

Harrold Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Sunday, August 20, 2023 – 10:30 AM

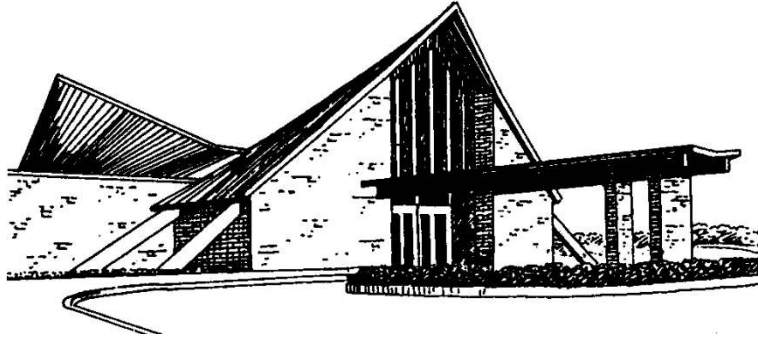
Pentecost 12

Harrold Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

671 Baltzer Meyer Pike, Greensburg, PA

Office Phone: 724-837-7327

harroldzion.org



WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP!

- **It is a joy to welcome our visitors!** Please sign the guest book in the Communication Center at the rear of the church, to the right as you exit, and take a Welcome Packet which is filled with information about Harrold Zion. Please introduce yourself to the pastor as you leave worship. We hope you return soon! Follow us on social media!
- **Children's bags** are available in the Narthex.
- **There is a prayer request book** on a podium in the Welcome Center. Please write name(s) in the book prior to the service to have names included in the prayers.
- **Large print bulletins** are available from any usher for those needing them.
- **Hearing devices** are available from any usher for those needing them.
- **An AED machine** can be found on the wall after the Ladies Room on the left.
- **Receiving Holy Communion** - We believe the body and blood of Christ to be present in the bread and wine. All who are baptized are invited to share in this meal. Please come forward at the usher's direction. Non-communing children may come forward for a blessing. If you desire communion in the pew, please inform one of the ushers so that you may receive communion there.

Sunday, August 20, 2023 – 10:30 AM

GATHERING - *We are brought together to remember who and whose we are.*

Welcome and Announcements – Joys and Concerns

Prelude

Come, All You People (#819)

Please stand or kneel, as able.

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure. **Amen.**

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

Merciful God, **we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

Righteous God, **we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of ✝ Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn #641 *All Are Welcome*

Apostolic Greeting

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.

Hymn of Praise



- 1 Come, let us join our cheer-ful songs with an-gels round the throne;
- 2 “Wor - thy the Lamb that died,” they cry, “to be ex - alt - ed thus!”
- 3 Je - sus is wor - thy to re-ceive hon - or and pow’r di - vine;
- 4 Let all cre - a - tion join in one to bless the sa - cred name



ten thou-sand thou-sand are their tongues, but all their joys are one.
“Wor - thy the Lamb,” our lips re - ply, “for he was slain for us!”
and bless-ings, more than we can give, be, Lord, for - ev - er thine.
of God who sits up - on the throne, and to a - dore the Lamb.

WORD – *We hear God’s teachings to guide our path of serving.*

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray together. **God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Please be seated.

First Reading: Genesis 45:1-15

[After Judah offered himself in place of his brother Benjamin,] ¹Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, “Send everyone away from me.” So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. ²And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. ³Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶For the famine has been in the

land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’ ¹²And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. ¹³You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.” ¹⁴Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. ¹⁵And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 133

¹How good and how pleasant it is, when kindred live together in unity!

²**It is like fine oil upon the head, flowing down upon the beard, upon the beard of Aaron, flowing down upon the collar of his robe.**

³It is like the dew of Hermon flowing down upon the hills of Zion.

For there the LORD has commanded the blessing: life forevermore.

Second Reading: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

[Paul writes:] ¹I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin.

^{2a}God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

²⁹For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. ³²For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all. The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand, as able.

Verse



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[¹⁰[Jesus] called the crowd to him and said to them, “Listen and understand:¹¹it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.” ¹²Then the disciples approached and said to him, “Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?” ¹³He answered, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. ¹⁴Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit.” ¹⁵But Peter said to him, “Explain this parable to us.” ¹⁶Then he said, “Are you also still without understanding? ¹⁷Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? ¹⁸But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. ¹⁹For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. ²⁰These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.”]

²¹Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” ²³But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” ²⁴He answered, “I

was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.”²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.”²⁶ He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.”²⁷ She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.”²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly. The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Children’s Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day #759 *My Faith Looks Up to Thee*

Apostles’ Creed

**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**

Prayers of the Intercession

(petitions) ...Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

(prayer concludes) ...**Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

MEAL – *We are built up and nourished to be the body of Christ in the world.*

Offertory #742 *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray together. **God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving and Proper Preface

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 him thanks and praise.

It is indeed our duty and our joy... And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer

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.

Breaking the Bread and Invitation to Communion

All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat what is good.

Please be seated.

Lamb of God



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

The proclamation is shared for those communing in their place with an all-in-one kit or home elements.

Sharing the elements:

The Body of Christ given for you. The Blood of Christ shed for you.

*Each person may respond: **Amen.***

The leaders share Holy Communion.

The assembly is invited to come forward by the direction of the ushers by the center aisle and receive Holy communion, then return via the side aisle. [For Sunday: You may receive the Sacrament around the altar or at the floor stations. (For more, see announcement about "combo" distribution details.)]

Please join us in singing the following Communion Hymns:

#471 *Let Us Break Bread Together*

#472 *Eat This Bread* (Verses sung by soloists, Refrain sung by Congregation)

SENDING - *We are sent out to share hope and make disciples.*

Post-Communion Blessing *The assembly is invited to stand.*

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray together. **We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Blessing

The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed ✚ bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn *Just a Little Talk with Jesus*

Verses



1. I once was lost in sin, but Je - sus took me in, and
2. Some - times my path seems drear, with - out a ray of cheer, and
3. I may have doubts and fears, my eyes be filled with tears, but

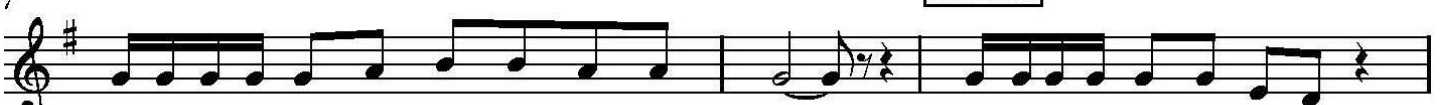


then a lit - tle light from heav - en filled my soul; It
then a cloud of doubt may hide the light of day; The
Je - sus is a friend who wat - ches day and night; I



bathed my heart in love and wrote my name a - bove, and
mists of sin may rise and hide the star - ry skies, but
go to Him in pray'r, He knows my ev - 'ry care, and

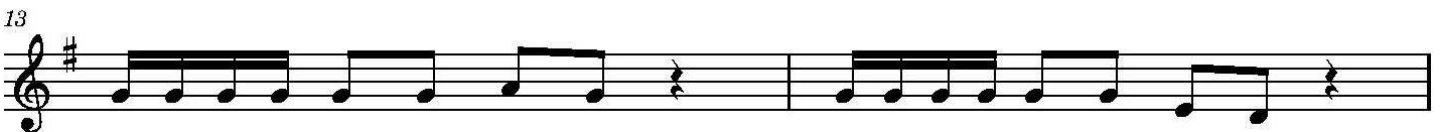
Refrain



just a lit - tle talk with Je - sus made me whole. Have a lit - tle talk with Je - sus,
just a lit - tle talk with Je - sus clears the way. just a lit - tle talk with Je - sus,
just a lit - tle talk with Je - sus makes it right.



tell Him all a - bout our trou - bles. hear our faint - est cry an - swer by and by;



feel a lit - tle pray'r wheel turn - ing, know a lit - tle fire is burn - ing,



find a lit - tle talk with Je - sus makes it right.

Quiet Meditation

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the harvest. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

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WE THANK TODAY'S SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Lectors: 10:30 AM Kelly Perry

Acolytes: 10:30 AM Caleb Heasley

Communion Assistants: 10:30 AM Sheri Anderson, Ann Wineman

Ushers: 10:30 AM Shawn Carolan, Mary Lou Millward

Altar Guild: Lisa Zundel, Rita Heasley

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are dedicated to the glory of God and in honor of my wedding anniversary by Pastor Caroline Clifford; in honor of Dorothy Henry.

THE CONGREGATION EXPRESSES OUR SYMPATHY TO Carol Trent and family on the death of Carol's father, Gene Miles. May the hope of the resurrection give them peace.

THE BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS will be at all worship services this weekend.

NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING KICK-OFF EVENT, this Sunday August 20 we will meet at HZ at 1:30 PM. We will travel to Camp Lutherlyn for youth fellowship, information, planning and DINNER. We should be back at the church by 9:00 PM, at the latest.

LOOKING FOR A WAY TO SERVE AT HARROLD ZION? We are in major need of two people to serve on the Altar Guild in September. If you can help, please contact Susie Eicher.

Full “Combo” Holy Communion Distribution detailed explanation and plan:

Our desire is to provide meaningful worship that helps to “grow disciples” as indicated in our Mission Statement. Part of this mindset means that we are inclusive, open, and affirming to various bodily spiritualities and their respective affinities for connecting with God in ways that mirror their God created diversity. Some find it significant to kneel around the altar while others prefer the practice of continuous reception, some praying in their pew, some singing communion hymns, communing in their place...all receiving the precious gift of the Bodily Presence of Christ which was not earned.

We started using this method on August 6th.

One side of the sanctuary, the pulpit side will be invited by the direction of an usher to go forward via the center aisle. Then forming two columns of flow—one goes up to the altar rail and the other to the floor continuous stations. A pastor will be in each area with a communion assistant.

Those choosing to receive around the altar will go up the center via the steps, passing the pastor at the floor station. Each should find their place by going clockwise around the altar (unless the opening is just to the right—no need to walk the whole way around). The pastor and the assistant will distribute around the altar in a clockwise manner. An acolyte will be available to help with resupplying whichever stations are running low. There will not be a dismissal, remain for prayer as long as needed. Return to seats via the ramps to the side aisle, depositing used cups into the basket near the front pew.

Those choosing to receive by continuous will come forward by the center aisle in the column to the pastor at the floor station. They will then move to the wine/grape juice station. Worshippers are invited to pause for prayer before returning or once in their pew (kneeling or sitting). Return to seats via the side aisle, depositing used cups into the basket near the front pew.

After the whole side has communed, the usher will pause as a signal for the floor station pastor and assistant to move over for the font side. Then the other side of the sanctuary (font) will then be invited in the same mirrored two columns and continue as described above.

THIS WEEK....**OFFICE HOURS M-F 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM****SUNDAY**

8:00 & 10:30 AM Communion
8:00 & 10:30 AM Backpack Blessing
10:30 AM Joyful Noise
11:45 AM Evangelism Committee
1:30 PM National Youth Gathering
Kick-off Event

MONDAY**TUESDAY**

10:00 AM Knitting Ministry
10:00 AM PS room reserved
5:00 PM Walking Group
6:30 PM Book Study

WEDNESDAY**THURSDAY**

5:00 PM Walking Group
7:00 PM Council Meeting

FRIDAY**SATURDAY**

8:00 AM Sanctuary Reserved
11:00 AM Memorial Service w/
luncheon to follow
2:00 PM Social Hall Reserved

SUNDAY

8:00 & 10:30 AM Communion
10:30 AM Baptism
11:45 AM SH & pavilion reserved

PUT ON YOUR WALKING SHOES and join us at Harrold Zion every Tuesday and Thursday, from 5:00-6:00 PM. We walk in the parking lot so that we can also enjoy one another's fellowship. Walk at your own pace. We do not walk in inclement weather. Come when you can...exercise is more fun with friends! Please call Tammy at 724-837-7327 with questions.

THE SUMMER BOOK CLASS continues on Tuesdays, at 6:30 PM, and will continue through September 5.

COUNCIL REMINDER: The August council meeting will be held this Thursday evening, August 24, at 7:00 PM.

CHOIR WILL RETURN AUGUST 30! Youth Choir (5:30), Handbells (6:00), and Adult Choir (7:00) will resume practicing on Wednesday, August 30th! New members are always welcome! If you're interested, email Laurie, or stop by a practice and check it out!

WE WILL BE HAVING A CLASS FOR CPR. It can be for your first time or to renew your certification. We are planning to have the class on Thursday, August 31, from 1:00-4:00 PM. The class is for the church staff and the preschool staff, but we have a few extra spots open for congregation members. Please contact Pastor Caroline at 724-837-7327 or email her at pastorcarolinehzlc@gmail.com if you would like to attend.

WE ARE IN NEED OF SUNDAY SCHOOL HELPERS. The goal is to have a rotation of parents to lighten the load. The future of Sunday School depends on it. Please sign up in the Communication Center or contact Ms. Sheri at 724-244-0120 or hzlcyouth@gmail.com.

SUNDAY SCHOOL WILL BE RALLYING at 9:15 AM on Sunday, September 10 to kick off the Sunday school year. Regular classes will resume the next week, Sunday, September 17, at 9:15 AM.

RALLY DAY is Sunday, September 10th. We will have the **10:30 AM Worship Service in the upper parking lot (weather permitting)**, followed by good food and outdoor activities in the pavilion area. All welcome to join us for faith, fellowship and fun as we welcome back the Fall Sunday School Programs. Bring a chair and wear any past Harrold Zion Tee Shirts, if you desire.

GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS. DAY is Sunday, September 10. We will celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. This year to celebrate the movements 10th birthday, let's give back to an organization who celebrates children's birthdays...Beverly's Birthdays. We are collecting the following items on or before September 10: pajamas (newborn – Yth L), reusable water bottles (children's sizes), coloring books, crayon packs, colored pencils and lunch box snacks. **NEW ITEMS ONLY PLEASE.** Please contact Ms. Sheri with any questions (hzlcyouth@gmail.com or 724-837-7327).

CRASH WEEKEND WILL RESUME September 16 & 17. The response to "crash weekend" in the past was amazing. Please save your change and bring it to worship that weekend and dump it in the bucket to make a joyful noise.

A NEW SESSION OF THE GRIEF SUPPORT group will begin September 14. This group will meet on Thursdays at 3:00 PM. Please come and join us if you have had a significant death in your family. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Caroline at 724-837-7327 or pastorcarolinehzlc@gmail.com.

THE PARENT'S BREAKFAST GROUP will resume on the first day of Sunday School, which is September 17. Drop your child(ren) off at Sunday school at 9:15 AM, then head downstairs to the Social Hall area outside of the kitchen for a time of fellowship and continental breakfast. Beginning Sunday, October 8, we will continue to gather on the second Sunday of each month.

YOUNGWOOD LIONS' EYEGASSES AND HEARING AID COLLECTION

For anyone who is not aware the Youngwood Lions Club collects eyeglasses and hearing aids to help those who cannot afford them. There is always a box on the shelf in the Communications Center in which to deposit them. The motto of Lions is "WE SERVE", kind of like Christ suggested!

LOOKING AHEAD:

- Rally Day – September 10
- God's Work. Our Hands. Day – September 10
- Outdoor worship service – September 10, 10:30 AM
- Parent's Breakfast Group – September 17
- "Crash Weekend" resumes – September 16 & 17

ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR SPONSORSHIP:

Altar Flowers – August 27, Sept. 24 (2 vases); Sept. 3, 10, 17 (1 vase)

Bulletin – August 27, Sept. 3, 24, 10; Eternal candle – Sept. 17

Reminder: Rose = \$5, Bulletin = \$10, Candle = \$5, Altar Flowers = \$25/vase

To sponsor items, please sign up in the Communication Center.

Church Staff and Office – 724-837-7327

Rev. Andrew Fitch, Senior Pastor pastorfitch@outlook.com

Rev. Caroline Clifford, PhD, Asst. Pastor pastorcarolinehzlc@gmail.com

Tammy Hilland, Secretary tammyhzlc@gmail.com

Sheri Anderson, Coordinator of Family Ministries hzlc youth@gmail.com

Laurie Racculia, Director of Music Ministries lracculia@yahoo.com

Debby Schlegel, Custodian

Joanne Gebhardt, Sunday Organist

Melanie Altman, Saturday Organist

Website – www.harroldzion.org

Phone number – 724-837-7327

Visit us on Facebook

HARROLD ZION'S 2023 FINANCIAL REPORT

July operating income:	\$31,776.82
July operating expense:	<u>\$30,294.26</u>
	\$ 1,482.56
YTD operating income:	\$211,046.65
YTD operating expense:	<u>\$221,971.33</u>
	\$-10,924.68

HARROLD ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

*To Worship and Serve God,
Grow Disciples and Love our Neighbors*