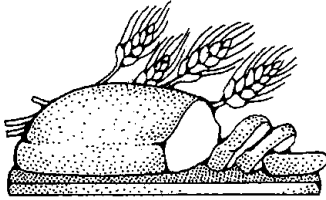


Zion Lutheran Church Mission Statement:

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



Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost with Holy Communion

August 18, 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 Season after Pentecost, also called Ordinary Time, begins the day after Pentecost and ends the day before the First Sunday of Advent. It may include twenty–three to twenty–eight Sundays, depending on the date of Easter, but the first Sunday is always Trinity Sunday, and the last Sunday is always the Sunday of the Reign of Christ or Christ the King. The season also includes All Saints and Thanksgiving.

Gathering

P- Wisdom prepares a feast, sets her table, and invites all to come and eat her bread and drink her wine. The first chapter of John’s gospel owes much to biblical tradition that imagined Wisdom as existing before anything was created and having a role in creation.

C- Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them.

P- Christ the wisdom of God (1 Cor. 1:24), today invites us to eat his flesh and drink his blood. John's gospel includes no account the institution of the Lord's supper, but here we can't help hearing Jesus' words as an invitation to the meal of bread and wine we share.

C- Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them.

Gathering Hymn – How Firm a Foundation ELW 796

1 How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in Christ Jesus, the Word!
What more can he say than to you he has said
who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?

2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dismayed,
for I am your God and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand."

3 "When through fi'ry trials your pathway shall lie,
my grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply.
The flames shall not hurt you; I only design
your dross to consume and your gold to refine."

4 "Throughout all their lifetime my people shall prove
my sov'reign, eternal, unchangeable love;
and then, when gray hairs shall their temples adorn,
like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne."

Confession and 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,
the God of manna,
the God of miracles,
the God of mercy.

C- Amen

P- Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P- God, our provider,

C- help us.

It is hard to believe there is enough to share.

**We question your ways when they differ from the ways
of the world in which we live.**

**We turn to our own understanding
rather than in trusting in you.**

We take offense at your teachings and your ways.

Turn us again to you.

Where else can we turn?

**Share with us the words of eternal life
and feed us for life in this world.**

P- Beloved people of God:

in Jesus, the manna from heaven,
you are fed and nourished.

By Jesus, the worker of miracles,
there is always more than enough.

Through Jesus, + the bread of life,
you are shown God's mercy:

you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

C- Amen

P- The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C- And also with you!

P- Please share the peace of the Lord safely with each other.

Please be seated.

Children's Time: The Bread of Life

Can anyone tell me what "wisdom" means? Can you make wisdom? Can you give someone else wisdom?

Readings

Proverbs 9:1-6

Lector – *Wisdom is portrayed as a woman who invites people to partake of her banquet. Just as ordinary food is necessary for physical life, Wisdom's food—insight and understanding—is necessary for fullness of life with God. Partaking of Wisdom's banquet is the way to life.*

Wisdom has built her house,
she has hewn her seven pillars.

² She has slaughtered her animals, she has mixed her wine,
she has also set her table.

³ She has sent out her servant-girls, she calls
from the highest places in the town,

⁴ "You that are simple, turn in here!"

To those without sense she says,

⁵ "Come, eat of my bread
and drink of the wine I have mixed.

⁶ Lay aside immaturity,^a and live,
and walk in the way of insight." Here ends this reading.

Psalm 34:9-14 - *Read responsively.*

O fear the LORD, you his holy ones,
for those who fear him have no want.
The young lions suffer want and hunger,
but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.

Come, O children, listen to me;
I will teach you the fear of the LORD.
Which of you desires life,
and covets many days to enjoy good?
Keep your tongue from evil,
and your lips from speaking deceit.
Depart from evil, and do good;
seek peace, and pursue it.

Ephesians 5:15-20

Lector – True wisdom integrates our new reality in Christ with our Christian fellowship and daily conduct. Because we are filled with the Spirit, Christians regularly rejoice together, give thanks to God for one another, and care for one another. In this way we revere our Lord Jesus Christ. Paul writes to the church in Ephesus:

Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. So do not be foolish but understand what the will of the Lord is. Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Here ends this reading.

Prayer of the Day

As you are able, please stand.

P- Ever-loving God,

C- your Son gives himself as living bread for the life of the world. Fill us with such a knowledge of his presence that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life to serve you continually, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, amen.

Gospel – John 6:51-58

P- In John's gospel the feeding of the five thousand leads to teaching in which Jesus identifies himself as the true "bread of life." Finally, in these verses, he makes a connection that would not be understood until after his death, in light of the church's celebration of Holy Communion. After feeding the 5,000, Jesus said to people and his disciples:

I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.

The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' So Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.'
The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Message – The Bread of Life

Jesus wants us to be concerned about empty stomachs, but he also wants us to be concerned about empty hearts.

Offering Hymn – Come Let Us Eat

ELW 491

**1 Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,
come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.
Our Lord's body let us take together,
our Lord's body let us take together.**

**2 Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured
come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.
Jesus' blood poured let us drink together,
Jesus' blood poured let us drink together.**

**3 In Jesus' presence now we meet and rest.
in Jesus' presence now we meet and rest.
In the presence of our Lord we gather,
in the presence of our Lord we gather.**

**4 Rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty word,
rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty word.
Jesus risen will bring in the kingdom,
Jesus risen will bring in the kingdom.**

Offering Prayer

As you are able, please stand.

P- Blessed are you, Holy One,

C- for all good things come from you.

In the bread and cup you open heaven to us.

Meet us at this table,

that we receive what we seek,

and follow your Son, Jesus,

in whose name we pray. 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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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- At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one.
Come and see.**

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 Hymn – Let Us Break Bread Together ELW 471

1 Let us break bread together on our knees;
let us break bread together on our knees.

Refrain:

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

2 Let us drink wine together on our knees;
let us drink wine together on our knees. **[Refrain]**

3 Let us praise God together on our knees;
let us praise God together on our knees. **[Refrain]**

Post Communion Prayer

P- Giver of every gift,
Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body.
Raise us to life by your power
for the benefit of all and to your glory,
now and forever.

C- Amen.

Announcements in the Life of Our Church

Blessing & Dismissal

As you are able, please stand.

P- God who names,
Christ who claims you,
and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you,
+ bless you and remain with you always.

C-Amen.

P- Go in peace. You are God's beloved!

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

Sending Hymn – The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve ELW 551

1 The Spirit sends us forth to serve;
we go in Jesus' name
to bring glad tidings to the poor,
God's favor to proclaim.

2 We go to comfort those who mourn
and set the burdened free;
where hope is dim, to share a dream
and help the blind to see.

3 We go to be the hands of Christ,
to scatter joy like seed
and, all our days, to cherish life,
to do the loving deed.

4 Then let us go to serve in peace,
the gospel to proclaim.
God's Spirit has empowered us;
we go in Jesus' name.

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

Karen's number – 402-661-9362
Email -jpzionlutheran@yahoo.com

Helping out Today

Pastor.....Jerry Gilbreath
Organist.....Alnora Daubendiek
Acolytes.....James Scholl
Max Cornelius
Lector.....Doug Parde
Greeters.....Tony & Kristin Hoffman
Lynette Jurgens
Coffee Fellowship by.....Joy Circle & Volunteers

Vital Statistics for Last Sunday

Sunday Service 62 Giving \$ 4363.00

THIS WEEK IN THE LIFE OF ZION

Today

9:00 Worship/Communion/Fellowship by the Joy Circle & Volunteers

2:30 pm Pastor at Gold Crest

Next Sunday

9 am Worship/Fellowship by Joy Circle & Volunteers

Helping out Next Sunday

Pastor.....Jerry Gilbreath

Organist.....Alnora Daubendiek

Acolytes.....McCoy Peters

Brogan Ideus

Lector.....Mary Lenners

Greeters.....Stan & Mary Lenners

Eddie & Lynette Dorn

Coffee Fellowship by.....Joy Circle & Volunteers

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

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

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.

Lost & Found

There are 2 jackets hanging on the coat rack in the Fellowship Hall. Please check them out to see if one of them is yours! There is a black leather one and a child's sweatshirt from VBS.

Special offerings in September

September 8th Rally Day offering will be designated for the Zion Endowment.

September 29th Mission Sunday will be designated for Camp Carol Joy Holling.

Good Neighbor / New Member Sunday is October 6th – If you know of anyone who is interested in joining Zion please let Pastor or the Church office know.

LWR School Kit supplies are on sale NOW! We will begin church collection for August 1st but you might want to purchase now! List found below ...

70-page count (**wide or college rule notebooks**)

Rulers (**30 centimeter on one side an inches on the other**)

#2 pencils (**unsharpened**)

Pencil sharpeners (**larger ones**)

Scissors (**blunt end**)

Blue or Black only ink pens (**no gel pens**)

Crayons (**16 or 24 count**)

2½ inch Erasers

Thanks to Linda Blackwell for writing a \$250

Thrivent grant for this project!



Attention Breakfast Club sign up!

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

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

