

# Third Sunday After Pentecost June 13, 2021

Zion Lutheran Church Kearney, Nebraska All worshippers please fill out an attendance card in the pew rack and let us know how we might be of service to you.

#### Holy Communion at Zion

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation as Jesus has given it. As he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes. *All communicants* need to register in the narthex prior to the service.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church— Missouri Synod, are asked not to commune until they are able to speak with our pastor first. He is happy to visit with you about the Christian faith and how to receive the Lord's Supper for your good and for the good of others. Those not communing are invited to come to the altar, cross your arms in front of you, and bow your head to receive a pastoral blessing.

## The Cross of Christ Is the Tree of Life, Which Bears Abundant Fruit after Its Own Kind

The parables of our Lord convey the mysteries of the kingdom of God to those who are "able to hear it," that is, "to his own disciples," who are catechized to fear, love and trust in Him by faith (Mark 4:33-34). He scatters "seed on the ground," which "sprouts and grows" unto life, even as "he sleeps and rises" (Mark 4:26-27). "On the mountain height of Israel," He plants a young and tender twig, and it becomes "a noble cedar." Indeed, His own cross becomes the Tree of Life, under which "every kind of bird" will dwell, and in which "birds of every sort will nest" (Ezek. 17:22-25). His cross is our resting place, even while now in mortal bodies, we "groan, being burdened" (2 Cor. 5:1-4). Yet in faith, we live for God in Christ, who for our sake "died and was raised" (2 Cor. 5:15). We know that, in His resurrected body, "we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens" (2 Cor. 5:1).

### **Confession and Absolution**



Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

#### Invocation

 $\mathbf{P}$  In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

#### Exhortation

- Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- [**P**]
- Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- **C** who made heaven and earth.
- *C* and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

#### Kneel/Stand

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

#### **Confession of Sins**

- *▶* O almighty God, merciful Father,
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

#### Absolution

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Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen. C

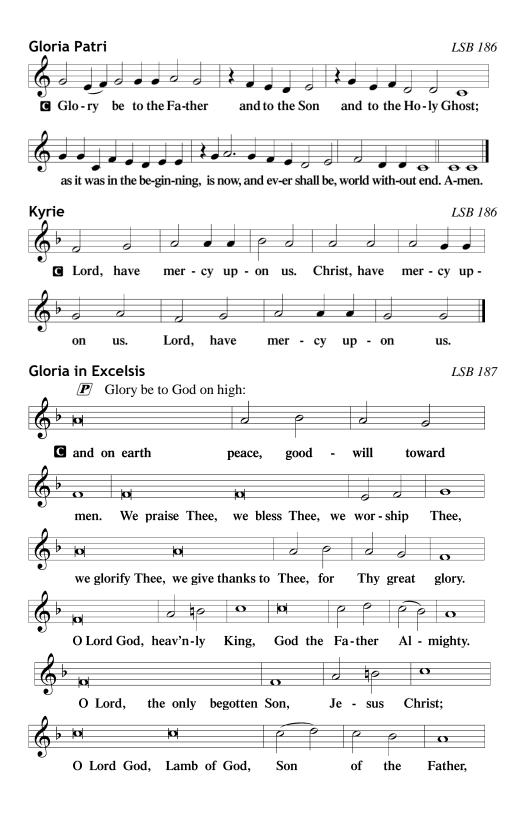
Stand

### Service of the Word

#### Introit

Psalm 92:12-15; antiphon: v. 1

It is good to give thanks to the LORD,\* to sing praises to your name, | O Most High. The righteous flourish like the palm tree\* and grow like a cedar in Lebanon. They are planted in the house of the LORD;\* they flourish in the courts of our God. They still bear fruit in | old age;\* they are ever full of | sap and green, to declare that the LORD is | upright;\* he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness | in him. Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\* and to the Holy | Spirit; as it was in the be- | ginning,\* is now, and will be forever. | Amen. It is good to give thanks | to the LORD,\* to sing praises to your name, O Most High.





Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

#### **Old Testament Reading**

<sup>22</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD: "I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of the cedar and will set it out. I will break off from the topmost of its young twigs a tender one, and I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. <sup>23</sup>On the mountain height of Israel will I plant it, that it may bear branches and produce fruit and become a noble cedar. And under it will dwell every kind of bird; in the shade of its branches birds of every sort will nest. <sup>24</sup>And all the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD; I bring low the high tree, and make high the low tree, dry up the green tree, and make the dry tree flourish. I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it."



 $\overline{A}$  This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God. a

#### Choir Anthem (Sunday Service)

"Amazing Grace"

Ezekiel 17:22-24

2 Corinthians 5:1–17

#### **Our Heavenly Dwelling**

<sup>1</sup>We know that if the tent, which is our earthly home, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. <sup>2</sup>For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling, <sup>3</sup>if indeed by putting it on we may not be found naked. <sup>4</sup>For while we are still in this tent, we groan, being burdened-not that we would be unclothed, but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. <sup>5</sup>He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

<sup>6</sup>So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, <sup>7</sup>for we walk by faith, not by sight. <sup>8</sup>Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. 9So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. <sup>10</sup>For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

#### The Ministry of Reconciliation

<sup>11</sup>Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others. But what we are is known to God, and I hope it is known also to your conscience. <sup>12</sup>We are not commending ourselves to you again but giving you cause to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast about outward

#### Epistle

appearance and not about what is in the heart. <sup>13</sup>For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. <sup>14</sup>For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; <sup>15</sup>and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.

<sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. <sup>17</sup>Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

 $\blacksquare$  This is the Word of the Lord.

#### **C** Thanks be to God.

Stand



#### Holy Gospel

Mark 4:26-34

 $\underline{P}$  The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the fourth chapter.

**G** Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

#### The Parable of the Growing Seed

<sup>26</sup>[Jesus] said, "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. <sup>27</sup>He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how. <sup>28</sup>The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. <sup>29</sup>But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come."

#### The Parable of the Mustard Seed

<sup>30</sup>And he said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable shall we use for it? <sup>31</sup>It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown on the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, <sup>32</sup>yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

<sup>33</sup>With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it. <sup>34</sup>He did not speak to them without a parable, but privately to his own disciples he explained everything.

 $\mathbf{P}$  This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ. the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds. God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man: and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead. whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life. who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,

I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,

and I look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life + of the world to come. Amen.



Sermon - "A Farmer's Faith"

Stand

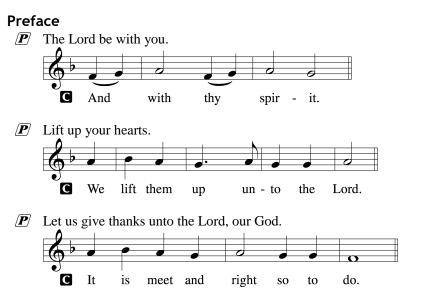


Prayer of the Church

Choir Anthem (Sunday Service)

"Beautiful Savior"

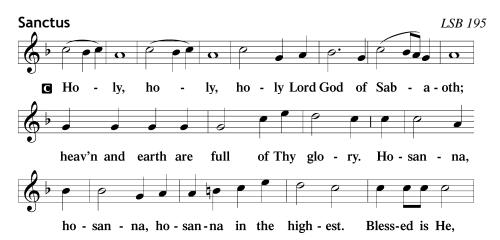
### Service of the Sacrament

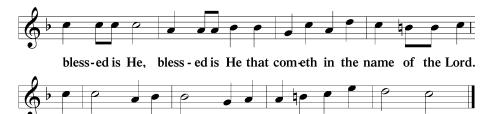


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#### Proper Preface

It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:





Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

#### Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

**G** 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.

#### The Words of Our Lord

 Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

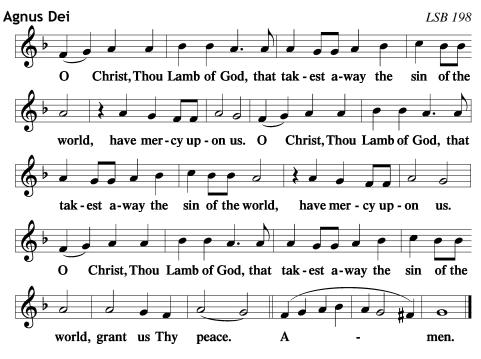
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

#### Pax Domini

 $\mathbf{P}$  The peace of the Lord be with you always.



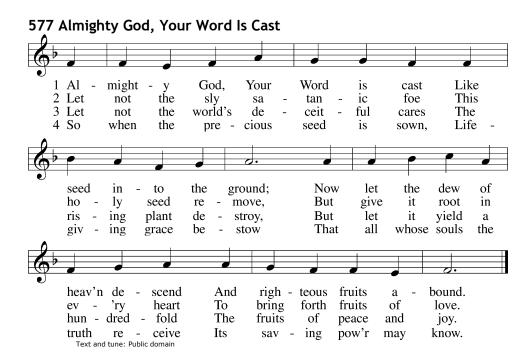
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Sit

Distribution

892 Come, Ye Thankful People, Come		
<ul> <li>1 Come, ye thank-ful peo - ple, come; Raise the song of har - vest home.</li> <li>2 All the world is God's own field, Fruit un - to His praise to yield;</li> <li>3 For the Lord, our God, shall come And shall take His har - vest home,</li> <li>4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come To Thy fi - nal har - vest home;</li> </ul>		
All be safe - ly gath - ered in Ere the win - ter storms be - gin; Wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, Un - to joy or sor - row grown. From His field shall in that day All of - fens - es purge a - way, Gath - er Thou Thy peo - ple in, Free from sor - row, free from sin,		
God, our mak - er, doth pro-vide For our wants to be sup-plied. First the blade and then the ear, Then the full corn shall ap - pear. Give His an - gels charge at last In the fire the tares to cast, There, for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, In Thy gar - ner to a - bide:		
Come to God's own tem - ple, come; Raise the song of har - vest home. Lord of har - vest, grant that we Whole-some grain and pure may be. But the fruit - ful ears to store In His gar - ner ev - er - more. Come with all Thine an - gels, come, Raise the glo-rious har - vest home. Tune and text: Public domain		



622 Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared Christ. You 1 Lord pre - pared This feast Je - sus have for 2 Al - though You did to heav'n as - cend, Where an gel 3 Yet, Sav - ior, You are not con - fined To an У 4 We eat this bread and drink this cup, Your pre cious our sal tion; It is Your bod va y hosts are dwell ing, And in Your pres - ence hab i You ta tion; But are pres - ent -Word That be liev ing Your true bod \_ -У 7 and Your blood, And at Your in vi ta - tion cel - ling, they be - hold Your glo - ry, all ex e ven now Here with Your con ga - tion. gre -Your blood Our lips and are here re ceiv - ing. ð 0 As souls, with sin We op-pressed, come wea - ry to And though Your peo ple shall not see Your glo - ry Un - moved rock this Firm as truth shall stand, by а This Word re - mains for All things are ev - er true, need - ed rest, com - fort, for par - don. You for For and maj - es - ty Till dawns the and Your judg - ment morn - ing, an - y dar - ing hand Or sub - tle craft and cun - ning. pos - si ble with You, For You are Lord Al - might - y.

Though reason cannot understand, Yet faith this truth embraces: Your body. Lord, is even now At once in many places. I leave to You how this can be; Your Word alone suffices me: I trust its truth unfailing.

6 Lord. I believe what You have said: Help me when doubts assail me. Remember that I am but dust. And let my faith not fail me. Your supper in this vale of tears Refreshes me and stills my fears And is my priceless treasure.

7 Grant that we worthily receive Your supper, Lord, our Savior, And, truly grieving for our sins, May prove by our behavior That we are thankful for Your grace And day by day may run our race, In holiness increasing.

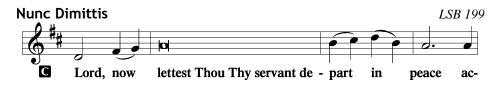
8 For Your consoling supper, Lord, Be praised throughout all ages! Preserve it, for in ev'ry place The world against it rages. Grant that this sacrament may be A blessèd comfort unto me When living and when dying. Text and tune: Public domain

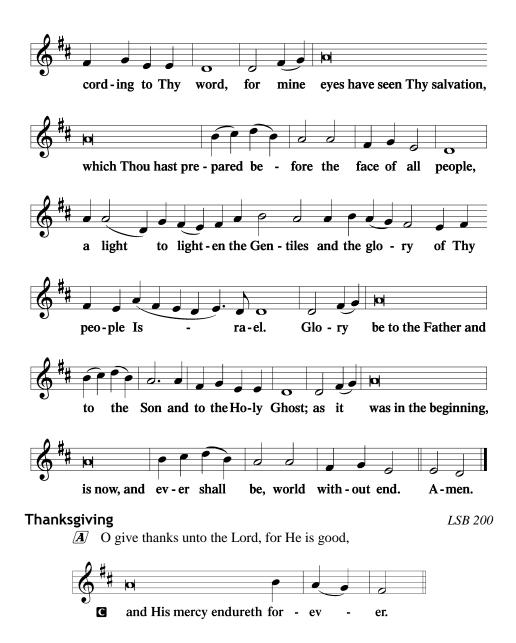
Stand

#### The Dismissal

5

- /**P**/ The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart + in peace.
- Amen. G





#### Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** Amen.

#### Salutation

 $\mathbf{P}$  The Lord be with you.



#### Benedicamus

A Bless we the Lord.



#### Benediction

 $\mathbf{P}$  The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.



#### Acknowledgments

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LSB 201

LSB 202

Prayers for Our Members		
Monique Pohlman	Expectant Mothers	
Norman Abels (Brookestone Meadows - Elkhorn)	Healing	
Judy Ahrens	Healing	
Vaughn Albrecht (Mount Carmel)	Healing	
Tom & DyAnn Altwine	Healing	
Lyle Colsden (Mother Hull)	Healing	
Pat Flodine (Cambridge Court)	Healing	
Vi Fox (Prairie View)	Healing	
Verleen Gentry	Healing	
Ruby Hatfield	Healing	
Boyd Millsap	Healing	
Michelle Millsap	Healing	
Roger Riekenberg	Healing	
Don Richmond	Healing	
Marion Richmond	Healing	
Ivan Bombeck	Cancer	
Fran Junge	Cancer	
Bertha Marienau	Cancer	
Bev Nuttelman	Cancer	
Kim Vos	Cancer	

#### ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

Pr. James DeLoach, Pastor + (308) 627-5260 james.deloach@zionkearney.org Pr. Doug Gaunt, Pastor + (308) 455-0552 doug.gaunt@zionkearney.org Tony Splittgerber, Principal + (308) 293-0168 anthony.splittgerber@zionkearney.org <u>Church Office</u> Administrative Assistant: Jessica Shiers Email: <u>school@zionkearney.org</u> Phone: (308)-234-3410 Fax: (308) 236-8100 Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00am-1:00pm Radio Broadcast: Sunday @ 10:30 a.m. on 1460 AM

Website: www.zionkearney.com

Prayers for Our Members' Family & F	riends
Nicole Teten (Chris & Sarah Hoehner's daughter)	Expecting
Naomi Wollberg (Andy & Jeanne Wollberg's daughter-	Expecting
in-law)	
Reg Duke (Westman's brother-in-law)	Healing
James Gentry (Verleen Gentry's son)	Healing
Roger Hoffman (Marc's father)	Healing
Sharon Kreutzer (Richard's mother)	Healing
Lyra Mais (Zion student)	Healing
Bailey Markowski (Steve & Fran Junge's great niece)	Healing
Mary Ann Mertz (Pam's Uhlir's friend)	Healing
Tim Powers (Kim Wilken's brother)	Healing
Roy Reynolds (Verleen Gentry's son-in-law)	Healing
Lynne Saathoff (Verleen Gentry's sister-in-law)	Healing
Randy Solomon (Beth Rosenthal's father)	Healing
Spellman Family (Quentin & Janel friend)	Healing
Angela Well (Charles Marineau's granddaughter)	Healing
D.D. Dugger (Sue Kaiser's brother)	Cancer
Stuart Gronewoller (Lonna's brother-in-law)	Cancer
Ron Halvorsen (Jeff's dad)	Cancer
Randy Jochum (Ken Hockemeier's brother-in-law)	Cancer
Fred Koch (Pam Uhlir's cousin)	Cancer
Lynda Kreutzer (Rich & Carol's sister-in-law)	Cancer
John Moore (family of Susan Tonniges)	Cancer
Sharon Mulhair (Pam Uhlir's cousin)	Cancer
Kolby Shiers (Jessica's cousin)	Cancer
Tyrone Uhlir (Pam's nephew)	Cancer

Today's Radio Broadcast is given to the Glory of the Lord by Dave and Kay Banner

### Worship Assistants

#### Sunday, June 13 ~ 9:00am

Elder: Ken Hockemeier Usher: Marc Hoffman & Steve Junge Engineer: James Marquardt Announcer: Carol Kreutzer Altar Guild: Linda Johnson

#### Sunday, June 20 ~ 9:00am

Elder: Nathan Gaunt Usher: Roger Riekenberg & Robert Glanzer Engineer: Jared Nuttelman Announcer: Brooke Fisher Altar Guild: Linda Johnson

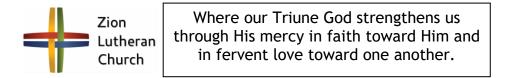
#### Our Response to the Gospel

Date: 06/06/2021

Offering: \$6,933.13 Weekly Need: \$7,542.37

Inis week at Zion		
Sun	9:00a	Divine Service
06/13	10:30a	Radio Broadcast 1460am
Mon	7:00p	Mary Martha-FH
06/14	Birthdays	Jase Blattner
		Lennis Hodgson
	Anniversaries	
Tues	1:30p	Sleeping Mats
06/15	7:00p	Church Council
	Birthdays	
	Anniversaries	
Wed	Birthdays	Lynden Hollander
06/16		Debra Mitchel
	Anniversaries	
Thurs	Birthdays	Justin Koopman
06/17	Anniversaries	
Fri	Birthdays	
06/18	Anniversaries	
Sat	5:00p	Divine Service
06/19	Birthdays	
	Anniversaries	Donald & Marion Richmond
Sun		Father's Day
06/20	9:00a	Divine Service
	10:30a	Radio Broadcast 1460am
	Birthdays	Jessica McKillip
	Anniversaries	

This Week at 7ion



#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank You: Thank you for the Kearney Barbershop Choir for singing at the Sunday services this week. We appreciate you sharing your talents with us.

<u>Pastor DeLoach Vacation</u> - Pastor DeLoach will be on vacation from June 9-19. For pastoral emergencies please contact Pastor Gaunt at 308-455-0552.

<u>Peaches</u> - Zion will once again be selling peaches the first three weeks of August. The first weekend of August will the Board of Education, the second weekend will be Mary Martha, the third/final weekend will be the Zion Youth.

<u>Volunteers Needed</u> - The Board of Education has offered to help our new teacher, Mrs. Joy Barefoot, make the move from Lincoln to Kearney. We are looking at moving Joy around July 17. If you are able to help load and/or unload please contact the school office or Mr. Splittgerber at 308-293-0168. Many hands make light work, so help if you can! More details will be forthcoming, so stay tuned!

#### **Offering Options:**

- 1) Place your offering in the basket as you leave
- 2) Go to zionkearney.churchtrac.com/give
- 3) Go to zionkearney.com and click on the ChurchTrac icon
- 4) Mail your gift to Zion Lutheran Church, 2421 C Ave, Kearney, NE 68847 or place it in the mail slot on the south side of the building.

<u>A Bible Study</u> - is prerecorded and available each Sunday, along with a study guide you can use to follow along. We are studying the three lessons for the day—the Old Testament, the Epistle, and the Gospel. Go to Zion's website <u>www.zionkearney.com</u> to access the video and study guide.

<u>Church Management System</u> - Zion has switched to a web-based church management system called ChurchTrac. Please pick-up a yellow sheet in the narthex to get setup today to view all of the benefits and features.

<u>**Radio Broadcast**</u> - Please help Zion spread the Gospel, signup to sponsor a radio broadcast! There are several open dates.

<u>Mission Offerings</u> - The second quarter missions will support Higher Things and Issues Etc. If you would like to donate to these missions, please use the mission envelopes located in the narthex. Thank you for your support. To learn more about these organizations please visit:

https://higherthings.org/about

https://issuesetc.org/support/

<u>Vacation Bible School</u> - The date has been set for July 18-22 from 6:00-8:00pm. It will be for preschool to 5<sup>th</sup> grade. We will also be recruiting volunteers for anyone from 6<sup>th</sup> grade up to help out. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex for those that are willing to volunteer and for those that would like to participate. There will be more information to come, please continue to watch the bulletin.



### SCHOOL NEWS

<u>Summer Office Hours</u> - Summer office hours will be Monday-Friday from 9:00am-1:00pm.

<u>Best of Kearney</u> - Congratulations to the Zion preschool for being voted Best of Kearney by the Kearney Hub readers seventh year in a row.

<u>Registration Open</u> - Registration is now open for the 2021-2022. There are limited preschool spots available. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the office. Please tell your family and friends about Zion. Enroll early to make sure you have a spot.

<u>Scrip Cards</u> - Scrip cards are still available during this time. Visit the office during office hours to purchase your gift cards.







## Two Concerns for the Church:

The Equality Act currently before Congress in Washington D.C 2 K-12 Health Education Standards proposed by the Nebraska Department of Education

## What is it?

The Equality Act that is being considered by Congress sounds innocent. All Americans should enjoy equality and the protections of the U.S. Constitution. But in elevating sexual orientation to a protected class, the Equality Act will bring sweeping changes to current laws, to the great detriment of the religious and constitutional freedoms of biblically faithful churches, institutions, Christian schools and individuals.

In fact, those churches and institutions that are bound by the Word of God to the truth of marriage between a man and a woman could be punished for simply standing on our consistent beliefs. The Equality Act effectively outlaws the words of Christ and our free exercise of religion.

The Equality Act expands the definition of "public accommodation" and puts an ultimatum to individuals, religious non-profits, food banks, schools, charities, adoption agencies and others: "Change your faith-based practices or face government punishment."

\*Read a letter from Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison and find additional information and resources at the link provided. The Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) recently released a **first draft of K-12 Health Standards**. These standards are meant to guide curriculum for all Nebraska schools, including public and non-public schools.

The Health Standards are a deeply flawed, ideologically driven document. Should such standards be adopted by schools, children will be placed in peril, many educators will find their professional judgment and conscience under attack, and the culture will move toward a further normalization of child sexualization.

Read the proposed Health Standards and take special note of the "Human Growth and Development" section in each grade. Here are a few highlights:

- In Kindergarten, students will "discuss different kinds of family structures (e.g. single parent, blended, intergenerational, cohabitating, adoptive, foster, samegender, interracial). Note that traditional marriage between a man and woman is not mentioned.
- In 1st grade, students "define gender, gender identity, and gender-role stereotypes."
- In 4th grade, students "distinguish between sex assigned at birth and gender identity and explain how they may or may not differ."
- In 8th grade, students would be taught that abortion is "reproductive care" and how to develop a plan to eliminate an unplanned pregnancy.

\*Find the proposed Health Standards and additional information and resources at the link provided.

## What can you do?

#### The Equality Act

- Treat all people with kindness and respect ("You shall love your neighbor as yourself" Mark 12:31).
- Become informed about the Equality Act and the issues of gender dysphoria.
- Consider your role as Christian citizens and make your voice known to your elected officials. Our friends at Association of Christian Schools International (ASCI) have created a simple web tool to allow you to reach out to your congressperson.
- 4. Pray for our officials, government, and the church in these challenging days.

Additional resources regarding the Equality Act:

#### • Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty

Alliance Defending
Freedom — The True Impact of the
 "Equality Act"

• Heritage Foundation — 11 Myths About H.R. 5, the Equality Act of 2021

#### K-12 Health Education Standards

- 1. Pray for Christian teachers and staff serving in our public schools, that they may find opportunities to freely share their faith.
- 2. Double down on your commitment to Christian education for your own family.
- Talk about your concern for the new health education standards with your friends. Make sure that they are aware of the educational standards being proposed for every public school in Nebraska.
- The Nebraska Department of Education is seeking feedback about these standards. Please take some time to fill out the NDE online survey and speak up for all Nebraska kids!
- 5. Watch for local Health Education Standards.

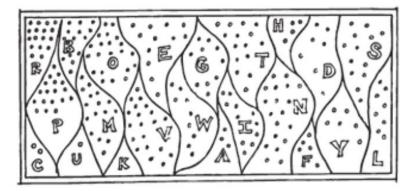
## Looking for more information?

\* Full details and all resources mentioned can be found on the Nebraska District LCMS website at **www.ndlcms.org/action-alert** 



## What Happened at Pentecost?

Count the number of dots in each space. Then use the letters to decode the message below about what happened at Pentecost. Check your work with Acts 2:4.



Bible Activities For Everyone by Betty De Vries and Mary Currier. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books Publisher, 1999.