

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



## **17th Sunday after Pentecost with Holy Communion**

**October 5, 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 & Ringing of the Bell**

#### **Welcome**

**Gathering** *(As you are able please stand)*

**P** - We are Zion, the people of God, the city of the living Lord.

**C** - **We gather to be forgiven for the times we have judged others rather than seeing our own mistakes. Guide us to do better and trust in you, O God.**

**P** - As the leaves of the soybeans begin to turn yellow and harvest begins;

**C** - **Teach us to bring in the harvest of love shared with others until we fill the grain bins of our hearts.**

**P**- Let us worship God.

**Gathering Hymn** - Praise and Thanksgiving

ELW # 689

Praise and thanksgiving, Father, we offer,  
for all things living thou madest good:  
harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard,  
hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.

God thou the labour we bring to serve thee,  
that with our neighbour we may be fed.

Sowing or tilling, we would work with thee;  
harvesting, milling for daily bread.

Father, providing food for thy children,  
thy wisdom guiding teaches us share  
one with another, so that rejoicing  
with us, our brother may know thy care.

Then will thy blessing reach every people;  
freely confessing thy gracious hand.  
Where thy will reigneth no one will hunger;  
thy love sustaineth; fruitful the land.

### **Prayer of the Day**

**P** - Almighty God,

**C** - We thank You that the harvest is beginning; fields are turning gold, apples are sweet with sun, and bright orange pumpkins decorate our homes. The air is scented with earth and leaves as we gather the blessings of summer and hold them like treasures in our hands. As fields yield their grain, teach us to receive with gratitude. As Zion became a place of joy long ago, make us a people of joy. We are in Zion, O God, and Zion is in us. Amen.

*(Please be seated)*

### **Reading of the Scriptures**

#### **First Reading – First Testament: 1 King 8:1 and 6-7**

Then King Solomon summoned into his presence at Jerusalem the elders of Israel, all the heads of the tribes and the chiefs of the Israelite families, to bring up the ark of the Lord's covenant from Zion, the City of David. The priests then brought the ark of the Lord's covenant to its place in the inner sanctuary of the temple, the Most Holy Place, and put it beneath the wings of the cherubim. The cherubim spread their wings over the place of the ark and overshadowed the ark and its carrying poles.

#### **Isaiah 35:10 and 40:8-9**

And those the Lord has rescued will return. They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away. The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever."You who bring good news to Zion, go up on a high

mountain. You who bring good news to Jerusalem, lift up your voice with a shout, lift it up, do not be afraid; say to the towns of Judah, "Here is your God!"

**Psalm 48:1-2 & 12-14** (Please read responsively.)

Great is the Lord, and most worthy of praise,  
**in the city of our God, his holy mountain.**

Beautiful in its loftiness,  
**the joy of the whole earth,**  
like the heights of Zaphon is Mount Zion,  
**the city of the Great King.**

Walk about Zion, go around her,  
**count her towers,**  
consider well her ramparts,  
**view her citadels,**  
that you may tell of them  
**to the next generation.**

For this God is our God for ever and ever;  
**he will be our guide even to the end.**

**Second Reading - Hebrews 12:22-23**

But you have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the Judge of all, to the spirits of the righteous made perfect. *Here ends this reading.*

**Gospel: John 1:14-17** (Please stand as you are able)

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

(John testified concerning him. He cried out, saying, "This is the one I spoke about when I said, 'He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.'") Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

Gospel - Sing Response (To the tune of #509)

**God's word is our great heritage and shall be ours forever; to spread its light from age to age, shall be our chief endeavor. Through life it guides our way; in death it is our stay. Lord, grant while time shall last Your church may hold it fast throughout all generations.**

(Please be seated.)

## **Children's Message**

**Sing Response:** I Love to Tell the Story                      ELW #661 verse 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. I love to tell the story; T'will be my theme in glory, to tell  
the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

**Message** - Rev. Dr. Renae Koehler

## **Offering Hymn - Come, We That Love the Lord      ELW# 625**

Come, we that love the Lord,  
and let our joys be known;  
join in a song with sweet accord,  
join in a song with sweet accord  
and thus surround the throne,  
and thus surround the throne.

[Refrain]

We're marching to Zion,  
beautiful, beautiful Zion;  
we're marching upward to Zion,  
the beautiful city of God.

2 Let those refuse to sing  
who never knew our God;  
but children of the heav'nly King,  
but children of the heav'nly King  
may tell their joys abroad,  
may tell their joys abroad. [Refrain]

3 The hill of Zion yields  
a thousand sacred sweets  
before we reach the heav'nly fields,  
before we reach the heav'nly fields,  
or walk the golden streets,  
or walk the golden streets. [Refrain]

4 Then let our songs abound,  
and ev'ry tear be dry;  
we're marching through Emmanuel's ground,  
we're marching through Emmanuel's ground,

to fairer worlds on high,  
to fairer worlds on high. [Refrain]

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

Offering - Sing Response      ELW #885

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all  
creatures here below; praise God above, ye heav'nly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**Offering Blessing -**

**P - Generous God,**

**C - As Solomon brought the Ark to Zion, so we bring our gifts  
to this Zion, a sign of Your dwelling among us. Bless these  
offerings as seeds of love and signs of gratitude for autumn's  
beauty and life's abundance. May they be used so that all  
people, near and far, feel the everlasting harvest of Your love.  
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.

### **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.**

## **Canticle of Praise - This is the Feast**

(Holy Communion Liturgy pg. 139)

Sing in Unison

**(REFRAIN) This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. (refrain)**

**Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his. (refrain)**

**Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever, A-men. (refrain)**

**For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. (refrain)**

## **The Great Thanksgiving**

**P -** With all of our loved ones who have died are living as saints in heaven, and all of us living our mortal lives here on earth, we glorify God together:

**C - Holy, holy, holy - God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God most high. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God. Hosanna in the highest.**

## **Words of Institution**

**Communion Hymn – What Feast of Love** ELW #487

What feast of love is offered here, what banquet come from heaven? What food of everlasting life, what gracious gift is given? This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heaven. Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the manna given!

What light of truth is offered here, what covenant from heaven? What hope of everlasting life, what wondrous word is given? This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heaven. Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is given!

What wine of love is offered here, what crimson drink from heaven? What stream of everlasting life, what precious blood is given? This, this is Christ the king, the sweetest wine of heaven. Oh, taste and see and sing! The son of God is given!

**Prayer After Communion (As you are able please stand)**

**C- Gracious God, I give you thanks for this holy meal. May it strengthen and heal me, increase my love for others, and send me forth into the world in courage and peace. Amen**

**Benediction**

(Please be seated)

**Announcements in the Life of the Church**

**Sending Hymn - Before You, Lord, We Bow ELW #893**

P- Go in peace and serve the Lord.

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

**Rev. Dr. Renae Koehler – Interim Pastor 402-867-4044**

**DeAnn Oltman - Council President 402-223-0561**

**Michele Kolm – Church Office number 402-806-3601**

**Email [-zionlutheranchurchpickrell@gmail.com](mailto:-zionlutheranchurchpickrell@gmail.com)**

### **Helping out with Worship Today**

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

Organist:.....Alnora Daubendiek

Acolytes:.....Cash Harwood  
Millie Garton

Lector:.....Les Lieneman

Greeters:.....Wes & Sandy Meints  
Gary & Brenda Gronewold

### **October Altar Guild:**

Christy Buhr, Karla Holland, Rhonda Dorn, Lynette Dorn, Doreen Busboon, Kelly Lenners

**October Table Troop: Doug & Rhonda Dorn (Leader), Duane & Janice Parde, Gary Wiese, John & Marcia Busboom, LeAnn Fossler**



**Vital Statistics for last Sunday**

Worship 136 Giving \$4,374.14

SS Giving \$

**THIS WEEKS BULLETIN IS SPONSORED BY:** Patty, Jeremy, and Brittany Thomas & Larry and Macy Gronewold in memory of Shirley Gronewold’s birthday on October 7<sup>th</sup>.

**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.

**THIS WEEK IN THE LIFE OF ZION**

**Today**

8:45 - SS

9:00 - BKF Club/Adult Bible Study

10:00 - Worship/Rev. Dr. Renae Koehler/Communion

**Wednesday**

1:30 Grace Circle

6pm – 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation

7pm – Committee Meetings

7:30pm Council Meeting

**Next Sunday**

8:45am SS

9:00am BKF Club/Endless Hallelujah practice

10:00am Worship/Rev. Dr. Renae Koehler/Good Neighbor & New Member Sunday/Kids of the Kingdom/The Quartet

**Helping out next Sunday**

**(Good Neighbor& New Member Sunday)**

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

Organist:.....Shirley Gronewold

Acolytes:.....Tavin Lieneman  
Alexis Folkerts

Lector: .....Kelly Lenner

Greeters:.....Mickey Larkins  
Don & Elnora Lenner

Special Music:...The Quartet/Kids of the Kingdom

**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 your or place it in the offering plate. We are so glad you are here.**

**WELCOME PASTOR RENAE TO ZION!** We are blessed to have you start as our Interim Pastor and become a part of the Zion Church Family.

**GOOD NEIGHBOR & NEW MEMBER RECOGNITION**



We invite our church family to INVITE your neighbors & friends to worship with us on Sunday, October 12<sup>th</sup>. INVITE & BRING those special people with you! We will also recognize new members who joined Zion this year. Come and make your presence felt! If you are interested in joining Zion, please let Michele Kolm at the church office know

**BREAKFAST CLUB**

**SIGN-UP** - There is a sign-up clip board on the Welcome Center for the Breakfast Club – help feed our hungry high school students on Sunday Mornings.



**TRUCK OR TREAT – OCTOBER 19<sup>TH</sup> 3:00 – 5:00 P.M.**

**PRIZES FOR: Best Dressed and Best Trunk**  
**We are looking for Trunk volunteers. Let any Hospitality member know or sign up on the sheet that will be passed around during the service.**

**BLANKET SEWING** – Come join us for Blanket Sewing and fellowship on October 20th and/or 21st from 9am to 3pm in the Parish Hall. No experience is necessary. We sandwich tops and bottoms with quilt batting in between. The blanket is sewn around the edges and then crochet thread ties are made to secure it together at intervals. Bring your lunch and join us for mid morning coffee. Come for a couple of hours or more. The blankets are given to Lutheran World Relief and local non profits. If you have questions contact Denise Schlake-Ideus at 402-806-2236 or Elnora Lenners 402-806-5909.

**JOIN** - Church World Service and the 56th Annual CROP WALK: Ending Hunger One Step at a Time  
**THE 56<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GAGE COUNTY CROP HUNGER WALK**  
**Sunday, October 26, 2025 at 2:00**

Hannibal Park Trail, weather permitting.

Register, Join a Team, Create a Team, Invite Friends

<https://events.crophungerwalk.org/crophungerwalks>

### **NEW TO ZION - NOTIFICATION SYSTEM**

We are using a new platform called “Gloo” to communicate to our congregation when events are happening within the church,



notification of weather cancellations, reminders to those who are greeting, reading, or acolyting on various Sundays. For those who have shared their cell phone number with the church, please make sure to add the following number in your contact information **1-833-587-5062** and reference it as **“Zion Lutheran Church”** This will help you identify the number. We will continue to utilize Facebook, but hope this will give you additional ways to be notified. **If your cell phone has changed or you want to share your number (landlines do not work), please let Michele Kolm know.**



**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 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.**

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

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

**Our Homes Assisted Living** – Randy Oltman

**Bailey Pointe** – Vivian Schuster

