

*Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost, October 11, 2026*  
*Zoar Church, Tofte, MN*

**Welcome** Visitors - Please fill out the Visitor Card and put it in the giving box in the Narthex

Pastor: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

**Congregation: Amen**

Pastor: The Lord be with you

**Congregation: And also with you**

**Opening Prayer**

**Bell**

**Opening Song:** "Beautiful One" - CCLI # 3915912

**V1**

Wonderful so wonderful  
Is Your unfailing love  
Your cross has spoken mercy over me  
No eye has seen no ear has heard  
No heart could fully know  
How glorious how beautiful You are

**V2**

Powerful so powerful  
Your glory fills the skies  
Your mighty works displayed for all to see  
The beauty of Your majesty  
Awakes my heart to sing  
How marvelous how wonderful You are

**Chorus**

Beautiful One I love You  
Beautiful One I adore  
Beautiful One my soul must sing

**Bridge 1**

You opened my eyes to Your wonders anew  
You captured my heart with this love  
Because nothing on earth is as beautiful as You

**Confession and Forgiveness (From 1 John & Psalm 32)**

Pastor: God is light

**Congregation: in him there is no darkness at all.**

P: If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another,

**C: and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C: If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

(Silence for reflection and confession)

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord

**C: And he forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

**Song** “We Will” - CCLI # 2475738

**Verse**

We sing praises to You Lord  
We worship and adore  
We praise Your name forevermore  
We sing praises to You Lord  
We worship and adore  
We praise Your name forevermore

**Pre-Chorus**

Let our melodies be sweet in Your throne room  
Let our melodies be sweet to You

**Chorus** We will

Lift our hands in highest praise  
We will  
Bow our knees before Your throne  
We will  
Come and worship You  
With all our hearts  
We will

**Bridge** With all our hearts

With all our strength  
With all our minds and  
With all our lives

**Song** “How He Loves” - CCLI # 5032549

**V1** He is jealous for me loves like a hurricane  
I am a tree bending beneath  
The weight of His wind and mercy  
When all of a sudden I am unaware of  
These afflictions eclipsed by glory  
I realize just how beautiful You are  
And how great Your affections are for me

**V2** He is jealous for me loves like a hurricane  
I am a tree bending beneath  
The weight of His wind and mercy  
When all of a sudden I am unaware of  
These afflictions eclipsed by glory  
I realize just how beautiful You are  
And how great Your affections are for me  
Oh how He loves us so Oh how He loves us  
How He loves us so  
Oh how He loves us so Oh how He loves us  
How He loves us so

**Chorus**

Yeah, He loves us Oh how He loves us  
Oh how He loves us Oh how He loves  
Yeah, He loves us Oh how He loves us  
Oh how He loves us Oh how He loves

**Prayers & 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***

**Old Testament Reading:** Isaiah 49:24-25 (NIV)

Can plunder be taken from warriors,  
or captives be rescued from the fierce?  
But this is what the Lord says:

“Yes, captives will be taken from warriors,  
and plunder retrieved from the fierce;  
I will contend with those who contend with you,  
and your children I will save.

**New Testament Readings:** 1 John 3:8B, Colossians 2:15, Hebrews 2:14 (NIV)

The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work.

And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil—

**Gospel Reading:** Matthew 12:22-29 (NIV)

Then they brought him a demon-possessed man who was blind and mute, and Jesus healed him, so that he could both talk and see. All the people were astonished and said, "Could this be the Son of David?"

But when the Pharisees heard this, they said, "It is only by Beelzebul, the prince of demons, that this fellow drives out demons."

Jesus knew their thoughts and said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself will be ruined, and every city or household divided against itself will not stand. If Satan drives out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then can his kingdom stand? And if I drive out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your people drive them out? So then, they will be your judges. But if it is by the Spirit of God that I drive out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

"Or again, how can anyone enter a strong man's house and carry off his possessions unless he first ties up the strong man? Then he can plunder his house.

*P: The Word of God for the people of God*

***C: Thanks be to God***

**Message:** "***No Division***" - Pastor Al Alexander

### **Apostle's 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 Christian church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen

**Song: "How Great Thou Art" - CCLI # 14181**

**V1** *O Lord my God when I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made  
I see the stars I hear the mighty thunder  
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed*

**V2** *When through the woods  
and forest glades I wander  
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees  
When I look down  
from lofty mountain grandeur  
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze*

**V3** *And when I think that God  
His Son not sparing  
Sent Him to die I scarce can take it in  
That on the Cross my burden gladly bearing  
He bled and died to take away my sin*

**V4** *When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
And take me home what joy shall fill my heart  
Then shall I bow in humble adoration  
And there proclaim my God how great Thou art*

**Chorus**  
*Then sings my soul my Saviour God to Thee  
How great Thou art how great Thou art  
Then sings my soul my Saviour God to Thee  
How great Thou art how great Thou art*

**Announcements**

- October Mission: Operation Family Christmas - See poster in Narthex
- Community Bible Study
  - Monday's 3:00-4:00 pm
  - On break, resumes 10/19/26
- Fall programs start soon
  - Men's Breakfast, Led by Pastor Al, Saturdays at 8 am, starting 10/17
  - Heritage Dinner, 10/21 6-8 pm – See poster in Narthex
  - Bible Club at Birch Grove, Led by Richard and Roxana, Wednesdays, 3:15-4:30 starting 10/28
  - Soup Suppers, Wednesdays, 5:15-6:00 starting 10/28
  - Confirmation Classes, Led by Pastor Al and Linda, after Soup Suppers starting 10/28
- Please be gentle with water usage at the church. Our tank is full.
- Please pray through the Zoar prayer list every day
- See Pastor Al if you would like to become a member of Zoar
- Thanks to all who are praying for our young people
- Pick up a copy of Our Daily Bread devotional in the Narthex
- To get on the prayer chain - email or call Pastor Al or the church.
- Prayer Requests - Form in seat back; box in Narthex or email Pastor Al
- Sign up for after church treats - sheet in Narthex
- Puzzle exchange - downstairs in the fellowship hall. Lots of puzzles!
- Billy Peterson book - See Pastor Al
- Giving: Box in Narthex, online through our webpage or send a check to the church.

**Benediction** Numbers 6:24-26 (NIV)

The Lord bless you and keep you;  
the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you;  
the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace

**Bell**

**Sending**

*Pastor Al: Go in peace and serve the Lord.*

***Congregation: Thanks be to God. We Will! Alleluia. Amen***

**Dismiss**

Website: [www.zoarchurch.org](http://www.zoarchurch.org) • Email: [zoarchurchtofte@gmail.com](mailto:zoarchurchtofte@gmail.com) • Church Phone: 218-663-7925  
Pastor Al Alexander 612-308-2185 • Music provided this morning by Dave Gustafson  
Offerings can be dropped in the labeled box in the narthex  
or by clicking the link "Give" on the [zoarchurch.org](http://zoarchurch.org) homepage.