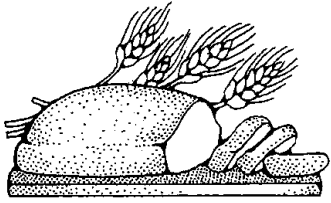


Zion Lutheran Church Mission Statement:

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



Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Kathee Forrest

August 11, 2024

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

Prelude – Bell

The Season after Pentecost, also called Ordinary Time, begins the day after Pentecost and ends the day before the First Sunday of Advent. It may include twenty–three to twenty–eight Sundays, depending on the date of Easter, but the first Sunday is always Trinity Sunday, and the last Sunday is always the Sunday of the Reign of Christ or Christ the King. The season also includes All Saints and Thanksgiving.

A Prayer for the New School Year

P- God of all wisdom,

C- we praise you for gifting us with curiosity and learning.

Give to all students, teachers, and caregivers a clear sense of your love. May they feel your presence throughout this school

year. Guide their choices, their quest for knowledge, and their relationships. Use their successes and failures as opportunities to grow in understanding of who you would have them to be. Continue to shape them, that they may walk in the way of Christ, grow strong in Spirit's love for all people, and know the complete joy of life in you. In the name of Christ our Great Teacher, we pray. Amen.

Linda Witte Henke, adapted, "From the Vine," in [Marking Time: Christian Rituals for All Our Days](#), Moorehouse Publishing 2001, p. 63.

Gathering

P- Jesus says that the bread he gives for the life of the world is his flesh, and whoever eats this bread has eternal life now and will be raised in the last day.

C- Taste and see that the Lord is good.

P- In his letter to the Ephesians, Paul tells us what this life Jesus gives us looks like, this life we live as those marked with the seal of the Holy Spirit in baptism. We live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up to us. The whole purpose of life is giving yourself for the other.

C- Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Gathering Hymn – I Love to Tell the Story ELW 661

1. I love to tell the story
Of unseen things above,
Of Jesus and His glory,
Of Jesus and His love.
I love to tell the story,

Because I know 'tis true;
It satisfies my longings
As nothing else can do.

Refrain - I love to tell the story,
'Twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old, old story
of Jesus and His love.

2. I love to tell the story;
'Tis pleasant to repeat
What seems each time I tell it,
More wonderfully sweet.
I love to tell the story;
For some have never heard
The message of salvation
From God's own holy Word. **Refrain**

3. I love to tell the story;
For those who know it best
Seem hungering and thirsting
To hear it like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory,
I sing the new, new song,
'Twill be the old, old story,
That I have loved so long. **Refrain**

Confession and Forgiveness

As you are able, please stand. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as pastor begins.

P- Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God,
the God of manna,
the God of miracles,
the God of mercy.

C- Amen

P- Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P- God, our provider,

C- help us.

It is hard to believe there is enough to share.

**We question your ways when they differ from the ways
of the world in which we live.**

**We turn to our own understanding
rather than in trusting in you.**

We take offense at your teachings and your ways.

Turn us again to you.

Where else can we turn?

**Share with us the words of eternal life
and feed us for life in this world.**

P- Beloved people of God:

in Jesus, the manna from heaven,
you are fed and nourished.

By Jesus, the worker of miracles,
there is always more than enough.

Through Jesus, + the bread of life,
you are shown God's mercy:

you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

C- Amen

P- The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C- And also with you!

P- Please share the peace of the Lord safely with each other.

Please be seated.

Children's Time: Rev. Kathee Forrest

Readings

1st Kings 19:4-8

Lector – First Kings chapter 18 describes the contest between Elijah and the prophets of Baal. The contest proves that the Lord is God, and afterward Elijah orders the killing of the Baal prophets. Angered by the death of her prophets, Queen Jezebel threatens to kill Elijah. This reading finds Elijah fleeing, fatigued, and in utter despair.

But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: "It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors." Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat." He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and lay down again. The angel of the Lord came a second time, touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you." He got up and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food for forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God. Here ends this reading.

Psalm 34:1-8, Praise for Deliverance from Trouble

Read responsively.

I will bless the Lord at all times;

his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

My soul makes its boast in the Lord;

let the humble hear and be glad.

O magnify the Lord with me,

and let us exalt his name together.

I sought the Lord, and he answered me,

and delivered me from all my fears.

Look to him, and be radiant;

so your faces shall never be ashamed.

This poor soul cried, and was heard by the Lord,

and was saved from every trouble.

The angel of the Lord encamps

around those who fear him, and delivers them.

O taste and see that the Lord is good;

happy are those who take refuge in him.

Ephesians 4:25--5:2

Lector – Christians are called to be imitators of God. This does not mean Christians are perfect. Rather, the Spirit is at work in our lives so that our actions and attitudes genuinely reflect the love and forgiveness we have received through Christ and his death. Paul writes to the church in Ephesus:

So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not make room for the devil. Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them

labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. Therefore, be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. Here ends this reading.

Prayer of the Day

As you are able, please stand.

P- Gracious God,

your blessed Son came down from heaven to be the true bread that gives life to the world. Give us this bread always, that he may live in us and we in him, and that, strengthened by food, we may live as his body, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, amen.

Gospel – John 6:35, 41-51

P- After feeding more than five thousand people in the wilderness, Jesus teaches them regarding the true significance of this remarkable sign.

Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”

Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, “I am the bread that came down from heaven.” They were saying, “Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, ‘I have come down from heaven’?” Jesus answered them, “Do not complain among yourselves. No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. It is written in the prophets, ‘And they shall all be taught by God.’ Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.” The Gospel of the Lord.

C- Praise to you, O Lord! *Please be seated.*

Message – Rev. Kathee Forrest

Offering Hymn – Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer ELW 618

1 Guide me ever, great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but you are mighty;
hold me with your pow'rful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.

2 Open now the crystal fountain
where the healing waters flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer,
shield me with your mighty arm,
shield me with your mighty arm.

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs and praises, songs and praises
I will raise forevermore,
I will raise forevermore.

Offering Prayer

As you are able, please stand.

P- Blessed are you, Holy One,

C- for all good things come from you.

In the bread and cup you open heaven to us.

Meet us at this table,

that we receive what we seek,

and follow your Son, Jesus,

in whose name we pray. Amen

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and 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.

Announcements in the Life of Our Church

Blessing & Dismissal

As you are able, please stand.

P- God who names,
Christ who claims you,
and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you,
+ bless you and remain with you always.

C-Amen.

P- Go in peace. You are God's beloved!

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

Sending Hymn – Lord Speak to Us, That We May Speak ELW 676

1 Lord, speak to us, that we may speak
in living echoes of your tone;
as you have sought, so let us seek
your straying children, lost and lone.

2 Oh, lead us, Lord, that we may lead
the wand'ring and the wav'ring feet;
oh, feed us, Lord, that we may feed
your hung'ring ones with manna sweet.

3 Oh, teach us, Lord, that we may teach
the precious truths which you impart;
and wing our words, that thy may reach
the hidden depths of many a heart.

4 Oh, fill us with your fullness, Lord,
until my very hearts o'erflow
in kindling thought and glowing word,
your love to tell, your praise to show.

Pastor Jer's phone number – 402-404-0494

jkgil1979@yahoo.com

Karen's number – 402-661-9362

Email -jpzionlutheran@yahoo.com

Helping out Today

Pastor.....Kathee Forrest
Organist.....Shirley Gronewold
Acolytes.....Jayden Wiese
Presleigh Borgman
Lector.....Brian Garton
Greeters.....Al & Sheryl Wiese
Dean & Andrea Siefkes
Coffee Fellowship by.....Joy Circle & Volunteers

Vital Statistics for Last Sunday

Sunday Service 88 Giving \$ 2265.00

THIS WEEK IN THE LIFE OF ZION

Today

9:00 Worship/Fellowship by the Joy Circle & Volunteers

Wednesday

1:30 pm Grace Circle

Thursday

****Print bulletin****

Ladies Aid

Friday

Karen out of the office for a few days

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to worship! A Warm Welcome to all our visitors. We would love to have you visit again! We ask that you please sign a visitor card located in the pews and bring the information section of the card to the information center desk, located in the unity room or place it in the offering plate. We are so glad you are here!

HANDICAP PARKING - We encourage you to reserve parking between the parsonage and the north doors for those joining us with mobility difficulties. Thank you! ~ The Church Council

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.

The bulletin today is sponsored by Dean, Karen & Derek Zimmerman in memory of Clarence “Claas” Zimmerman whose 107th birthday would have been August 9th. Happy heavenly birthday Claas!

Grace Circle Wednesday 14th at 1:30 pm – will be **session two titled “**After Certainty**” on page 18 of the July/August Gather magazine.**

The family of Clarence Zimmerman would like to thank the Zion church family for their support during the past few years. Especially the Bake and Take, visits to BH&R, prayers, calls, visits, memorials, flowers, food, and other acts of kindness. Thank you to the ladies for the special luncheon served. He was proud to be a part of this community. Dean, Karen & Derek Zimmerman.

Lost & Found

There are 3 jackets hanging on the coat rack in the Fellowship Hall. Please check them out to see if one of them is yours! There is a black leather one and a child's sweatshirt from VBS.

LWR School Kit supplies are on sale NOW! We will begin church collection for August 1st but you might want to purchase now! List found below ...

- 70-page count (**wide or college rule notebooks**)
- Rulers (**30 centimeter on one side an inches on the other**)
- #2 pencils (**unsharpened**)
- Pencil sharpeners (**larger ones**)
- Scissors (**blunt end**)
- Blue or Black only ink pens (**no gel pens**)
- Crayons (**16 or 24 count**)
- 2½ inch Erasers**



Thanks to Linda Blackwell for writing a \$250 Thrivent grant for this project!

A Big Thank you to Pastor Kathee Forrest for doing the service today – to cover for Pastor Jer as his procedure was Thursday.

Congratulations to Jayde (Carstens) and Jared Marsh on the birth of their son Brooks Callam Marsh born on July 24th. Grandma is Karla Carstens & Great grandpa is Gary Carstens. Praise God for his amazing grace and endless blessings!

Karen will be printing the bulletin on Thursday as I will be out of the office on Friday for my surgery and a few days after. If you are needing anything in future bulletins you can either send the announcements to jpzionlutheran@yahoo.com or can text me. Thank you! **The next newsletter will be the October one.** Thank you!

Attention Breakfast Club sign up!

There will be a sign-up clip board **on the Welcome Center** for the Breakfast Club – help feed our hungry high school students on Sunday Mornings.



Gold Crest - Mildred Meints, Janice Jurgens, Doreen Wallman

Homestead House - Evelyn Meints, Anora Schoen

Our Homes Assisted Living – Randy Oltman

Good Samaritan – Arnold Buhr

Wilbur Care Center – Ernie Jurgens