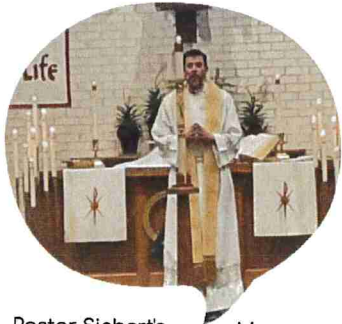


Zion Lutheran Church

Newsletter

September 2023



Pastor Siebert's Message

There was a lot of preparation that went into the events that took place on that April day. Of course, from a divine perspective the preparations predate time, but it has been in the mind of many to head down this path since Jesus of Nazareth came on the scene proclaiming the nearness of the kingdom of God and the mercy of God revealed in Himself.

The eyes of the world would report several near misses as regards the efforts to silence the Word of God permanently: Herod's soldiers sent to put an early end to the newly born King; the attempt to throw Jesus from a precipice in Nazareth; and the stones gathered in hands of His opponents so they could win their argument. But this week things were different. Now they had one of the Twelve who would assist in the planning.

And with the investment of 30 silver coins, it all was coming together. The night-time capture in the place where Jesus met with the disciples went off, though one of the captures sustained an injury that was healed, and every time Malchus was serving the High Priest, seeing his intact ear would be a reminder of Jesus's signs of healing. The mock trial with false witnesses could have gone a little better, since none of those testifying would come up with the same accusation.

But then things begin to run a little behind schedule, since the Passover meal which had been prepared had to be kept waiting for many of the plotters. Pilate doesn't cooperate with the schedule. He doesn't take their word for it that

this Jesus deserves death. He wants to question Him. The whole procedure takes longer as Jesus is sent to Herod. Pilate wouldn't take too long and they could be home before they failed to keep the law – that the meal must be eaten before the sun set.

Then Pilate wants to let Him go free after a scourging. That won't meet with the plans of the rulers of the Jews, so they have to resort to stirring up the crowds and threatening Pilate with the words, "You are no friend of Caesar's". Finally, it seems their plans are about to come to fruition and they will be victorious over the one who claims to be the Son of God.

But this was all the plan of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit from the beginning. The rebellion of Man in the Garden and all of the sin of the world needed punished and paid for, and only the Passover Lamb would avert the plague of death. Judas, the Jews, Pilate, and Satan all acted evilly in these hours, but for this hour Christ had come.

The whole plan was turned from the greatest evil (the only wholly innocent and Holy One dying the death of a traitorous sinner) into the greatest good. The cross, an instrument of torturous death and shame, and an object that would bring shudders of horror to the heart, is made into a throne of glory. He who is King of kings and Lord of lords, deigned there to suffer in our place.

From the earliest days of the Church the Cross became the heart of the preaching and the light that draws all who are called by His name. Paul declares, "We preach Christ and Him crucified." This is foolishness to the world and a scandal, but for we who are being saved it is wisdom and glory. September 14th is Holy Cross Day. As the days grow evil and sufferings wrap around our lives, we remember our Baptism into Christ's death and resurrection and glory in the good God worked from the Cross and the promise of forgiveness, life and salvation that are ours because of it. All the plottings of man and the devil himself cannot undo the good of Christ's Cross prepared for you in this life and the eternal day to come.

Your servant in Christ,

Pastor Siebert



Installation of ZCA staff and Zion Sunday School Teachers, August 13, 2023



Worship service being held in West Fellowship Room while flooring and lighting projects are being done in the sanctuary.



Work in progress....

NOTICE: Sunday School will begin on Sunday, September 10 at 10:15

Food Fun and Fellowship

Looking ahead to October, the next event is scheduled for Saturday, October 21, following the worship, serving soup and sandwiches, followed by games and fellowship. These have been most enjoyable by those in attendance. All are welcome!!

Peace Lutheran Church 75th Anniversary Event

Please join us as we celebrate our 75th Diamond Jubilee: On Christ the Solid Rock We Stand
Theme Bible Verse: "The Lord lives! Blessed be my rock, and exalted be my God, the rock of my salvation!" 2 Samuel 22:47

Sunday, September 10, 2023

9:00 a.m. Worship with Guest Preacher, former pastor, Rev. Donald Boesch and special music by Rachel Witt playing her cello and a Children's Choir

11:45 a.m. Hot Catered Lunch (no charge)

2:00 p.m. Special Afternoon Celebration Program: Guest singer/musician Christine (Kaiser) Niemeyer; words from any former ministers or vicars present; Prayer of Thanksgiving for 75 years of peaceful existence; Peace Trivia-guessing games

3:00 p.m. Cupcake reception

Hastings Life Chain

Sunday, October 1, 2023 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Life Chain, a peaceful and prayerful event, is held all across the country on the same day, the first Sunday in October, to remind the country, our community, and its leaders that we care about the plight of pre-born children; and to make a visual statement of solidarity to the community that abortion is grievously wrong. Volunteers will form a cross as they stand along Burlington Ave. and 2nd Street. Peace, Zion and Faith Lutheran Churches have been assigned to cover the block along Burlington Ave., on the east side, between 13th and 14th Streets. You may park in the museum parking lot. Please sign in with the block captain so event organizers can get a count of how many people stood for life. You will be given a sign to hold with prayers on the backside for personal use. You may bring a lawn chair if standing for one hour is hard for you. Please call Joan Primrose at 402-469-6335 if you have any questions.

"Apathy is the glove through which evil slips its hand." Bodie Thoene

September Birthdays



Katie Kathman	Sept 1
Joni Philippi	Sept 1
Cynthia McGrath	Sept 2
Owen Brown	Sept 3
Bryce Richardson	Sept 3
Gin Harlow	Sept 6
Justin Kopisch	Sept 6
Tammy Halloran	Sept 7
Cheyenne Fielder	Sept 11
Wayne Katzberg (90)	Sept 13
Dennis Kauk	Sept 13
Ron Lofing	Sept 14
Tammie Alloway	Sept 15
Angela Torske	Sept 15
Ken Marble	Sept 17
Joanna Utecht	Sept 19
Kenneth McGrath Jr.	Sept 20
Kathi Post	Sept 20
Jeff Armstrong	Sept 22
Kevin Kopisch	Sept 22
Trevor Halbmaier	Sept 26
Tyler Standeven	Sept 26
Gary Eckhardt	Sept 27
Mallory Guinan	Sept 28
Giavanna McQuesten	Sept 29
Kaylynn Miller	Sept 30

September Baptism Birthdays



Jessica Beatty	Sept 4
Jayme Holiday	Sept 5
Rayna Holiday	Sept 5
Elizabeth Wilson	Sept 9
Daniel Hock	Sept 10
Jonathan Hock	Sept 10
Felicia Melendez	Sept 10
Gabriella Sawicki	Sept 10
Eleanor Ehrman	Sept 11
Jake Johnson	Sept 11
Bo Robinson	Sept 13
Jordan Garver	Sept 14
Mary Buss	Sept 16
Jenna Garver	Sept 19
Shawna Lee	Sept 19
Lizabeth Weseman	Sept 22
Katie Kathman	Sept 23
Julie Kranau	Sept 24
Joanna Utecht	Sept 24
Wayne Katzberg	Sept 25
Kelsi Alloway	Sept 26
Tammy Halloran	Sept 27
Matthew Lee	Sept 29
Molly Lee	Sept 29
William Kusters	Sept 30
Jessica Pracht	

September Wedding Anniversaries



Stan and LaDonna Halbmaier	Sept 26, 1987
Brian and Staci Hueftle	Sept 30, 1995

September 2023

Zion Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 6:00 PM Worship Service with Communion
3 9:00 AM Worship Service with Communion 10:15 AM Adult Bible Class	4	5	6 8:30 ZCA Chapel with Pastor Hauptmeier 9:30 AM Bible-Hymn Study	7	8	9 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study Breakfast 9:00 AM LWML 6:00 PM Worship Service
10 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:15 AM Sunday School/Adult Bible Class 12:00 ACLEA Golf Tournament 2:00 Peace Lutheran 75th Anniversary	11 No Quilt Tying	12 7:00 PM Elders Meeting	13 8:30 ZCA Chapel with Pastor Bremer 9:30 AM Bible-Hymn Study	14	15	16 6:00 PM Worship Service with Communion
17 9:00 AM Worship Service with Communion 10:15 AM Sunday School/Adult Bible Class	18	19 7:00 PM Executive Board Meeting	20 8:30 ZCA Chapel with Pastor Niemeyer 9:30 AM Bible-Hymn Study	21	22	23 6:00 PM Worship Service
24 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:15 AM Sunday School/Adult Bible Class	25	26	27 8:30 ZCA Chapel with Pastor Siebert 9:30 AM Bible-Hymn Study	28	29	30 6:00 PM Worship Service with Communion