

SATURDAY EVENING COMMUNION SERVICE
SEPTEMBER 20, 2025
ZION LUTHERAN, TAMAQUA, PA

Note: This evening's service includes communion. Please make sure you have a communion cup. 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.

This evening's Joyful Noise benefits Doctors Without Borders provides medical care where it is needed most in 70 countries. Most of their funding comes from small donations. Please be generous.

GATHERING

Video: "Communion"

Gathering song: "In Remembrance of Me: - Robert Kochis

Gathering Words – Pastor Cindy White

This is the day the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it

Search for the Lord each day.

God waits where we least expect it.

Search for the balm in Gilead.

God brings healers in our need.

Cry out to the Lord in times of distress.

God comes speedily to meet us.

Come! Worship the One who hears our pleas.

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: **Great Healer, be our balm of Gilead, for we ache to be made whole. Come to us in times of trial and heal our sin-sick souls.**

Amid those who prey on your little ones, help us live faithfully as children of light. May we be found faithful in a little, that you may entrust us with much. Amen.

Welcome

Sharing of Peace

May the Peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Reception of new members

Antwan Laquan Gibson, Donna Marie Yeager Gibson and Shane Andrew Espada.

Introduction of new members

DEAR FRIENDS, WE GIVE THANKS FOR THE GIFT OF BAPTISM AND FOR ANTWAN, DONNA MARIE AND SHANE, ONES WITH US IN THE BODY OF CHRIST, WHOM WE WELCOME AS NEW MEMBERS INTO THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF THIS CONGREGATION.

The Apostles' Creed

WITH THE WHOLE CHURCH, LET US CONFESS OUR FAITH.

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.

Address and Questions

IN BAPTISM, WE ARE WELCOMED INTO THE BODY OF CHRIST AND SENT TO SHARE IN THE MISSION OF GOD. WE ARE CALLED TO LIVE AMONG GOD'S FAITHFUL PEOPLE, TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD AND SHARE IN THE LORD'S SUPPER, TO PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS OF GOD IN CHRIST THROUGH WORD AND DEED, TO SERVE ALL PEOPLE, FOLLOWING THE EXAMPLE OF JESUS, AND TO STRIVE FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE IN ALL THE EARTH.

BROTHERS AND SISTER IN CHRIST, DO YOU INTEND TO CONTINUE IN THE COVENANT OF YOUR BAPTISM AMONG GOD'S PEOPLE IN THIS PLACE?

(New members) **I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

PEOPLE OF GOD, DO YOU PROMISE TO SUPPORT AND PRAY FOR THESE NEW MEMBERS IN THEIR LIFE IN CHRIST?

(Congregation) **We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

LET US WELCOME THESE NEW BROTHERS AND SISTER IN CHRIST TO THIS COMMUNITY OF FAITH.

(Congregation) **We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

Godsightings

Where have you seen God at work in your life?

THE WORD

Gospel reading – (Luke 16:1-13)

God invites us to learn from His holy word.

We open our hearts and minds to the wisdom God is sharing.

A reading from Luke: **16** Jesus told his disciples: “There was a rich man whose manager was accused of wasting his possessions. ² So he called him in and asked him, ‘What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your management, because you cannot be manager any longer.’

³ “The manager said to himself, ‘What shall I do now? My master is taking away my job. I’m not strong enough to dig, and I’m ashamed to beg— ⁴ I know what I’ll do so that, when I lose my job here, people will welcome me into their houses.’

⁵ “So he called in each one of his master’s debtors. He asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’

⁶ “‘Nine hundred gallons^[a] of olive oil,’ he replied.

“The manager told him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it four hundred and fifty.’

⁷ “Then he asked the second, ‘And how much do you owe?’

“A thousand bushels^[b] of wheat,’ he replied.

“He told him, ‘Take your bill and make it eight hundred.’

⁸ “The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly. For the people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light. ⁹ I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings.

¹⁰ “Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much.¹¹ So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? ¹² And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else’s property, who will give you property of your own?

¹³ “No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.”

The Gospel of Our Lord
Praise to You, O Christ!

Today’s message – Pastor Cindy White

COMMUNION

The Offering Moment

“Doxology” – The Vagle Brothers

Let us pray together: **You call us to be wise with our riches, O God, that your realm may be blessed for the benefit of all. May we be found faithful in a little, that you may entrust us to be faithful in much. We offer you these gifts in gratitude for your love. May they bring your healing and light to those in needs. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

Here at the table, we see most clearly that we are part of the body of Christ. We are no longer divided into people of different ages, different ideas, different backgrounds, different gifts.

Here unique individuals become a single body, made richer for the multitude of gifts shared. Here, we feast on one bread and one cup, and become one body in service to the world.

The preparation – Please remain seated

God be with you.

And also with you.

Open your hearts.

We open them to God.

Let us give thanks to God.

We offer our thanks and praise.

It is right to praise you, O God, for you are the Ground of our being, in whom we live and move. At the beginning you created the galaxies and planets, our sun, the earth and moon, plants and animals, individuals and nations, every substance and spirit.

You gave us your creative spirit to make friendships and families, art and music, love and compassion.

You gave us power to acquire the secrets of our mother earth, to honor her and care for her, as she cares for us. And so we join with all the creation that praises you, in every time and place.

God of eternity, spirit and matter all express your splendor.

We take this bread and wine, and we pray that by your Word and Spirit we who eat and drink them may know a closer experience of your presence. On the night before Jesus died, he shared food with his disciples. He took bread, blessed and broke it, and giving it to them said: "Take and eat, this is my body which is given for you and for many. Do this to remember me," He took wine, blessed it, and giving it to them said: "Drink this all of you. This is my blood which is shed for you and for many; do this to remember me".

To God be glory forever. Amen.

We who are many are one body

For we all share in the one bread

The gifts of God for the people of God. Come let us receive this Holy Sacrament remembering that Jesus died for us, and hold him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

The Distribution

Post-Communion prayer

Loving God, you have created all humanity in your image and likeness, and have revealed your plan and purpose in calling us your beloved.

We commit ourselves to you.

As we have shared this holy meal, inspire our hearts to see every man, woman and child given the dignity and value which is your purpose and your gift.

We commit ourselves to you. Amen.

Prayers of the People – Please remain seated

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: "Prayer of St. Francis" – Sinead O'Connor

Thank you for worshiping with us this evening.