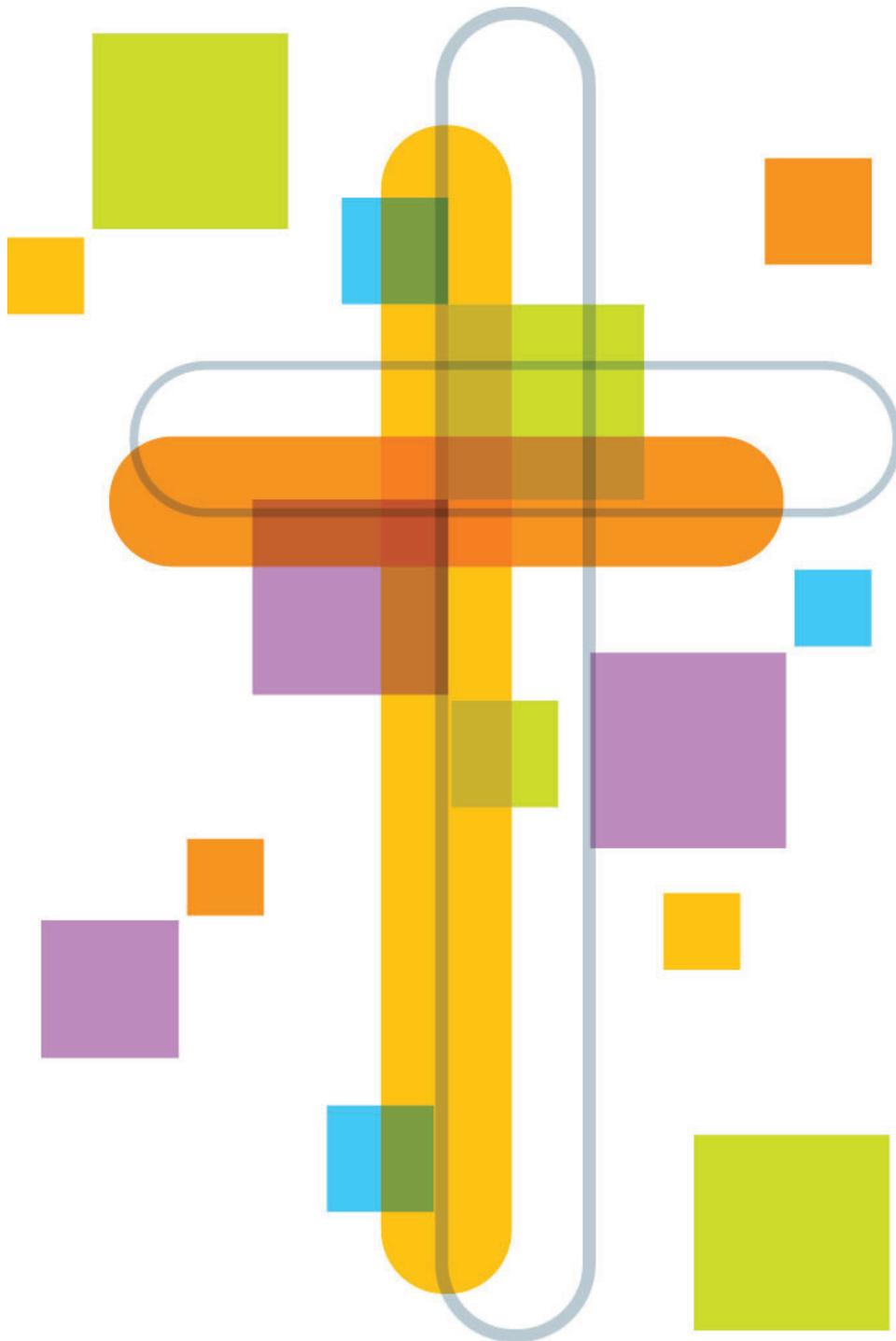


September 13, 2020  
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
10:00am



**Zion Lutheran Church**

*A Member Church of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)*  
9944 Leslie Road at Braun Road & Loop 1604, San Antonio Texas 78254  
210-688-3090      [ZionSA.org](http://ZionSA.org)

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## WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

We gather for a different type of worship together during this time. As we begin our time together, please quiet your heart and mind in preparation for worship.

- Before you silence your cell phone, please send out a FB post , Tweet  or Instagram  about Zion.
- To receive regular Zion e-mail updates, send an e-mail or a text message to [zion@zionsa.org](mailto:zion@zionsa.org).

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## STAY CONNECTED WITH ZION

Z-Mail	E-mail to <a href="mailto:zion@zionsa.org">zion@zionsa.org</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.ZionSA.org">www.ZionSA.org</a>
Facebook	Zionsa
Instagram	ZionSATX

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## WORSHIP ON-LINE

**[www.youtube.com/zionsanantonio](http://www.youtube.com/zionsanantonio)**

This link takes you to Zion's YouTube channel. Once there, look for the date of the video you want to watch. Click on the picture above the correct date, and the video will open. Live broadcast of Sunday worship begins at 10:00am.

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## OFFICE CONTACT

**[zion@zionsa.org](mailto:zion@zionsa.org)      210-688-3090**

The church office is currently closed to the public. Staff members are on campus daily to collect mail and check phone messages and email.

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## PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor Dave Schulte	<a href="mailto:dschulte@zionsa.org">dschulte@zionsa.org</a> Senior Pastor
Pastor Kathi Johnson	<a href="mailto:kjohnson@zionsa.org">kjohnson@zionsa.org</a> Associate Pastor
Pastor Dan Heim	<a href="mailto:dheim@zionsa.org">dheim@zionsa.org</a> Associate Pastor, Youth & Family Faith Formation

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## PROGRAM AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Rob Mikulski	Music Ministry <a href="mailto:rmikulski@zionsa.org">rmikulski@zionsa.org</a>
Sammy Mikulski	Theatre Ministry <a href="mailto:theatre@zionsa.org">theatre@zionsa.org</a>
Suzie Wyatt	Administrator <a href="mailto:swyatt@zionsa.org">swyatt@zionsa.org</a>
Julie Rode-Hickey	Publications <a href="mailto:jrodehickey@zionsa.org">jrodehickey@zionsa.org</a>
Karen Sturdivant	Administrative Assistant <a href="mailto:zion@zionsa.org">zion@zionsa.org</a>
David Blank	Facilities & Maintenance <a href="mailto:david3.0@zionsa.org">david3.0@zionsa.org</a>
Fernando Vallejo	Housekeeping
Pastor Heather Hansen	Lutheran Campus Ministry <a href="mailto:hhansen@zionsa.org">hhansen@zionsa.org</a>

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## 2020 CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Alyssa Brodbeck	President
Suzi Lockamy	Vice President
Allen Cockrell	Treasurer
Bud Halstead	Secretary
Brandon Price	At Large
Celeste Mussey	At Large
Jerry Nelson	At Large

Rev. David Schulte • Rev. Kathi Johnson • Rev. Dan Heim

## ✧ GATHERING ✧

PRE-WORSHIP MUSIC

Mercy

Courtney

WELCOME

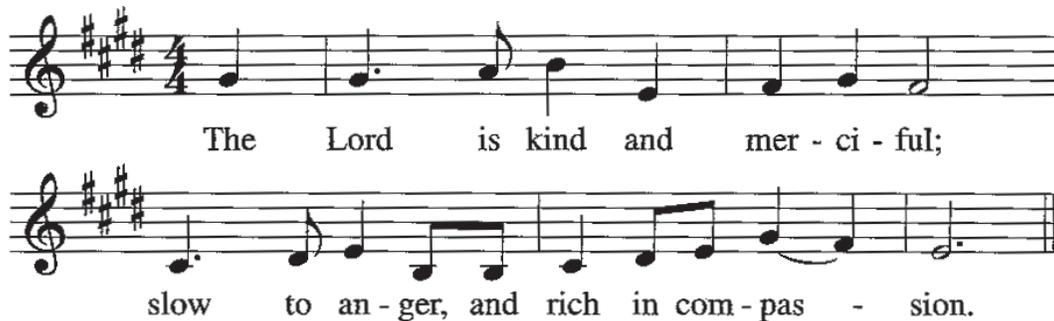
*Throughout the bulletin, assembly responses are printed in bold type.*

OPENING DIALOGUE

O Lord, open my lips,

**and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.****Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:****as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.****Amen. Alleluia.**

## Psalm 103



The Lord is kind and mer - ci - ful;  
slow to an - ger, and rich in com - pas - sion.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless God's holy name.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all God's blessings. *Refrain.*

It is God who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills,

who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion. *Refrain.*

The Lord will not always chide, will not be angry forever.

God does not treat us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our faults. *Refrain.*

For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is God's love for the God-fearing;

As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins. *Refrain.*

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Music Copyright © 2001 by GIA Publications, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

# All Creatures, Worship God Most High!



1 All crea-tures, wor-ship God most high! Sound ev - 'ry voice in earth and  
4 All who for love of God for - give, all who in pain or sor - row



sky: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Sing, broth - er sun, in splen-dor  
grieve: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Christ bears your bur-dens and your



bright; sing, sis - ter moon and stars of night: Al-le - lu - ia, al-le -  
fears; still make your song a - mid the tears:



lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia!

- 6 O sisters, brothers, take your part,  
and worship God with humble heart:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
All creatures, bless the Father, Son,  
and Holy Spirit, Three in One:  
Alleluia.

Text: Francis of Assisi, 1182–1226; tr. composite  
Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623  
Text © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

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Epistle Romans 14:1-12

<sup>1</sup>Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. <sup>2</sup>Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. <sup>3</sup>Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. <sup>4</sup>Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

<sup>5</sup>Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. <sup>6</sup>Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

<sup>7</sup>We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. <sup>8</sup>If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. <sup>9</sup>For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

<sup>10</sup>Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. <sup>11</sup>For it is written,  
“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,  
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

<sup>12</sup>So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

*After the reading:*

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

<sup>21</sup>Peter came and said to [Jesus], “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” <sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

<sup>23</sup>“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. <sup>24</sup>When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; <sup>25</sup>and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup>So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ <sup>27</sup>And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup>But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ <sup>29</sup>Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ <sup>30</sup>But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. <sup>31</sup>When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup>Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup>Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ <sup>34</sup>And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. <sup>35</sup>So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

### *After the reading:*

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

HOMILY

Pastor Dave Schulte

# Our Father, We Have Wandered

1 Our Fa - ther, we have wan - dered and hid - den from your face;  
 2 And now at length dis - cern - ing the e - vil that we do,  
 3 O Lord of all the liv - ing, both ban - ished and re - stored,

in fool - ish - ness have squan - dered your leg - a - cy of grace.  
 be - hold us, Lord, re - turn - ing with hope and trust to you.  
 com - pas - sion - ate, for - giv - ing, and ev - er - car - ing Lord,

But now, in ex - ile dwell - ing, we rise with fear and shame,  
 In haste you come to meet us and home re - joic - ing bring,  
 grant now that our trans - gress - ing, our faith - less - ness may cease.

as, dis - tant but com - pel - ling, we hear you call our name.  
 in glad - ness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.  
 Stretch out your hand in bless - ing, in par - don, and in peace.

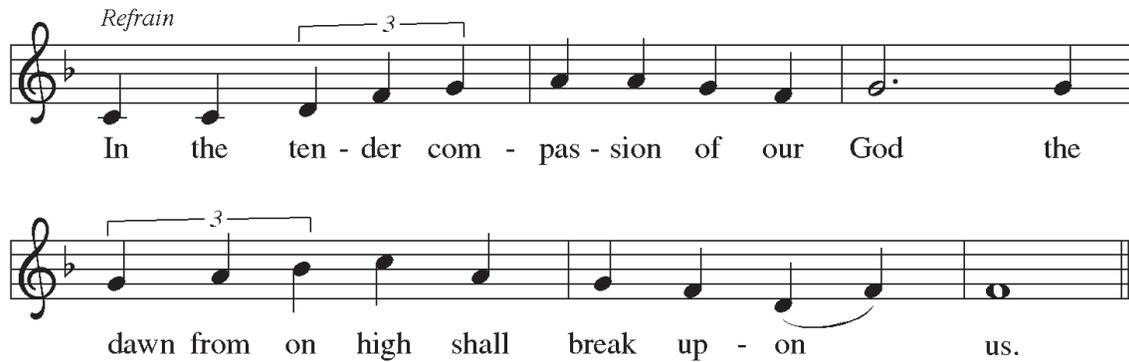
Text: Kevin Nichols, 1929-2006  
 Music: HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN, Hans Leo Hassler, 1564-1612; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685-1750  
 Text from Resource Collection of Hymns and Service Music for the Liturgy, © 1981 International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc.  
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# SCRIPTURAL DIALOGUE

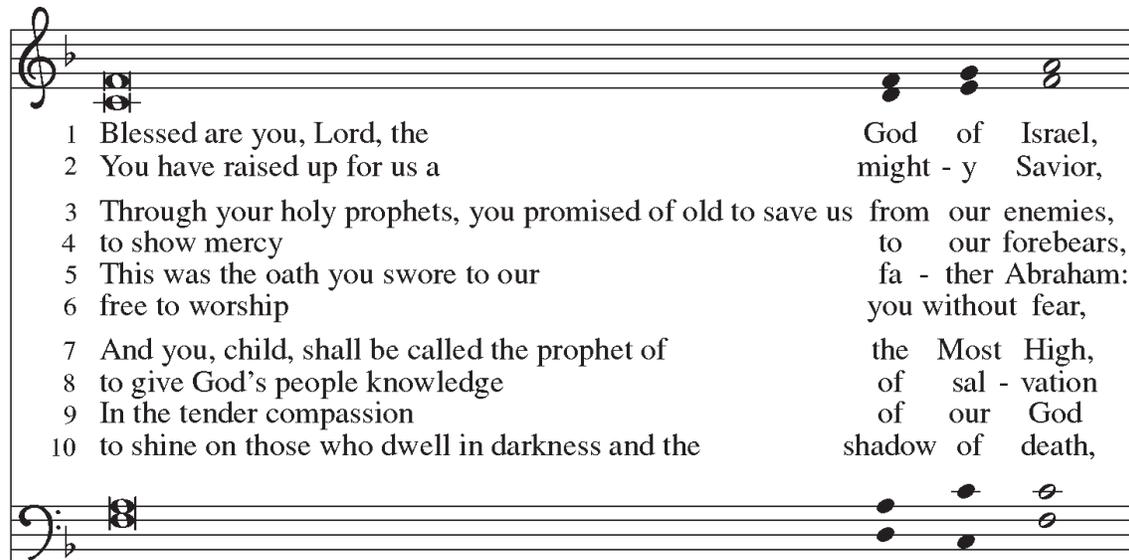
Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets,  
**but in these last days God has spoken to us by the Son.**

## GOSPEL CANTICLE

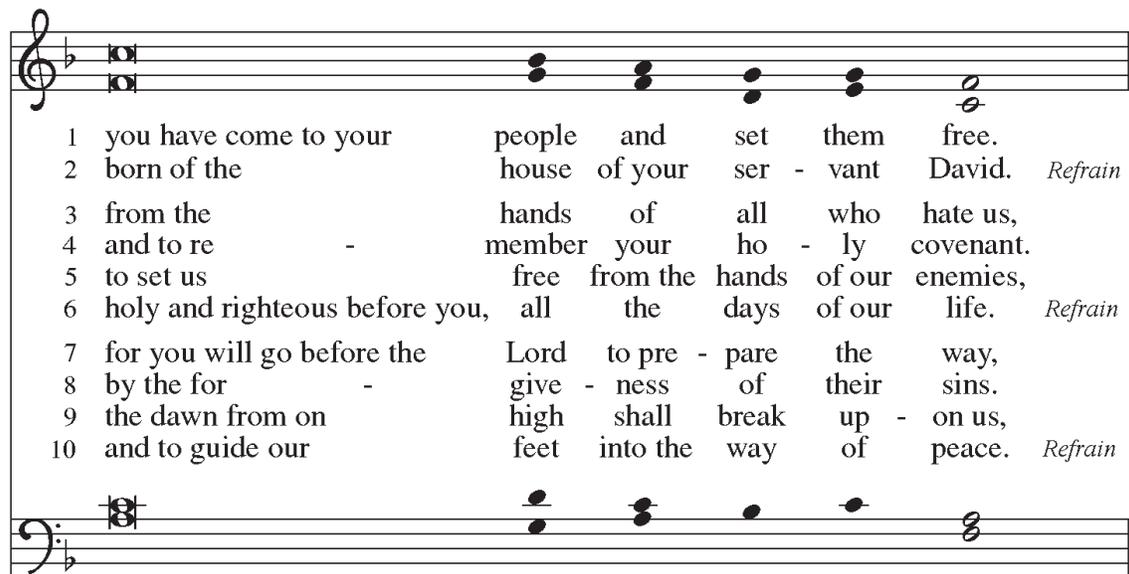
*Refrain*



In the ten - der com - pas - sion of our God the  
dawn from on high shall break up - on us.



1 Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel,  
2 You have raised up for us a might - y Savior,  
3 Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us from our enemies,  
4 to show mercy to our forebears,  
5 This was the oath you swore to our fa - ther Abraham:  
6 free to worship you without fear,  
7 And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,  
8 to give God's people knowledge of sal - vation  
9 In the tender compassion of our God  
10 to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,



1 you have come to your people and set them free.  
2 born of the house of your ser - vant David. *Refrain*  
3 from the hands of all who hate us,  
4 and to re - member your ho - ly covenant.  
5 to set us free from the hands of our enemies,  
6 holy and righteous before you, all the days of our life. *Refrain*  
7 for you will go before the Lord to pre - pare the way,  
8 by the for - give - ness of their sins.  
9 the dawn from on high shall break up - on us,  
10 and to guide our feet into the way of peace. *Refrain*

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## ✠ PRAYERS AND THANKSGIVING ✠

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

**Amen.**

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

**Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**Amen.**

### PRAYERS

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

*A brief silence for prayer follows each petition.*

Mighty God of mercy, we thank you for the resurrection dawn, bringing the glory of our risen Lord who makes every day new.

Especially we thank you—

for the sustaining goodness of your creation . . .

for the new creation in Christ and all gifts of healing and forgiveness . . .

for the gifts of relationship with others . . .

for the communion of faith in your church . . .

*An additional petition may be added here.*

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to live with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

## THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Ever-living God, author of creation, we give you thanks for your gift of water that brings life and refreshes the earth. We bless and praise you, for by water and the Word we are cleansed from sin and receive everlasting life. Join us again this day to the saving death of Christ; renew in us the living fountain of your grace; and raise us with Christ Jesus to live in newness of life; for you are merciful, and you love your whole creation, and with all your creatures we give you glory, through your Son Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

# In Thee Is Gladness



1 In thee is glad-ness a-mid all sad-ness, Je-sus, sun-shine of my  
 2 Je-sus is ours! . . . We fear no pow-ers, not of earth or sin or



heart. By thee are giv-en the gifts of heav-en, thou the  
 death. He sees and bless-es in worst dis-tress-es; he can



true re-deem-er art. Our souls thou wak-est; our bonds thou  
 change them with a breath. Where-fore the sto-ry tell of his



break-est. Who trusts thee sure-ly has built se-cure-ly  
 glo-ry with heart and voic-es; all heav'n re-joic-es



and stands for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia! Our hearts are  
 in him for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia! We shout for



pin-ning to see thy shin-ing, dy-ing or liv-ing,  
 glad-ness, tri-umph o'er sad-ness, love him and praise him



to thee are cleav-ing; naught can us sev-er: Al-le-lu-ia!  
 and still shall raise him glad hymns for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia!

Text: Johann Lindemann, 1549–1631; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
 Music: IN DIR IST FREUDE, Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi, 1556–1622

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BLESSING

Almighty God, who gives us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit and forgives us all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### DISMISSAL

Almighty God bless us ☩, and direct our days and our deeds in peace.

**Amen.**

### POSTLUDE

*In Thee is Gladness*

arr. Manz

*We encourage you to share the peace of God with others at this time, in your household and/or via phone, text, or social media with others.*

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SEPTEMBER 13, 2020  
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST



*The people of God forgive.*

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Matthew 18:21-35	A parable about forgiveness
Monday	Genesis 50:15-21	Joseph forgives his brothers
Tuesday	Romans 14:1-12	Do not judge another
Wednesday	Exodus 14:19-31	Crossing the Red Sea
Thursday	Psalms 114	The Lord works wonders
Friday	John 8:1-11	Jesus intercedes for a woman
Saturday	Psalms 103:1-13	Thanksgiving for God's goodness
Sunday	Matthew 20:1-16	Parable of the vineyard workers

### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits—who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases.

**Psalm 103:2-3 (NRSV)**

### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

#### **A Prayer for the Week:**

Gracious God, we praise you for your desire to forgive; help us to love and forgive as we are loved and forgiven through Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest; let these gifts to us be blessed. Let there be a goodly share on every table, everywhere. Amen.

#### **A Blessing to Give:**

May the forgiveness of God bless you with steadfast love and mercy. (Psalm 103:4)



SEPTEMBER 13, 2020

**HYMN OF THE WEEK**

*Healer of Our Every Ill*



**WEEKLY MILESTONES**



Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

**CARING CONVERSATIONS**



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What does forgiveness mean to you? Give an example.
- Was there ever a time when you could not forgive someone? Explain.
- How is God's forgiveness a gift to you? to the church? to the world?

**DEVOTIONS**



*Read:* Matthew 18:21-35.

Jesus presents a very unreal story to make a very real point. In Jesus' day, each talent was worth more than 15 years of work. Therefore, one slave owed over 150,000 years of income while the other owed one hundred days of wages (a denarius was one day's wage). The differences are extreme to make the point that God's forgiveness of us is wildly out-of-this-world and wonderful. It leads the follower of Jesus Christ to sing or pray Psalm 103 that begins, "Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name" (v. 1). A concrete way to praise God is to "forgive your brother or sister from your heart" (Matthew 18:35) and do so again and again and again (v. 22). Or, as Jesus suggests, do you want to consider the consequences of not showing a little forgiveness to others? That lack of forgiveness Jesus says, would destroy your life (vv. 34-35). How can you praise God today by forgiving someone who has offended or hurt you? How does this parable help bring joy to your soul?

*Pray:* **Merciful God, give me faith to remember how kind and generous you are to me and to praise you by being kind and forgiving to others through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**SERVICE**



Genesis 50:15-21 is the story of Joseph forgiving his brothers for throwing him in a pit and selling him into slavery. Forgiving someone who has hurt you is not easy. Think of someone who needs your forgiveness. Pray for that person. Reflect on God's love and mercy shown through people like Joseph and write a note of forgiveness to that person.

**RITUALS AND TRADITIONS**



Forgiveness is the theme this week in Bible readings, caring conversations, devotions, and service. Breaking a plate, saying something mean, and telling a lie are things we may not mean to do, but they happen. Think of a time when you needed to be forgiven. God forgives us again and again. Think about what this means to you. Pray the Lord's Prayer, pause as you pray, "forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us", then finish the prayer.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: [www.milestonesministry.org](http://www.milestonesministry.org)

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## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

<i>Day</i>	<i>Format</i>
Every Sunday Morning	YouTube livestream - Worship at 10:00am. Go to YouTube.com/ZionSanAntonio to subscribe to Zion's channel and see new content. Find archived sermon videos, too. <i>The YouTube link is posted on Zion's Facebook and Instagram pages.</i>
Sunday after Worship	An email with Sunday Announcements* and updates will go out following the 10am worship. <i>Also on Zion's Facebook page.</i>
NEW! Begins this Thursday Sept 17	<i>The Flowing Grace of Now: Encountering Wisdom Through the Weeks of the Year</i> by Macrina Wiederkehr. New book study with Pastor Kathi meets twice a month on Zoom, beginning this Thursday, Sept 17 (Oct 1, 15, 29, Nov 5, 19, Dec 3, 17). For details, contact Pastor Kathi at <a href="mailto:kjohnson@zionsa.org">kjohnson@zionsa.org</a> .
Thursday	Z-Mail* with late-in-the week announcements and updates as needed. Includes a bulletin and a YouTube link for the upcoming Sunday worship broadcast, and printable children's bulletins for preschool and elementary ages. <i>Also on Zion's Facebook and Instagram pages.</i>
Saturday	Electronic sabbath (day of rest) for staff.
	* <i>To subscribe to Sunday Announcements and Thursday Z-Mail, email your request to <a href="mailto:zion@zionsa.org">zion@zionsa.org</a>.</i>

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## GIVING TO SUPPORT ZION'S MISSION IN THIS TIME OF EXILE

- **Via U.S. Mail**

You may send checks to Zion at 9944 Leslie Rd., San Antonio, TX 78254. The mail is collected and processed every day by staff members.

- **Online at <http://bit.ly/ziongift>**

Make a one-time or regularly scheduled donation to Zion's General Fund, Building Fund or Memorials. You may use a credit or debit card (with fee) or checking account (no fee).

*\* Vanco Services Simply Giving*

- **Give+Plus Text or Phone App**

Text 1-833-412-0175 or get the secure mobile app, through Vanco Services. Available in Google Play or App Store.

- **Matching Funds by Employers**

Many large companies provide matching funds for contributions to your church, such as USAA, Capital Group, and Valero. Check with your employer's human resources department to find out how to apply for matching funds.

*And please remember Zion in your estate planning to empower this church's future.*