

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

# **10th Sunday after Pentecost with Holy Communion & the Sacrament of Holy Baptism**



**August 17, 2025**

**Rev. Dr. Renae Koehler**

*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 & Ringing of the Bell**

### **Welcome**

**Gathering** *(As you are able please stand)*

**P** - Holy God, make my heart like a little green pine tree—

**C** - **That bends gracefully before the storms in my life,**

**P** - Knowing full well, that I will raise my head again with renewed insight.

**C** - **Fill me with the strength of your Spirit, to be flexible and evergreen**

**Gathering Hymn** - All Creatures, Worship God Most High ELW #835

### **Prayer of the Day**

**Almighty God, bless us as we worship together, and welcome new life into our midst through Holy Baptism. May the waters of grace wash over all of us today. Cleansing, healing, and awakening our souls to the mystery of your presence. Let this sacred moment be a fountain of hope, a living spring from which we drink deeply, forever transformed us to see you within ourselves and others. Amen. *(Please be seated)***

### **Sacrament of Holy Baptism – Drew Thomas Lenners**

### **Reading of the Scriptures**

**First Reading** – Ezekiel 37:1–10

The hand of the Lord was on me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the Lord and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. He asked me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” I said, “Sovereign Lord, you alone know.”

Then he said to me, “Prophecy to these bones and say to them, ‘Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! This is what the Sovereign Lord says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. I will attach tendons to you and make flesh

come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the Lord.”

So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them.

Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to it, ‘This is what the Sovereign Lord says: Come, breath, from the four winds and breathe into these slain, that they may live.’” So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet a vast army.

**Psalm 51:10–12** (Please read responsively.)

Create in me a pure heart, O God,

**and renew a steadfast spirit within me.**

Do not cast me from your presence

**or take your Holy Spirit from me.**

Restore to me the joy of your salvation

**and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.**

**Second Reading** - Colossians 3:8–10

But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. *Here ends this reading.*

**Gospel:** Mark 2:18–22 (Please stand as you are able)

Now John’s disciples and the Pharisees were fasting. Some people came and asked Jesus, “How is it that John’s disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees are fasting, but yours are not?”

Jesus answered, “How can the guests of the bridegroom fast while he is with them? They cannot, so long as they have him with them. But the time will come when the bridegroom will be taken from them, and on that day they will fast.

“No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment. Otherwise, the new piece will pull away from the old, making the tear worse. And no one pours new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and both the wine and the wineskins will be ruined. No, they pour new wine into new wineskins.”

Gospel - Sing Response (To the tune of #473)

**Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you.**

**My heart is glad to say the words: you are holy, God.**

(Please be seated.)

**Children’s Message**

**Sing Response:** Jesus Loves Me - verse 1 + Refrain

Jesus loves me, this I know,

for the Bible tells me so.

Little ones to him belong;

they are weak, but he is strong.

Refrain:

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!

Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

**Message** - Rev. Dr. Renae Koehler

**Offering Hymn** - Borning Cry

ELW #732

*(Please stand as the offering is brought forward.)*

Offering - Sing Response (To the tune of #422)

**C - We bring this offering to our God divine,  
For works of justice so that love may shine.  
Bless us today and let our lives entwine. Alleluia, alleluia.**

### **Offering Blessing**

P - Holy One,

**C - we bring these gifts, online giving, dollars, time and talent, heart and hope.  
Let them not sit still but move with your Spirit into acts of courage and wisdom.  
Bless this offering for the work of justice. Bless our lives for the labor of love.  
Make us bold in giving and brave in living. Amen. (Please be seated)**

**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.**

### **Communion Liturgy**

P - God be with you.

**C - And also with you.**

P- Lift up your hearts.

**C - We lift them to God.**

P- Let us give thanks to God most high.

**C - It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

P - With all of our loved ones who have died before us, the saints in heaven, and all of us living our mortal lives here on earth, we glorify you.

**C - Holy, holy, holy - God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God most high. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God.  
Hosanna in the highest**

### **Words of Institution**

Communion Hymn – What a Friend We Have in Jesus ELW #742

**Prayer After Communion** (As you are able please stand)

**C- Gracious God, I give you thanks for this holy meal. May it strengthen and heal me. Let my bones rattle. Let your breath bring me to enlightenment. Fill me with the new wine of love for myself and others. Amen**

### **Benediction**

(Please be seated)

**Announcements in the Life of the Church** (Please be seated)

**Sending Hymn** - Go My Children with My Blessing    ELW   #543

P- Go in peace and serve the Lord.  
C- **Thanks be to God. ZION... a place to belong, a place to believe, a place to become!**

**DeAnn Oltman - Council President 402-223-0561**  
**Michele Kolm – Church Office number 402-806-3601**  
**Email [-jpzionlutheran@yahoo.com](mailto:-jpzionlutheran@yahoo.com)**

**Helping out with Worship Today**

**Pastor:** ..... Rev. Dr. Renae Koehler  
**Organist:**..... Alnora Daubendiek  
**Acolytes:**..... Konnor Kolm  
   Hunter Grone  
**Lector:**..... Dorothy Trauernicht  
**Greeters:**..... Steve & Rose Gronewold  
   Craig & Jess Ideus

**Coffee Fellowship by Joy Circle**

**August Altar Guild:**

Carrye Meints, Linda Blackwell, Denise Ideus, Cheryl Folkerts, Danelle Evers

**August Table Troop: Alex Buhr (Leader),** Duane Zulauf, Stan & Mary Lenners, Alan Wiese, Doug Parde, Jeff Busboom, Steve Gronewold, Mark Buhr

**Vital Statistics for last Sunday**

Worship 87    Giving \$1,318.00

**THIS WEEK IN THE LIFE OF ZION**

**Today**

9:00 am Worship/Rev. Dr. Renae Koehler/Communion/Baptism  
**Coffee Fellowship by Joy Circle**

**Thursday**

Ladies Aide

**Next Sunday**

9:00 am Worship/ /Rev. Dr. Renae Koehler  
**Coffee Fellowship by Joy Circle**

**Helping out next Sunday**

**Pastor:** .....Rev. Dr. Renae Koehler  
**Organist:**..... Alnora Daubendiek  
**Acolytes:**..... Karlee Riha  
   Korbin Busboom

**Lector:** .....Carrye Meints  
**Greeters:**..... ..Kristen & Tony Hoffman  
Jacob & Nicole Behrends

**Coffee Fellowship by Joy Circle**

**This week’s bulletin is sponsored by Gary & Brenda** Gronewold in honor of their grandson, Ellis Gronewold’s 1st birthday and his earlier baptism.

**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 would love to have you visit again! We ask 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 Fellowship Hall or place it in the offering plate. We are so glad you are here!**

**Welcome to our newest member in Christ, Drew Thomas Lenners**



Son of Blake & Marisa Lenners born on May 20, 2025. The sponsors are Kevin & Natalie Denny. Grandparents are Stan & Mary Lenners and Mike and Sandy Pitre.

**\*\*The flowers on the piano are in honor of Drew’s baptism from grandparents Stan & Mary Lenners.**



**5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OFFERING**

The 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in August (8/31/25) will be designated to the Audio/Visual Improvement Fund.



**Mark your Calendar Rally Sunday** is coming up on September 7<sup>th</sup> with a special treat after service provided by our Hospitality Committee. Service will be led by Corey Lenners.

**LWR-SCHOOL KIT UPDATE**



**\*\*\*NEW GOAL 150 Bags\*\*\***

To reach this we only need 175 black/ blue pens  
Amazing isn't it?

Thanks to Linda Blackwell for writing the Thrivent grant and a huge thank you to those of you who have contributed!



**PRAYER QUILT**

In the hallway leading from the church to the fellowship hall, please take a moment to stop by the Prayer Quilt hanging on the west wall. The Prayer Quilt is for our Church as we pray to find a new minister. Please tie a knot and pray for God's intervention and discernment for our Call Committee & Church Council. This quilt was made by Karen Gilbreath & given to us as we pray for a new minister. The number of knots tied, reflects your prayers for Zion.

**ONLINE SERVICES ON FACEBOOK UPDATE**

If there are any online services you would like to keep from Facebook, please personally download and save the service. Effective September 6, 2025, Facebook plans to delete all live streamed videos over 30 days old. After September 6th, the church will save the most recent services within the last 3 months & older services will be deleted on a rolling basis.



**8/27/2025 – 6-7 p.m. Student & Parent Confirmation Orientation meeting followed by acolyte training for 7<sup>th</sup> graders.**

**It’s a new year of confirmation and a significant step in our youth’s faith journey. The goal is to help 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders grow spiritually as well as connect them with our church family.**

Students & parents, please plan to attend. We will discuss the confirmation year ahead of us and distribute the confirmation schedule and information. 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade youth and parents or guardians will meet in the fellowship hall from 6 to 7 pm. For the 8<sup>th</sup> grade families, we will look at the year ahead as these youth prepare for their confirmation in the spring. For the 7<sup>th</sup> grade families, we will discuss confirmation requirements and align on a week to attend camp together during the summer of 2026.

**Confirmation classes will begin on Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6 to 7 PM.**



**Another option for giving is available for our Zion members.**

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.**



- Gold Crest** - Mildred Meints, Janice Jurgens, Doreen Wallman, Marilyn Robinson
- Homestead House** - Anora Schoen, Rosanna Miller
- Our Homes Assisted Living** – Randy Oltman
- Bailey Pointe** – Vivian Schuster