

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



2nd Sunday after Pentecost with Holy Communion

June 22, 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 and Ringing of the Bell

Gathering (As you are able please stand)

P - Loving God, we open our hearts, to worship You.

C - Hope is riding on the air, carried on the wind, filling our lungs; And this church with the incense of peace.

P - God, Give us a strong faith like that of Daniel in the lion’s den.

C - Exhale, a gale of your grace into us, and set us under full sail on the waters of peace.

Gathering Hymn - A Mighty Fortress Is Our God #504 vs 1,2 & 4

A mighty fortress is our God,
a sword and shield victorious;
he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod
and wins salvation glorious.
The old evil foe, sworn to work us woe,
with dread craft and might
he arms himself to fight.
On earth he has no equal.

No strength of ours can match his might!
We would be lost, rejected.

But now a champion comes to fight,
whom God himself elected.
Ask who this may be: Lord of hosts is he!
Christ Jesus our Lord,
God's only Son, adored.
He holds the field victorious.

God's Word forever shall abide,
no thanks to foes, who fear it;
for God himself fights by our side
with weapons of the Spirit.
If they take our house, goods, fame, child, or spouse,
wrench our life away,
they cannot win the day.
The kingdom's ours forever!

Prayer of the Day (in unison)

C - Almighty God, You have called us to live with courage. Give us bold hearts to stand for what is good, clear minds to recognize injustice, and unwavering spirits to speak truth even when it is hard to do so. Like Daniel, make us steadfast in prayer, fearless in faith, and filled with integrity. Remind us that your presence surrounds us like the mouths of lions held shut. Amen

Reading of the Scriptures

First Reading: Daniel 6:16–23

Then the king gave the command, and Daniel was brought and thrown into the den of lions. The king said to Daniel, “May your God, whom you faithfully serve, deliver you!” A stone was brought and laid on the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet and with the signet of his lords, so that nothing might be changed concerning Daniel. Then the king went to his palace and spent the night fasting; no food was brought to him, and sleep fled from him. Then, at break of day, the king got up and hurried to the den of lions. When he came near the den where Daniel was, he cried out anxiously to Daniel, “O Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God whom you faithfully serve been able to deliver you from the lions?” Daniel then said to the king, “O king, live forever! My God sent his angel and shut the lions’ mouths so that they would not hurt me because I was found blameless before him; and also before you, O king, I have done no wrong.” Then the king was exceedingly glad and commanded that Daniel be taken up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no kind of harm was found on him because he had trusted in his God.

Psalm 27:1–3 (Please read responsively)

The Lord is my light and my salvation;

whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life;

of whom shall I be afraid?

When evildoers assail me

to devour my flesh

my adversaries and foes

they shall stumble and fall.

Though an army encamp against me,

my heart shall not fear;

though war rise up against me,

yet I will be confident.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:13–17

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good?

But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil.

Gospel: Luke 6:22–23, 27–28 (As you are able please stand)

“Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven, for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.” “But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.”

Sing Gospel Response # 473

Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you. My heart is glad to say the words: you are holy, God.

Children's Message

Sing Response: Jesus Love Me (verse one only) #595

Jesus loves me! this I know,

for the Bible tells me so;

little ones to him belong,

they are weak, but he is strong.

Message - "Daniel in the Lion's Den" – Rev. Dr. Renae Koehler

Offering Hymn - Be Still, My Soul (Christina G. Rossetti, trans. Jane Borthwick)

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side; Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain; Leave to thy God to order and provide; In every change Christ faithful will remain. Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heavenly Friend. Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul: thy God doth undertake; To guide the future as God has the past. Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake; All now mysterious shall be bright at last. Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know, Christ voice Who ruled them while He dwelt below.

Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on; When we shall be forever with the Lord, When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone, Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored. Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past, All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

Please stand as the offering is brought forward

Offering Hymn - Sing Response (to the tune #422 – one verse; new words)

**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 (in unison)

C - Generous God, We ask you to bless the gifts of our money, time, and creativity. May they be used to heal, teach, lift up, and create beauty wherever there is need. Make us instruments of your love and artists of your grace.

Prayers of Intercession

Leader: With faith in God's goodness and courage from the Spirit, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

1. For the earth and all its elements—soil, water, air, fire, plants, animals, and the unseen ecosystems that sustain life. Help us to cherish and protect this sacred trust. Lord, in your mercy,
C- Hear our prayer.
2. For all those who are struggling with cancer: for strength, for healing, for good care, and for the comfort of love that surrounds them. Lord, in your mercy,
C- Hear our prayer.

3. For all who are ill in body, mind, or spirit—bring them peace, relief, and wholeness, and surround them with companions on the journey. Lord, in your mercy,

C- Hear our prayer.

4. For all of us: grant us the courage and steadfast faith of Daniel in the lions den. Keep us from falling into corruption or scheming. Help us to stand strong when others falter. When trouble comes, teach us to pray. Form us into people of deep integrity—honest, upright, and filled with your Spirit. Lord, in your mercy,

C- 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.

Communion Liturgy

Communion Hymn - Abide With Me #629 (Henry F. Lyte)

Abide with me: fast falls the eventide; The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee, Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me!

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day; Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see— O Thou who changest not, abide with me!

I need Thy presence every passing hour; What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's
power? Who, like Thyself, my guide and stay can be? Through cloud and sunshine, oh,
abide with me!

I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless; Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness;
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory? I triumph still, if Thou abide with me!

Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes; Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies; heav'n's morning breaks and earth's vain shadows flee; in life, in death, O Lord abide with me.

***Prayer after communion (in unison)**

Almighty God, we thank you for this sacred meal. May this Holy Communion heal our bodies, minds, and spirits. Send us out as living bread for a world that hungers for your love. Amen.

***Benediction Blessing**

Announcements in the life of the church

Sending Hymn - Onward, Christian Soldiers vs 1,3 & 4
(Sabine Baring-Gould, music by Arthur Sullivan)

Onward, Christian soldiers, marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus going on before.
Christ, the royal Master, leads against the foe;
Forward into battle, see His banners go!

Refrain:

***Onward, Christian soldiers, marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus going on before.***

Crowns and thrones may perish, kingdoms rise and wane,
But the love of Jesus constant will remain.
Gates of hell can never 'gainst Christ's Love prevail;
We have Christ's own promise, and that cannot fail.
(*Refrain*)

Onward, then, you faithful, join our happy throng,
Blend with ours your voices in the triumph song;
Glory, laud, and honor unto Christ the King;
This through countless ages we with angels sing.

(*Refrain*)

DeAnn Oltman - Council President 402-223-0561

Michele Kolm – Secretary 402-239-0417

Email: jpzionlutheran@yahoo.com

Helping out with Worship Today

Pastor:.....Rev. Dr. Renae Koehler

Organist:..... Alnora Daubendiek

Acolytes:.....Presleigh Borgman
Hunter Grone

Lector:Carrie Reed

Greeters:.....Les & Cindy Lieneman
Dean & Karen Zimmerman

Coffee Fellowship by Grace Circle

Vital Statistics for last Sunday

Worship 86 Giving \$4,453.00

THIS WEEK IN THE LIFE OF ZION

Today

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

Monday

5:30 pm Adams 18U Softball (SH)

Wednesday

Print Newsletter

Thursday

Ladies Aid

The Next Sunday

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

**5th Sunday offering goes to Fuller Park for Sprinkler additions*

Helping out next Sunday

Pastor:Rev Dr. Renae Koehler

Organist:..... Alhora Daubendiek

Acolytes:Colt Rinne

Korbin Busboom

Lector:Gerald Ideus

Greeters:.....Todd & Jeni Bohlmyer

Mark & Christy Buhr

Coffee Fellowship by Grace Circle

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!

WILLOW CENTER BOTTLE FUNDRAISER

If you still happen to have a bottle for the Willow Center & have not turned in please place on the welcome desk in the fellowship hall or give to a council member asap! Thanks to all those that donated!

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.



Semi-Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars, the semi-annual meeting for 2025 will be held **July 13th** following service. Please plan to attend.

5th Sunday Offering

Fifth Sunday in June (June 29th) has been designated for Fuller Park to assist with additional sprinklers.



YOUTH ATTENDING SUMMER CAMP

Any youth attending confirmation camp or a summer Christian based camp, may qualify for reimbursement of 75% of the camp cost based on the "Early Bird Discount", if applicable. Funds are provided through the Willie & Anna Meints Endowment Fund. Applications are located on the Welcome Center in the Fellowship Hall.



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

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.**

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

Zion Lutheran Church
@Zion68422



venmo

Scan this code to pay

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