#### **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.

Endless Hallelujah Contemporary Service Fourth Sunday after Easter with Holy Communion April 21, 2024

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 overarching theme of Easter is one of *belonging*. When we find our place and sense of *belonging* within the abiding, Triune God, we are also reminded that there are others who belong to God with whom we are encouraged to build community.

Nebraska Synod Theme for April: GO and Tell the Story
Jesus isn't in the tomb anymore – God is on the loose! God is
active and up to something! The story of Easter is an ongoing one,
similar to the story of our own faith. Our response as disciples is to
GO and...to go out, go share, go proclaim and go tell the story.
Questions to consider:

- What is one of your favorite Bible story?
- Is there a prop or a tangible item you might use to help you tell the story?

How will you GO and tell the story?

## **Easter Gathering**

P- Christ is risen!

#### C- Christ is risen!

P- The image of the good shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love that gives the shepherd authority.

## C- Christ is risen indeed, alleluia!

P- The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love and demonstrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with anyone in need,

## C- Christ is risen indeed, alleluia!

## Gathering Song – Standing On The Promises Vs 1

Standing on the promises of Christ my King Through eternal ages let His praises ring Glory in the highest I will shout and sing Standing on the promises of God

#### **Chorus**

Standing standing
Standing on the promises of God my Savior
Standing standing
I'm standing on the promises of God.

#### Vs 2

Standing on the promises I cannot fall List'ning ev'ry moment to the Spirit's call Resting in my Savior as my All in All Standing on the promises of God

## 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- Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy!

#### C- Amen

P- Look, here is water!

## C- Here is our water of life!

### Alleluia!

P- Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life.

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's blue water rivers.

The ark carried your creation through the flood into the new day. Miriam led the dance as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land.

In the desert the pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

P- Look, here is water!

C- Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P- At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in unity with the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C-Amen.

P- Look, here is water!

C- Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Please be seated.

#### Children's Time - Show Your Love

If you wanted someone to know that you loved him or her, what would you say or do?

## Readings Acts 4:5-12

Lector – Peter and John have been arrested the previous day because they were proclaiming the news of the resurrection to the people. In today's reading, Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit so that he can proclaim salvation in Jesus' name to the religious authorities.

The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed. let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.' There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved." Here ends this reading.

## Psalm 23, The Good Shepherd - Read responsively.

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures;

he leads me beside still waters;

he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths

for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley shadow of death, I will fear no evil:

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff—they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall pursue me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
my whole life long.

#### 1st John 3:16-24

Lector – Jesus' death on our behalf is the clearest demonstration of divine love. This is the very love we share with others, not just through words but especially through deeds. In sharing such love, we fulfill God's commandments.

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us. Here ends this reading.

## **Prayer of the Day**

As you are able, please stand.

P- O Lord Christ,

C- good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

## **Gospel – John 10:11-18**

P- In language that recalls the twenty-third psalm, Jesus describes himself as the shepherd who cares for his sheep. He is willing to die for them, and he is able to overcome death for them, After healing a blind man chapter nine and then sparing with some Pharisees, To the Pharisees, Jesus clarifies his good shepherd status in chapter ten:

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father." The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Message – The Good Shepherd

We are in uncharted territory!
We all long for a shepherd!
We are a lot like sheep, and sheep need a shepherd.
Our world needs good and faithful shepherds to care and lead us.
Our world certainly needs a good shepherd right now!

## Offering Song – Come to the Mountain

Vs 1
Jesus took Peter, James, and John
Up to the mountain to be alone
While they were watching Jesus was changed
And they saw Moses face to face

#### **Chorus**

Come to the mountain to see the light Come to the mountain to hear God's word Go to the valley it is your home Go to the valley to serve the Lord

#### Vs 2

This is my Son said a voice from the cloud Listen to him and do what he says Soon as it came that vision was gone And they saw Jesus standing alone - **Chorus** 

#### Vs 3

We will be changed like Jesus our Lord And live with him in heaven above But while we live on this earthly home Our work as servants never is done - **Chorus** 

## **Offering Prayer**

As you are able, please stand.

P- Risen One,

C- you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be witnesses in the world, through Christ our Savior. 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 "O Lord, hear our prayer we offer up to you; O Lord, 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 – The Old Rugged Cross

Vs 1

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross
The emblem of suff'ring and shame
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best
For a world of lost sinners was slain

#### **Chorus**

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross
Till my trophies at last I lay down
I will cling to the old rugged cross
And exchange it some day for a crown

#### Vs 2

To the old rugged cross I will ever be true Its shame and reproach gladly bear Then He'll call me some day to my home far away Where His glory forever I'll share

## Oh How I Love Jesus Chorus

Oh how I love Jesus
Oh how I love Jesus
Oh how I love Jesus
Because He first loved me

#### Vs 1

There is a name I love to hear I love to sing its worth It sounds like music in my ear The sweetest name on earth **Chorus** 

#### Vs 2

It tells me of a Savior's love
Who died to set me free
It tells me of His precious blood
The sinner's perfect plea **Chorus** 

#### Vs 3

It tells of one whose loving heart Can feel my deepest woe Who in each sorrow bears a part That none can bear below **Chorus** 

## One Day At A Time

#### Vs 1

I'm only human I'm just a person
Help me believe in what I could be
And all that I am
Show me the stairway I have to climb
Lord for my sake teach me to take
One day at a time

#### **Chorus**

One day at a time sweet Jesus
That's all I'm asking from You
Just give me the strength to do ev'ry day
What I have to do
Yesterday's gone sweet Jesus
And tomorrow may never be mine
Lord help me today show me the way
One day at a time

#### Vs 2

Do You remember when You walked among men Well Jesus You know if You're looking below That it's worse now than then Pushin' and shovin' crowding my mind So for my sake Lord teach me to take One day at a time

## **Post Communion Prayer**

P- Shepherd God,

C- you have prepared the table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend, amen.

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

## **Blessing & Dismissal**

As you are able, please stand.

P- Alleluia! Christ is risen!

## C- Christ is risen indeed!

#### Alleluia!

P- The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the spirit of Easter hope + bless us 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 – Leaning On The Everlasting Arms**

#### Chorus

Leaning Leaning Safe and secure from all alarms Leaning Leaning Leaning on the everlasting arms

#### Vs 1

What a fellowship what a joy divine Leaning on the everlasting arms What a blessedness what a peace is mine Leaning on the everlasting arms

#### **V2**

O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way Leaning on the everlasting arms O how bright the path grows from day to day Leaning on the everlasting arms

#### Vs 3

What have I to dread what have I to fear Leaning on the everlasting arms I have blessed peace with my Lord so near Leaning on the everlasting arms

**STANDING ON THE PROMISES** Russell Kelso Carter © Words: Public Domain; Music: Public Domain

For use solely with the SongSelect® <u>Terms of Use</u>. All rights reserved. <u>www.ccli.com</u> CCLI License # 11103068 **PRECIOUS LORD TAKE MY HAND** Thomas Andrew Dorsey

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reserved. <u>www.ccli.com</u> CCLI License # 11103068 **OH HOW I LOVE JESUS** Crowns Of Creation
Ministries Corp | Frederick Whitfield© Words: Public Domain; Music: 2016 Daddario, Joseph For use

solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 11103068 ONE DAY AT A TIME Kris Kristofferson | Marijohn Wilkin © 1973 Buckhorn Music Publishers, Inc.For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 11103068 LEANING ON THE EVERLASTING ARMSAnthony Johnson Showalter | Elisha Albright Hoffman © Words: Public Domain; Music: Public Domain For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 11103068

Pastor Jer's phone number – 402-404-0494 jkgil1979@yahoo.com

Karen's number – 402-661-9362

Email -jpzionlutheran@yahoo.com

Helping with Worship To	<u>oday</u>
Pastor	Jerry Gilbreath
Keyboard	Janelle Ideus
Guitar	Deric Bloom
Acolytes	McCoy Peters
	Karlee Riha
Lector	Linda Blackwell
Greeters	Karla Carstens
	<b>Eddie &amp; Lynette Dorn</b>
Special Music	Endless Hallelujah
Breakfast Club	

## **Vital Statistics for Last Sunday**

Sunday Sunrise Service 140 Giving \$ 2804.00 Sunday School 43 Giving \$ 37.01

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

8:45 Sunday School

9 am Breakfast Club/Adult Sunday School

10 Worship/Endless Hallelujah/Communion/Coffee Fellowship after worship/Council meets with the Confirmation Students about their Faith Projects after Worship

## **Monday**

9-3 Blanket sewing

## **Tuesday**

9-3 Blanket sewing

5:30 pm Altar Guild meeting for all the members – in the sanctuary

## **Wednesday**

6 pm 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade confirmation – pictures – 8<sup>th</sup> grade party and parents are invited – supper served by Pastor and Karen

## **Thursday**

Ladies Aid

\*\*Printing day for the Newsletter\*\*

## Next Sunday - Confirmation Sunday

8:45 am\_Sunday School

9 am BFK Club/Adult SS

10 am Worship/Amigos/Communion

Helping out Next Sund	<u>lay</u>
Pastor	Jerry Gilbreath
Organist	Alnora Daubendiek
_	Colt Rinne
-	Brogan Ideus
Greeters	.Tony & Kristin Hoffman
S	Steve & Diane Oltman
Special Music	Amigos
•	Karla Holland

<u>April Altar Guild:</u> Cindy Jurgens, Carrie Reed, Janet Harms, Peggy Johnson, Rose Gronewold.

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

## **Snow Brigade**

For the Week of April 22: Mark Buhr \*\* Captain, Gary Gronewold – tractor, Stan Lenners – Tractor, James Lenners, Billy Harms, Larry Gronewold, Dale Zimmerman, Luke Ideus, Justin Hippen.

For the Week of April 29: Greg Dorn \*\*Captain, Dean Zimmerman – tractor, Russ Wallman – tractor, Paul Remmers, Craig Ideus, Terry Gronewold, Dave Holland, Alex Buhr, Mike Busboom.

## For the Week of May 6th: Last Scheduled for this winter!!!!

Matt Meints \*\* Captain, Les Lieneman – Tractor, David Meints – Tractor, Gary Wiese, Andy Schoen, Perry Jurgens, Kenny Jurgens, Josh Nelson, Jeff Wiese, Jason Lovitt

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Welcome to worship!** A 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 or place it in the offering plate. 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

**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.

Today's bulletin is sponsored by Patty, Brittnay & Jeremy Thomas, Larry & Macy Gronewold in memory of George Wolken's birthday which would have been yesterday May 4<sup>th</sup>. Happy heavenly birthday George.

<u>Coffee Fellowship today</u> after worship by the Hospitality Committee.

Altar Guild meeting for all members on Tuesday, April 23 at 5:30 pm. It is to get input on new paraments and altar ware. We will meet in the Sanctuary in the front few pews.

Thank you to Janelle, Deric and Endless Hallelujah for your special music today!



<u>Free Thrivent t-shirts</u> on the table in the back – please take one or three on your way out!



## Reminder to sign up for VBS - Deadline is 5/11

Preschool will be all four days this year due to willing volunteers

We are thankful for all of our volunteers

May 28-31 8:30-11:30am

Program & Picnic 6/2 @ 10am

<u>Middle School and High School Parents – Summer Retreat</u>
<u>opportunity!</u> July trip to Colorado. Check out the Welcome
Center for the brochures and parental consents. Any questions please contact Hannah Hrenchir.

## "Fly Back In Time"

April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024, from 11: am – 3:00 pm
Filley Stone Barn,
13282 East Scott Rd – 2 miles south of Filley, NE
Supplies to make kites, marble making demonstrations,
Watch cornhusk dolls be made.
Lunch will be available provided by the Gage County Historical Society

Free will offering, hotdogs, chips, and bottled water.

# Endless Hallelujah is looking for people to join their musical group.

Please come and practice on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am and they are also adding a Wednesday night a month from 6-7 pm. They will practice the Wednesday night before the Sunday that scheduled to sing. This group takes a break during the summer months. **Come and have fun and fellowship.** 

## 150th Anniversary committee now accepting donations for our



next Silent Auction to be held June 2<sup>nd</sup> - July 21st! Contact anyone on the committee if you have questions or are interested in donating!

The Council is looking for volunteers to set up the Nativity Scene in the Fellowship Hall for the Christmas season. This committee would be responsible for putting it up and taking it down. We are also looking for volunteers to put up the crosses in the Fellowship Hall for the Lenten season. The duties would include setting up and taking down.

These were wonderful donations to our church family. These decorations look beautiful each year. It adds so much to the Fellowship Hall. Thank you for carefully considering helping out with these special projects. If you are interested, please contact a Council Member.



Anyone interested in a Stop the Bleed

Tourniquet there are some on the Welcome
Center for the taking!

# Attention all Graduates: May 19th will be Graduate Recognition Sunday.

If you graduated last December or are graduating this spring or summer from High School or College. Please let the church office know your future plans no later than Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, so I can have the information in the Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> bulletin.

## **Volunteer Opportunity**

## Parish Ed is in need of a few more teachers for the next

Sunday School year beginning in

September. If you have been wanting to get involved or volunteer your hour while you wait for your child/children during Sunday School, this is your time to shine! If you have a buddy this would be a great opportunity to do things together and split responsibilities and not feel



the pressure of needing to be available every single week! It works great when you have a partner in teaching so you can work together to switch every other week, every other month, only fill in when the other is gone and have a primary person teach, etc. Whatever works best for you and your partner would be fine. Or you can volunteer solo too! We need volunteers to keep our youth program thriving! Don't wait, contact a Parish Ed member today if you're interested!

## **Summer Bible Study Opportunity**

MADE TO CRAVE

BATHATANA YOUR BERVEST
DICE-SIZE BITH 6-08

"Made to Crave".....satisfying your deepest desire with God, not food! Author is Lysa Terkeurst

Read (book) Watch (video) Walk (optional)

6 weeks of sessions Begins May 21st at 6:30

am (Yes, you read that right! 6:30 am!!)

**Contact Connie Thornburg if interested!** 

## Freeman Baccalaureate

Freeman Baccalaureate will be at Zion on Wednesday, May 8th<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. Guest speaker will be Teri Nieveen.

## Thank you received!

A heartful thank you for your donation on sponsoring to Day One Ministries.

Your continued support helps to keep this program going.

We have noted 2 Sundays of your donations to be on

Anniversary Sundays – July 21st and October 27th.

Bless your generosity!

Pat Jobman

## **Lost and Found!**

Only a few bowls left in the Parish Hall from the last funerals and Easter morning breakfast. Please pick up.

There are a couple of coats that have been left, they are hanging in the Fellowship Hall on the coat rack. A black leather one and a blue windbreaker type. If they are yours, please pick them up.

Also, in the lost and found basket there is a bible and case and a couple of coffee mugs.

Gold Crest - Mildred Meints, Janice Jurgens, Doreen Wallman Good Samaritan – Ernie Zimmerman Homestead House - Evelyn Meints, Anora Schoen Our Homes Assisted Living – Randy Oltman Wilbur Care Center – Ernie Jurgens