and Sacrament

Jesus says, "It is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." It is God's promise from the beginning—to Abraham, to the early church, and to the "little flock" of which we are a part in today's assembly. Faith, God's baptismal gift, trusts the promises of God. Have no fear.

*Congregation please stand

The Pre-service Music

~ The Gathering ~

* The Confession and Forgiveness

IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, AND OF THE + SON, AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. Amen.

BAPTIZED INTO CHRIST, LET US CONFESS OUR SIN.

Please kneel if able.

MERCIFUL GOD,

you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

YOU BELONG TO CHRIST JESUS AND YOU ARE GOD'S CHILDREN THROUGH FAITH. IN THE CROSS OF + CHRIST, AND THROUGH THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN. CLOTHED WITH CHRIST, YOU ARE A NEW CREATION.

Amen.

* The Gathering Hymn

"God Himself is Present"

No. 249

* The 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.

* The Kyrie (ELW No. 175)

Lord, have mercy on us; O Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy on us; O Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy on us; O Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy on us; O Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy on us; O Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy on us; O Lord, have mercy.

* The Hymn of Praise "Gloria" (ELW Pg. 176)

Gloria, gloria, glory to God on high!

Gloria, gloria, glory to God on high!

And on earth peace to God's people. Glory to God.

And on earth peace to God's people. Glory to God!

* The Prayer of the Day

THE LORD BE WITH YOU

(Spoken) And also with you.

LET US PRAY:

Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The Special Music – Elena Coleman

~The Word~

The First Lesson Genesis 15:1-6

God promises childless and aging Abram that a child of his own will be his heir and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God's promise, and through this faith he is considered righteous.

(After the reading)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm 33:12-22 Tune "All People That on Earth Do Dwell" No.245

HAPPY IS THE NATION WHOSE GOD IS THE LORD, THE PEOPLE WHOM HE HAS CHOSEN AS HIS HERITAGE.

God is our helper and our shield. Let gladsome songs his praises yield.

THE LORD LOOKS DOWN FROM HEAVEN; HE SEES ALL HUMANKIND. FROM WHERE HE SITS ENTHRONED HE WATCHES ALL THE INHABITANTS OF THE EARTH; HE FORMS ALL THEIR THOUGHTS AND SEES ALL THEIR DEEDS.

The armies of the world must fall, Before the Lord, who rules them all.

TRULY THE EYE OF THE LORD IS ON THOSE WHO FEAR HIM, ON THOSE WHO HOPE IN HIS STEADFAST LOVE, TO DELIVER THEIR SOUL FROM DEATH, AND TO KEEP THEM ALIVE IN FAMINE.

God is our helper and our shield. Let gladsome songs his praises yield.

LET YOUR STEADFAST LOVE, O LORD, BE UPON US, EVEN AS WE HOPE IN YOU.

Lord, bless us with your mercy true. Behold, we place our hope in you!

The Second Lesson Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God enact in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face an unknown future and to receive the promise of God.

(After the reading)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

Thanks be to God.

* The Gospel Acclamation (ELW Pg. 179)

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia!

* The Holy Gospel St. Luke 12:32-40

Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully into God's reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.

(Before the Gospel)

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT LUKE THE 12TH CHAPTER:

(Spoken) Glory to you, O Lord.

(After the Gospel)

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

(Spoken) Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon

Pastor Cindy White

*The Hymn of the Day

"O Master, Let Me Walk with You"

No. 492

* The Apostles' Creed

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

* The Prayers of Intercession

IN SOLIDARITY WITH ALL CREATION, WE JOIN OUR VOICE TO THE VOICE OF THE WHOLE CHURCH AND PRAY FOR THE NEEDS OF THE WORLD.

A brief silence.

KEEP THE HEART OF YOUR CHURCH SET FIRMLY IN YOU SO THAT, WITH LAMPS LIT AND ATTENTIVE TO CHRIST'S CALL AT ANY TIME OR PLACE, YOUR PEOPLE ARE READY TO RESPOND WITH FAITHFUL ACTION FOR THE SAKE OF THE WORLD. GOD OF GRACE,

hear our prayer.

WORLDS WERE PREPARED BY YOUR WORD. SPEAK HEALING AND PROTECTION UPON THE EARTH, ESPECIALLY WHERE LIFE AND HABITATS ARE THREATENED. GUIDE THE WORK OF ASTRONOMERS AND ALL WHO TEACH US ABOUT THE STARS AND GALAXIES. GOD OF GRACE,

hear our prayer.

YOU KNOW THE ACTIONS AND DEEDS OF THE NATIONS. TURN HUMANITY AWAY FROM INSTRUMENTS OF WAR AND VIOLENCE. FASHION THE HEARTS OF WORLD LEADERS TO WORK FOR PEACE. GOD OF GRACE,

hear our prayer.

LET YOUR LOVINGKINDNESS BE ON THOSE IN NEED ESPECIALLY FORREST, MARGARET, STEVE, CHRISTINE, EDDIE, GEORGE, JAN, AND ALL OUR MEMBERS WHO ARE HOMEBOUND. ASSURE ALL WHO ARE AFRAID OR EXPERIENCING GREAT UNCERTAINTY THAT YOUR PROMISES ARE SURE. GOD OF GRACE,

hear our prayer.

CALM THE FEARS OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES WHO SET OUT, NOT KNOWING WHERE THEY GO. PROVIDE SHELTER, SUSTENANCE, PROTECTION FROM HARM, AND WELCOME. BLESS THE WORK OF GLOBAL REFUGE AND OTHER MEANS OF SUPPORT AND ADVOCACY. GOD OF GRACE.

hear our prayer.

WE CELEBRATE THE ANCESTORS IN THE FAITH WHO BUILT THEIR LIVES ON YOUR PROMISES AND DIED HAVING SEEN THEM ONLY FROM A DISTANCE. SUSTAIN US IN OUR HOPE OF THINGS NOT SEEN. GOD OF GRACE,

hear our prayer.

GOD OF GRACE AND MERCY, (PLEASE SHARE ANY PERSONAL PRAYER PETITIONS) HEAR OUR PETITIONS THAT WE SPEAK OUT LOUD AND THE ONES THAT WE HOLD IN OUR HEARTS. GOD OF GRACE.

hear our prayer.

TRUSTING IN YOUR LOVINGKINDNESS, WE PLACE OUR PRAYER AND HOPE IN YOU, IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST.

Amen.

* The Peace of Christ

THE PEACE OF THE LORD BE WITH YOU ALWAYS.

And also with you.

~The Meal~

The Offering and Offertory

Zion members, please use your envelopes for contributions so that your offering may be officially recorded. Please mail your envelopes to Zion Lutheran Church 101 N. Greenwood Street Tamaqua, PA 18252 or visit ziontamaqua.com for our Vanco option.

* The Offertory Procession "Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful" (ELW Hymn No. 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.

* The Offertory Prayer

LET US PRAY: CREATOR GOD, IN YOUR WISDOM YOU BRING FORTH ALL THAT IS GOOD AND THE HARVEST IS PLENTIFUL. STRENGTHEN US AT YOUR TABLE WITH THESE GIFTS OF THE EARTH AND OUR LABOR, THAT WE MAY WORK FOR THE GOOD OF ALL, THROUGH JESUS CHRIST, OUR SAVIOR.

Amen.

* The Great Thanksgiving

* The Preface and Sanctus (ELW Pg. 180)

THE LORD BE WITH YOU

(Spoken) 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.

IT IS INDEED RIGHT.....THEIR UNENDING HYMN: (ELW Pg. 181)

Holy, holy, holy Lord God, God of might and power; holy is the Lord.

Holy, holy, holy, holy Lord God, God of might and power; holy is the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna here on earth.

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

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna here on earth.

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

* The Prayer of Thanksgiving

HOLY, MIGHTY, AND MERCIFUL LORD, HEAVEN AND EARTH ARE FULL OF YOUR GLORY.....POUR OUT UPON US THE SPIRIT OF YOUR LOVE, O LORD, AND UNITE THE WILLS OF ALL WHO SHARE THIS HEAVENLY FOOD, THE BODY AND BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST, OUR LORD; TO WHOM, WITH YOU AND THE HOLY SPIRIT, BE ALL HONOR AND GLORY, NOW AND FOREVER.

Amen.

* The Lord's Prayer

JESUS, REMEMBER US IN YOUR KINGDOM; AND TEACH US TO PRAY:

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

* The Invitation to the Holy Meal

THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS SET BEFORE YOU. EAT AND REJOICE.

* The Agnus Dei "Lamb of God" (ELW Pg. 182)

O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

The Distribution

All who are baptized and believe that Christ is truly present in the Sacrament are welcome to commune when we celebrate the Lord's Supper. Zion members, please complete a Communion card once a year for our records.

* The Post-Communion Blessing

THE BODY AND BLOOD OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST STRENGTHEN YOU AND KEEP YOU IN HIS GRACE.

Amen.

* The Post Communion Prayer

LET US PRAY: MOTHERING GOD, YOU GATHERED US TO YOUR TABLE AND WE DRANK DEEPLY OF YOUR GRACE. SEND US OUT BY YOUR SPIRIT TO LOVE OUR NEIGHBORS AS OURSELVES AND PROCLAIM YOUR LOVE IN JESUS' NAME.

Amen.

~The Sending~

* The Blessing

THE LOVE OF GOD ABOUND IN YOU; THE GRACE OF OUR SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST FILL YOUR HEARTS; AND THE LIFE OF THE SPIRIT + BLESS YOU AND GIVE YOU PEACE.

(Spoken) Amen.

* The Dismissal

GO IN PEACE. LIVE BY THE SPIRIT.

Thanks be to God.

* The Sending Hymn

"O God, Our Help in ages Past"

No. 320

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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First Reading: Genesis 15:1-6

¹ After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ² But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³ And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴ But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵ He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶ And he believed the LORD, and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Second Reading: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

¹ Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰ For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹ By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered him faithful who had promised. ¹² Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

¹³ All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴ for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵ If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

Gospel: Luke 12:32-40

[Jesus said:] ³² "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵ "Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶ be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷ Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸ If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹ "But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰ You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

August 17, 2025 readings are: Jeremiah 23:23-29 Psalm 82

Hebrews 11:29-12:2 Luke 12:49-56

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

August 9-10, 2025

*If you need assistance, please see one of the ushers in the back of the church; Large Print Bulletins are available. Grape juice is available in the tray for those who wish not to partake of the wine. Please Silence your cell phones during service. A Family Room is available for use during or after services, located across from the office. A changing station is available for your convenience in the restroom across from the Family Room. We respectfully ask that you refrain from taking photos during the service. Opportunities are always available after the service. Welcome visitors, please sign our guest book. Thank you.

GIFTS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

THE ALTAR CANDLES are given to the Glory of God and
In loving memory of her parents, Arlington & Yustina Hawk by Dave & Darlene Fetterman
THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God and
In loving memory of my brother, Carl Gerber by sister, Marlene McLaughlin & family
THE BULLETINS are given to the Glory of God and
In honor of the August 13th birthday of grandson, Sam Smolar by Denise I. Smolar

Please remember the following in your prayers: Forrest, Margaret, Steve Ristila, Christine Zimmerman, Eddie Smith, George Weaver, Jan McRoberts, and all our members who are homebound.

A reminder that both a record of communion AND a record of contribution is necessary to maintain voting active member status. Please remember to complete a communion card and to use your offering envelopes. Thank you, Church Council

Welcome!!

Parish office phone number and fax is 570-668-2180.

Parish office email address is zionlcof@verizon.net

Parish website is www.ziontamaqua.com

Parish Office Hours- Monday & Wednesday: 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Tuesday: 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

Zion's 2024 Church Council officers: Michael Haspe, President, Brian Lawfer, Vice-President, Amanda Hascin, Secretary, Dave Gensure, Treasurer, and Ann Marie Hadesty, Financial Secretary. Other members of Council include Arlene Derr, Glenn Fritzinger, Thomas Graham, Carol Hartung, Brittany Scalfani Mary Ruth Taylor, Michelle Valentine; and Shelly Woodring; if you have suggestions or concerns, please seek out a member of Council so that we can promptly address the needs of the congregation.

This Week in Our Church

9:00 The Service of Word & Sacrament / Baptism

MONDAY

7:00 Finance Meeting

FRIDAY

5:30 Diaper Depot Prep

SATURDAY

9:00 Diaper Depot Distribution

6:00 Saturday Evening Worship

SUNDAY, August 17, 2025

9:00 The Service of Word & Sacrament

Supporting Zion's Ministries

"Empowered and inspired by God to bring others to Christ"

Received 8/3/25 in support of Zion Ministries:

From our gifts

\$0.00

From Thrift Store

\$0.00

From Endowment (other) \$0.00

\$0.00

From Culinary

Received for Endowment:

\$0.00

\$0.00

Received for Capital Campaign:

Received year-to-date for Zion's mission/ministries:

From offering/gifts/memorials: \$80,478.88 From Thrift Store: \$4,213.67* From Endowment: \$22,905.00

From Culinary: \$11,800.00

Year-to-date total for Zion's mission/ministries: \$119,397.55

Thank you for your gifts. Your gifts allow us to share the word of God and the love of Jesus with our congregation and our community.

Please Note: Melody will be on vacation, August 11th through August 14th. She will be returning on Monday, August 18th. If you need assistance, please call Pastor Cindy at 610-674-2072. Thank you for your cooperation.

^{*} Thrift Store donates half of income to Outreach total income - \$8,427.34

Upcoming Events

August 18 – Newsletter Deadline August 20 – Peach Social September 5 – Blessings Thrift Shop

Zion's Blessings Thrift Shop is on Friday, September 5th from 9 am to 5 pm. The sale features gently used clothing for all ages, toys, books, and general household items. Come take a look! Limited Take-Out Menu. Thank you all for your continued support!



Peach Social

Wednesday, August 20, 2025 4:00 until 6:00 or sellout Cake, Ice cream, and Fresh Peaches -\$6.00 Additional food items will be available.

The culinary crew is asking for your help in providing plain white or yellow cakes with no icing. Help will be needed on Tuesday, August 19th to prepare for the social time TBA. Please contact Glenn at (484) 560-8211 or Mary Ruth at 570-668-4451 for more information. We hope to see you there!

Altar Flower and Bulletin Sponsors needed for 2025 - The Altar Flower and Bulletin Sponsor list for 2025 is on the bulletin board. The costs of the flowers are \$42.60; individuals will be billed from the florist. The cost of the bulletin sponsorship is \$16.00; monies are due when you place your name on the list. Please remember to fill out a card with your honorarium or memorial, this information is needed for the bulletin. Please do not sign up without filling out a form. Please contact the church office if you have questions. Thank you in advance for your sponsorship!

Blessings Thrift — Please ensure items being donated are "gently" used. Clothing and bedding should be free of holes, stains and pet hair. We cannot accept items with company names, advertisements or personal name labels (such as those from nursing homes or hospitals). Electronics and small appliances should be in good working order. Toys and games must include all pieces. Due to an overabundance of donations, we ask that you call the church office at (570) 668-2180 and leave your contact information. Your name will be put on a list, and someone will contact you when we are able to accept your items. Please DO NOT leave bags or boxes at random places in the church, on the stage or outside of the building. Thank you for your cooperation. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

DEADLINE: All information for the **September 2025 issue of the "Herald"** is due at the church office no later than **Monday**, **August 18**, **2025**. You may e-mail your information to <u>zionlcof@verizon.net</u> or stop in during regular office hours. Thank you for your co-operation!

In talking with the people John says in Luke 3:11 "Whoever has two tunics should share with him who has none, and whoever has food should do the same." This is a reminder that the People Pantry is being used heavily and in need of donations. While grocery shopping pick up an extra item to share with our less fortunate community neighbors. "Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7



COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP CONTACTS:

Altar Guild	Michelle Valentine	azaleamichelle02@gmail.com
Acolyte Director	Joe Ansbach	717-466-3901
Blessings Thrift Sale	Judy Brennan	jdymatteo@yahoo.com
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Campaign	(Michael Haspe –	
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