

**Zion Lutheran Church
Glen Rock, PA
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
WOV Setting Five – Bread of Life
Sunday, September 27, 2026**

*We stand as we are able.

Introduction to the day

Jesus' parable about two sons who don't do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God. In the reading from Ezekiel the people claim the ways of the Lord are unfair, while God offers repentance and new life. Paul urges us to look to Christ as a model of humility, putting the interests of others above our own. Nourished by the broken bread and shared cup, we offer our lives for the sake of our needy world.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

***BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS** (WOV p.10)

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

***ENTRANCE HYMN:** "Jesus Calls Us; O'er the Tumult" LBW (green) 494

*APOSTOLIC GREETING (WOV p.28)

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.

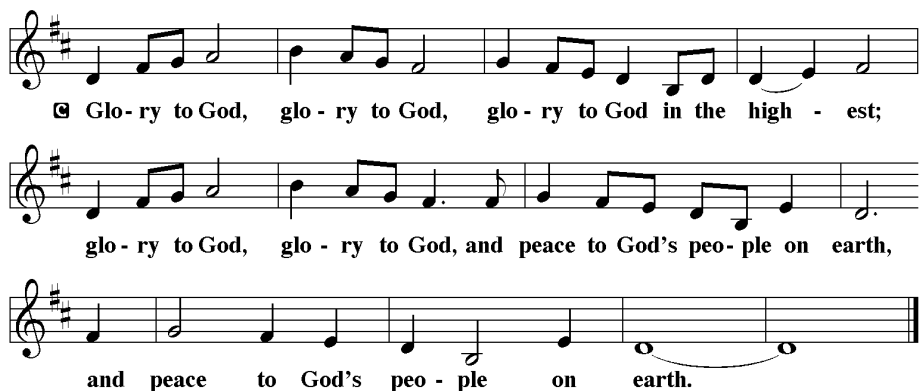
*KYRIE (WOV p.28)



*HYMN OF PRAISE (WOV p.29)







***PRAYER OF THE DAY (WOV p.30)**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

God of love, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them; keep us from those things that harm us; and guide us in the way of salvation; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

ANTHEM: “This Is My Song”

Children’s church dismissal: All children are invited to the Nursery at this time.

FIRST LESSON: Ezekiel 18:1-4,25-32

¹ The word of the LORD came to me: ² What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge”? ³ As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴ Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins who shall die.

²⁵ Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶ When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed, they shall die. ²⁷ Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸ Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die.

²⁹ Yet the house of Israel says, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

³⁰ Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹ Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³² For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 25:1-8

¹ To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my ¹ trust in you;
let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph ¹ over me.

² **Let none who look to you be ¹ put to shame;
let the treacherous be disappointed ¹ in their schemes.**

³ Show me your ¹ ways, O LORD,
and teach ¹ me your paths.

⁴ **Lead me in your ¹ truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all ¹ the day
long.**

⁵ Remember, O LORD, your compas- ¹ sion and love,
for they are from ¹ everlasting.

⁶ **Remember not the sins of my youth and ¹ my transgressions;
remember me according to your love and for the sake of your good- ¹
ness, O LORD.**

⁷ Gracious and upright ¹ is the LORD;
therefore he teaches sinners ¹ in his way.

⁸ **He guides the humble in ¹ doing right
and teaches his way ¹ to the lowly.**

SECOND LESSON: Philippians 2:1-13

¹ If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, ² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own

interests but to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶ who, though he existed in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be grasped,

⁷ but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
assuming human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a human,

⁸ he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore God exalted him even more highly
and gave him the name
that is above every other name,

¹⁰ so that at the name given to Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹ and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

¹² Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (WOV p.31)**





***GOSPEL: Matthew 21:23-32**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 21st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²³ When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴ Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why, then, did you not believe him?’ ²⁶ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet.” ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸ “What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹ He answered, ‘I will not,’ but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY:** “Forth in Thy Name, O Lord, I Go” LBW (green) 505

***APOSTLES’ CREED (WOV p.32)**

With the whole church, we confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator 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 into hell.
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 THE CHURCH (WOV p.34)**

Reminded of God’s gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

A brief silence.

Center your church in humility as we strive to follow in your way. Help us listen to the cries of those who have been unfairly hurt by the church and dare to name difficult truths. Show all your love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You call us to care for your creation. Lead us into your promise of a better world through sustainable practices and respect for your handiwork. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Inspire all in positions of authority to act honorably. Remind them of their call to use their authority for the sake of the common good. Give them the gift of humility. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Comfort those who come before you in fear and trembling. Calm troubled hearts with your forgiveness. Help all those in need (*especially*). Grant us your salvation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Change this congregation's heart when we say no to your call. Open us to courageous learning and service in our community, especially in new or challenging places. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Your steadfast love holds all the saints who have finished their work and are at rest. As we grieve, remind us of your mercy so we may also give thanks. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

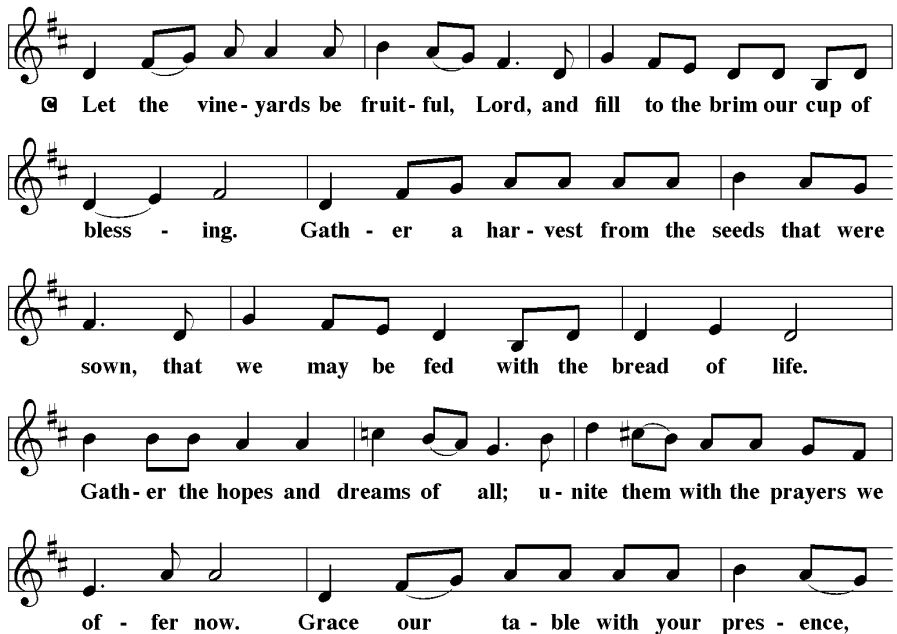
***PEACE (WOV p. 34)**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

***PRESENTATION OF OFFERING**

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE (WOV p.35)**



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were
sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,



***OFFERTORY PRAYER (WOV p.35)**

Let us pray.

Merciful Father,

we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

***GREAT THANKSGIVING (WOV p.36)**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

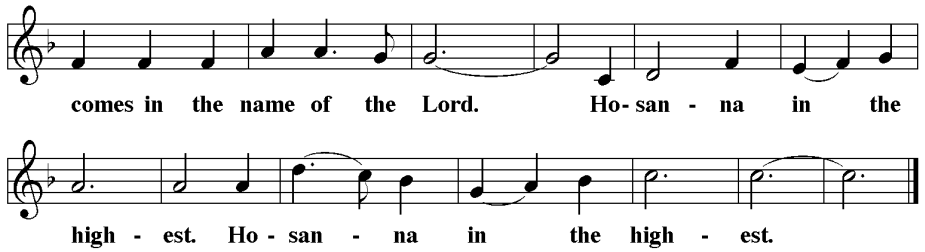
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***PREFACE (WOV p.36)**

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





***THANKSGIVING (WOV p.37)**

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

***LORD'S PRAYER (WOV p.39)**

Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

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;

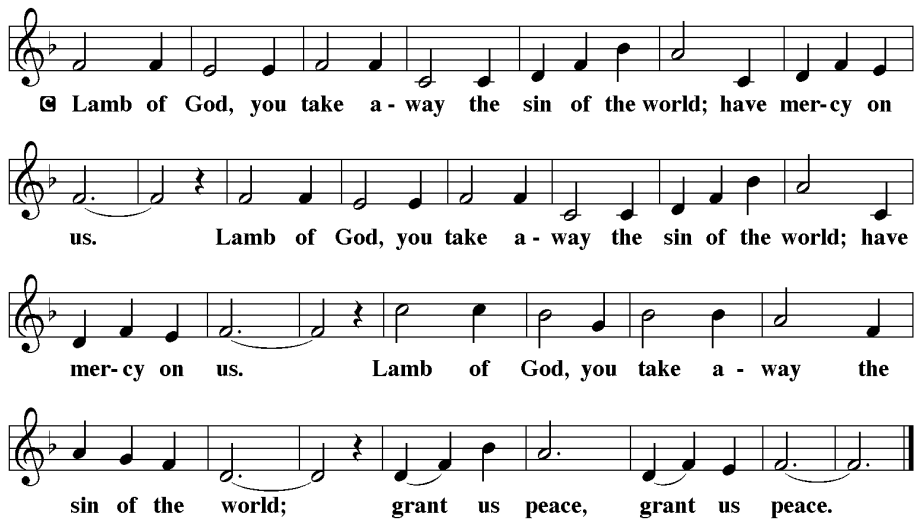
and forgive us our trespasses,

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.

***COMMUNION HYMN (WOV p.39)**



☐ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
 us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION (WOV p.39)

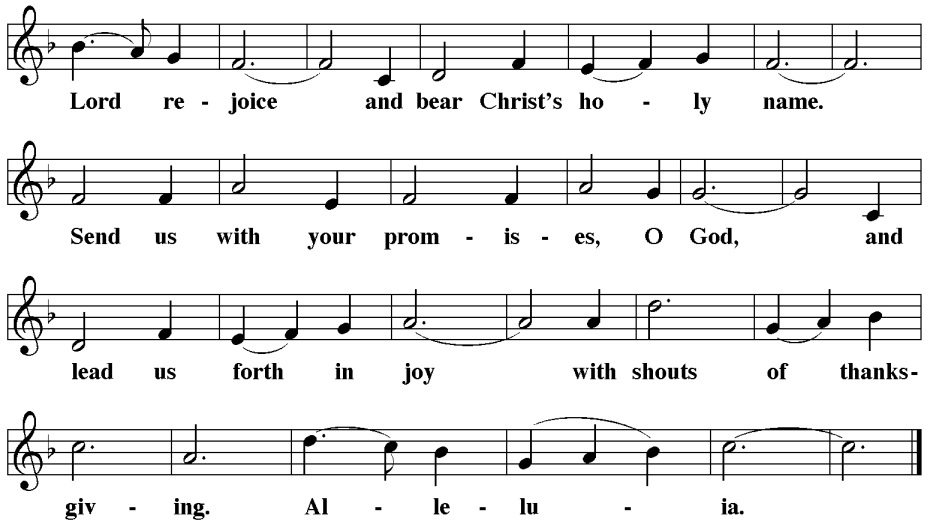
The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**
 The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

***POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND CANTICLE (WOV p.40)**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his
 grace. **Amen**



☐ Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -
 one what God has done. Let all who seek the



***POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (WOV p.41)**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever.

Amen.

***BLESSING (WOV p.41)**

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen

***SENDING HYMN: "O Master, Let Me Walk with You" LBW (green) 492**

DISMISSAL (WOV p.41)

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Today's communion elements are presented to the glory of God, by Susie & Butch Hengst.

SCRIPTURE TEXT FOR SUNDAY 10/4/2026

Isa 5:1-7, Ps 80:7-15, Phil 3:4b-14, Matt 21:33-46

PRAYER REQUESTS

Don & Sue Schnell, Dottie Devlin, Edna Garver, Dolly Fletcher,
Mary Rose Lawhead, Barbara Townley, Barry Keller, Susan Scheungrab,
Shirley Seitz, Donna Chandler, Joann King, Trey Tomaschko, Lou Tomaschko,
Beth Hennessey, Suzanne Becker, Chad Smith, Tim Myers, Bonni Whitman,
Sandy Fair

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Zion! We are glad you are here today. After worship, you are invited to a time of fellowship with coffee and snacks in the social hall directly beside the sanctuary.

Communion is offered every Sunday. Wine and apple juice are both available. All are welcome.

Today we welcome Rev. John Teitman to lead us in worship.

The Nursery is available for children 5 years and under. Kelley Fisher can be contacted regarding Children's Church at kellyfish23@gmail.com or 410-598-0586.

The Loose Change offering plate is available every Sunday. At the end of the month, the total collected for that month will be sent to the chosen organization. **Our loose change collection for September will benefit Glen Rock Emergency Medical Services.**

Services are recorded and streamed live each week on Zion Lutheran Church's Facebook page. It is possible during the recording that people attending the service will be filmed. If you have any concerns about being filmed, please contact the office at 717-235-3276.

Announcements for the weekly bulletin are due to the office by early Tuesday morning so bulletin work can be completed by the end of the day on Tuesday. This schedule allows time for the bulletin to be sent to the presiding pastor for the upcoming week and allows the website committee time to post the bulletin on Zion's website. Announcements can be emailed to Brenda at office@zionglenrock.org.

PERSONNEL at ZION

Darryl Engler, Organist

Brenda Davis, Administrative Assistant

Kelley Fisher, Treasurer

Chad Fisher, Sexton

Donna Price, Council President.....momcat05@gmail.com or 410-746-3535

Rick Freda, Council Vice President.....rickfreda@yahoo.com or 302-864-5700

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Tom Bailey, Jeff Brown, Rick Freda, Jeff Hoffman, Gail Prego, Donna Price,
and Jen Webb

SUNDAY SERVANTS

Supply Pastors:

September 27: Rev. John Teitman

October 4: Rev. Peter Rustico

October 11: Rev. Paul Haack

October 18: TBD

October 25: Rev. Gail Wolling

Assisting Ministers:

September 27: George Brown

October 4: Jeff Brown

October 11: Jeff Hoffman

October 18: Butch Hengst

October 25: Diane Bortner

Lectors:

September 27: Jen Webb

October 4: Kayla/Nate Rogers

October 11: Chad Fisher

October 18: Rachel Foltz

October 25: Susie Hengst

Council Offering Duty:

September – Tom Bailey and Jen Webb

October – Jeff Brown and Donna Price

Altar Care:

September – Donna Price

October – Linda Beegle



Zion Lutheran Church

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