

SATURDAY EVENING SERVICE
June 21, 2025
ZION LUTHERAN, TAMAQUA, PA

Note: Pastor White will ask for prayer requests at the start of this evening's service. Worshipers are also invited to add their own prayers during Prayers of the People. We will also be using our cell phones for the Sharing of the Peace. You may wish to select someone ahead of time to send your message of peace and love.

This evening's Joyful Noise benefits the Tamaqua Library to support programs that the library has available to our community. Please be generous with your spare change.

GATHERING

Song: "Who Am I?" – Casting Crowns

Gathering Words

Let us begin with the Gathering Words.

This is the day the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it

Come into the light of God's love.

Fear cannot separate us from its blessing.

Come to the house of healing and hope.

God's love makes us whole.

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

Let us pray together: **Open our hearts today, O Lord, to feel the powerful strength and love you have for us. Help us to listen, not only with our ears, but with our spirits for your words of compassion and healing. Enable us to become more faithful disciples for you; for we ask this in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN.**

Greetings

Sharing of Peace

May the Peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Sharing by text

We invite you to take out your cell phone now and send a text message of joy and love to someone who isn't in worship this evening.

Godsightings: Where have you seen God at work in your life?

THE WORD (Luke 8:26-39)

Gospel reading

Holy God, may we taste and see the good things you are doing in our lives.

May the words we hear inspire us to be your faithful followers.

Amen.

A reading from Luke: ²⁶They sailed to the region of the Gerasenes,^[a] which is across the lake from Galilee. ²⁷When Jesus stepped ashore, he was met by a demon-possessed man from the town. For a long time, this man had not worn clothes or lived in a house, but had lived in the tombs. ²⁸When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell at his feet, shouting at the top of his voice, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, don't torture me!" ²⁹For Jesus had commanded the impure spirit to come out of the man. Many times it had seized him, and though he was chained hand and foot and kept under guard, he had broken his chains and had been driven by the demon into solitary places.

³⁰Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" "Legion," he replied, because many demons had gone into him. ³¹And they begged Jesus repeatedly not to order them to go into the Abyss.

³²A large herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside. The demons begged Jesus to let them go into the pigs, and he gave them permission. ³³When the demons came out of the man, they went into the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

³⁴When those tending the pigs saw what had happened, they ran off and reported this in the town and countryside, ³⁵and the people went out to see what had happened. When they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone out, sitting at Jesus' feet, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. ³⁶Those who had seen it told the people how the

demon-possessed man had been cured.³⁷ Then all the people of the region of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them, because they were overcome with fear. So he got into the boat and left.

³⁸ The man from whom the demons had gone out begged to go with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹ "Return home and tell how much God has done for you." So the man went away and told all over town how much Jesus had done for him.

The Gospel of Our Lord

Praise to you, O Christ!

This evening's message – Pastor Cindy White

Praise & Prayer

The Offering Moment

"Doxology"

Let us pray together: **Healer of life's ills, bring healing and strength through the gifts we bring before you now. Bring hope, faith, and love, that our church may be an instrument of healing and a vessel of hope for a hurting world. Amen.**

Any responses to tonight's text greetings?

Prayers of the People

God calls us to be a praying people. Let us join in prayer, offering our praise, thanksgiving, and concerns to God ...

Lord in your mercy ...

Hear our prayer

The Lord's Prayer – Spoken

The sending

Announcements

Benediction

And all God's people say

Thanks be to God.

Sending song: "Amazing Grace/My Chains Are Gone" - Chris Tomlin

Thank you for worshiping with us this evening.