

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.”



Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost with Holy Communion

September 15, 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.

Gathering

P- Three weeks ago we heard Peter’s confession of faith as told in John’s gospel. This week we hear Mark’s version, when Peter says, “You are the Messiah.”

C- I will walk in the presence of the Lord.

P- In John the stumbling block is Jesus’ invitation to eat his flesh,

given for the life of the world. In Mark too the scandal has to do with Jesus' words about his own coming death, and here Peter stumbles over Jesus words.

C- I will walk in the presence of the Lord.

P- But Jesus is anointed (*the meaning of the Messiah*) in Mark only on the way to the cross; so we are anointed in baptism with the sign of the cross.

C- I will walk in the presence of the Lord.

Gathering Hymn – Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us ELW 789

1 Savior like a shepherd lead us;
much we need your tender care.
In your pleasant pastures feed us,
for our use your fold prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have bought us; we are yours.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have bought us; we are yours.

2 We are yours; in love befriend us,
be the guardian of our way;
keep your flock, from sin defend us,
seek us when we go astray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
hear us children when we pray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
hear us children when we pray.

3 You have promised to receive us,
poor and sinful though we be;
you have mercy to relieve us,
grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
early let us turn to you.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
early let us turn to you.

4 Early let us seek your favor,
early let us do your will;
blessed Lord and only Savior,
with your love our spirits fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have loved us, love us still.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have loved us, love us still.

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,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

C- Amen

P- Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P- Gracious God,

C- have mercy on us.

**We confess that we have honored you with our lips,
but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues.**

**The cravings at war within us
cause conflicts and disputes.**

In our desire to be first

we make distinctions among ourselves.

We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last.

In your great mercy, forgive us our sins.

Draw near to us with grace in time of need,

and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ,

our Savior and Lord. Amen

P- God promised to forgive our iniquity

and to remember our sin no more.

By grace you have been saved.

In the name of + Jesus Christ,

the source of eternal healing,

your sins are forgiven.

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:

Readings

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Lector – *The image of the servant of the Lord is one of the notable motifs in the book of Isaiah. Today's reading describes the mission of the servant, whom early Christians associated with Jesus. Like Jesus, the servant does not strike back at his detractors but trusts in God's steadfast love.*

The Lord God has given me

the tongue of a teacher,

that I may know how to sustain

the weary with a word.

Morning by morning he wakens—

wakens my ear

to listen as those who are taught.

The Lord God has opened my ear,

and I was not rebellious,

I did not turn backwards.

I gave my back to those who struck me,

and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;

I did not hide my face

from insult and spitting.

The Lord God helps me;

therefore I have not been disgraced;

therefore I have set my face like flint,

and I know that I shall not be put to shame;

he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?

Let us stand up together.
Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.
It is the Lord God who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?
All of them will wear out like a garment;
the moth will eat them up. Here ends this reading.

Psalm 116:1-9 - Read responsively.

I love the Lord, because he has heard
my voice and my supplications.
Because he inclined his ear to me,
therefore I will call on him as long as I live.
The snares of death encompassed me;
the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;
I suffered distress and anguish.
Then I called on the name of the Lord:
“O Lord, I pray, save my life!”
Gracious is the Lord, and righteous;
our God is merciful.
The Lord protects the simple;
when I was brought low, he saved me.
Return, O my soul, to your rest,
for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you.
For you have delivered my soul from death,
my eyes from tears,
my feet from stumbling.
I walk before the Lord
in the land of the living.

James 3:1-12

Lector – *This text uses various images to illustrate how damaging and hurtful the way we speak to and about others can be. Not only are we to control our speech, but what we say and how we say it are to reflect our faith.*

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh. Here ends this reading.

Prayer of the Day

As you are able, please stand.

P- O God,

C- through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, amen.

Gospel – Mark 8:27-38

P- This story provides the turning point in Mark's gospel. Peter is the first human being in the narrative to acknowledge Jesus as the messiah, but cannot accept that as the messiah Jesus will have to suffer. Moreover, Jesus issues a strong challenge to all by connecting discipleship and the cross/

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Message –

Offering Hymn – Lift High the Cross ELW 660

Refrain: Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name.

1. Come, Christians, follow where our Captain trod,
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. *Refrain*

2. All newborn soldiers of the Crucified
Bear on their brows the seal of Him of died. *Refrain*

3. O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
As Thou hast promised, draw us all to Thee. *Refrain*

4. So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory! *Refrain*

Offering Prayer

As you are able, please stand.

P- Blessed are you, O God,

C- source of ever gift of your creation.

By these gifts and with our lives,

help us serve one another and all in need,

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation**

he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and
glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the Church – *When the pastor says, “Lord in your mercy” please respond with “**hear our prayer!**”*

Words of Institution - Song of Consecration

Please join in singing the final verse in bold print.

The night of his betrayal, our Lord took bread.
He broke it as he blest it, and then he said,

“My body broken for you...is what this means;
remember now my children what you have seen!”

And then he took the chalice and raised it high,

“My blood is given for you, a full supply...

a covenant, a promise...a cleansing stream;

remember now my children what you have seen!”

We share this food together, remem’bring Christ:

we share a common treasure and know the price;

we share it without measure...a gift of love;

we share our life forever, with God above!

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John Ylvisaker c/o Fern M. Krueger, P.O. Box 321, Waverly, Iowa 50677

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.

Invitation to Communion

P- Jesus welcomes you to this table.

Come, here is your God.

The ELCA and Zion Lutheran Church practices open communion. If you confess Jesus as your Lord and Savior you are welcome to come forward and partake in the bread and wine of communion. Please fill out a communion card in the pew rack. Please hand your communion card to the usher when you come forward.

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

1 What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear!

What a privilege to carry
ev'rything to God in prayer!

Oh, what peace we often forfeit;
oh, what needless pain we bear --
all because we do not carry
ev'rything to God in prayer!

2 Have we trials and temptations?

Is there trouble anywhere?

We should never be discouraged --
take it to the Lord in prayer.

Can we find a friend so faithful
who will all our sorrows share?

Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness --
take it to the Lord in prayer.

3 Are we weak and heavy-laden,
cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge --
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do your friends despise, forsake you?
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you;
you will find a solace there.

Post Communion Prayer

P- Holy God,
you have welcomed us to this meal
and fed us with dignity at your table,
Send us now to welcome others
and to be at peace with one another,
through Christ our Lord.

C- Amen.

Announcements in the Life of Our Church

Blessing & Dismissal

As you are able, please stand.

P- God all mighty,
God most merciful,
+ bless you and keep,
and give you peace.

C-Amen.

P- Go in peace. Follow Jesus!

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

Sending Hymn – Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing ELW 544

1. Praise the Lord, rise up rejoicing,
Worship, thanks, devotion voicing:
Glory be to God on high!
Christ, your cross and passion sharing,
By this Eucharist declaring
Yours the final victory.

2. Scattered flock, one shepherd sharing,
Lost and lonely, one voice hearing,
Ears attentive to the word;
By the blood new life receiving,
In the body, firm believing,
We are yours, and you the Lord.

3. Sins forgiven, wrongs forgiving,
We go forth alert and living
In your Spirit, strong and free.
Partners in your new creation,
Seeking peace in ev'ry nation,
May we faithful foll'wers be.

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

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Karen's number – 402-661-9362

Email -jpszionlutheran@yahoo.com

Helping out Today

Pastor.....Jerry Gilbreath
Organist.....Alnora Daubendiek
Acolytes.....Colt Rinne
Karlee Riha
Lector.....Dorothy Trauernicht
Special Music.....
Greeters.....Dorothy Trauernicht
Gary & Annette Wiese
Breakfast Club.....No Breakfast Club

Vital Statistics for Last Sunday

Sunday Service 198 Giving \$ 3814.00

Sunday School 73 Giving \$ 50.25

THIS WEEK IN THE LIFE OF ZION

Today

8:45 Sunday School

9 am NO BKF Club/Adult SS

10 am Worship/Communion

Monday

7 pm Men's Choir

Wednesday

6 pm Confirmation

Thursday

Ladies Aid

6 pm Freeman (varsity only) vs Beatrice

Next Sunday

8:45 Sunday School

9 am BKF Club/Adult SS

10 am Worship

Helping out Next Sunday

Pastor.....Jerry Gilbreath
Organist.....Alnora Daubendiek
Acolytes.....Konner Kolm
Hunter Grone
Lector.....Carrie Reed
Special Music.....Men’s Choir
Greeters.....Irene Busboom
Brian & Danelle Evers
Breakfast Club.....Sammie Garton

September Altar Guild: Kelly Lenners, Christy Buhr, Karla Holland, Rhonda Dorn, Lynette Dorn, Doreen Busboom

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

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.

Today's bulletin is sponsored by Larry & Macy Gronewold, Patty, Brittnay, & Jeremy Thomas in memory of George Wolken who passed away September 16, 1995.

Lost & Found

There are 2 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.

Fall Bible Study begins the evening of Tuesday October 15th.

Blessed are the CHOSEN – Season 2

The Chosen -Season 2 Bible Study beginning Oct 14th at 6:30 pm. ALL are welcome! Each person will purchase the study book on their own. If interested contact Stephanie Wallman (402) 673-4035 or Connie Thornburg (402) 673-3605.

Good Neighbor & New Member Recognition Sunday, October 6, 2024.

We invite our church family to INVITE their neighbors & friends to worship that day. **INVITE & BRING these special people with you!** We will be celebrating the Sacrament of Holy Communion and remember that as a church of the ELCA, we practice OPEN communion. OPEN communion comes with the invitation that all who confess Jesus as their Lord and Savior as WELCOME to partake in the bread and wine, the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. 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 Pastor Jer or the Church office know.

Copies of the Expression are on the Welcome Center

Special offerings in September

September 29th Mission Sunday will be designated for Camp Carol Joy Holling.

Please, if you are going to open the windows at the Parish Hall during Sunday School, **please** make sure you close them when you leave.

LWR Quilts and School Kits Drop off address in Omaha

Magnum Trucking
10611 Gertrude Street
LaVista, NE 68128

(Drop off dates and times are listed under the picture to the right.)

November we will need some drivers for delivery of the kits. It is a very easy drop off spot just have to be able to lift the boxes out of your car.

ALSO, if interested in dropping off quilts to Table Grace in downtown Omaha. Let either Denise or Karen know. **That can be any day of the week but Sunday or Wednesdays from 9-2.** If interested in doing this, please let Karen know and I will set it up with Table Grace so they know when you will be coming. What a great way to keep these beautiful quilts local. Also have delivered 25 quilts to CASA in Beatrice.



Dates: Monday, November 4th –
Thursday, November 7th
Time: 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

SAVE THE DATES: October 26 & 27th

Final 150th Anniversary celebration

SATURDAY- Oct 26th starts at 9:30 featuring a program by Sue McLain “150 Years of Fashion”. In addition, we will have items displayed from Zion’s history. A light lunch will be served so we are asking those planning to attend to sign up on a clipboard located at the Welcome Center in the Fellowship Hall.



The program by Sue is funded by Humanities Nebraska. Contact Denise Schlake Ideus (402) 806-2236 if you have fashion items for display.

SUNDAY -Oct 27th features Pastor Casey Lieneman assisting in the worship with a soup luncheon to follow the service.

SILENT AUCTION for 150th ANNIVERSARY began October 8th and ends October 20th.

Thanks to all contributing. All proceeds go to the anniversary fund for future projects connected to the Heritage Room in the German School House. Check it out if you haven’t already!

WARRENS COMMUNITY DINNER TABLE OPPORTUNITY...Zion
is providing a meal at Warrens Table on TUESDAY SEPTEMBER
24TH.

We need food donations along with volunteers to help prepare and serve. A sign up for 2 dozen individually wrapped cookies or bars is at the “Welcome Center” in the Fellowship Hall today along with donations for our meal prep and volunteer help. This Information and donations will be shared with the Volunteer FB Chat on Monday 9/23, you can also reach out to Marcia to donate or volunteer~ Thank you to all that answer this call to serve in this ministry in some way!!

*** Warrens Table is a weekly feeding ministry sponsored by local churches and organizations and hosted by Christ Church Episcopal in Beatrice.*

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