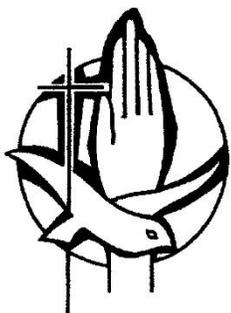


## Zion Lutheran Church Mission Statement

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



**Ninth Sunday after Pentecost with Holy Communion with the Sacrament of Holy Baptism and Back to School Prayer & Blessing**

**August 7, 2022**

*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**

*Hospitality and hosting are major themes throughout the summer lectionary. Jesus sends his disciples out to preach the gospel, instructing them to be guests in the homes of others. What can it mean that God chooses to act in the role of guest and calls on believers to do the same?*

### **Gathering**

P- Jesus says, “It is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.” It is God’s promise from the beginning.

**C- Let your lovingkindness be upon us, as we place our hope in you. Psalm 33:22**

P- It is God’s promise from the beginning—to Abraham, to the early church, and to the “little flock” of which we are a part of today.

**C- Let your lovingkindness be upon us, as we place our hope in you. Psalm 33:22**

P- It is God’s promise from the beginning--faith, God’s baptismal gift, trusts the promises of God. Have no fear!

**C- Let your lovingkindness be upon us, as we place our hope**

**in you. Psalm**

33:22

**Gathering Hymn – Amazing Grace ELW 779**

1 Amazing grace!– how sweet the sound–  
that saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost, but now am found;  
was blind, but now I see.

2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed!

3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares  
I have already come;  
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home.

4 The Lord has promised good to me;  
his word my hope secures;  
he will my shield and portion be  
as long as life endures.

5 When we've been there ten thousand years,  
bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we'd first begun.

**Confession & 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,  
whose steadfast love endures forever.

**C- Amen**

P- Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P- Merciful God,

**C- we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way. Instead of putting others before our self, we long to take the best seat at the table. When we meet those in need, we too often pass by on the other side. Set us again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors. Amen**

P- Hear the good news! God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting us pardon and peace. In the name of Jesus + Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are set free to love as God loves.

**C- Amen**

## **Sacrament of Holy Baptism – Tholen Kelly Buss**

### **Children's Time – What We Need to Go Back-to-School!!!**

**Back-to-School Blessing** by the Rev. Marilyn E. Thornton  
Read responsively.

Bless my paper and my pen.

Guide my spirit deep within.

**Help me think and help me play,  
This whole school year, day by day.**

As I move from class to class,

Guide my footsteps; clear my path.

**Keep my tongue to speak your words.  
Let your will for me be heard.**

In every subject high or low,

May God's excellence be shown!

**Keep me strong to reach the prize,  
To grow in grace, becoming wise.**

Whether far from home or near,

May I hold God's precepts dear.

**To do my best at every task;  
For this blessing, I do ask.**

Help my family be a part  
As I lift my mind and heart.  
**As I study, work, and pray,  
Be with them throughout the day.**

Of whom much is given, much is required.  
**May learning be your greatest desire! Amen**

## **Readings**

### **Genesis 15:1-6**

Lector— *God promises childless and aging Abram that a child of his own will be his heir and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God's promise, and through his faith he is considered righteous.*

After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.' He brought him outside and said, 'Look towards heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.'" Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness. Here ends this reading.

### **Psalm 33:12-22 - *Read responsively.***

Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD,  
**the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.**

The LORD looks down from heaven;

**he sees all humankind.**

From where he sits enthroned he watches

**all the inhabitants of the earth—**

he who fashions the hearts of them all,

**and observes all their deeds.**

A king is not saved by his great army;

**a warrior is not delivered by his great strength.**

The war horse is a vain hope for victory,

**and by its great might it cannot save.**

Truly the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him,

**on those who hope in his steadfast love,**

to deliver their soul from death,

**and to keep them alive in famine.**

Our soul waits for the LORD;

**he is our help and shield.**

Our heart is glad in him,

**because we trust in his holy name.**

Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us,

**even as we hope in you.**

### **Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16**

*Lector – Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God enact in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face the unknown future to receive the promise of God.*

### **The Meaning of Faith**

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

## **The Faith of Abraham**

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, ‘as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.’

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them. Here ends this reading.

### **Prayer of the Day**

*As you are able, please stand.*

P- Almighty God,

**C- you sent your Holy Spirit to be the light and life of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen**

### **Gospel – Luke 12:32-40**

P- Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully in God’s reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God’s

generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others. Then Jesus said to his disciples:

“Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

## **Watchful Slaves**

“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.”

“But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.” The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **Message – Here Comes the Son...Are You Ready?**

Are we dressed and ready for the coming of Christ our Lord? In verse 31, Jesus tells us to “keep on seeking” God’s kingdom, a kingdom God wants to give to us.

## **Offering Hymn – Have No Fear, Little Flock ELW 764**

1 Have no fear, little flock;  
have no fear, little flock,  
for the Father has chosen

to give you the kingdom;  
have no fear, little flock!  
**2** Have good cheer, little flock;  
have good cheer, little flock,  
for the Father will keep you  
in his love forever;  
have good cheer, little flock!  
**3** Praise the Lord high above;  
praise the Lord high above,  
for he stoops down to heal you,  
uplift and restore you;  
praise the Lord high above!  
**4** Thankful hearts raise to God;  
thankful hearts raise to God,  
for he stays close beside you,  
in all things works with you;  
thankful hearts raise to God!

### **Offering Prayer**

*As you are able, please  
stand.*

P- God of abundance,

**C- you have set before us a plentiful harvest.**

**As we feast on your goodness,  
strengthen us to labor in your field,  
and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all  
in Jesus' name. 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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2021

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- In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy. Come to the banquet.

## **Distribution of Holy Communion**

*We will be doing communion by flow through for those able to come forward to partake. Please follow the usher's directions and maintain social distancing. A team will bring communion to those unable to come forward. For those who prefer the individual communion package, we have it available in the entryways.*

## **Communion Hymn – Children of the Heavenly Father ELW 781**

1 Children of the heav'nly Father  
safely in his bosom gather;  
nestling bird nor star in heaven  
such a refuge e'er was given.

2 God his own doth tend and nourish;  
in his holy courts they flourish.  
From all evil things he spares them;  
in his mighty arms he bears them.

3 Neither life nor death shall ever  
from the Lord his children sever;  
unto them his grace he showeth,  
and their sorrows all he knoweth.

4 Though he giveth or he taketh,  
God his children ne'er forsaketh;  
his the loving purpose solely  
to preserve them pure and holy.

## **Prayer after Holy Communion**

P- Life-giving God,  
through this meal you have bandaged our wounds  
and fed us with mercy.

Now send us forth to live for others,  
both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love.  
This we pray in the name of Jesus.

**C- Amen.**

## **Announcements in the Life of Our Church**

### **Blessing & Dismissal**

P- The God of peace,  
Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you and comfort,  
and show you the path of life  
this day and always.

**C\_ Amen.**

P- Go in peace. Love your neighbor.

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

### **Sending Hymn – Give to Our God Immortal Praise ELW848**

1 Give to our God immortal praise!

Mercy and truth are all his ways.

Wonders of grace to God belong;  
repeat his mercies in your song.

2 He sent his Son with pow'r to save  
from guilt and darkness and the grave.

Wonders of grace to God belong;  
repeat his mercies in your song.

3 Give to the Lord of lords renown;  
the King of kings with glory crown.

His mercies ever shall endure  
when lords and kings are known no more!

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

**Britan's number – 308-730-0599**

Pastor.....	Rev. Jerry Gilbreath
Organist.....	Alnora Daubendiek
Acolytes.....	Braxton Trauernicht, Max Behrens
Reader.....	Doug Parde

**Vital Statistics**

98 750.00

**This Week**

Worship 9 am

**NEXT Sunday**

Worship 9 am

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Welcome to worship! 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. 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

## **Council and Committee Meetings will be held Wednesday August 10<sup>th</sup>!**

**Grace Circle will meet Wednesday at 1:30 and Roxanne Dorn will have bible study.**

**BACK TO SCHOOL SALES HAVE BEGUN....** So lets talk lutheran world relief school kits! 2022 goal-100 kits! Greatest needs.. 400-70 sheet notebooks wide/college ruled  
500-Black/Blue ballpoint pens ( no gel ink)  
Other needs: 100 Rulers, 80 Blunt scissors, 100 16/24 count crayons

**Men's Choir practice on August 22 and August 29 at 7 o' clock.** It has been a difficult year losing 3 faithful members. We would love to have new members join us.

**On Friday, August 12,** a tour group from the Aurich Germany area, will be including Zion on their tour of Southeast NE. They are arriving at approximately 5 pm with a tour of the church and a meal that is being provided through a Thrivent Grant. A PowerPoint explaining the Germany/Bear Creek area will be shown during their meal. After the meal at approximately 6:45/7, they want to stop by the cemetery and locate names that are familiar to them. It would be great if they could meet Zion members there who have that German heritage that bonds us with their area. Their tour guide, Wolfgang Grams, indicated that about half speak English with Low German being their primary language. If you are interested, please join us at the Zion Cemetery for fellowship.

A list of names of those on the tour group can be seen in the fellowship room following the service today. You may recognize some last names. Any further questions you have can be sent to [mert70@live.com](mailto:mert70@live.com) or call Mert at 402-239-5953.

**Congratulations Tholen Kelly Buss on your baptism. May God bless you and your family.** Sponsored by: Matthew Nievan, Christian Schleif, Laurin Schleif. Parents: Evan and Kaitlyn Buss

**Kiwanis Pancake Feed** to benefit the many children's programs in our community of Beatrice, next Sunday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 am – 1:30 pm at the Veteran's Club, 701 Dorsey St. Beatrice. Adults \$9, children ( to age 12) \$5 at the door. Children 3 and under eat free!

**Please Join us for fellowship after church in the fellowship room!**

### **Helping out Next Sunday**

**Acolytes:** Nicole Davison, Hudson Fikar

**Reader:** Marcia Busboom

**August Table Troop:** Duane Zulauf, Mark Buhr, Alex Buhr, Jeff Busboom, Doug Parde, Steve Gronewold, Stan Lenner, Mary Lenner, Al Wiese.

**August Altar Guild:** Dorothy Trauernicht, Rose Gronewold, Cindy Jurgens, Carrie Reed, Janet Harms

### **SHUT INS**

**Gold Crest** –Mildred Meints, Marie Schoen

**Homestead House** – Thees Busboom, Elsie Zimmerman

**Whispering Winds Cottage** – LaVern Parde

**Our Homes Assisted Living** – Randy Oltman