

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

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

June 28, 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 our Spirits for Worship *(As you are able please stand)*

P - This morning, we gather as modern-day disciples of Jesus.

C - **May I be one with people of all religions and races as I join in a holy unity with all living beings and with life in every shape and form.**

Gathering Hymn - Come, We That Love The Lord

ELW#625 vs 1-3

Come, we that love the Lord,
and let our joys be known;
join in a song with sweet accord,
join in a song with sweet accord
and thus surround the throne,
and thus surround the throne.

[Refrain]

We're marching to Zion,
beautiful, beautiful Zion;
we're marching upward to Zion,
the beautiful city of God.

Let those refuse to sing
who never knew our God;
but children of the heav'nly King,
but children of the heav'nly King
may tell their joys abroad,
may tell their joys abroad. [Refrain]

The hill of Zion yields
a thousand sacred sweets
before we reach the heav'nly fields,
before we reach the heav'nly fields,
or walk the golden streets,
or walk the golden streets. [Refrain]

Prayer of Opening our Hearts to God

P - Christ our Lord,

**C - I rejoice in this season of warmth and growth, so full of life!
As plants and animals soak up the sun's life-energy, may I
absorb Your love this day in countless ways. May my heart
dance in wonder at all that you have ever made and all you are
bringing forth this morning. Amen**

Reading of the Scriptures

First Reading - 2 Kings 2:22-25 Bald head

And the water has remained pure to this day, according to the word Elisha had spoken. From there Elisha went up to Bethel. As he was walking along the road, some boys came out of the town and jeered at him. "Get out of here, baldy!" they said. "Get out of here, baldy!" He turned around, looked at them and called down a curse on them in the name of the Lord. Then two bears came out of the woods and mauled forty-two of the boys. And he went on to Mount Carmel and from there returned to Samaria.

Psalm 89:1-2 *(Please read responsively)*

I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, forever;

with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

I declare that your steadfast love is established forever;

your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.

Second Reading - Romans 6:12-14 God's grace

Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal bodies, so that you obey their desires. No longer present your members to sin as instruments of unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace. *Here ends this reading.*

(Please stand as you are able)

Gospel - Matthew 10:40-42 A cup of cold water.

“Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous, and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.” *(Please be seated.)*

Gospel Sung Response tune - Darwall’s 148th #893

Rejoice, give thanks and sing: your Sovereign God adore! The scripture has been read to guide us evermore. Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice again, I say Rejoice!

Children’s Message

Sung Blessing for our Children - Go, My Children, with My Blessing
ELW #543 vs 1

Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone. Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own. In my love’s baptismal river, I have made you mine forever. Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.

Homily - Rev. Dr. Renae Koehler

Offering Hymn - Our Father, We Have Wandered ELW #606

Our Father, we have wandered
And hidden from your face;
In foolishness have squandered
Your legacy of grace.
But now, in exile dwelling,
We rise with fear and shame,
As distant but compelling,
We hear you call our name.

And now at length discerning
The evil that we do,
Behold us, Lord, returning
With hope and trust to you.
In haste you come to meet us
And home rejoicing bring,
In gladness there to greet us
With calf and robe and ring.

O Lord of all the living,
Both banished and restored,
Compassionate, forgiving
And ever caring Lord,
Grant now that our transgressing,
Our faithlessness may cease.
Stretch out your hand in blessing,
In pardon and in peace.

(Please stand as the offering is brought forward.)

Sung Offering Response tune #841 Lift Every Voice and Sing
**Lift ev'ry voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring; ring with
the blessings of our offering. Let our rejoicing rise, high as the
listen-ing skies, let it resound loud as the rolling sea.**

Offering Blessing

P - Loving Jesus,

**C - Bless my offering and my ministry in this community, so
that I may truly serve your divine will on earth. May all I do
delight your heart. Amen. *(Please be seated)***

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 "Here 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 (responsively)

P - Eternal Source of our existence

C - Your heart is our home,

P - From you we have come

C - And to you we will journey this week.

P - To create a world of peace and harmony

C - So that life may abound.

Announcements in the Life of the Church

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

Sending Hymn - Will You Let Me Be Your Servant ELW #659

Will you let me be your servant

Let me be as Christ to you?

Pray that I may have the grace

To let you be my servant too

We are pilgrims on a journey

We are travelers on the road

We are here to help each other

Walk the mile and bear the load

I will hold the Christ-light for you
In the night time of your fear
I will hold my hand out to you
Speak the peace you long to hear

I will weep when you are weeping
When you laugh I'll laugh with you
I will share your joy and sorrow
Till we've seen this journey through

Will you let me be your servant
Let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace
To let you be my servant too

P - Go in peace and serve the Lord.

C - Thanks be to God.

SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING DATE - Mark your calendar for the Semi-annual meeting as it has been schedule for July 12th right after the 9:00am church service. Please plan to attend.

THANK YOU - Zion Lutheran Congregation thanks for letting us use your VBS décor for our VBS week at St. Paul's. We appreciate your kindness! ~ St. Paul's VBS committee

THANK YOU – The family of Art Schuster wants to thank everyone for their prayers, visits, food, and cards after the loss of Art. Art always thought that Zion was part of his family. God Bless you all ~ Sharon, Randy, Brian, Tim, & Debra

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - 📖 **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 Teacher (will assist another teacher)
- * 4th Grade Teacher (will assist another teacher)
- * 8th Grade 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!

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!

online
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.**



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