

Zion Lutheran Church Mission Statement

“Bonded in Christ’s love, we teach, preach, and equip God’s people for discipleship here and throughout the world.

Good Neighbor and New Member Sunday Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost



October 11, 2026

Rev. Dr. Renae Koehler

For those who are hearing challenged, Zion has digital listening devices for your use during worship. Please ask a council member for one and they will show you how to use it.

Prelude & Ringing of the Bell

Welcome

Gathering of our Spirits for Worship

P - Powerful beyond all powers of earth is the fire of God’s Spirit.

C - Whose flaming heat forges heroes out of us ordinary people.

P - Boiling our lukewarm spirits into churning steam engines of energy.

C - In the name of Jesus’ holy power, we enter into worship.

Gathering Hymn - Come, We That Love the Lord

ELW #625 vs. 1-3

Come, we that love the Lord,
and let our joys be known;
join in a song with sweet accord,
join in a song with sweet accord
and thus surround the throne,
and thus surround the throne.

[Refrain]

We're marching to Zion,
beautiful, beautiful Zion;
we're marching upward to Zion,
the beautiful city of God.

Let those refuse to sing
who never knew our God;
but children of the heav'nly King,
but children of the heav'nly King
may tell their joys abroad,
may tell their joys abroad. [Refrain]

The hill of Zion yields
a thousand sacred sweets
before we reach the heav'nly fields,
before we reach the heav'nly fields,
or walk the golden streets,
or walk the golden streets. [Refrain]

Welcome of New Members

- Michael & Bibiana Knipe
- Doug & Teresa Zulauf
- Chuck Dalby
- Kale Harms
- Cassie Janzen
- Dacota Rieken
- Collin Hartig
- Lauren & Brady Ideus

Opening Prayer

P - Beloved Christ,

C - we give thanks for our new members. May they walk with us to stretch our circle and teach us things we did not know. We welcome the change that they bring with them. We will work together as your living church and we dedicate ourselves to you. Amen.

Reading of the Scriptures

First Reading - 2 Kings 4:8-10 The Shunammite woman makes a room for Elisha.

One day Elisha was passing through Shunem, where a wealthy woman lived, who urged him to have a meal. So whenever he passed that way, he would stop there for a meal. She said to her husband, "Look, I am sure that this man who regularly passes our way is a holy man of God. Let us make a small roof chamber with walls and put there for him a bed, a table, a chair, and a lamp, so that he can stay there whenever he comes to us."

Psalm 133:1-3 *(Please read responsively)*

How very good and pleasant it is

when kindred live together in unity!

It is like the precious oil on the head,

running down upon the beard,

on the beard of Aaron,
running down over the collar of his robes.
It is like the dew of Hermon,
which falls on the mountains of Zion.
For there the Lord ordained his blessing,
life forevermore.

Second Reading - Romans 12:9-13 Practice hospitality

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers. *Here ends this reading.*

(Please stand as you are able)

Gospel - Mark 2:13-17 Jesus eats with tax collectors and sinners.

Jesus went out again beside the sea; the whole crowd gathered around him, and he taught them. As he was walking along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax-collection station, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him. And as he sat at dinner in Levi's house, many tax collectors and sinners were also sitting with Jesus and his disciples, for there were many who followed him. When the scribes of the Pharisees saw that he was eating with sinners and tax collectors, they said to his disciples, "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?" When Jesus heard this, he said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician but those who are sick; I have not come to call the righteous but sinners."

Gospel Sung Response tune - (tune: Blessed Assurance)

Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine! Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of Christ spirit, washed in his love. This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long: this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long. (*Please be seated.*)

Special Music – Kids of the Kingdom

Children's Message

Sung Blessing for our Children Tune – (tune: Children of the Heavenly Father)

Chil-dren of the heav'n-ly Fa-ther safe-ly in his bo-som gath-er; nest-ling bird nor star in heav-en such a ref-uge e'er was giv-en.

Homily - Rev. Dr. Renae Koehler

Offering Hymn - Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

ELW #659 vs. 1-3

Will you let me be your servant
Let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace
To let you be my servant too

We are pilgrims on a journey
We are travelers on the road

We are here to help each other
Walk the mile and bear the load

I will hold the Christ-light for you
In the night time of your fear
I will hold my hand out to you
Speak the peace you long to hear

(Please stand as the offering is brought forward.)

Sung Offering Response tune - (tune: For all the Saints)
**We bring this off-ring to our God di-vine; for works of just-ice,
so that love may shine. Bless us to-day and let our lives en-
twine. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!**

Offering Blessing

P - Loving Jesus,

**C - may these gifts bring light to those who walk in darkness,
hope to those who live in despair, and justice to those who are
oppressed. Grant to each of us a sense of participation in the
most important work of all time; to share your love with the
world. We dedicate our offering and ourselves. Amen** *(Please
be seated)*

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 Church - *When the pastor says, "Lord in your mercy" please respond with "Hear our Prayer."*

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.**

Benediction Litany

P - Go and prepare a room in your home, for the holy one is coming to visit.

C - I will go and serve others with grand hospitality.

P - Go and eat with tax collectors and sinners.

C - I go not as a judge of others, but as one who brings grace.

Announcements in the Life of the Church

C - ZION... a place to belong, a place to believe, a place to become!

Sending Hymn - On Eagles Wings ELW #787

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
Who abide in His shadow for life,
Say to the Lord, "My Refuge,
My Rock in Whom I trust."

{Refain}

And He will raise you up on eagle's wings,
Bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun,
And hold you in the palm of His Hand.

The snare of the fowler will never capture you,
And famine will bring you no fear;
Under His Wings your refuge,
His faithfulness your shield. *{Refain}*

You need not fear the terror of the night,
Nor the arrow that flies by day,
Though thousands fall about you,

Near you it shall not come. *{Refrain}*

For to His angels He's given a command,
To guard you in all of your ways,
Upon their hands they will bear you up,
Lest you dash your foot against a stone.

And He will raise you up on eagle's wings,
Bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun,
And hold you in the palm of His Hand.
And hold you in the palm of His Hand.

P - Go in peace and serve the Lord.

C - Thanks be to God.

Rev. Dr. Renae Koehler - Interim Pastor 402-867-4044

Les Lieneman - Council President 402-223-0433

Michele Kolm - Church Office number 402-806-3601

Email -zionlutheranchurchpickrell@gmail.com

Helping out with Worship Today

Pastor:.....Rev. Dr. Renae Koehler

Organist:.....Shirley Gronewold

Acolytes:.....Mason Hippen
Mason Ideus

Lector: Pam Trauernicht

Greeters:.....Karla Holland
Robert & Linda Ideus

Special Music:.....Kids of the Kingdom

October Altar Guild: Carol Young, Sandy Meints, Marcella Rademacher, Susan Newman

October Table Troop: LeAnn Fossler (Leader), Doug & Rhonda Dorn, Duane & Janice Parde, Gary Wiese, John & Marcia Busboom

Vital Statistics for last Sunday

Worship: 132 Giving: \$3,393.00

SS: 53 Giving: \$ 30.00

THIS WEEK IN THE LIFE OF ZION

Today

8:45am - SS

9:00am - BKF Club

10:00am – Worship/Good Neighbor/New Member Sunday/Kids of the Kingdom/ Hospitality Serving Fall treats and cider after worship

Monday

9-3:00pm – Blanket Sewing

Tuesday

9-3:00pm – Blanket Sewing

Wednesday

6:00pm – 7th/8th grade confirmation class

Thursday

Ladies Aide

Next Sunday

8:45am - SS

9:00am - BKF Club/Adult Bible Study

10:00am - Worship/Communion/Endless Hallelujah

3-5:00pm - Trunk or Treat @ Fuller Park

Helping out next Sunday

Pastor:.....Rev. Dr. Renae Koehler

Organist.....Alnora Daubendiek

Acolytes:.....Tanden Wiese

Micah Hofstetter

Lector: Katelyn Bohlmeier

Greeters:.....Billy & Janet Harms

Katelyn & Jeni Bohlmeier

THIS WEEKS BULLETIN IS SPONSORED BY: None

IF INTERESTED IN SPONSORING A WEEKLY BULLETIN you may do so by contacting the Church secretary and making a check out to Zion Church for \$75.00.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to worship! A Warm Welcome to all our visitors. We are so glad you are here & would love to have you visit again! Please sign a visitor card located in the pews and place the information section of the card in the offering plate. We hope to see you again!

BREAKFAST CLUB SIGN-UP - There is a sign-up clip board on the Welcome Center for the Breakfast Club – help feed our hungry high school students on Sunday Mornings.



SUPPORTING SAMMIE GARTON - Many within our church family have asked how they can support Sammie Garton as she continues her healing journey through leukemia. As we stand with Sammie and her family in prayer, we also recognize the significant financial burdens that often accompany ongoing medical treatments, travel, and time away from work.

For those who feel led to provide financial support, contributions may be mailed to:

Adams State Bank
649 Main Street
Adams, NE 68301

Please make checks payable to Adams State Bank and include "Sammie Garton" in the memo line. The memo is very important to ensure the funds are properly directed.

Most importantly, we ask that you continue to lift Sammie and her loved ones in prayer, trusting in God's faithfulness, comfort, and provision during this difficult journey.

"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." Galatians 6:2

YOUTH CAMP REIMBURSEMENTS - Any youth who attended confirmation camp or a summer Christian based camp during 2026, may qualify for reimbursement up to 75% of the camp cost based on the "Early Bird Discount" (if applicable). Funds are provided through the Willie & Anna Meints Endowment Fund. Applications are located on the Welcome Center in the fellowship hall. Application deadline is 12/1/26.

NEW MEMBERS HONORED DURING SERVICE TODAY - We welcome all our new members of Zion over the previous year and are blessed that you have chose our church family. Please reach out of any member and council with any questions that you may have.

NEW MEMBERS:

- Michael & Bibiana Knipe
- Doug & Teresa Zulauf
- Chuck Dalby
- Kale Harms
- Cassie Janzen
- Dacota Rieken
- Collin Hartig
- Lauren & Brady Ideus

GOOD NEIGHBOR/NEW MEMBER SUNDAY TODAY -

We wanted our church family to INVITE their neighbors & friends to worship today. If you are a visitor today we welcome you and we are glad that you are here! We will also be recognizing Zion's past year's new members today.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY – Themes for the Month.

October 18th – Lesson on Martin Luther. Learn about the reformation, and what it means to be ELCA Lutheran. Learn why people were in danger (Martin Luther,) or killed because they wanted to translate the Bible for the common people.

Come learn, pray, and grow in your relationship with God!

GAGE COUNTY CROP HUNGER WALK -

The 57th annual Gage County CROP Hunger Walk is Scheduled for Sunday, October 11, 2026. It will start at 2:00PM at the trail in the northeast part of Hannibal Park, weather permitting, after a short on-site registration, orientation, and moment of commitment. Those able will walk 6 miles down to the river and back.

Sunday School Teachers Needed for the Upcoming Year!

We are looking for volunteers to help teach our Sunday School students this coming year!

Open Positions:

- * 2nd Grade Co-Teacher (1st Semester only)**
- * 7th Grade Co-Teacher**

Teaching Sunday School is a wonderful opportunity to share God's Word and help nurture the faith of our children and youth. If you are interested or would like more information, please reach out to a member of the Parish Education Committee.

Contact:

 Courtney Schlake – 402-239-4628

 zionparished20@gmail.com

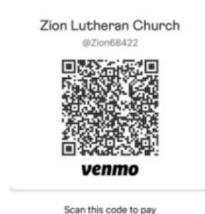
Thank you for helping make a difference in our Sunday School program!

TRUNK OR TREAT - "The Hospitality Committee is looking for volunteers to host and decorate a trunk for our upcoming Trunk or Treat. We need your help to make this a successful event. Please contact one of the hospitality members to sign-up. You can also sign-up via the sheets that we will pass around church. Or, you can contact Jeni Bohlmeier at [402-440-3672](tel:402-440-3672)





GIVING OPTION - Simply scan the QR Code to the right to access Zion's Venmo account and submit your offering.



Offering envelopes and online giving via Vanco are still available to members as well. **Any members with questions regarding these options can reach out to a church council member.**

Bailey Pointe - Vivian Schuster

Gold Crest - Janice Jurgens, Doreen Wallman, Marilyn Robinson

Homestead House - Rosanna Miller,

Our Homes Assisted Living - Randy Oltman

Wilber Care Center - Marsha Zulauf