

Welcome!



God's work. Our hands.



September 7, 2025

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 13th Sunday after Pentecost

September 7, 2025 ~ 9:00 am

The Liturgy of Word and Sacrament

Called to contemplate the cost of discipleship, we might be helped by translating Paul's request to Philemon into our prayer of the day: Refresh my heart in Christ. Strengthened by the company and forgiveness of Christ in holy communion and recalling God's grace in remembrance of baptism, we can be strengthened in this hour to "choose life"—to choose life in God as our own.

**Congregation please stand*

The Pre-service Music

~ The Gathering ~

* The Confession and Forgiveness

BLESSED BE THE HOLY TRINITY, ☩ ONE GOD, OUR MAKER, OUR HELPER, AND OUR KEEPER.
Amen.

TRUSTING IN GOD'S MERCY, LET US CONFESS OUR SIN IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD AND OF ONE ANOTHER.

Please kneel if able.

MERCIFUL AND LOVING GOD,

we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.

EVEN WHEN WE ARE FAITHLESS, GOD REMAINS FAITHFUL. JESUS CHRIST CAME INTO THE WORLD TO SAVE SINNERS. YOU WHO WERE LOST HAVE BEEN FOUND. IN THE NAME OF ☩ JESUS, YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN!

Amen.

* The Gathering Hymn

"O Jesus, I Have Promised"

No. 503

* The Greeting

SISTERS AND BROTHERS IN CHRIST, BELOVED CHILDREN OF GOD: GRACE, MERCY, AND PEACE BE WITH YOU ALL.

And also with you.

* The Kyrie Eleison *(music on page 57 of LBW)*

IN PEACE, LET US PRAY TO THE LORD.

(Sung) **Lord, have mercy.**

FOR THE PEACE FROM ABOVE, AND FOR OUR SALVATION, LET US PRAY TO THE LORD.

Lord, have mercy.

FOR THE PEACE OF THE WHOLE WORLD, FOR THE WELL-BEING OF THE CHURCH OF GOD, AND FOR THE UNITY OF ALL, LET US PRAY TO THE LORD.

Lord, have mercy.

FOR THIS HOLY HOUSE, AND FOR ALL WHO OFFER HERE THEIR WORSHIP AND PRAISE, LET US PRAY TO THE LORD.

Lord, have mercy.

HELP, SAVE, COMFORT, AND DEFEND US, GRACIOUS LORD.

Amen.

*** The Hymn of Praise** *(music on page 58 of LBW)*

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST, AND PEACE TO HIS PEOPLE ON EARTH.

Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father: We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

*** The Prayer of the Day**

THE LORD BE WITH YOU

(Sung) **And also with you.**

LET US PRAY:

Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

~The Word~

The First Lesson Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Moses speaks to the Israelites, who are about to enter the land promised to their ancestors. In this passage, he lays out the stark choice before them: choose life by loving and obeying the LORD; or choose death by following other gods.

(After the reading)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm 1 Tune *“For the Beauty of the Earth”* No.561

Blest are those--most happy they--Who the Law of God obey.

HAPPY ARE THOSE WHO DO NOT FOLLOW THE ADVICE OF THE WICKED, OR TAKE THE PATH THAT SINNERS TREAD, OR SIT IN THE SEAT OF THE SCOFFERS.

In God's Word is their delight; They pursue it day and night.

THEY ARE LIKE TREES PLANTED BY STREAMS OF WATER, BEARING FRUIT IN DUE SEASON, AND THEIR LEAVES DO NOT WITHER.

Blest are they! The Lord will bless; All their efforts with success.

THE WICKED ARE NOT SO, BUT ARE LIKE CHAFF THAT THE WIND DRIVES AWAY.

THEREFORE THE WICKED WILL NOT STAND IN THE JUDGMENT, NOR SINNERS IN THE CONGREGATION OF THE RIGHTEOUS.

Let God's Law be our delight, to pursue it day and night.

FOR THE LORD KNOWS THE WAY OF THE RIGHTEOUS.

Let us strive, both night and day, God's good precepts to obey.

BUT THE WAY OF THE WICKED IS DOOMED.

Let us pray the Lord to bless; All our efforts with success.

The Second Lesson Philemon 1-21

Onesimus, a new Christian and a man enslaved by Philemon, has helped Paul, who is in prison. Paul writes this letter to his friend Philemon to encourage him to receive Onesimus, upon his return, as a sibling in Christ.

(After the reading)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

Thanks be to God.

***The Gospel Acclamation** *(ELW p. 172)*

**Halle, Halle, Hallelujah. Halle, Halle, Hallelujah.
Halle, Halle, Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah.**

*** The Holy Gospel St. Luke 14:25-33**

Jesus speaks frankly about the costs of discipleship. Those who follow him should know from the outset that completing the course of discipleship will finally mean renouncing all other allegiances.

(Before the Gospel)

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT LUKE THE 14TH CHAPTER:

(Sung) Glory to you, O Lord.

(After the Gospel)

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

(Sung) Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon

Pastor Cindy White

***The Hymn of the Day**

“Lead Me, Guide Me”

ELW No. 768

***(Refrain)* Lead me, guide me, along the way, For if you lead me, I cannot stray.**

Lord, let me walk each day with thee. Lead me, oh Lord, lead me.

I am weak and I need thy strength and pow’r to help me over my weakest hour.

Help me through the darkness thy face to see, Lead me, oh Lord, lead me. *(Refrain)*

Help me tread in the paths of righteousness, Be my aid when Satan and sin oppress.

I am putting all my trust in thee. Lead me, oh Lord, lead me. *(Refrain)*

I am lost if you take your hand from me, I am blind without thy Light to see,

Lord, just always let me thy servant be. Lead me, oh Lord, lead me. *(Refrain)*

*** 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**

GRACIOUS GOD, WE COME TO YOU IN PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH, THE WORLD, AND ALL IN NEED.

A brief silence.

**WE PRAY FOR THE CHURCH TO FOLLOW IN YOUR WAYS, THAT IT MAY BE A WITNESS TO YOUR LOVE FOR ALL PEOPLE. HELP US CHOOSE ALL THAT IS LIFE-GIVING AND CONFRONT THE FORCES OF DEATH. GOD OF GRACE,
receive our prayer.**

WE PRAY FOR CREATION, THAT IT MAY BE CHERISHED AND NURTURED. SUSTAIN FARMLANDS, ANIMALS, AND WATERS; RESTORE PLACES AFFECTED BY CALAMITIES; AND SHIELD COASTLANDS FROM RISING SEAS. GOD OF GRACE,

receive our prayer.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE IN AUTHORITY. GRANT THEM WISDOM TO GOVERN JUSTLY AND COMPASSION TO CARE FOR THE MARGINALIZED. EQUIP THEM FOR ACTIONS THAT FURTHER THE COMMON GOOD. GOD OF GRACE,

receive our prayer.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK, HUNGRY, UNHOUSED, OR LONELY ESPECIALLY FORREST, STEVE, CHRISTINE, EDDIE, GEORGE, JAN, AND ALL OUR MEMBERS WHO ARE HOMEBOUND. MAY THEY FIND HEALING THROUGH YOUR LOVE AND THE CARE OF THOSE AROUND THEM. LEAD US TO BE YOUR HANDS AND FEET IN THE WORLD. GOD OF GRACE,

receive our prayer.

WE PRAY FOR THIS CONGREGATION, THAT WE MAY BE UNITED IN LOVE AND FAITH. REFRESH OUR HEARTS IN CHRIST, AND DEEPEN OUR SUPPORT OF ONE ANOTHER. WE PRAY THAT OUR SHARING OF FAITH MAY TRANSFORM LIVES. GOD OF GRACE,

receive our prayer.

WE THANK YOU FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED AND NOW DWELL WITH THE SAINTS. SURROUND THEM WITH YOUR DIVINE MERCY, THAT THEY FIND PEACE AND REST IN YOUR LOVING EMBRACE. GOD OF GRACE,

receive 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,

receive our prayer.

WE ENTRUST THESE PRAYERS TO YOU, O GOD, IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST, OUR REDEEMER AND FRIEND.

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 Tune: “Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring” WOV No. 759**

Accept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place upon your table.

We do not worship as we ought but only as we’re able.

The vines were planted, seeds were sown. They grew in your good pleasure.

What once was common, daily food becomes a holy treasure.

* **The Offertory Prayer**

LET US PRAY: LORD OF THE HARVEST, WE RETURN TO YOU A PORTION OF WHAT YOU HAVE GIVEN TO US. TURN US TO SET OUR HOPE NOT ON THE UNCERTAINTY OF RICHES, BUT ON YOU, WHO RICHLY PROVIDES FOR US. MULTIPLY WHAT WE HAVE GATHERED TO BLESS ALL WHO ARE SUFFERING AND IN NEED, THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD.

Amen.

*** The Great Thanksgiving**

*** The Preface and Sanctus** (*music on page 68 of LBW*)

THE LORD BE WITH YOU

(*Sung*) **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 him thanks and praise.

IT IS INDEED RIGHT.....THEIR UNENDING HYMN: (*ELW NO. 193*)

(*Sung*) **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might:**

Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

*** 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**

JESUS WELCOMES SINNERS AND EATS WITH THEM. COME TO THIS MEAL OF MERCY.

*** The Agnus Dei "Lamb of God"** (*ELW No. 195*)

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, grant us 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 Canticle** *(music on page 72 of LBW)*

Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev'ryone what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.

*** The Post Communion Prayer**

LET US PRAY: O GOD, THROUGH THIS MEAL YOU HAVE STRENGTHENED US AND APPOINTED US TO BE YOUR SERVANTS. SEND US TO DO GOOD AND TO SHARE OUR POSSESSIONS WITH ALL IN NEED. WE ASK THIS IN JESUS' NAME.

Amen.

The Senior Choir Anthem “*He is Lord of All*” – Williams/ Harlan

~The Sending~

*** The Blessing**

THE GOD OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, WHO GIVES JUSTICE TO THE OPPRESSED, WHO GIVES FOOD TO THE HUNGRY, WHO SETS THE PRISONERS FREE, ✠ BLESS YOU NOW AND FOREVER.

(Sung) **Amen. Amen. Amen.**

*** The Dismissal**

GO IN PEACE. DO NOT LOSE HEART.

Thanks be to God.

*** The Sending Hymn** **“*God’s Work, Our Hands*”** Tune: “*Earth and All Stars*”

**God's work, our hands: working together, building a future, repairing the world,
raising up homes, planting new gardens, feeding the hungry and shelt'ring the cold.
Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name, sharing the good news of your Gospel.**

**God's work, our feet: trav'ling together, following Jesus to places unknown,
walking as friends, marching for freedom, running the race with God's future the goal.
Bless, God, our feet as we follow your way, sharing the good news of your Gospel.**

**God's work, our voice: singing together, praising, proclaiming to all who will hear,
praying for peace, shouting for justice, claiming God's love for the lost and the least.
Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name, sharing the good news of your Gospel.**

**God is at work in and around us: seedlings are sprouting and bread's on the rise!
Washed and set free, humbled and honored, gifted by grace, we respond in God's love.
Bless, God, our lives as we answer your call, sharing the good news of your Gospel.**

Text: Wayne L. Wold

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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First Reading: Deuteronomy 30:15-20 – Not Printed

Second Reading: Philemon 1-21 - ¹ Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To our beloved coworker Philemon, ² to our sister Apphia, to our fellow soldier Archippus, and to the church in your house: ³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ I thank my God always when I mention you in my prayers, ⁵ because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. ⁶ I pray that the partnership of your faith may become effective as you comprehend all the good that we share in Christ. ⁷ I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

⁸ For this reason, though I am more than bold enough in Christ to command you to do the right thing, ⁹ yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. ¹⁰ I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. ¹¹ Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me. ¹² I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. ¹³ I wanted to keep him with me so that he might minister to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel, ¹⁴ but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. ¹⁵ Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for the long term, ¹⁶ no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

¹⁷ So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁸ If he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge that to me. ¹⁹ I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. ²⁰ Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹ Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

Gospel: Luke 14:25-33 - ²⁵ Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus], and he turned and said to them, ²⁶ “Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸ For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰ saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ ³¹ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³ So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

September 14, 2025 readings are: Numbers 21:4b-9 Psalm 98:1-4
1 Corinthians 1:18-24 John 3:13-17

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

September 6-7, 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 our son, Brian by Dave & Darlene Fetterman

ORGAN FUND DONATIONS are given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of my husband, Charles Klingaman on our anniversary by wife, Cathy

An Altar Flower sponsor is needed for September 14th.

Bulletin sponsors are needed for September 14th, 21st, and 28th.

Please sign up on the church bulletin board.

Please remember the following in your prayers: Forrest, 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 & Thursday: 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

SUNDAY, September 7, 2025

9:00 The Service of Word & Sacrament
12:00 God's Work, Our Hands

MONDAY

7:00 Finance Meeting

THURSDAY

11:00 Hoagie Pick-up
7:00 Senior Choir Rehearsal

SATURDAY

6:00 Saturday Evening Worship

SUNDAY, September 14, 2025

9:00 The Service of Word & Sacrament

Supporting Zion's Ministries

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

Received 8/31/25 in support of Zion Ministries:

From our gifts	\$0.00
From Thrift Store	\$0.00
From Endowment (other)	\$0.00
From Culinary	\$0.00
Received for Endowment:	\$0.00
Received for Capital Campaign:	\$0.00

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

From offering/gifts/memorials:	\$82,707.88
From Thrift Store:	\$4,682.67*
From Endowment:	\$22,905.00
From Culinary:	\$11,800.00

Year-to-date total for Zion's mission/ministries: \$122,095.55

* Thrift Store donates half of income to Outreach total income - \$9,365.34

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.

Free large diapers - Zion's Diaper Depot has been given some large/extra-large (60 to 125 pounds) pull-up SleepOver diapers. Please let us know if you could use some of them. Contact gtay200@aol.com or call the church office at 570-668-2180.

Upcoming Events

September 7 – God’s Work, Our Hands

September 11 – Hoagie Sale

September 21 – Back to Church Sunday

September 21 – Sunday School/ Confirmation Begins

October 2 – Hoagie Sale

October 3 – Blessings Thrift Shop

October 11 & 12 – Harvest Home

Culinary Hoagie Sale September 11th - deadline to order is September 7th - Regular Hoagies are \$8 each. Pick up is from 11:00 am until 1:00 pm. Order at <https://www.ziontamaqua.com> or by calling 570-668-4451. Thank you for your support!!

Zion’s Blessings Thrift Shop is on Friday, October 3rd 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!

God’s Work, Our Hands will be Sunday, September 7, 2025 at 12:00 noon.

How will you participate this year? Zion is planning three ways: (1) Do something for the church; (2) Do something for Zion members who need help; and (3) Do something for the community. If you do not wish to participate in one of these organized activities, you are encouraged to do something for someone else. Signup sheets are available in the Gathering Room.

Zion Construction Update: We have recently been made aware that the section of roof on top of the tower is in need of replacement. We are working to address the situation, and expect that it will add a little over \$9,000 in cost to the overall project. We are also working on finalizing the release of the \$100,000 loan from the synod. Thank you for your continued support our restoration, and let me know if you have any questions.- Brian Lawfer, Acting Property Chair

SUNDAY SCHOOL - Sunday School begins on September 21, 2025. Sunday School follows our Morning Worship Service from 10:15 – 11:00 am. While we don't have attendance "requirements" for children in Sunday school, it is important to send your child(ren) as often as possible. While we understand the children are involved with other commitments, the lessons taught in Sunday School are essential in preparing them for their Catechetical education. (Confirmation).

CONFIRMATION - Confirmation begins on September 21st from 11:00 am -12:30 pm. Students entering 7th grade (or above) are eligible to begin Confirmation. The program is a 2 year period of study which prepares the student to affirm their baptismal covenant, and take over responsibility for their faith journey. The program is flexible and is spread over two years to ensure even if minimal time is missed, the student is prepared to accept this responsibility.

FIRST COMMUNION - Classes are held on three Sunday mornings: Sunday, November 2, 9, & 16, from 11:00 am – 12:30 pm. Children who are in 5th grade or older and who have been baptized (or who would like to be baptized) are eligible for First Holy Communion. A parent or relative who is a member of Zion Lutheran Church is required to accompany them to classes and worship. First Communion is scheduled for Sunday, November 23, 2025, during the 9:00 am worship service. Parents, please register your child (ren) now by calling 570-668-2180.

Registration forms for all educational opportunities are on the Gathering Room table. Questions & requests for additional information can be directed to zionlutheraneducation@gmail.com



Harvest Home will be celebrated on Saturday October 11th at 6:00 pm and Sunday, October 12th at 9:00 am. Your gifts of non-perishable items will help stock Zion's Pantry serving our neighbors on Dutch Hill. Please bring items as soon as possible. There is a table set up in the gathering room for them. Thank you for your generosity.