June 2021 Worship Folder
Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, ELCA
10:00AM Worship and Holy Communion

Take this bulletin home with you!
We’ll reuse it each Sunday in June.

Zion Lutheran Church
128 West 33rd Street
Minneapolis, MN 55408
Zion’s in person worship guide. A refresher.

Your comfort and safety are very important to us! We want you to know what to expect should you choose to worship in-person at Zion Lutheran Church. As the safety guidelines change, we will update our protocols and adjust our opportunities to be together. For the safety of our community, we appreciate your understanding and require your compliance with the following:

Register. We are a small congregation so we will not be requiring online reservations but you will be asked to sign in when you come in the building and share a way to contact you just in case.

Enter at the blue door (north side) if possible. The building will be open ten minutes prior to worship and you will be warmly greeted by ushers who will assist your movements throughout the worship experience.

Masks are required. For the safety of our community, everyone is required to wear a mask at all times while in the building. Social distancing will be honored. Household units are expected to maintain the required six feet of social distance from other households. Windows will be open in the sanctuary to increase ventilation and you will be asked to use hand sanitizer when you enter the building. If you’re worried about singing with a mask on, fear not, because we are asking that you sing with your hearts and now with your voices at this time.

Not Quite Yet. Our worship experience will continue to evolve as we gradually reopen! Communion will be self-administered as you leave the sanctuary and there will be a basket near the exit for offering. For now, in-person worship will not include singing or use of the hymnals. Take your bulletin home with you and bring it back. There will be a new one each month.

Soon. There will be no pre- or post-worship fellowship at this time.

Assess your health. Our community’s safety will rely on a self-assessment of your health and the health of others in your household.

Do you feel sick or do you have any of the following symptoms of COVID-19: fever, new cough, shortness of breath, chills, headache, muscle pain, sore throat, fatigue, congestion, loss of taste or smell.

Have you cared for or have you had close contact within the last 14 days with someone who has COVID-19 or who has symptoms of COVID-19?

If anyone in your home answers “yes” to one or more of these questions, please stay home and worship with us online!

As health and safety guidelines change, our worship and fellowship opportunities will evolve. We are grateful for your patience and flexibility!
GATHER

We show up for community and grace from God.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP
We gather in the name of the One who Creates, the One who liberates, and the One who heals.
Amen.

Jesus invites us to worship. “Come to me, all who are tired, weary, and worn, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, for I am gentle, and humble of heart.”

God, we come before you, bringing who we are, all that we are, denying nothing, seeking your wholeness and blessing. Receive us as we are and teach us to welcome all to Christ’s table as you have welcomed us.

Gracious God,

in your goodness you have made all things and proclaimed them good, indeed, very good. Through the power of your Spirit, open our eyes, our ears, and our hearts to the goodness of all that you have made and teach us to be good stewards of all that you have made through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

CONFESSION
We have denied the presence of God in ourselves and others; we have abused God’s good creation. Let us confess our sin.

Holy One,

you have created all things through the power of your steadfast love, proclaiming all that you have made good, indeed, very good. As human beings, we bear your Divine image, the reflection of your creativity and diversity. Sadly, we have denied the goodness of your creation, and our own goodness as persons made in your image. We have abused your good creation, wounded and rejected each other, and mistreated ourselves. Forgive us, Merciful God. Give us the courage to embrace ourselves, each other, and all that you have made. Teach us to be better stewards of your good creation following the example of Jesus Christ through the power of your Holy Spirit. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS
Though we have sinned, there is nothing in all creation that can separate us from God. The steadfast love of God endures forever. Through Jesus Christ we are forgiven of all our sins and through the Holy Spirit we are reborn and given the courage to accept ourselves and each other. Let us live in peace as we strive to follow faithfully in the way of Jesus.
Amen.
GATHERING HYMN

God, We Gather As Your People

1 God, we gather as your people to raise our song above,
   and we dare to claim the promise of your love.

2 Oh, we sing for all the children, that one day they be free;
   and we sing to generations yet to be, shame,
   so afraid of who they are and whom they love.

3 Oh, we pray for all the young lives cut short by fear and wide can... live their lives with dignity and pride.

4 God, we’re working for the future when children far and though the day may not yet be here, we trust it soon will be, when your children will be free.
   that they never have a reason to doubt that they are blest. May they, in your love, find rest.
   May the message now be banished that your love is for the few; may their faith in you renew.
   As they grow in strength and stature, may they join us hand in hand, as against all hate we stand.

Refrain

Oh, may our hearts and minds be opened, fling the church doors open wide. May there be room enough for ev’ryone inside.

For in God there is a welcome, in God we all belong. May that welcome be our song.
Greeting
The grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day
(will change weekly)

Word
We hear the Word, truth and promises that nourish our lives.

Scripture Readings
(will change weekly)

Gospel Acclamation
God Welcomes All
ACS #978
(sung 3x)

Sermon
Hymn Of The Month

Affirmation of Faith

We rejoice in God who makes all things and proclaims them good, indeed, very good.

We recognize Jesus Christ, who reconciles us to God and to each other, who teaches us to love and accept all people as beloved children of God.

We receive the Holy Spirit who tears down every wall that divides, creating one new humanity at peace with itself and with all that God has made.

We recommit ourselves to the Church, the body of Christ, and seek to transform it into a more just, welcoming, and inclusive community of faith.

Amen.
Prayers Of The People
(will change weekly)

Sharing Of The Peace
Christ’s peace be with you always!
And also with you!

virtual- please unmute and share a sign of peace,
in person- you say peace be with you but please remain in your seat.

Meal and Sending Welcome, Include, and Celebrate in Christ’s name.

Offering Reflection

Offering Prayer
Gracious God, you create all things and proclaim them good, indeed, very good. We give you thanks for your beautiful, diverse creation, those with whom we share in its beauty, and, above all, for your steadfast love embodied in Jesus, the Christ, who reconciles us to you and to each other. In gratitude for all your gifts to us we offer you all that we have and all that we are as a living offering of your love for all through Jesus Christ, our strength and courage. Amen.

Announcements

Prayer for Courage
O Holy One,
courage comes from the heart and we are always welcomed by You, the heart of all beings.
We bear witness to our faith, knowing that we are called to live lives of courage, love and reconciliation in the ordinary and extraordinary moments of each day.
We bear witness, too, to our failures and our complicity in the fractures of our world.

May we be courageous today.
May we learn today.
May we love today.

May the blessing of the God of ALL: the One who creates, the One who redeems, and the One who sustains, go with us and guide us every step of the way. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving
The Lord be with you. And also with you.
Open your hearts. We open them to God and to one another.
Let us give thanks to the God of all; It is right to give God thanks and praise.
Holy One, you call the universe into being with but a word, creating worlds filled with beauty and variety, yet we reject the diversity of your creation, refusing to accept that you rejoice in all that you have made and continue to proclaim it good, indeed, very good. You are not willing to let us reject your good creation so easily, in your great love you send prophets, pastors, and teachers to challenge us to openness. Still, we resist. Still, you persist.

We give you thanks and praise from the core of our being. Joining our voices with those of every time and place who have sung a song of love and hope, we sing...

Sanctus

God Is Love

ACS#1041
In the fullness of time, you came to us in Jesus, the Christ, defying the boundaries between sacred and secular, embodying respect and honor for all that you have made. In Jesus, you confronted the powers that deny the goodness of creation, you challenged the status quo that seeks to keep things hidden, you commanded your children to love and to be loved. For this daring ministry, Jesus was crucified and died, but remained faithful to the point of death. Though Jesus was killed, your steadfast love could not be killed. You raised Jesus to life again within the community of the faithful, transforming those who would follow Jesus into the body of Christ. Remembering the life that could not be destroyed, we remain steadfast in our hope:

Dying, Christ destroyed death.

Rising, Christ restores life.

Living, Christ will make all things new.

Through the power of your Holy Spirit, make these gifts of bread and wine signs of the living Christ that we might become the body of Christ for the world, life blood poured out for the healing of all. Open our eyes, our ears, and our hearts to the goodness that is here and teach us revere all that you have made and are making through the love of Jesus, the Christ, and the life giving power of your Spirit at work in your holy church.

Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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 in 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 in remembrance of me.
God, remember us in your love and teach us to pray. . .

Our Father/Mother/ God in heaven,

hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those

who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours,

now and forever.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE MEAL

So many of us know the pain of rejection at the hands of family, friends, and faith communities. There is no rejection at this table, for we welcome all to Christ’s table as God has welcomed us. Come, for this table is open to all.

The Body of Christ given for you.

The Blood of Christ shed for you.
Thank you to our musicians and worship leaders today.

As you leave, you may place your offering in the basket and receive the communion elements from the Pastor and intern.

Thank you to our musicians and worship leaders today.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the Good News.

Thanks be to God.
Zion’s inclusivity statement

Whereas: We as Christians say we are inclusive but, by not specifically stating where our inclusiveness extends, we still exclude people, and

Whereas: We affirm with the Apostle Paul that, in Christ, “there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female” (Galatians 3:28), and

Whereas: We as Christians are called to the ministry of reconciliation,

Therefore Be It Resolved: That we as a community approve the “Affirmation of Welcome” of the Reconciled In Christ program, and building on that statement, That we include and welcome ALL PEOPLE and recognize their right to worship: people of all gender identities, old and young, people with different color, people with different opinions, people with different religious backgrounds, people with different sexual orientations, people with mental or physical disabilities, people who are married, single, or in partnerships.

Zion’s Staff Members

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Much of this liturgy was created by the Rev. Wes Jamison, Chair of the Open and Affirming Ministries program of GLAD (Gay, Lesbian, and Affirming Disciples) Alliance.

This resource was created for use by congregations of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and their ecumenical partners which includes the ELCA.

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