

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.



Palm Sunday with Holy Communion

March 29, 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

Call to Worship

P- Hosanna!

C - Hosanna in the highest!

P - Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

C - Hosanna in the highest heaven!

P - Hosanna!

C - Hosanna! Jesus is arriving!

P - Hosanna!

C - Hosanna!

Processional with Palm Branches Hymn - Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

Hosanna, loud hosanna the little children sang;
through pillared court and temple the lovely anthem rang.
To Jesus, who had blessed them, close folded to his breast,
the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.

From Olivet they followed, amid a cheering crowd,
the victory palm branch waving, and chanting clear and loud.
The Lord of earth and heaven, rode on in lowly state,
and glad to see the children, slowed down the donkey's gait.

"Hosanna in the highest!" That ancient song we sing,
for Christ is our Redeemer, the Lord of heaven, our King.
O may we ever praise him, with heart and life and voice,
and in his blissful presence, eternally rejoice.

Prayer of Opening our Hearts to God

P- God in Christ,

C - You come in the opposite direction; against the current of wealth that hoards, against the systems that rank and measure human worth, and against the fear that tells us to stay small and silent. Enter here today, into our church and our lives. Turn over the tables we have built inside ourselves: the ones labeled success, security, and control. Teach us the courage of your procession; to walk the road of peace even when empire marches the other way. We sing Hosanna in our streets for Christ's revolution of love. Amen.

Special Music - Amigos

Scripture Readings

First Testament - 2 Samuel 6:14-17

Processional with the Ark of the Covenant

David danced before the Lord with all his might; David was girded with a linen ephod. So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the Lord with shouting and with the sound of the trumpet. As the ark of the Lord came into the city of David, Michal daughter of Saul looked out of the window and saw King David leaping and dancing before the Lord, and she despised him in her heart. They brought in the ark of the Lord and set it in its place, inside the tent that David had pitched for it, and David offered burnt offerings and offerings of well-being before the Lord.

Psalm 118:19-24 and 26-27 (*Read Responsively*)

Open to me the gates of righteousness,

**that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the Lord.**

This is the gate of the Lord;

the righteous shall enter through it.

I thank you that you have answered me

and have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected

has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the Lord's doing;

it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the Lord has made;

let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

We bless you from the house of the Lord.

The Lord is God,

and he has given us light.

Bind the festal procession with branches,

up to the horns of the altar.

Second Reading - 2 Corinthians 2:14-15

Follow the triumphal procession

But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession and through us spreads in every place the fragrance that comes from knowing him. For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing.

Gospel - Matthew 21:6-11 The Procession with Palms

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

“Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.

Sung Scripture Response - Ride On! Ride On in Majesty
**Ride on! Ride on in maj-es-ty! O Christ, with brave hu-mil-i-ty,
on low-ly colt, your road pur-sure, as palm and cloaks are
spread for you.**

Special Music - Kid's of the Kingdom

Children's Message

Sung Blessing of your Children - Children of the Heavenly Father
ELW #781 vs 1

**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 - Prepare the Royal Highway ELW #264 vs 1-3

Sung Offering Response - Tune Doxology, Old 100th

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ all
creatures here below; praise God above ye heavenly hosts,
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Offering Blessing

P- Gracious Spirit,

C - the gifts we placed on your altar are seeds of blessing.

They are

bread for the hungry, light for the weary, and hope for the journey ahead. The work of love is already unfolding. Amen.

Special Music - Further Along Guitar and Solo – Shane Parde

Prayers of the Church - *When the pastor says, “Lord in your mercy” please respond with “Hear our Prayer.”*

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.

Holy Communion Liturgy

P- The Lord be with you.

C - And also with you.

P - Lift up your hearts.

C - We lift them to the Lord.

P - Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C - It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P - It is our joy, at all times and in all places to give God thanks and praise.

The Words of Institution

Communion Hymn - Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross ELW #335

Prayer After Communion

P - Almighty God,

C - We rejoice in the reviving power taking place within us right now; healing us in the places where we were hurting. For these gifts of love and life within your holy meal, we give you thanks. Amen.

Benediction (responsively)

P - In a culture that measures worth in wealth

C - I will follow Jesus, seeing worth in the poorest among us.

P - How will you do this?

C - I will feed the hungry, lift the forgotten, and loosen the grip of injustice.

P - Do not follow the war horse.

C - I will follow the humble path of the donkey.

P - Who is it that rides this donkey that you follow?

C - Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

P -Amen

Announcements in the Life of the Church

Zion, a place to belong, a place to believe, a place to become!

Sending Hymn - All Glory, Laud and Honor ELW #344 vs 1-3

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.....Alnora Daubendiek

Acolytes:.....Cash Harwood

Millie Garton

Lector:.....Kelly Lenner

Greeters:.....James & Kelly Lenner

Donny & Elnora Lenner

Special Music:.....Amigos

Kids of the Kingdom

March Altar Guild: Linda Blackwell, Denise Schlake-Ideus, Cheryl Folkerts, Danelle Evers, Carrye Meints

March Table Troop: Lynette Jurgens (Leader), Steve & Peggy Johnson, Larry Gronewold, Eddie & Lynette Dorn, Gary & Brenda Gronewold, Dave & Carrye Meints, DeAnn & Terry Oltman

Snow Brigade:

March 30th - Josh Gronewold (Captain), Alan Wiese (Tractor), AJ Wiese, Kenny Newman, Paul Jurgens, Gerald Ideus, Todd Bohlmeier, Brian Garton

April 6th - Luke Ideus (Captain), Gary Gronewold (Tractor), Stan Lenner (Tractor), Justin Hippen, Mark Buhr, James Lenner, Billy Harms, Larry Gronewold, Dale Zimmerman

Vital Statistics for last Sunday

Worship: 118 Giving: \$ 3,543.00

SS: 56 Giving: \$ 137.25

Lenten S. 45 Giving: \$ 348.00

THIS WEEK IN THE LIFE OF ZION

Today Palm Sunday

8:45am - Sunday School

9:00am - BKF Club

10:00am - Worship/Communion/Amigos/Kids of the Kingdom

Wednesday

5:30pm - 1st Communion Class/walk-thru & Parents Meeting

6:00pm - 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation

Thursday

7:00pm - Maundy Thursday Service/1st Communion

Friday

7:00pm - Good Friday Service

Saturday

TBD - Youth Sunrise Service Practice

Next Sunday Easter

7:00am - Youth Sunrise Service

8:00am - Easter Breakfast

9:30am – Worship/Communion

Helping out next Sunday (Sunrise Service)

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

Piano:.....Janelle Ideus

Guitar:.....Deric Bloom

Acolytes:.....High School Youth

Lector:..... High School Youth

Greeters:..... High School Youth

Special Music:.....Endless Hallelujah

Helping out next Sunday(Easter/9:30 Service)

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

Organist:.....Alnora Daubendiek

Acolytes:.....Tavin Lieneman

Alexis Folkerts

Lector:.....Sandy Meints

Greeters:.....Steve & Diane Oltman

Loreen Wallman

Special Music: Trumpet Trio

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!

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.

THANK YOU – To the Amigos, Kids of the Kingdom, and Shane Parde for providing special music today.

FIFTH SUNDAY OFFERING – March's fifth Sunday (March 29th) offering has been designated to go to the Endowment Fund.

WILLIE & ANNA MEINTS RECIPIENTS – Any college students that received the Willie & Anna Meints scholarship and are involved in Turning Point USA, are asked to contact Kevin Buhr at 420-429-1976 or burhkg@gmail.com as soon as possible.

FARM FRESH EGGS - Farm-fresh eggs are now available for purchase! Suggested price is \$3 per dozen and can be found on the Welcome Center. Proceeds will support various projects around the church. Eggs have been generously donated by Don Schuster—thank you for your kindness and support!

THRIVENT DEADLINE – The deadline to direct 2025 Thrivent Choice Dollars is **March 31, 2026**. Eligible members must direct these funds annually by this date, or it will expire and be repurposed by Thrivent.

PLANT BINGO – Want some new plants. Come play plant BINGO! April 19th from 2-4:00pm at Envision Landscape's in Beatrice. Cost is \$20 per person. Refreshments will be provided. Limited seats available so text VeAnn Jurgens at 402.223.9237 to reserve yours ASAP.



EASTER LILY SIGN-UP SHEET ON THE WELCOME CENTER - Please place your name and in memory or in honor of on the sheet. It will be posted in the May Newsletter and the bulletins on Easter Sunday. Please don't plan to deliver until the week of Easter if possible.

GATHER TO WORSHIP OUR SAVIOR - Easter Sunrise Worship 7:00 am, led by our High School youth and Endless Hallelujah.



**High School youth be watching for more details on practice and your participation in the service. HS parent volunteers needed to help coordinate youth participation and practice, if you would be willing to help let Marcia know ~ Thank you

EASTER BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP - will be served immediately following Sunrise Service (approximately @ 8:00 am) We are again asking for baked breakfast casseroles, rolls, muffins or coffee cakes and fruit plates or bowls, juice and milk. Food donations and kitchen help/serving/clean up signup clip boards can be found at the Welcome Center. We ask that your food be brought to the kitchen by 7:30 am that morning. Your help and donations are appreciated! The free will offering will benefit Cassie Thornburg and her ministry with the Navigators.

SHEETS NEEDED – Cleaning out your closets? The Zion Blanket Sewers need sheets for the backs of the blankets we make. The sheets can be made of cotton, polyester, polyester/cotton, or microfiber (flannel is okay but not fleece). The sheets can be Twin to King flat sheets and fitted sheets that are Queen to King sizes, which we will cut to the app 63” x 83 size we need. The extra material can be used to make the pieces tops for the blankets. The sheets can be plain colors, patterns, and children’s designs. Sheets can be dropped off on the kitchen counters in the Parish Hall. If you have questions, please contact Denise Schlake-Ideus (402) 806-2236 or Elnora Lenners (402) 806-5909.



SPRING FLING – Join us in remembering the Golden Years. Saturday April 11th @ 11:30am at Filley ALC Parish Hall. RSVP by April 6th to Carol @ 402.223.7919 or Betty @ 402.806.1793

FIRST COMMUNION NEWS

Zion fifth graders have been participating in classes these past few weeks preparing for their First Communion that will take place on Maundy Thursday. They have been learning about God’s unending

love and sacrifices made for each one of them. We have studied two sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion, and how each of these show God's love "for us". We have discussed how to prepare their hearts and minds each time they are blessed in partaking of this life-giving meal by better understanding the significance behind the Bread and Wine, the "Body and Blood" of our Savior.

There will be fellowship for the parents and families in the fellowship hall after the Maundy Thursday Service.

AMERICA 250 - The Nation's upcoming birthday July 4, 2026, honors the 250th Anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence of the United States of America, with a focus on gratitude, religious freedom, and service. As part of the "America 250" we are planning to commemorate this historic moment in our nation's history here at Zion. On Sunday morning, **June 14th**, we will gather to celebrate and honor America. As this event is still in the planning stages, we do have a plan to include a display of Quilts of Valor from our present and past Zion members. We are also hoping to award a Quilt of Valor. ***At this time, we are looking for "Quilts" of Valor that have been presented to service members or veterans that attend or have attended Zion. We are also seeking names and contact information for service members or living veterans who may be eligible to receive a Quilt of Valor. As there is a protocol to nominate a candidate, this information is needed in a timely manner. Please contact Denise Schlake-Ideus or Marica Busboom with any of the above information or if you would like to help with planning this celebration.*** We are grateful to be collaborating with Quilts of Valor organizations through Quilt Stitches in Beatrice and "Piecemakers" in Firth.

******The Mission of the Quilts of Valor Foundation is to cover Service Members and Living Veterans touched by war with a comforting and healing Quilt of Valor.***

VBS COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

COMMITTEE DETAILS

- **Two Volunteers Needed**
- **3 Year Term**
- **Meet in March, April & May**
- **Help Plan & Organize VBS**
- **Set Up VBS**
- **Assist during the week of VBS**

If you enjoy planning, organizing, or just want to help make VBS special for our church kids, we'd love to have you join the team!

Please reach out to Courtney Schlake, Jordan Freeman, Sarah Bartlett or Kate Meints if you are interested or want to learn more!

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GIVING**
easy. fast. effective.

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.

Zion Lutheran Church

@Zion68422



venmo

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Bailey Pointe - Vivian Schuster

Gold Crest - Janice Jurgens, Doreen Wallman, Marilyn Robinson

Homestead House - Anora Schoen, Rosanna Miller, Marsha Zulauf

Our Homes Assisted Living - Randy Oltman