

# Living Sacrifices

A person is shown in silhouette, standing with their back to the camera. Their right arm is raised high, with the hand open and fingers spread, reaching towards a bright sun. The sun is positioned directly behind the person's head, creating a halo effect. The sky is filled with large, white, fluffy clouds. The overall color palette is warm, dominated by yellows, oranges, and whites from the sky and sun.

Romans 12:1

ZION EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH, MONROE, MI

(Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

IN JESUS' NAME WE WELCOME YOU!

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 9 & 13, 2020

**WELCOME TO ZION.** It is our hope and prayer that the message you hear today from God's Word will strengthen your faith and fill your heart with the peace only God can give and the joy we have in believing that JESUS CHRIST is our Savior from sin.

**Worship Focus:** Through contrition and repentance the Christian's body and mind are renewed for service in God's kingdom. This is our spiritual worship.

**Liturgy: Service of the Word**

CW pg. 38

Opening Hymn: CW 453 (vs. 1-4)

"Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spoke"

COMMITMENT

453

**Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spoke**

1 "Come, fol - low me," the Sav - ior spoke, "All in my  
2 "I am the light; I light the way, A god - ly  
3 "My heart a - bounds in low - li - ness, My soul with  
4 "I teach you how to shun and flee, What harms your  
5 Then let us fol - low Christ our Lord And take the  
way a - bid - ing, De - ny your - selves; the  
life dis - play - ing, I bid you walk as  
love is glow - ing, And gra - cious words as my  
souls' sal - va - tion, Your hearts from ev 'ry  
cross ap - point - ed And, firm - ly cling - ing  
world for - sake; O - bey my call and guid - ing,  
in the day; I keep your feet from stray - ing,  
lips ex - press, With meek - ness o - ver - flow - ing,  
guile to free, From sin and its temp - ta - tion,  
to his Word, In suf - f'ring be un - daunt - ed,  
Oh, bear the cross, what - e'er be - tide; Take  
I am the way, and well I show  
My heart, my mind, my strength, my all To  
I am the ref - uge of the soul And  
For those who bear the bat - tle's strain The  
my ex - am - ple for your guide,  
you should jour - ney on here be - low,  
God I yield; to your heav'n - ly call,  
lead you to your heav'n - ly ob - tain,  
crown of heav'n - ly life ob - tain,

Text: Johann Scheffler, 1624-77, abr., st. 1-3, 5; *Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge*, 1695, st. 4; tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813-96, alt.

Tune: MACHS MIT MIR, GOTT (87 87 88) Bartholomäus Gesius, c. 1555-1613, adapt.

P: The grace of our Lord (✠) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

### CONFESSION OF SINS

P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: **Amen.**

### PRAYER AND PRAISE

P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are  
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -  
ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -  
ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -  
ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.  
Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

*The minister says the Prayer of the Day.*

O Lord Jesus Christ, preserve the congregation of believers with your never-failing mercy. Help us avoid whatever is wicked and harmful, and guide us in the way that leads to our salvation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



## THE WORD

### First Lesson

### Jeremiah 15:15-21

<sup>15</sup> O LORD, you understand. Remember me and care for me. Take vengeance for me on those who persecute me. You are slow to anger. Do not take me away. Keep in mind that for your sake I bear disgrace. <sup>16</sup> Your words came to me, and I devoured them. Your words became my joy, the delight of my heart, because I bear your name, O LORD God of Armies. <sup>17</sup> I did not sit with the band of partygoers, nor did I celebrate with them. I sat alone, because your hand was upon me. You filled me with indignation. <sup>18</sup> Why is my pain unending? Why is my wound incurable, refusing to heal? Will you be as deceptive as an intermittent stream to me, like a source of water that a person can't depend on? <sup>19</sup> Therefore this is what the LORD says. If you repent, I will take you back, so that you may stand before me. If what you say is worthwhile and not worthless, you will be my spokesman. They must turn to you, but you must not turn to them. <sup>20</sup> I will make you like a bronze wall to this people. They will fight against you, but they will not overcome you, because I am with you to save you and to rescue you, declares the LORD. <sup>21</sup> I will rescue you from the hand of the wicked, and I will deliver you from the grasp of the ruthless. (EHV)

## Psalm 121

CW pg. 112

*The Church lifts its eyes, confidently expecting the protection of its covenant God.*



I lift up my eyes to the hills.\*

Where does my help come from?

My help comes from the LORD,\*

the maker of heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot slip,\*

he who watches over you will not slumber;

indeed, he who watches over Israel\*

will neither slumber nor sleep.

### *Refrain*

The LORD watches over you,\*

the LORD is your shade at your right hand.

The LORD will keep you from all harm,\*

he will watch over your life;

the LORD will watch over your coming and going\*

both now and forevermore.

**Glory be 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.**

### *Refrain*

Refrain Tune: Jane Marshall. From *Psalms Together*. © 1988 Choristers Guild. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## Second Lesson

## Matthew 16:21-26

<sup>21</sup> From that time, Jesus began to show his disciples that he had to go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders, chief priests, and experts in the law, and be killed, and on the third day be raised again. <sup>22</sup> Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “May you receive mercy, Lord! This will never happen to you.” <sup>23</sup> But Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a snare<sup>[a]</sup> to me because you are not thinking the things of God, but the things of men.” <sup>24</sup> Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If anyone wants to follow me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. <sup>25</sup> In fact whoever wants to save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup> After all, what will it benefit a person if he gains the whole world, but forfeits his soul? Or what can a person give in exchange for his soul? (EHV)

### VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. Your words became a joy to me, and the delight of my heart. Alleluia. (Jeremiah 15:16 cf. RSV)

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

COMMITMENT

457

**Fight the Good Fight**

1 Fight the good fight With all your might;  
 2 Run the straight race Through God's good grace;  
 3 Cast care a - side, Lean on your guide;  
 4 Faint not nor fear; His arms are near.



Christ is your strength and Christ your light.  
 Lift up your eyes and seek his face.  
 His bound - less mer - cy will pro - vide.  
 He chang - es not, and you are dear.



Lay hold on life, and it shall be  
 Life with its way be - fore us lies;  
 Lean, and the trust - ing soul shall prove  
 On - ly be - lieve, and you will see



Your joy and crown e - ter - nal - ly.  
 Christ is the path and Christ the prize.  
 Christ is its life and Christ its love.  
 That Christ is Lord e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–75, alt.  
 Tune: MENDON (448 88) *The Methodist Harmonist*, New York, 1821.

**Sermon text and theme:****Romans 12:1-8**

12 Therefore I urge you, brothers, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice—holy and pleasing to God—which is your appropriate worship. <sup>2</sup> Also, do not continue to conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, so that you test and approve what is the will of God—what is good, pleasing, and perfect. <sup>3</sup> So by the grace given to me, I tell everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought, but think in a way that results in sound judgment, as God distributed a measure of faith to each of you. <sup>4</sup> For we have many members in one body, and not all the members have the same function. <sup>5</sup> In the same way, though we are many, we are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. <sup>6</sup> We have different gifts, according to the grace God has given us. If the

gift is prophecy, do it in complete agreement with the faith. <sup>7</sup> If it is serving, then serve. If it is teaching, then teach. <sup>8</sup> If it is encouraging, then encourage. If it is contributing, be generous. If it is leadership, be diligent. If it is showing mercy, do it cheerfully. (EHV)

## **OFFER YOUR BODIES AS LIVING SACRIFICES**

### **LADDER OF SUCCESS**

#### Effort – Attitude

0% - I won't

10% - I can't

20% - I don't know how

30% - I wish I could

40% - I could

50% - I think I might

60% - I might

70% - I think I can

80% - I can

90% - I will

100% - I did

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**The third day he rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.**

**From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**



## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

P: Almighty God, we acknowledge with thanks that all we have and enjoy is a gift from your gracious hand. We come before you today in heartfelt appreciation for our nation and its people.

**C: We thank you for enabling us to worship you in freedom and to serve you without fear.**

P: You have enriched us with the bounties of farm and factory, the beauty of forest and mountain, and the marvels of medicine and science.

**C: For all these blessings, we praise and glorify you.**

P: Look with favor upon our nation, and preserve our cherished liberties. Enable our leaders to govern with wisdom, honesty, courage, and justice. Protect those who serve in the armed forces and those who maintain peace and safety in our communities.

**C: Give us willingness to obey our nation's laws and to work for the common good.**

P: Keep our financial institutions secure and our economy strong. Bless our fields that they may produce abundant harvests. Guard us from calamities of nature and accident, and spare our land from the ravages of disease and epidemic.

**C: Teach us not to worry but to cast all our cares on you.**

P: Strengthen the homes of our nation. By your Spirit lead husbands and wives to love each other, parents to nurture their children, young adults to assume responsibility, and children to show respect.

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

P: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer.*

P: To you, O Lord, we bring our thanks and our requests.

**C: Hear our prayers for Jesus' sake. Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**C: 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.**

## COMMITMENT

464

## Jesus Christ, My Pride and Glory



1 Je - sus Christ, my pride and glo - ry, He, the true and  
 2 Let me live to praise you ev - er, Je - sus, now my  
 3 Grant me, Lord, your Ho - ly Spir - it That in all I  
 4 From all pain and im - per - fec - tion, Gra - cious Lord, de -

liv - ing light, Strength - ens me with glo - rious might.  
 heart's de - light; You are lead - ing me a - right.  
 fol - low him; Lest the light of faith grow dim.  
 liv - er me; Heav - en's glo - ry let me see.

Christ, re - vealed in sa - cred sto - ry, Whom I now as  
 Let me cling to you for - ev - er, All the flesh - ly  
 Let me ev - er trust your mer - it; Let your bless - ing  
 Keep me un - der your di - rec - tion That the grace you

Lord con - fess, Teach - es me true ho - li - ness.  
 lusts de - ny, And the dev - il's hosts de - fy.  
 me at - tend; From all e - vil me de - fend.  
 gave to me I may praise e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1635–1711, abr.; tr. Paul E. Kretzmann, 1883–1965, alt.  
 Tune: ACH, WAS SOLL ICH SUNDER MACHEN (877 877) *Schäffer-Belustigung . . . Hirthen-Lieder*, Altdorf, 1653, alt.

## Benediction

P: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (✠) give you peace.



Closing Hymn: CW 453 (v. 5)

“Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spoke”

COMMITMENT

453

## Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spoke

1 "Come, fol - low me," the Sav - ior spoke, "All in my  
2 "I am the light; I light the way, A god - ly  
3 "My heart a - bounds in low - li - ness, My soul with  
4 "I teach you how to shun and flee What harms your  
5 Then let us fol - low Christ our Lord And take the  
way a - bid - ing. De - ny your - selves; the  
life dis - play - ing. I bid you walk as  
love is glow - ing, And gra - cious words my  
souls' sal - va - tion, Your hearts from ev - 'ry  
cross ap - point - ed And, firm - ly cling - ing  
world for - sake; O - bey my call and guid - ing.  
in the day; I keep your feet from stray - ing.  
lips ex - press, With meek - ness o - ver - flow - ing.  
guile to free, From sin and its temp - ta - tion.  
to his Word, In suf - f'ring be un - daunt - ed.  
Oh, bear the cross, what - e'er be - tide; Take  
I am the way, and well I show How  
My heart, my mind, my strength, my all To  
I am the ref - uge of the soul And  
For those who bear the bat - tle's strain The  
my ex - am - ple for your guide.  
you should jour - ney here be - low.  
God I yield; on him I call.  
lead you to your heav'n - ly goal."  
crown of heav'n - ly life ob - tain."

Text: Johann Scheffler, 1624–77, abr., st. 1–3, 5; *Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge*, 1695, st. 4; tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96, alt.

Tune: MACHS MIT MIR, GOTT (87 87 88) Bartholomäus Gesius, c. 1555–1613, adapt.



Officiants

Accompanists: Dottie Bober

Liturgist: Pastor Daniel Slaughter

Preacher: Pastor Ross Ulrich



**ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**Pastor Ross Ulrich:** 734-240-3888; [rwulrich@zionmonroe.org](mailto:rwulrich@zionmonroe.org)  
**Pastor Daniel Slaughter:** 734-735-0552; [dslaughter@zionmonroe.org](mailto:dslaughter@zionmonroe.org)  
**Principal: Bryan Schneck:** 907-331-7761; [bschneck@zionmonroe.org](mailto:bschneck@zionmonroe.org)

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**PASTOR SLAUGHTER HAS RECEIVED ANOTHER DIVINE CALL** – On Sun., Aug. 9, Trinity Lutheran Church of Belle Plaine, MN, has extended a Divine Call to Pastor Slaughter to serve as an Associate Pastor. Please keep Pastor Slaughter in your prayers and give him your counsel as you deem appropriate. THANK YOU. Romans 10:14 & 15

**OVER ABUNDANCE TABLE:** Do you have too much produce in your garden? Are you afraid it will go bad before you can use it all? We have a solution – bring your extra items into church and share your good fortune with others. There is a table in the west foyer to leave your items. Anyone can come and grab something from the table for **FREE** to take home and enjoy. Thank you to everyone who donates. Everyone please enjoy.

**WORSHIP FOR SEPTEMBER:** We have decided at this time that with still being in Phase 4 of COVID-19 we are going to maintain the current worship schedule. So there will be no Sunday School, Adult Bible Class or Youth Group. **Wednesday worship at 7:00 p.m., Sunday worship at 8:30 & 10:30 a.m., and Tuesday, Sept. 8 @ 1:30 p.m.** We will review the schedule each month and let you know if/when it changes. Thank you for your patience in these uncertain times.

**KILLARNEY REROOFING** – There is a planned work bee at Killarney Lutheran Camp on Sept. 11-13 to reroof the pavilion. If you would like to help please contact Mark Fuerstenberg at 654-3736.

**HVL NEWS:**

HVL Virtual Auction - HVL's 2020 Auction will be held online. Item preview begins Sept 12, bidding begins Sept 19, and the *Auction Program Premiere* will take place on Sept 26 at 7pm, with bidding ending at 9pm. Go to [www.hvlhs.org](http://www.hvlhs.org) for more information.

Mums Fundraiser - The HVL booster club is raising funds by selling Mums from Schwartz's Greenhouse. We have 9 inch pots for \$10 and 10 inch hanging baskets for \$15 in a variety of colors. The deadline for orders is September 18. Orders will be delivered to HVL on September 24. To place an order, go to [www.hvlhs.org](http://www.hvlhs.org).

Offerings for Week Ending 09/06/20

	General Fund		Missions	
Weekly	Budgeted	\$8,733	Budgeted	\$782
	Received	\$3,448	Received	\$370
		(\$5,285)		(\$412)
Year to Date	Budgeted	\$314,389	Budgeted	\$28,161
	Received	\$261,461	Received	\$22,840
		(\$52,928)		(\$5,321)