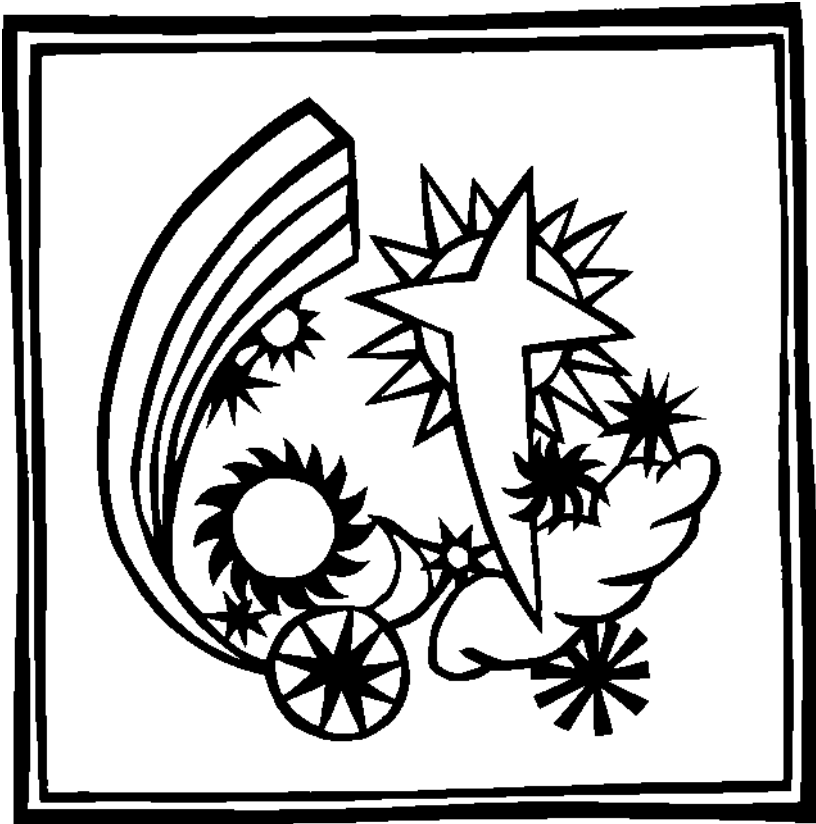


# 23rd Sunday After Pentecost



November 17, 2019 + 11:00am

Zion Lutheran Church  
Lexington, South Carolina

## **WELCOME TO WORSHIP at ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH!**

We are glad you have come to worship this day!

### **We especially Welcome our Visitors and Guests!**

We hope you feel right at home here at Zion. If you have any questions, our ushers will be happy to help you. You are invited to fill out a Visitor's card found in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate.

**If you are seeking a church home**, we invite you to consider becoming a part of this community of faith and learning more about the mission and ministry of Zion. For more information about Zion Lutheran Church, becoming a member, and sharing your gifts in ministry, contact the church office, (803) 356-2297, [zionchurch@zionlexsc.com](mailto:zionchurch@zionlexsc.com) or visit our website, [zionlexsc.com](http://zionlexsc.com).

### **WORSHIP NOTES**



**THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION** is offered to all baptized Christians who seek Christ's gift of grace. Visitors who receive Holy Communion in their home congregations are invited to share in this sacrament of grace. Gluten free bread is available to those with allergies. You may indicate this need to the pastor during communion distribution. Children who are not receiving communion may come forward for a blessing.

**OUR STAFFED NURSERY** is available for young children during worship. The nursery is located through the narthex/lobby area and down the hall to the right.

**HYMNS** not printed in the bulletin are from the red WORSHIP hymnal in the pew rack.

**PLEASE SILENCE YOUR ELECTRONICS AT THIS TIME.**

+ TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST +

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*We stand.*

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, the one who fashions us, the one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, asking for God's mercy and transforming power.

*We kneel. Silence is kept for confession and meditation.*

Holy God, source of all life, **we confess that we have been captive to sin and have not allowed your grace to set us free. We have put other things above you. We have given in to anger, selfishness, and pride. We have done what is comfortable instead of seeking what is faithful. Forgive us, O Lord. Stir us up and reform us to be a people who are powered by love, who speak for what is right, and who seek the healing of your whole creation. Amen.**

God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives. Because of + Jesus, our sins are forgiven. Hear the good news: God's love is unconditional and in Christ we are raised up as God's people who will always be made new. **Amen.**

*We stand.*

**SHARING OF PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

*We share a sign of Christ's peace with one another.*

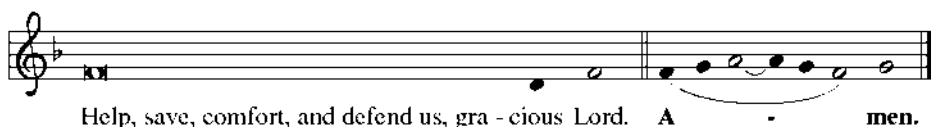
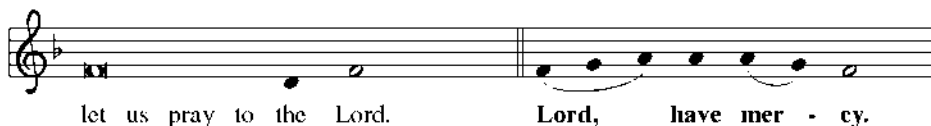
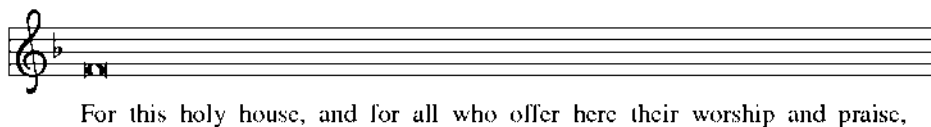
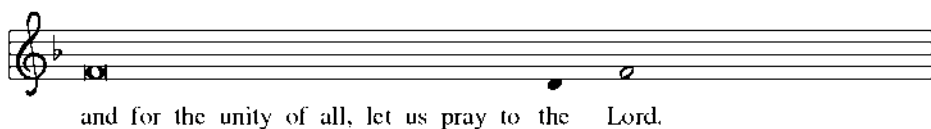
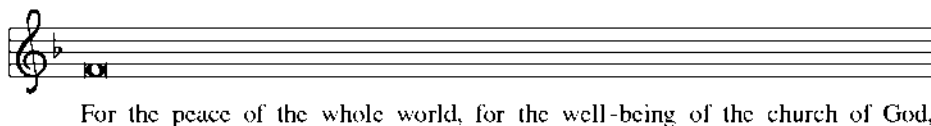
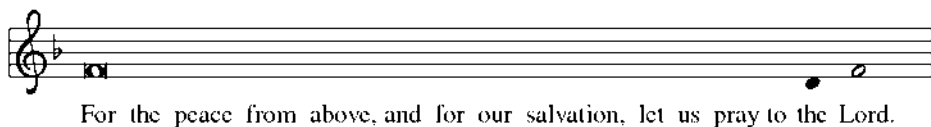
**GATHERING HYMN # 327**

*Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow*

## GREETING

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

## KYRIE



## HYMN OF PRAISE





God, and join in the hymn of all ere - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



*Refrain*  
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was



slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



*Final refrain*  
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*We sit.*

## FIRST READING

**Malachi 4:1-2**

See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. <sup>2a</sup>But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 98

Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done | marvelous things,  
whose right hand and holy arm have | won the victory.

<sup>2</sup>**O LORD, you have made | known your victory,  
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight | of the nations.**

<sup>3</sup>You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the | house of Israel;  
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory | of our God.

<sup>4</sup>**Shout with joy to the LORD, | all you lands;  
lift up your voice, re- | joice, and sing.**

<sup>5</sup>Sing to the LORD | with the harp,  
with the harp and the | voice of song.

<sup>6</sup>**With trumpets and the sound | of the horn  
shout with joy before the | king, the LORD.**

<sup>7</sup>Let the sea roar, and | all that fills it,  
the world and those who | dwell therein.

<sup>8</sup>**Let the rivers | clap their hands,  
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,  
who comes to | judge the earth.**

<sup>9</sup>The LORD will judge the | world with righteousness  
and the peo- | ples with equity.



## SECOND READING

## 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. <sup>7</sup>For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, <sup>8</sup>and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. <sup>9</sup>This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. <sup>10</sup>For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. <sup>11</sup>For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. <sup>12</sup>Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. <sup>13</sup>Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

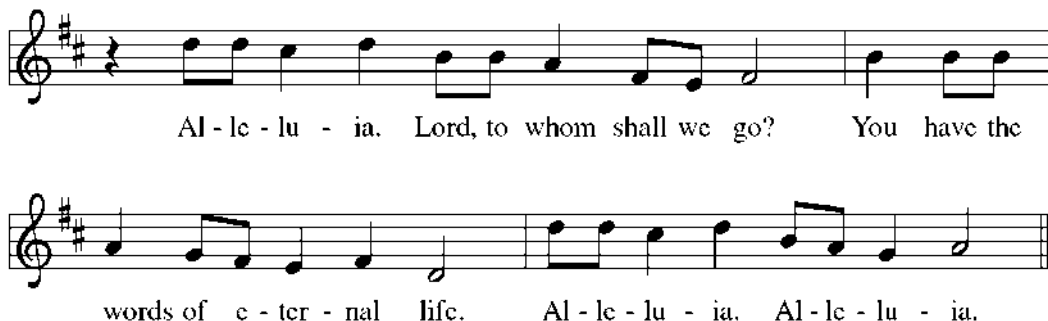
## CHILDREN'S SERMON

*Young children are invited forward at this time.*

*Following the Children's Sermon, children ages 3 through 3rd Grade may go to Children's Church. Meet the Children's Church leaders at the red door at the back of the church. Children will return from Children's Church during the offering.*

*We stand.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.



## GOSPEL READING

Luke 21:5-19

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, <sup>6</sup>“As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.”

<sup>7</sup>They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” <sup>8</sup>And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them.

<sup>9</sup>“When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” <sup>10</sup>Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; <sup>11</sup>there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

<sup>12</sup>“But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. <sup>13</sup>This will give you an opportunity to testify. <sup>14</sup>So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; <sup>15</sup>for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. <sup>16</sup>You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. <sup>17</sup>You will be hated by all because of my name. <sup>18</sup>But not a hair of your head will perish. <sup>19</sup>By your endurance you will gain your souls.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*We sit.*

**SERMON**

Pastor Nathan Gragg

*We stand.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY # 713**

***O God of Every Nation***

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

Living together in trust and hope, let us confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*Each petition ends: Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

*We sit.*

## **OFFERING**

Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in gratitude and praise.

*We share our gifts for those in need and for the mission of the church.*

## **CHOIR ANTHEM**

*Prayer for Peace*



*We stand.*

## OFFERTORY HYMN

*Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles - sing. 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 the dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. God of life, **you give us these gifts of the earth, these resources of our life and our labor. Take them, offered in great thanksgiving, and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Light. Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

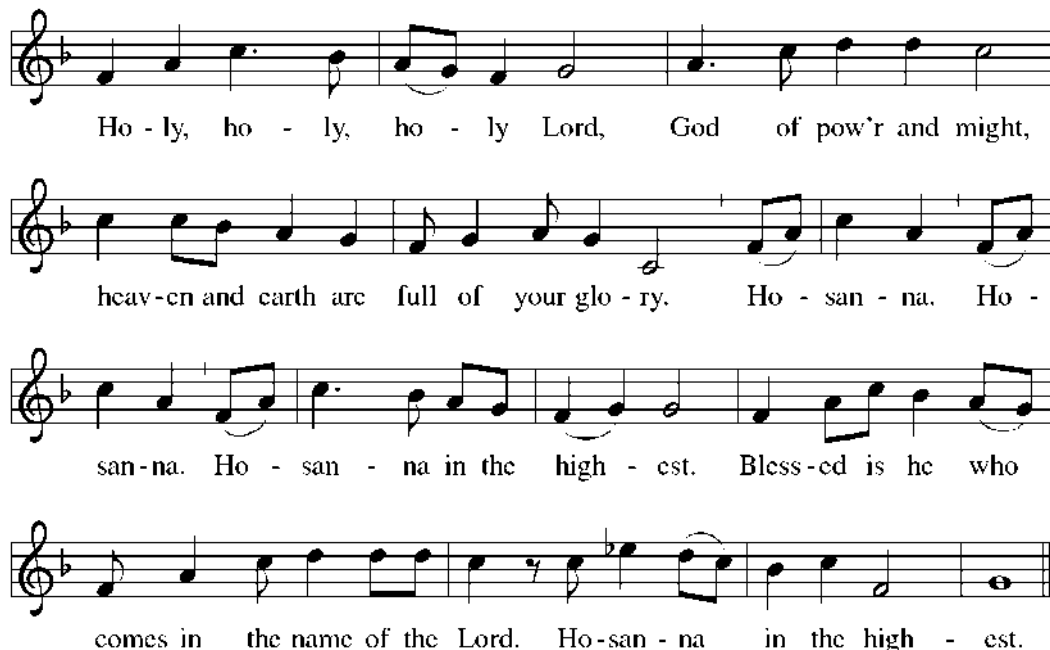
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

### LORD'S PRAYER

As Jesus taught us, we are bold 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**

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Speak to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, and make us one with you. **Amen.**

*We sit.*

## AGNUS DEI

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.

## DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

*Christ welcomes you to this feast of the baptized!*

*We receive communion today by intinction at the head of the center aisle.*

*As the ushers direct you, proceed down the center aisle in two lines.*

*Hold the bread given to you and continue toward the side aisle nearest you to receive the chalice into which you may dip your bread. Return to your seat by the side aisle.*

## MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

*We stand.*

## BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace. **Amen.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray. Holy and compassionate God, in bread and wine you give us gifts that form us to be humble and courageous. May your words come to life in our serving and in our witness, that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer. **Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

The love of God surround you; the grace of + Christ release you; and the Holy Spirit be your guide and strength, now and forevermore. **Amen.**

## **SENDING HYMN # 439**

*Soon and Very Soon*

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

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## SERVING TODAY

Presiding Minister	Pastor Nathan Gragg
Director of Music	Julie Branham
Assisting Minister	Heath Branham
Reader	Michael Kohn
Communion Assistants	Craig Balch, David McKinley
Crucifer	Sydney Branham
Acolyte	Emerson Fite
Ushers	Michael Williamson, Chris Bigham, Robbie Bigham, Bert Wingard
Chancel and Sacraments	Eileen Leaphart, Donna Corley, Dale Driggers
Children's Church	Wendy Nesmith
Nursery	Evelyn Varn
Offering Counters	Bert & Wanda Wingard, Russell & Rayna Kleckley



## SERVING NEXT SUNDAY

Assisting Minister	Heath Branham
Reader	Susan Shumpert
Communion Assistants	Jan Corley, Mary Nell Panyard
Crucifer	Shelton Rhoden
Acolyte	Conner Rhoden
Ushers	Michael Williamson, Chris Bigham, Robbie Bigham, Bert Wingard
Chancel and Sacraments	Eileen Leaphart, Donna Corley, Dale Driggers
Children's Church	Wendy Nesmith
Nursery	To Be Announced
Offering Counters	Bert & Wanda Wingard, Russell & Rayna Kleckley



Zion Lutheran Church  
226 Corley Mill Road  
Lexington, SC 29072  
(803) 356-2297  
[zionlexsc.com](http://zionlexsc.com)

Rev. Nathan T. Gragg, Pastor  
[Nathan@zionlexsc.com](mailto:Nathan@zionlexsc.com)

Walt Hampton, Director of Youth, Education, Communications  
[Walt@zionlexsc.com](mailto:Walt@zionlexsc.com)

Julie Branham, Director of Music  
[Julie@zionlexsc.com](mailto:Julie@zionlexsc.com)

Starr Corley, Financial Administrator  
[Starr@zionlexsc.com](mailto:Starr@zionlexsc.com)

Steve Shumpert, Facilities Manager  
[Steve@zionlexsc.com](mailto:Steve@zionlexsc.com)