

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



## **Second Sunday in Lent with Holy Communion**

**March 1, 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** - The bronze church bells vibrate through our ribs.

**C** - **The rich resonance of the bells are healing us.**

**P** - Our Zion steeple points the way up as the bells call us.

**C** - **And we have answered.**

**Gathering Hymn – Tune: Silver Bells (new words by Dr. Koehler)**

Prairie winds blow, through the fence rows

Of the pastures of hay.

In the air

There’s a feeling

of friend-ship.

Children laugh-ing

People talk-ing

Meeting smile after smile.

And, inside Zi-on church

You'll hear

(Chorus)

Sac-red bells, heal-ing bells  
It's wor-ship time in the country  
Ring-a-ling, hear them sing  
Bless-ing us on this new day.

Swing-ing church bells  
That we love well  
Hear the sound ring out loud.  
As the par-ents rush  
In with their child-ren.  
Hear the snow crunch  
See the kids bunch  
Com-ing here to praise God.  
And gathered to-gether,  
We sing. (chorus)

### **Prayer of Opening our Hearts to God**

P – Creator,

**C - Your Spirit swings through us like the clapper inside of a church bell. We feel the healing tone moving through scar tissue, through grief pockets, and through old fear chambers. We are grateful for your healing vibrations as our nervous system begins resonating with the healing voice of Christ. Amen***(Please be seated)*

### **Special Music – Quartet**

### **Reading of the Scriptures**

**First Reading - Exodus 39:22-26 Gold Bells on the hems of clergy robes**

He also made the robe of the ephod woven all of blue yarn, and the opening of the robe in the middle of it was like the opening in a garment, with a binding around its edge, so that it might not be torn. On the lower hem of the robe they made pomegranates of blue, purple, and crimson yarns and of fine twisted linen. They also made bells of pure gold and put the bells between the pomegranates on the lower hem of the robe all around, between the pomegranates, a bell and a pomegranate, a bell and a pomegranate all around on the lower hem of the robe for ministering, as the Lord had commanded Moses.

**Psalm 150:3-6** (Please read responsively.)

Praise him with trumpet sound;

**praise him with lute and harp!**

Praise him with tambourine and dance;

**praise him with strings and pipe!**

Praise him with clanging cymbals;

**praise him with loud clashing cymbals!**

Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!

**Praise the Lord!**

**Second Reading - Acts 4:27-31 A prayer for boldness that shakes the floor**

“For in this city, in fact, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the gentiles and the peoples of Israel, gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place. And now, Lord, look at their threats, and grant to your servants to speak your word with all boldness, while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus.” When they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God with boldness. *Here ends this reading.*

## **Gospel - Mark 7:32-37 Ephphatha – Be Opened**

(Please stand as you are able)

They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one, but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

Gospel - Sing Response (Tune #787 On Eagles Wings - final refrain)

**And he will raise you up on eagle’s wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand. And hold you, hold you in the palm of his hand. (Please be seated.)**

## **Children’s Message**

Sing Blessing of our Children (Children of the Heavenly Father ELW #781 vs 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.**

Homily - Rev. Dr. Renae Koehler

**Offering Hymn - I heard the Bells on Christmas Day (new words by Dr. Koehler)**

I heard the bells this win-ter day  
Their old familiar tones at play,

And wild and sweet the bells repeat  
Of peace of earth, good will to men.

I thought how, as the day had come,  
The belfries of all Christendom  
Had rolled along th' unbroken song  
Of peace on earth, good will to men.

And in despair I bowed my head:  
"There is no peace on earth," I said,  
"For hate is strong, and mocks the song  
Of peace on earth, good will to men."

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:  
"God is not dead, nor doth He sleep;  
The wrong shall fail, the right prevail,  
With peace on earth, good will to men."

Till, ringing, singing on its way,  
The world revolved from night to day  
A voice, a chime, a chant sublime,  
Of peace on earth, good will to men.

*(Please stand as the offering is brought forward.)*

### **Offering Sing Response - (Tune Doxology, Old 100<sup>th</sup>)**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ all  
creatures here below; praise God above ye heavenly hosts, praise  
Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### **Offering Blessing**

P – Loving God,

**C - with these gifts, each dollar rings like a bell, over the sick,  
the poor, and the lonely. This offering is already healing myself**

**and others. The generosity is loosening despair as we begin to hear its blessings ripple outward. 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 **“hear 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.**

**Holy Communion Liturgy**

**P - The Lord be with you.**

**C - And also with you.**

**P - Lift up your hearts.**

**C - We lift them to the Lord.**

**P - Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.**

**C - It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**P - It is our joy, at all times and in all places to give God thanks and praise; therefore let us sing:**

## **Sung Communion Liturgy – Hymn “I Come with Joy” ELW #482 vs 2 & 3**

I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed, the new community of love in Christ’s communion bread, in Christ’s communion bread.

As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud division ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and love has made us friends, and love has made us friends.

### **The Words of Institution**

#### **Communion Hymn - One Bread, One Body ELW #496**

##### **CHORUS**

One bread, one body  
One Lord of all  
One cup of blessing which we bless  
And we, though many  
Throughout the earth  
We are one body in this one Lord

##### **VERSE 1**

Gentile or Jew  
Servant or free  
Woman or man, no more

##### **CHORUS**

##### **VERSE 2**

Many the gifts  
Many the works  
One in the Lord of all

##### **CHORUS**

##### **VERSE 3**

Grain for the fields  
Scattered and grown  
Gathered to One for all  
CHORUS

### **Prayer After Communion**

P - Almighty God,

**C - we thank you for the strength rising within us from your holy bread and wine. We rejoice in your reviving power taking place within us right now; healing us in the places where we were hurting. For these gifts of love and life within your holy meal, we give you thanks. Amen.**

### **Benediction (responsively)**

P - Go now and ring with sacred resonance.

**C - We carry the sound of Christ.**

P - Where there is disconnection

**C - We ring awakening.**

P - Where there is fracture

**C - We ring alignment.**

P - Where there is despair

**C - We ring love, hope and peace.**

P - Blessings in the name of the Creator, Christ and Comforter.

**C - Amen**

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

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

## **Sending Hymn - The Little Brown Church (new words by Dr. Koehler)**

There's a church on the hill, that's near Pick-rell.  
No lovelier spot in the land;  
No place is so dear to my child-hood  
As our love-ly brick church on the hill.

Refrain:

O, come, come, come, come  
come to the church known as Zi-on,  
Oh, come to the church on the hill;  
No spot is so dear to my child-hood  
As our love-ly brick church on the hill.

How sweet on a clear Sunday morning,  
To lis'n to the clear ringing bell;  
Its tones O so sweet-ly are call-ing,  
Oh, come to the church on the hill. [Refrain]

From this church on the hill in the prai-rie,  
When day fades away into night,  
I would fain from this spot of my childhood  
Wing my way to the mansions of light. [Refrain]

**P** - Go in peace and serve the Lord.

**C** - **Thanks be to God.**



## **THIS WEEK IN THE LIFE OF ZION**

### **Today**

8:45am - Sunday School

9:00am – BKF Club/Adult Bible Study

10:00am – Worship/Communion/Quartet

### **Monday**

7:00pm Men's Choir Practice

### **Wednesday**

6:00pm - 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation

6:00pm – 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Class

7:00pm – Lenten Service

### **Next Sunday**

8:45am - SS

9:00am - BKF Club/Adult Bible Study

10:00am – Worship/Kids of the Kingdom

### **Helping out next Sunday**

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

Organist.....Shirley Gronewold

Acolytes:.....Nolan Buhr

Sadie Gronewold

Lector:.....Gary Gronewold

Greeters:.....Kyle & Michele Kolm

Gary & Brenda Gronewold

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

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Welcome to worship! A Warm Welcome to all our visitors. We are so glad you are here & would love to have you visit again! Please sign a visitor card located in the pews and place the information section of the card in the offering plate. We hope to see you again!**

**THIS WEEKS BULLETIN IS SPONSORED BY: NONE**

**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.

**THANK YOU** – To the Shirley Gronewold and the Quartet for providing special music today.

**THANK YOU** – Thank you for all the prayers, cards, and visits after the loss of my sister Beverly Daubendiek. A special thank you to Dr. Rev. Renae Koehler for her time visiting with Bev. May God bless each and everyone. Thank you again ~Don & Gayle Schuster



**5<sup>th</sup> GRADE PARENTS**, mark your calendar for a new chapter in your journey of faith and worship with the lord, First Communion.

Sandy Meints will teach First Communion instruction during Lent prior to Wednesday evening services. These classes will lead to your First Communion during Maundy Thursday evening services on Thursday, April 2nd. The 5-week session will begin on Wednesday, March 4th from 6:00 - 7:00pm. The last session will be on Wednesday, April 1st.

The Parish Ed Committee highly encourages each child to be accompanied by a parent or family member. Student attendance is required in order to Commune with the class on Maundy Thursday. If you have any conflicts, please contact a Parish Ed member in advance.

**THRIVENT DEADLINE** – The deadline to direct 2025 Thrivent Choice Dollars is **March 31, 2026**. Eligible members must direct these funds annually by this date, or it will expire and be repurposed by Thrivent.

**SPRING & SUMMER CAMPS** – There are several options for Spring and Summer camp for our youth. If interested, you can find more information displayed on the Welcome Center.



**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 (**New Phone# 402-484-9104 & RM #104**)

**Gold Crest** - Janice Jurgens, Doreen Wallman, Marilyn Robinson

**Homestead House** - Anora Schoen, Rosanna Miller, Marsha Zulauf

**Our Homes Assisted Living** - Randy Oltman