

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

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost



September 27, 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 - You have made the right decision this morning, to come to church and praise Jesus.

C - May my gratitude enflame every word I sing and pray.

Gathering Hymn - All Are Welcome ELW #641 vs. 1-3

Let us build a house
where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.

Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ
shall end divisions.

All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house
where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.

Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus.

All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground
where peace and justice meet.

Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ
the feast that frees us.

All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

Opening Prayer

P - God of transformations,

C - call me to change and dig deep within myself to see all people as equal. Show me the undiscovered diamonds I will find when I welcome outsiders and learn your loved buried deep within. Amen.

Reading of the Scriptures

First Reading - Isaiah 56:3-7 Inclusion of all people

Do not let the foreigner joined to the Lord say,

“The Lord will surely separate me from his people,”
and do not let the eunuch say,

“I am just a dry tree.”

For thus says the Lord:

To the eunuchs who keep my Sabbaths,
who choose the things that please me
and hold fast my covenant,

I will give, in my house and within my walls,
a monument and a name
better than sons and daughters;

I will give them an everlasting name
that shall not be cut off.

And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord,
to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord,
and to be his servants,

all who keep the Sabbath and do not profane it
and hold fast my covenant

these I will bring to my holy mountain
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices

will be accepted on my altar,
for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.

Psalm 67:1-2 *(Please read responsively)*

May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face to shine upon us, *Selah*
that your way may be known upon earth,
your saving power among all nations.

Second Reading - Acts 10:9-16 Peter's dream

About noon the next day, as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the roof to pray. He became hungry and wanted something to eat, and while it was being prepared he fell into a trance. He saw the heaven opened and something like a large sheet coming down, being lowered to the ground by its four corners. In it were all kinds of four-footed creatures and reptiles and birds of the air. Then he heard a voice saying, "Get up, Peter; kill and eat." But Peter said, "By no means, Lord, for I have never eaten anything that is profane or unclean." The voice said to him again, a second time, "What God has made clean, you must not call profane." This happened three times, and the thing was suddenly taken up to heaven. *Here ends this reading.*

(Please stand as you are able)

Gospel - Mark 7:24-30 The Syrophoenician woman's faith

From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she

answered him, “Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” Then he said to her, “For saying that, you may go the demon has left your daughter.” And when she went home, she found the child lying on the bed and the demon gone.

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.*)

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 - O God of Every Nation ELW #713 vs 1-3

O God of ev'ry nation,
of ev'ry race and land,
redeem your whole creation
with your almighty hand;
where hate and fear divide us

and bitter threats are hurled,
in love and mercy guide us
and heal our strife-torn world.

From search for wealth and power
and scorn of truth and right,
from trust in bombs that shower
destruction through the night,
from pride of race and station
and blindness to your way,
deliver ev'ry nation,
eternal God, we pray.

Lord, strengthen all who labor
that all may find release
from fear of rattling saber,
from dread of war's increase;
when hope and courage falter,
Lord, let your voice be heard;
with faith that none can alter,
your servants under-gird.

(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 - blessed are you, O harvest of my heart, sacred source of all love, delight of my days. I dedicate myself, my money and my time to you. 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 - As you go out into this new week, what will you choose?

**C - I will choose wisely my words and deeds that will make
Jesus' dream unfold in this time and place.**

P - Alleluia

C - Amen

Announcements in the Life of the Church

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

Sending Hymn - To Be Your Presence Here ELW #546

To be your presence is our mission here
To show compassion's face and list'ning ear,
To be your heart of mercy
ever near al-le-lu-ia!

To be your presence is our mission bold,
To feed the poor and shelter homeless cold,
To be your hands of justice,
Right up-hold al-le-lu-ia!

To be your presence is our mission blest,
To speak for all the broken and oppressed,
To be your voice of hope,
Your love expressed, al-le-lu-ia!

We are you heart, O Christ, your hands and voice,
To serve your people is our call and choice,
And in this mission we,
The church, rejoice,, al-le-lu-ia!

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:.....Jace Behrends
 Devyn Gronewold
Lector:Hunter Grone
Greeters:.....Kenny & Carrie Reed
 Steve & Diane Oltman

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

September Table Troop: Robert Ideus (Leader), Don Schuster, John Gronewold, Paul & Shellie Remmers, Les & Mert Rademacher, Linda Ideus

Vital Statistics for last Sunday

Worship: 130 Giving: \$4,316.00

THIS WEEK IN THE LIFE OF ZION

Today

8:45am - SS

9:00am - BKF Club/Endless Hallelujah practice

10:00am – 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

Helping out next Sunday

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

Organist:.....Alnora Daubendiek

Acolytes:.....Ellis Freeman

Macy Oltmans

Lector:Carrie Reed

Greeters:.....Darwin & Susan Buss

Karla Carstens

THIS WEEKS BULLETIN IS SPONSORED BY: Patty Thomas
& Doyle Scott in memory of Laurence & Shirley Gronewold's
anniversary September 25th.

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!

BLANKET SEWING – Due to the funeral last Monday blanket sewing will be this Monday & Tuesday, September 28th & 29th.

MEN'S CHOIR - No men's choir this week or for the month of October.

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

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.



GOOD NEIGHBOR & NEW MEMBER RECOGNITION

Sunday, October 11, 2026

We invite our church family to INVITE your neighbors & friends to worship that day. **INVITE & BRING those special people with you!** We will also be recognizing Zion's past year's new members this Sunday so come and make your presence felt!

If you are interested in joining Zion, please let Michele Kolm at the church office know or any council member.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY – Themes for the Month.

October 4th – Lesson on How we got the Bible. The different translations of the Bible and the version we use at Zion and why.

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:

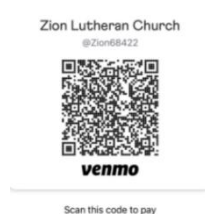
 Courtney Schlake – 402-239-4628

 zionparished20@gmail.com

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



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