

Harrold Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Sunday, July 23, 2023 – 8:00 & 10:30 AM

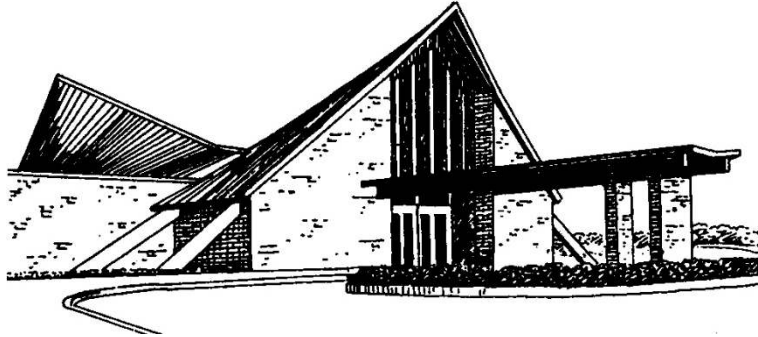
Pentecost 8

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.

Sunday, July 23, 2023 – 8:00 & 10:30 AM

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

Welcome and Announcements – Joys and Concerns

Prelude

The Great Commission

Livingston

Please stand, 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.

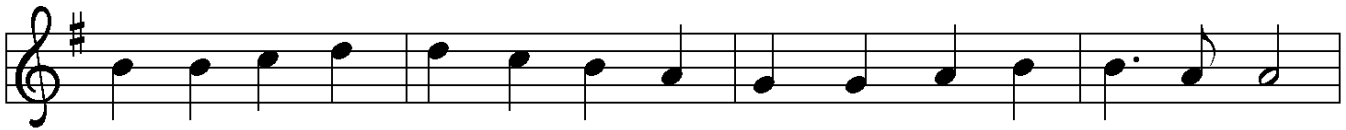
God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of ✝ Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn #681 *We Plow the Fields and Scatter*

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 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

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

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray together. **Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Please be seated.

First Reading: Genesis 28:10-19a

¹⁰Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. ¹¹He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the

stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. ¹²And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. ¹³And the LORD stood beside him and said, “I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; ¹⁴and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. ¹⁵Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.” ¹⁶Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, “Surely the LORD is in this place—and I did not know it!” ¹⁷And he was afraid, and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.”

¹⁸So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. ^{19a}He called that place Bethel. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalmody: Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24

¹LORD, you have searched me out; O LORD, you have known me.

²**You know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.**

³You trace my journeys and my resting-places
and are acquainted with all my ways.

⁴**Indeed, there is not a word on my lips,
but you, O LORD, know it altogether.**

⁵You encompass me, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

⁶**Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.**

⁷Where can I go then from your Spirit?
Where can I flee from your presence?

⁸**If I climb up to heaven, you are there;
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.**

⁹If I take the wings of the morning
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

¹⁰**even there your hand will lead me
and your right hand hold me fast.**

¹¹If I say, “Surely the darkness will cover me,
and the light around me turn to night,”

¹²**darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day;
darkness and light to you are both alike.**

²³Search me out, O God, and know my heart;
try me and know my restless thoughts.

²⁴**Look well whether there be any wickedness in me
and lead me in the way that is everlasting.**

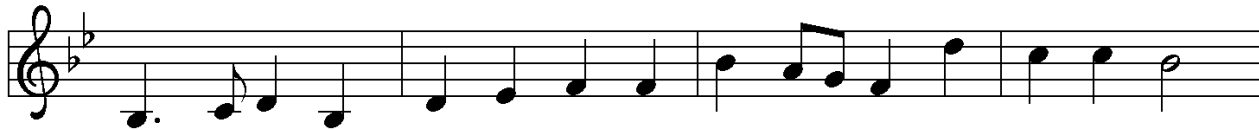
Second Reading: Romans 8:12-25

¹²So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ²⁰for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. 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 13:24-30, 36-43

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁴[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field;²⁵ but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ ²⁸He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ ²⁹But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’ ”

³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.”

³⁷He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all

causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴²and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!" The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

Children's Message

Sermon

Please stand, as able.

Hymn of the Day #517 *Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word*

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.**

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.

Sharing of the Peace

Offering

Offertorium

Young

Offertory #691 *Accept, O Lord, the gifts We Bring*

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.**

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

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 #679 *For the Fruit of All Creation*

Quiet Meditation

Dismissal

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

Postlude

Postludium

Young

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Service Participants

Lectors: 8:00 AM Linda Boyer; 10:30 AM Doris McAlister

Acolytes: 8:00 AM Katelyn Holsopple; 10:30 AM Kelsey Coppetti

Ushers: 8:00 AM Bob Eicher

10:30 AM Cheryl Eckles, Lloyd Fait

Altar Guild: Ann Wineman, Lori Farrell

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are dedicated to the glory of God and in honor of my grandson, Mason Hohman, from Grandma Jackie Hohman.

THE GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP continues to meet at Harrold Zion on Thursdays at 3:00 PM through July 27.

THE SUMMER BOOK CLASS continues to read and discuss the book titled, *“Believe: Living the story of the Bible to become like Jesus”*, edited by Randy Frazee. The classes are on Tuesdays, at 6:30 PM, and will continue through August 29.

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

6:30 PM Property Committee

TUESDAY

10:00 AM Knitting Ministry

6:30 PM Book Study

WEDNESDAY

9:30 AM Staff Meeting

10:00 AM Newsletter Mailing

THURSDAY

3:00 PM Grief Support Group

FRIDAY

6:00 PM Wedding Rehearsal

SATURDAY

8:00 AM Sanctuary Reserved

9:00 AM Social Hall Reserved

2:30 PM Wedding

SUNDAY

9:15 AM Blood Drive

2:00 PM Splash Day

“COMBO” HOLY COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION will start next month. In order to reach the varying spirituality of our Sunday worshippers, we will be trying a “combo” method. You will be able to receive the Sacrament by gathering around the Altar rail or by continuous stations. Here is what the leadership are envisioning: One side (pulpit or font) will be invited 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. All will return via the side aisle, depositing used cups into the basket. Then the other side of the sanctuary (font or pulpit) will then be invited in the same mirrored two columns and continue as described above.

A BLOOD DRIVE will be held at Harrold Zion next Sunday, July 30, from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Blood donations are down and are much needed so please consider donating. You can schedule to donate before or after church if you plan to attend worship that day. Appointments are recommended. You can sign up on the sheet in the Communication Center or via the website, vitalant.org (search with account code UG0030141) or by zip code. You can also call 412-209-7000, visit Instagram, Twitter or Facebook to register.

SPLASH DAY! Grab your swimsuits and sunscreen and make a splash with us next Sunday, July 30, at 2:00 PM and stay until our fingers are pruned! We will have water games, freezer pops and the famous HZ giant slip ‘n slide.

STAY CALM AND GA GA ON! Friday, August 11, at 6:00 PM (weather permitting), bring your family and learn to play GaGa by our expert youth players. Help us to keep the GaGa game alive for future HZ families and the community. This event is for all ages!

NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING KICK-OFF EVENT, Sunday August 20. Meet at HZ 1:30 PM. If you are entering 7th grade this fall, please join us for a National Youth Gathering Event. Even if you are unsure about participating, please come on a field trip with the Pastors and Ms. Sheri to Camp Lutherlyn. We will travel to Camp Lutherlyn for youth fellowship, information, planning and DINNER. We should be back at the church by 9:00pm, at the latest. Please sign your youth up in the Communication Center or let Ms. Sheri know.

HELP NEEDED FOR RALLY DAY! Please see page 7 of the July newsletter for details and consider signing up to help make Rally Day a fun success. Please sign up in the Communication Center.

LOOKING AHEAD:

- Rally Day carnival – September 10

ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR SPONSORSHIP:

Altar Flowers – July 30 (2 vases)

Bulletin –July 30; Eternal candle –July 30

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

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Sheri Anderson, Coordinator of Family Ministries hzlcyouth@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 EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
MISSION STATEMENT

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