

Harrold Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

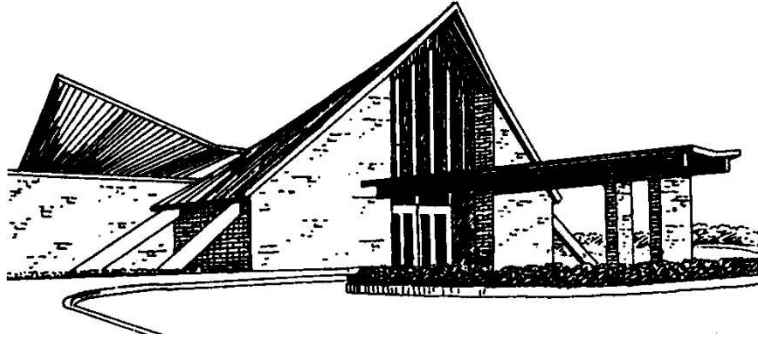
Pentecost 9

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 30, 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

Londonderry Air

Irish Folk Tune

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.

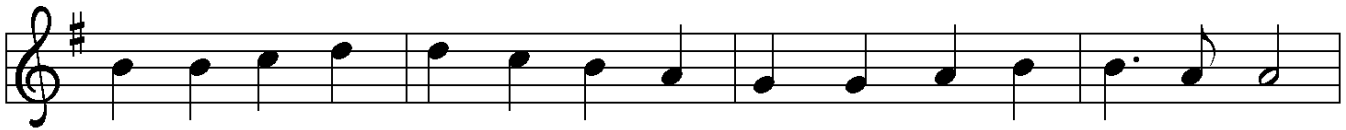
God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of ✚ Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn #532 *Gather Us In*

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. **Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Please be seated.

First Reading: Genesis 29:15-28

¹⁵Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?" ¹⁶Now Laban had

two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. ¹⁷Leah's eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. ¹⁸Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, "I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel." ¹⁹Laban said, "It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me." ²⁰So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.

²¹Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed." ²²So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. ²³But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. ²⁴(Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) ²⁵When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?" ²⁶Laban said, "This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. ²⁷Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years." ²⁸Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 105:1-11, 45b

¹Give thanks to the LORD and call upon God's name;
make known the deeds of the LORD among the peoples.

²**Sing to the LORD, sing praises,
and speak of all God's marvelous works.**

³Glory in God's holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

⁴**Search for the strength of the LORD; continually seek God's face.**

⁵Remember the marvels God has done,
the wonders and the judgments of God's mouth,

⁶**O offspring of Abraham, God's servant,
O children of Jacob, God's chosen ones. R**

⁷The LORD is our God, whose judgments prevail in all the world,

⁸**who has always been mindful of the covenant,
the promise made for a thousand generations:**

⁹the covenant made with Abraham, the oath sworn to Isaac,

¹⁰**which God established as a statute for Jacob,
an everlasting covenant for Israel,**

¹¹saying, "To you will I give the land of Canaan
to be your allotted inheritance." ^{45b}Hallelujah!

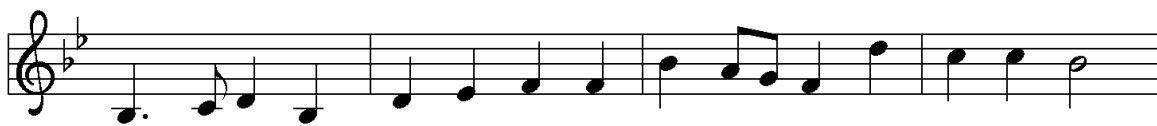
Second Reading: Romans 8:26-39

²⁶The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. ³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. 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 13:31-33, 44-52

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;³²it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

³³He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

⁴⁴“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls;⁴⁶on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁵¹“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” ⁵²And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.” 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 #793 *Be Thou My Vision*

Welcome of New Members by Affirmation of Baptism:

Today we welcome Dennis and Carol into our membership by Affirmation of Baptism.

Presentation

Prayer

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

Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's Supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

*Response: **I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.***

People of God, do you promise to support and pray for them in their life in Christ? **We do and we ask God to help and guide us.**

Prayer

We rejoice with this sister and brother in Christ.

We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

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

Sarabande

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 #705 *God of Grace and God of Glory*

Quiet Meditation

Dismissal

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

Postlude

Glorious Faith In God

Sawyer

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Service Participants

Lectors: 8:00 AM Louise Henry; 10:30 AM Ross Thompson

Acolytes: 8:00 AM Grace Dansak; 10:30 AM Ella Kanouff

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 loving memory of Marian Altman by Chad Altman.

A BLOOD DRIVE will be held at Harrold Zion this Sunday, July 30, from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

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 plan to start using this method on Communion Sundays starting 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.

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

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

9:15 AM Blood Drive

2:00 PM Splash Day

MONDAY

10:00 AM Quilting

6:30 PM Personnel Committee

TUESDAY

6:30 PM Book Study

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

3:00 PM Grief Support

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

8:00 AM Sanctuary Reserved

5:00 PM Blessing of the Quilts

SUNDAY

8:00 & 10:30 AM Blessing of the Quilts

9:30 AM Youth & Family meeting

THE YOUTH AND FAMILY COMMITTEE will meet next Sunday, August 6, at 9:30 AM in the Social Hall. If you have a child, a youth or are a family member of one, guess what??? You are a member of the Youth and Family Committee. Join in on the fun of planning events, sharing ideas, or just come and see. We will meet for less than an hour and there will be coffee and juice.

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!

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS: Students of all ages are welcome to receive a blessing and a gift to carry with you. The blessing will be at all worship services the weekend of August 19 & 20.

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.

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!

HELP NEEDED FOR RALLY DAY! Please sign up in the Communication Center or contact Ross Thompson or Susan Yaksic who are members of the Evangelism Committee.

T-SHIRTS FOR God's work. Our hands. Day can be ordered by completing a form found in the Communication Center. The cost is \$10 per shirt. Orders are due by August 13.

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

ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR SPONSORSHIP:

Altar Flowers – August 13, 20, 27 (2 vases)

Bulletin – August 13, 20, 27 ; Eternal candle – August 13, 20

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

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