

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.”



Third Sunday of Easter with Holy Communion and Baptism

May 4, 2025

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 disciples make a big splash and eat breakfast with the risen Jesus. Wading in the water (remembering baptism) and eating with Jesus (celebrating holy communion) is our weekly encounter with the risen Christ. Jesus asks us again and again: Do you love me? And Jesus invites us, again and again, to follow him, bringing the Easter life to others.

Easter Gathering

P- Christ is risen!

C- Christ is risen!

P- The Easter season is a week of weeks, seven Sundays when we

play in the mystery of Christ's presence, mostly through the glorious Gospel of John.

C- Christ is risen indeed, alleluia!

P- Today we gather with the disciples on the first Easter, and Jesus breathes the Spirit on us. With Thomas we ask for sign, and Jesus offers his wounded self in the broken bread,

C- Christ is risen indeed, alleluia!

P- From frightened individuals we are transformed into a community of open doors, peace, forgiveness, and sharing so that no one among us is in need.

C- Christ is risen indeed, alleluia!

Gathering Hymn – I Love to Tell the Story

ELW 661

**1 I love to tell the story
of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory,
of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story,
because I know it's true;
it satisfies my longings
as nothing else would do.**

Refrain:

**I love to tell the story;
'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story
of Jesus and his love.**

**2 I love to tell the story:
how pleasant to repeat**

what seems, each time I tell it,
more wonderfully sweet!
I love to tell the story,
for some have never heard
the message of salvation
from God's own holy word. [Refrain]

3 I love to tell the story,
for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting
to hear it like the rest.

And when, in scenes of glory,
I sing the new, new song,
I'll sing the old, old story
that I have loved so long. [Refrain]

Thanksgiving for Baptism

*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- Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C- Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

P- Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection,
and called to live the baptized life,
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

P- Holy God,
we give you thanks for the water of baptism,
waters that make a people your own,
that restore to wholeness,

and empower us to be witnesses in your name.

Baptized into you, O Living One,

C- make us one as you are one.

P-We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,

waters that strengthen believers

and give new life to beloved servants of your church;

waters that extend your boundless love

and cross barriers of our own making.

Baptized into you, O Living One,

C- make us one as you are one.

P-We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,

waters that open the hearts of believers

and give a voice in the night to those in captivity;

waters that set your people on a new path,

rejoicing in the Spirit's power.

Baptized into you, O Living One,

C- make us one as you are one.

P- Grant us grace, love, life, O Living One,

that our everyday is shaped by these waters

that gives us our very lives in you.

We ask this in the name of Jesus,

the Crucified and Risen One.

C- Amen

Please be seated.

Special Music- Les Lieneman

Children's Message

Readings

Acts 9:1-20

Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." [The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight and neither ate nor drank.

Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named

Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.” But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem, and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.” But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.”

And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.” Here ends this reading.

Psalm 30 -*Read responsively*

I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up,

and did not let my foes rejoice over me.

O Lord my God, I cried to you for help,

and you have healed me.

O Lord, you brought up my soul from Sheol,

restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit.

Sing praises to the Lord, O you his faithful ones,

and give thanks to his holy name.

For his anger is but for a moment;

his favor is for a lifetime.

Weeping may linger for the night,

but joy comes with the morning.

As for me, I said in my prosperity,

'I shall never be moved.'

By your favor, O Lord,

you had established me as a strong mountain;

you hid your face;

I was dismayed.

To you, O Lord, I cried,

and to the Lord I made supplication:

'What profit is there in my death,

if I go down to the Pit?

Will the dust praise you?

Will it tell of your faithfulness?

Hear, O Lord, and be gracious to me!

O Lord, be my helper!

You have turned my mourning into dancing;

you have taken off my sackcloth

and clothed me with joy,

so that my soul may praise you and not be silent.

O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

Revelations 5:11-14

Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered

myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, singing with full voice, 'Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!' Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing, 'To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might for ever and ever!' And the four living creatures said, 'Amen!' And the elders fell down and worshipped. Here ends this reading.

Prayer of the Day

As you are able, please stand.

P- Eternal and all-merciful God,

C- with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. Please be seated.

Gospel - John 21:1-19

After he appeared to his followers in Jerusalem, Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach, but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he had taken it off, and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them, and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him,

“Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, “Follow me.”
The Gospel of the Lord.

C-Praise to you, O Lord!

Message – Rev. Dennis Rock

Offering Song - That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright ELW384

**1 That Easter day with joy was bright;
the sun shone out with fairer light
when, to their longing eyes restored,
the apostles saw their risen Lord!**

**2 O Jesus, king of gentleness,
with constant love our hearts possess;
to you our lips will ever raise
the tribute of our grateful praise.**

**3 O Christ, you are the Lord of all
in this our Easter festival,
for you will be our strength and shield
from ev'ry weapon death can wield.**

**4 All praise, O risen Lord, we give
to you, once dead, but now alive!
To God the Father equal praise,
and God the Spirit, now we raise!**

Offering Prayer

As you are able, please stand.

P- Risen One,

**C- you have gathered us around your table of grace
along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again,
breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal,
that we may live as your risen body in the world. 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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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- The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come eat at God's table!

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 Song - Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain ELW 363

**1 Come, you faithful, raise the strain
of triumphant gladness!**

**God has brought forth Israel
into joy from sadness,
loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke
Jacob's sons and daughters;
led them with unmoistened foot
through the Red Sea waters.**

**2 'Tis the spring of souls today:
Christ has burst his prison,
and from three days' sleep in death
as a sun has risen.**

**All the winter of our sins,
long and dark, is flying
from the Light to whom we give
laud and praise undying.**

**3 Now the queen of seasons, bright
with the day of splendor,
with the royal feast of feasts
comes its joy to render;
comes to glad Jerusalem,**

**who with true affection
welcomes in unwearied strain
Jesus' resurrection!**

**4 Neither could the gates of death,
nor the tomb's dark portal,
nor the watchers, nor the seal,
hold you as a mortal:
but today, among your own,
you appear, bestowing
your deep peace, which evermore
passes human knowing.**

**5 Alleluia! now we cry
to our Lord immortal,
who triumphant burst the bars
of the tomb's dark portal;
Alleluia! with the Son
God the Father praising;
Alleluia! yet again
to the Spirit raising.**

Post Communion Prayer

P-Living One,

C- in this feast you have made yourself known to us.

**Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory,
and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.**

Amen.

Announcements in the Life of Our Church

Blessing & Dismissal

P- Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C- Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P- Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

C- Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

P- The triune God,
who was, who is, and who is to come,
Sovereign, ✚ Savior, and Spirit,
light your way with resurrection dawn,
now and always.

C- Amen.

P- Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad!

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

Sending Song - You Servants of God ELW 825

**1 You servants of God, your Master proclaim,
and publish abroad his wonderful name;
the name, all-victorious, of Jesus extol;
his kingdom is glorious and rules over all!**

**2 Ascended on high, almighty to save,
yet still he is nigh, his presence we have.
The great congregation his triumph shall sing,
ascribing salvation to Jesus, our king!**

**3 Salvation to God who sits on the throne!
Let all cry aloud and honor the Son.
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
fall down on their faces, and worship the Lamb.**

**4 Then let us adore and give him his right,
all glory and pow'r and wisdom and might,
all honor and blessing, with angels above,
and thanks never ceasing, and infinite love!**

DeAnn Oltman - Council President 402-223-0561

Michele Kolm – Secretary 402-239-0417

Email -jpzionlutheran@yahoo.com

Helping with Worship Today

Pastor:..... Rev Dennis Rock

Organist:..... Alnora Daubendiek

**Acolytes:Karlee Riha
Korbin Busboom**

Lector: Les Lieneman

Greeters:..... Council & 7th Graders

Special Music.....Les Lieneman

Vital Statistics for last Sunday

Worship 278 Giving \$2,915.00

Sunday School 45 Giving \$128.55

The offering for Easter Sunrise Service was designated to Cassie Thornburg and her ministry with Navigators. Total offering, including the online giving was \$2,694.42.

THIS WEEK IN THE LIFE OF ZION

Today

8:45 am Sunday School

10:00 am Worship/Communion

3:00 pm Adams A's 9U BB vs Expos doubleheader

5:00 pm Gronewold Baptism

Wednesday

1:30 pm Grace Circle

5:30 pm Adams A's 8U BB vs York 7U

7:00 pm Committee meetings

7:30 pm Council meeting

Next Sunday

8:45 am Sunday School

10:00 Worship/Mother's Day/Hospitality event following service

Helping out next Sunday

Pastor:.....Rev. Heidi Wallace

Organist:..... Shirley Gronewold

Acolytes:Colt Rinne
Nora Glynn

Lector:Linda Blackwell

Greeters:..... Dorothy Trauernicht
Loreen Wallman

Special Music:..... Kids of the Kingdom/
Amigos

May Altar Guild:

Carrie Reed, Janet Harms, Peggy Johnson, Cindy Jurgens, Rose Gronewold

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

Snow Brigade

For the week of May 5th: Steve Oltman (Captain), Eric Parde – Tractor, Chris Fossler – Tractor, Jordan Busboom, Greg Robinson, Hunter Blackwell, Keith Parde, Kyle Schlake

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!

This week's bulletin is sponsored by: Patty, Jeremy, Brittany Thomas & Larry & Macy Gronewold in memory of George Wolken's birthday.

The flowers under the hymn board are in honor of Billy & Janet Harm's 50th wedding anniversary. Congratulations Billy & Janet.

The flowers on the piano are in honor of Ellis Alan Gronewold's baptism by his grandparent's Gary & Brenda Gronewold. Baptism will be held later this afternoon.

Welcome to our newest member in Christ Ellis Alan Gronewold



Son of Reece & Megan Gronewold born on August 19, 2024. Sponsors are Colton & Kaitlyn Gronewold. Grandparents are Gary & Brenda Gronewold and Mike and Amy Gappa. Ellis will be baptized later this afternoon.

Congratulation again to the 8th grade confirmands on their affirmation of baptism last weekend. The 8th grade class included: Maximus Adonis Rain Cornelius, Presleigh Ann Borgman, Aiden Michael Hanshaw, Carsen Ryan Hanshaw, Brogan Lee Ideus, Konnor Quinn Kolm, Kipton Lee Lovitt, Karlee Mae Riha, and Colt Roland Rinne.

FULLER PARK ACTIVITIES

Sunday, May 4th -3:00 pm Adams A's 9U BB vs Expos doubleheader

Wednesday, May 7th 5:30 - Adams A's 8U BB vs York 7U

Fellowship Hall Repairs

We are repairing cracks in the ceiling and walls of the Fellowship Hall. Please enter the church from the main entrance for the next several Sundays. If you need to utilize the handicap ramp, please reach out to a council member.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

The council is looking for individuals who would like to visit members of our congregation in Care Facilities and those members who may be homebound. If you have an interest, please reach out to any Council member.



Recognition Sunday is May 18th. If you would like your family member who is graduating either high school or college to be recognized, please submit their information by May 13th to the church office by text or email. (402-239-0417 or jpzionlutheran@yahoo.com)

2025 BACCALAUREATE SERVICE

Adams United Methodist Church is hosting the Freeman Baccalaureate Service at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, May 14th. All are welcome to attend to honor our church graduates & others graduating this year.

VBS Registration is open!

Join us as we embark on the ultimate Alaskan adventure - Trusting Jesus in a Wild World!

WHEN: May 27th - May 30th

TIME: 8:30 AM - 11:30AM

AGES: Prek - 5th Grade

Scan the QR code today. **Deadline to sign up is May 12th**
\$10 fee per child due at registration.



Willow Center “Baby Bottle” Fundraiser begins on Mother's Day & goes through Father's Day!

Pick up a bottle next Sunday to fill with change or cash! Set a personal goal or create a team challenge and give support to someone facing an unplanned pregnancy! Your gift allows them to find hope in the midst of a crisis! Bottles are located on card table at the back of the church.

Parish Ed is actively looking for Sunday School

Volunteers/Teachers for the upcoming year! If you are interested in either one of the roles below, please reach out to Heather Hippen or any other Parish Ed Member.

A HUGE thank you to all the current and past teachers who have volunteered their time! The Zion Sunday School program would not happen without all of you!

HERITAGE ROOM CONFIRMATION DISPLAY:

Have you ever found yourself saying, "I wish I would have asked" when someone is no longer able to share their memories? The Heritage Committee has begun collecting some of those memories before it is too late. Our current focus has been collecting confirmation memories especially from those very early years with more memories to be added each year. Venture on over to the Heritage Room in the school house across the road. On display are memories that have been submitted by confirmands, many from the 1940s and 1950s, along with other artifacts such as old confirmand dresses, certificates from the Reents years, and confirmand portraits.

Offerings Made Easier

Scan the QR Code to the right to access **Zion's Venmo account & submit your offering. Offering envelopes & online giving via Vanco** are also available. Reach out to a council member with any questions.



Card Shower for Doreen Wallman who will be celebrating her birthday on May 8th. Please send a card and some thoughts to
Doreen Wallman
Goldcrest Retirement Center
200 Levi Lane
Adams, NE 68301



Thank you so much to Zion Lutheran Church and its members for your generous offering donation and support for my work with the Navigators. My role with the Navigators includes training and care for equipping missionaries to share the gospel among the lost in different parts of the world, seeing the kingdom of God advance to every tongue, tribe, and nation. As full time Navigator missions staff, I am required to raise full support for my salary, benefits, and ministry expenses from family, friends, and churches as part of my ministry. Your support means so much to me and is a huge blessing to the ministry God has called me to. I will also be speaking at Zion's Missions Festival later this year if you are interested in hearing more about my ministry and how God is at work.

Laboring with you,
Cassie Thornburg

Come Join in on the next Hospitality Event.....



Gold Crest - Mildred Meints, Janice Jurgens, Doreen Wallman,
Marilyn Robinson

Homestead House - Anora Schoen, Rosanna Miller

Our Homes Assisted Living – Randy Oltman

Wilber Care Center – Ernie Jurgens

Congrats to Logan Hippen on Perfect Attendance for the 2024-2025 Sunday School Year!



We would also like to give a shoutout to anyone who missed 3 or less days of Sunday School this year.

Dorothy Freeman, Ellie Grummert, Palmer Parks, Carrick Eickhoff, Rory Detert, Jaxson Lane, Claire Freeman, Tucker Parks, Lane Grummert, Emmalynn Blecha, MJ Detert, Lincoln Eickhoff, Emma Lane, Brooks Coffin, Brixton Coffin, Ellis Freeman, Mason Hippen, and Nora Glynn.