

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.



Confirmation Sunday

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 26, 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 - We come before you, God, in confirmation joy as we witness these youth dedicating their lives to you.

C - **May each of us renew our own zest and zeal toward active Christian love.**

Gathering Hymn - All Creatures, Worship God Most High

ELW #835 vs 1-3

All creatures, worship God most high!

Sound every voice in earth and sky:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Sing, brother sun, in splendor bright,

sing, sister moon and stars of night:

Chorus

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,

alleluia, alleluia!

Sing, brother wind; with clouds and rain
you grow the gifts of fruit and grain:
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Dear sister water, useful, clear,
make music for your Lord to hear: (chorus)

Sing, brother fire, so mirthful, strong;
drive far the shadows, join the throng:
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Dear mother earth, so rich in care,
praise God in colors bright and rare: (chorus)

Introduction of the Confirmation Class

Prayer of Opening our Hearts to God

P - Almighty God,

C - who in baptism received these confirmation students into the love of Christ. We rejoice in this day of confirmation and ask you to increase in them the gifts of the Holy Spirit; Grant love to others, joy in serving you, peace in disagreement, patience in suffering, kindness toward all people, goodness in evil times, faithfulness in temptation, gentleness in the face of oppression, self-control in all things, thereby strengthen them for their ministry in the world. Amen

Confirmation Hymn - Borning Cry ELW #732 (parents bless their confirmation student with water from the Baptism Font)

I was there to hear your borning cry,

I'll be there when you are old.

I rejoiced the day you were baptized,

To see your life unfold.

I was there when you were but a child,
With a faith to suit you well;
In a blaze of light you wandered off
To find where demons dwell.

When you heard the wonder of the Word
I was there to cheer you on;
You were raised to praise the living Lord,
To whom you now belong.

If you find someone to share your time
And you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme
From dusk 'till rising sun.

In the middle ages of your life,
Not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night,
Complete what I've begun.

When the evening gently closes in,
And you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been
With just one more surprise.

I was there to hear your bawling cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
To see your life unfold.

Reading of the Scriptures

First Reading - Micah 6:8

Do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly

He has told you, O mortal, what is good, and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?

Psalm 139:13-14 *(Please read responsively)*

For it was you who formed my inward parts;

you knit me together in my mother's womb.

I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

Second Reading - Hebrews 11:1-3 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. *Here ends this reading.*

(Please stand as you are able)

Gospel - John 14:12-14 You will do even greater works

Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

Gospel - On Eagles Wings ELW #787 (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 - Jesus Loves Me ELW #595 vs 1
Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so; little ones to him belong, they are weak, but he is strong. Yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.

Homily - Rev. Dr. Renae Koehler

Offering Hymn - Here I Am, Lord ELW #574

(Please stand as the offering is brought forward.)

Offering Sing Response - Tune Doxology, Old 100th

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 - God of abundance,

C - bless our money, time, and talent. Grow our love so that our

offering may blossom tomorrow. Help us discover the wild, sweet joy of giving that we find in you. Amen. *(Please be seated)*

The Rite of Confirmation

Confirmation Blessing

We give thanks for the day you were born, and we are proud that you are confirming the vows we made on your baptism day by choosing to follow Christ.

Questions of the Confirmands

Affirmation of Faith

Vows of Confirmation

Act of Confirmation

Confirmation Welcome (in unison)

P - Today,

C - we rejoice in your pilgrimage of faith, which has brought you to this time and place. We celebrate your presence as full members of this household of faith. We open our minds to learn and to be changed by you. We offer you our support and companionship as we work together in spirit and love. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Hymn - To Be Your Presence ELW #546

**To be your presence is our mission here,
To show compassion's face and list'ning ear,**

**To be your heart of mercy
ever near, alleluia!**

**To be your presence is our mission bold,
To feed the poor and shelter homeless cold,
To be your hands of justice,
Right uphold, alleluia!**

**To be your presence is our mission blest,
To speak for all the broken and oppressed,
To be your voice of hope,
You love expressed, alleluia!**

**We are your hear, O Christ, your hands and voice,
To serve your people is our call and choice,
And in this mission we,
The church rejoice, alleluia!**

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.**

Benediction (responsively)

P - You are blessed in the name of the Creator, Christ, and Comforter.

C - **We go in peace, joy, and courage. Amen.**

Announcements in the Life of the Church

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

Sending Hymn - Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee ELW #836

Joyful, joyful we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee,
praising thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
drive the gloom of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee,
earth and heav'n reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee,
center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,

chanting bird, and flowing fountain
call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
well-spring of the joy of living,
ocean-depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our brother,
all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine!

P - Go in peace and serve the Lord.

C - Thanks be to God.

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

Les Lieneman - Council President 402-223-0433

Michele Kolm - Church Office number 402-806-3601

Email -zionlutheranchurchpickrell@gmail.com

Helping out with Worship Today

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

Organist:.....Alnora Daubendiek

Acolytes:.....Grayson Borgman

Korbin Busboom

Lector:.....DeAnn Oltman

Greeters:.....Terry & DeAnn Oltman

Mickey Larkins

April Altar Guild: Carol Young, Sandy Meints, Marcella Rademacher, Susan Newman

May Altar Guild: Karla Holland, Rhonda Dorn, Lynette Dorn, Doreen Busboom, Kelly Lenner, Christy Buhr

April Table Troop: **Mark Buhr (Leader)**, Alex Buhr, Stan & Mary Lenner, Alan Wiese, Doug Parde, Jeff Busboom

May Table Troop: **Robert Ideus (Leader)**, Don Schuster, John Gronewold, Paul & Shellie Remmers, Les & Mert Rademacher, Linda Ideus

Snow Brigade:

April 27th - Kyle Schlake (Captain), Eric Parde (Tractor), Chris Fossler, Steve Oltman, Jordan Busboom, Greg Robinson, Hunter Blackwell, Keith Parde, Taiten Harms

Vital Statistics for last Sunday

Worship: 165 Giving: \$8,260.94
SS: 39 Giving: \$ 238.01

THIS WEEK IN THE LIFE OF ZION

Today

8:45am - Sunday School

9:00am - BKF Club

10:00am - Worship/Confirmation Sunday

Thursday

Ladies Aide

Next Sunday

8:45am - Sunday School

9:00am - BKF Club/Adult Bible Study/Endless Hallelujah practice

10:00am - Worship/Communion

Helping out next Sunday

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

Organist.....Alnora Daubendiek

Acolytes:.....Cash Harwood

Millie Garton

Lector:.....Doug Parde

Greeters:.....Dennis & Patti Behrens

Billy & Janet Harms

Special Music:

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: James & Kelly Lenners in loving memory of Kelly's parents Ernest & Emma Meints who birthday's were April 7th (Ernest) & April 27th (Emma).

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.

Faith Projects - 8th Grade confirmands please remember to pick up your faith projects after the service today.

Recognition Sunday is May 17th. Please get your graduates



information to the church office (402-806-3601 or zionlutheranchurchpickrell@gmail.com) if you would like your family member who is graduating either high school or college recognized.

FARM FRESH EGGS - Farm fresh eggs are now available for purchase! Suggested price is \$3 per dozen and can be found on the Welcome Center. Proceeds will support various projects around the church. Eggs have been generously donated by Don Schuster—thank you for your kindness and support!

SEALED BIDS BEING ACCEPTED - The Council is accepting sealed bids for the sale of a Roland Fantom-G8 electric piano (Model: Fantom-G8, Serial No. Z3A9026). All bids must be received by **May 15th** and may be submitted to any Council member. The item is being sold as-is, with no warranties expressed or implied. For additional information or to arrange inspection of the equipment, please contact any council member

2026 BACCALAUREATE SERVICE - Adams Lutheran Church is hosting the Freeman Baccalaureate Service at 7pm on Wednesday, May 13th. All are welcome to attend to honor our church graduates & others graduating this year.

Beatrice Baccalaureate Service is May 6th at 7pm. All are welcome to attend to honor our church graduates & others graduating this year.

****If any of the Beatrice graduates are interested in reading scripture during this service please contact our church office.**

AMERICA 250 - The Nation's upcoming birthday July 4, 2026, honors the 250th Anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence of the United States of America, with a focus on gratitude, religious freedom, and service. As part of the "America 250" we are planning to commemorate this historic moment in our nation's history here at Zion. On Sunday morning, **June 14th**, we will gather to celebrate and honor America. As this event is still in the planning stages, we do have a plan to include a display of Quilts of Valor from our present and past Zion members. We are also hoping to award a Quilt of Valor. **At this time, we are looking for "Quilts" of Valor that have been presented to service members or veterans that attend or have attended Zion. We are also seeking names and contact information for service members or living veterans who may be eligible to receive a Quilt of Valor. As there is a protocol to nominate a candidate, this information is needed in a timely manner. Please contact Denise Schlake-Ideus or Marcia Busboom with any of the above information or if you would like to help with planning this celebration.** We are grateful to be collaborating with Quilts of Valor organizations through Quilt Stitches in Beatrice and "Piecemakers" in Firth.

****The Mission of the Quilts of Valor Foundation is to cover Service Members and Living Veterans touched by war with a comforting and healing Quilt of Valor.*

online
GIVING
easy. fast. effective.

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

Gold Crest - Janice Jurgens, Doreen Wallman, Marilyn Robinson

Homestead House - Anora Schoen, Rosanna Miller, Marsha Zulauf

Our Homes Assisted Living - Randy Oltman

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
INVITES YOU TO



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

May 26 - 29th

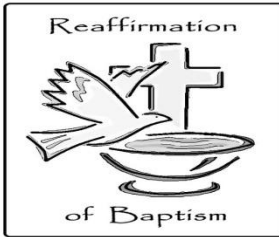
8:30 - 11:30 AM

for kids in PreK - 5th Grade



Register by May 11th
Volunteer Opportunities Available
\$10 Registration Fee





Confirmation Class of 2026

April 26, 2026

Korbin Troy Busboom

Parents: Tony and Monica Busboom

Grandparents: Debbie & Steve Ferguson

Sponsors: Joel and Penny Bowers

Bible Verse: Matthew 4:19

Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.

Attends: Freeman Public Schools

Sports Participant: Football, Basketball, Track

Activities: FFA

Hobbies: Fishing, hunting, farming

What I will do for the church now: Maintenance work, Breakfast Club, Play the trombone

Alexis Marie Folkerts

Parents: Jason and Joni Folkerts

Sponsors: John Folkerts & Brooke Jensen

Grandparents: Lisa & Terry Wallman and Cheryl & Bob Folkerts

Bible Verse: Deuteronomy 31:6

Be strong and courageous. So not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.

Attends: Beatrice Public Schools

Sports: Volleyball, Basketball, Tennis, Track

Activities: FCA

Hobbies: Baking, gardening, drawing, crafts, organizing

Willing to do for the church now: Read scripture, help with Easter

Service, attend Breakfast Club, help teach Sunday school with my mom.

Amelia Louise Garton

Parents: Samantha & Brian Garton

Grandparents: Cindy & Paul Jurgens and Tim & Janine Haughton

Sponsors: Anna Siebert and Danielle Frederick

Bible Verse: 1 Peter 1:24-25 All people are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord endures forever.

Attends: Freeman Public Schools

Sports: Cross Country & Track

Activities: FFA & Quiz Bowl

Hobbies: Baking, gardening, and playing the clarinet

Willing to do for the church now: Join the choir, go to breakfast club, and help with Easter Service

Nora JoAnn Glynn

Parents: Joshua & Sabrina Glynn

Grandparents: Bernadette Schoen, Maxine Glynn, David Glynn

Sponsors: Chad Buhr, Bridget Quint, Holly Murkle

Bible Verse: Psalm 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Attends: Putnam County R1 Middle School

Sports: Track

Activities: Cheer

Hobbies: Dance (Jazz & Contemporary)

Willing to do for the church now: Sing in Choir

Hunter Leighton Grone

Parents: Angie & Heath Grone

Grandparents: Loma & Dennis Grone and Pat & Joan Kraus

Sponsor: Nikki Brandon

Bible Verse: Romans 8:18 I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.

Attends: Freeman Public Schools

Sports: Football, Track, Baseball

Activities: None

Hobbies: Antler hunting, tending to my chickens, gardening, and baking bread

Willing to do for the church now: Read Scripture, Attend Breakfast Club, Help with Easter Service, play trombone

Sadie LeNell Gronewold

Parents: Linsey & Josh Gronewold

Grandparents: Steve & Rose Gronewold and Robert Carpenter

Sponsors: Natalie Niles, Dawn Carpenter, and Jason Carpenter

Bible Verse: Isaiah 40:8 The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever.

Attends: Beatrice Public Schools

Sports: Volleyball, Basketball, Track

Activities: FCA and Bible Study

Hobbies: Reading, Arts & Crafts, Baking, Robloxian (Adopt ME)

Willing to do for the church now: Read Scripture, Attend Breakfast Club, Help with Easter Service

Tavin James Lieneman

Parents: Corey & Alyssa Lieneman

Grandparents: Les & Cindy Lieneman and Ross & Mary Trauernicht

Sponsors: Matt & Marcy Thernes and Justin Trauernicht

Bible Verse: Joshua 1:9 Be strong and courageous; do not be afraid do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Attends: Freeman Public Schools

Sports: Trap

Activities: FFA

Hobbies: Hunting & fishing

What I will do for the church now: Maintenance and Easter Service