

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.



Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 24, 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 - Come, beloved of God. As Ruth stayed with Naomi.

May we stay on the path of love.

C - **Help us remember the faith of Lois and Eunice, who planted seeds of wisdom in young Timothy.**

P - Inspire us today, to walk in their footsteps - strengthening, guiding and teaching the way of peace.

C - **May the grace of God heal us, and may the living gospel set our hearts afire.**

Gathering Hymn - Blessed Assurance ELW #638

1 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!

Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!

Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain:

This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long:
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.

2 Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love. [Refrain]

3 Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love. [Refrain]

Prayer of the Day

**O Holy Weaver of our stories,
You stitched Ruth to Naomi in loyal love,
and wove Lois and Eunice into Timothy's faith.
Stitch us now into Your great tapestry of grace.
Let our worship be a song of mercy,
a psalm of welcome,
a parable of neighborly love.
Through Christ, who walks the road beside us.
Amen.**
(Please be seated)

Reading of the Scripture

First Reading – Ruth 1:14-18

At this they wept aloud again. Then Orpah kissed her mother-in-law goodbye, but Ruth clung to her. “Look,” said Naomi, “your sister-in-law is going back to her people and her gods. Go back with her.”

But Ruth replied, “Don’t urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord deal with me, be it ever so severely, if even death separates you and me.” When Naomi realized that Ruth was determined to go with her, she stopped urging her.

Psalm 146: 5-10 (Please read responsively)

Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the Lord their God.

He is the Maker of heaven and earth,
the sea, and everything in them
he remains faithful forever.

He upholds the cause of the oppressed
and gives food to the hungry.

The Lord sets prisoners free,
the Lord gives sight to the blind,
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down,
the Lord loves the righteous.

The Lord watches over the foreigner
and sustains the fatherless and the widow,
but he frustrates the ways of the wicked.

The Lord reigns forever,
your God, O Zion, for all generations.

Praise the Lord.

Second Reading - 2 Timothy 1:1-5

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, in keeping with the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus, To Timothy, my dear son:

Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. I thank God, whom I serve, as my ancestors did, with a clear conscience, as night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers. Recalling your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also. Here ends this reading.

Gospel - Luke 10:25-37 (*Please stand as you are able*)

On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus.

“Teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” “What is written in the Law?” he replied. “How do you read it?”

He answered, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind”^[a]; and, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.” “You have answered correctly,” Jesus replied. “Do this and you will live.”

But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” In reply Jesus said: “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. ‘Look after him,’ he said, ‘and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.’

“Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?” The expert in the law replied, “The one who had mercy on him.” Jesus told him, “Go and do likewise.”

Sing Response – To the tune of (ELW #473)

C - 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 - In Christ There Is No East or West. ELW #650

1 In Christ there is no east or west,

in him no south or north,

but one community of love

throughout the whole wide earth.

2 In Christ shall true hearts ev'rywhere

their high communion find;

his service is the golden cord

close binding human-kind.

3 Join hands, disciples of the faith,

whate'er your race may be.

All children of the living God

are surely kin to me.

4 In Christ now meet both east and west,
in him meet south and north;
all Christly souls are one in him
throughout the whole wide earth.

(Please stand as the offering is brought forward.)

Sing Response – to the tune of (ELW # 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 - Blessed Giver of every gift,

C - You turned Naomi's bitterness to joy,
and made Ruth a mother of kings. You blessed Timothy
through the faith of Lois and Eunice. Take these gifts, O God,
and make them seeds of mercy food for the hungry,
welcome for the stranger, and healing for the broken. Amen.
(Please be seated)

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.

Benediction

Announcements in the Life of the Church

Sending Hymn - Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory ELW# 890

1 Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;
he is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are
stored; he has loosed the fateful lightning of his terrible swift sword:
his truth is marching on.

Refrain:

Glory, glory! Hallelujah!
Glory, glory! Hallelujah!
Glory, glory! Hallelujah!
His truth is marching on.

2 He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat;
he is sifting out the hearts of men before his judgment seat.
Oh, be swift, my soul, to answer him; be jubilant, my feet!
Our God is marching on. [Refrain]

3 In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,
with a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me.
As he died to make men holy, let us live to make men free,
while God is marching on. [Refrain]

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

Helping out with Worship Today

Pastor:Rev. Dr. Renae Koehler

Organist:..... Alnora Daubendiek

**Acolytes:..... Karlee Riha
Korbin Busboom**

Lector:..... Carrye Meints

**Greeters:..... Tony & Kristin Hoffman
Jacob & Nicole Behrends**

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 140 Giving \$2,814.00

THIS WEEK IN THE LIFE OF ZION

Today

9:00 am Worship/Rev. Dr. Renae Koehler

Coffee Fellowship by Joy Circle

Wednesday

6:00pm - 7th & 8th Grade Parent Orientation followed by 7th Grade acolyte training

Thursday

Ladies Aide

Next Sunday

9:00 am Worship/Communion/Rev. Dr. Renae Koehler

Helping out next Sunday

Pastor:Rev. Dr. Renae Koehler

Organist:.....Alnora Daubendiek

Acolytes:Carson Hanshaw
Aiden Hanshaw

Lector:Denise Schlake-Ideus

Greeters:..... Paul & Cindy Jurgens
Jim & Carol Young

Coffee Fellowship by Joy Circle

****5th Sunday offering- Audio/Visual Improvement Fund**

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!



5th SUNDAY OFFERING

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

**online
GIVING**
easy. fast. effective.

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.



A heartfelt thank you to the ladies who served the lunch after the funeral. Thank you to Pastor Nathan Metzger for officiating the service and thank you to the Zion family for your visits, cards, food, and prayers. Thank you all.

~Janice Jurgens, Donna, Randy, Bob, Myron & Darin

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.



LWR-SCHOOL KIT UPDATE

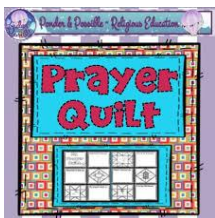


NEW GOAL 150 Bags

To reach this we only need 230 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.



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

It's a new year of confirmation and a significant step in our youth's faith journey. The goal is to help 7th and 8th 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. 7th & 8th grade youth and parents or guardians will meet in the fellowship hall from 6 to 7 pm. For the 8th grade families, we will look at the year ahead as these youth prepare for their confirmation in the spring. For the 7th 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 3rd, 6 to 7 PM.

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