

SATURDAY EVENING SERVICE
June 28, 2025
ZION LUTHERAN, TAMAQUA, PA

Note: Deb Davies 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.

GATHERING

Video: "Prayer for America"

Song: "American the Beautiful" – Michael W. Smith

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

Throughout the ages, disciples have said,

"I will follow you wherever you go."

**Lord, give us the freedom to follow you
in the ways of love.**

We come from busy homes, filled with little time
to consider Christ in our lives.

**Lord, give us the strength to follow you
in the ways of peace.**

In times of struggle, we look to God for help.

**Lord, give us the opportunity to follow you
in the ways of kindness.**

This evening, we celebrate the Holy Spirit,
who shows us the joy of following God.

**Lord, give us the patience to follow you
in the ways of faith. Amen.**

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: **Gracious Lord, you have blessed us with freedom—freedom to follow or to turn away; freedom to love or to hate; freedom to heal or to hurt. You ask only that we follow your ways, loving our neighbors as ourselves. In the midst of our turbulent lives, help us find teachers to show us the gifts you set within us. And help us claim these gifts today. Amen**

Greetings – Deb Davies

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 9:51-62)

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: ⁵¹ As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem. ⁵² And he sent messengers on ahead, who went into a Samaritan village to get things ready for him; ⁵³ but the people there did not welcome him, because he was heading for Jerusalem. ⁵⁴ When the disciples James and John saw this, they asked, "Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven to destroy them^[a]?"⁵⁵ But Jesus turned and rebuked them. ⁵⁶ Then he and his disciples went to another village.

⁵⁷ As they were walking along the road, a man said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." ⁵⁸ Jesus replied, "Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head."

⁵⁹ He said to another man, "Follow me." But he replied, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." ⁶⁰ Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God."

⁶¹ Still another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say goodbye to my family." ⁶² Jesus replied, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God."

The Gospel of Our Lord

Praise to you, O Christ!

This evening's message – Deb Davies

Praise & Prayer

The Offering Moment

"Doxology"

Let us pray together: **Receive our humble offerings, O Lord, for your work in the world. Bless those who give, those who send, and those who will receive these gifts. May our offering sow seeds of hope and bear the fruit of love wherever they are sown. Amen**

Any responses to tonight's text greetings?

Prayers of the People

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: "This Is My Song" – Lloyd Stone

Thank you for worshiping with us this evening.