

January 1, 2023 • The Name of Jesus

10:00am

YESHU A

JOSHUA

IYSOUS

JESUS

Zion⁺ lutheran
church

WELCOME TO ZION

We are a historic church that loves being part of the vibrant, growing community of northwest San Antonio. We bring people together knowing we are fallible and imperfect, and we help share God's love and grace.

When we gather for worship, we're receptive to God's word and we rejoice in God's grace through song, prayer, and Holy Communion. The history of Christian worship is rich with rituals formed by generations. These traditions, prayers, and pastoral teachings help connect our modern lives with Christ.

Faith is an ever-present curiosity. As we live our daily lives, we explore God's teachings and respond with God's love by serving our community, locally and globally. If you're looking for a church that has all the answers for you – well, that isn't us!

We are a community of believers seeking to respond to Christ's call to worship and serve even as we wrestle with the big questions of life. We want you to know that you and your questions, faith, and doubts are welcome here! So come and join us as we explore life with God.

HOW WE WORSHIP

The Holy Spirit gathers people around the means of grace - the saving Word of God and the sacraments. From the table of Holy Communion where Jesus Christ comes with forgiveness life and salvation, God sends us out to share the good news and to care for those in need. Our worship follows this pattern in four parts: Gathering, Word, Meal, and Sending.

Worship leaders guide us through sacrament and prayer and our responses are printed in bold type.

Throughout our service, members of Zion's music ministry offer their talents as an offering to God. We invite you to receive their musical gifts as a time for prayer, contemplation, or praise of God, rather than a performance to be applauded, so that we may worship God throughout our time here together.

Zion Lutheran Church

9944 Leslie Road • San Antonio, Texas 78254 • 210-688-3090 • zion@zionsa.org

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit, the Comforter, gathers us in worship.

PRELUDE & WELCOME

Good Christian Men, Rejoice arr. Lamb

Sarah Juhasz
Handbells

Please rise, as you are able.

GATHERING HYMN Once in Royal David's City

1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,
2 He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and Lord of all,
3 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing love;
4 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the ox - en stand - ing by,

where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his bed:
and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall;
for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove;
we shall see him; but in heav - en, set at God's right hand on high;

Mar - y was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.
with the poor and meek and low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.
there his chil - dren gath - er round, bright like stars, with glo - ry crowned.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-1895
Music: RBX; Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805-1876

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Eternal Father, you gave your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be a sign of our salvation.
Plant in every heart the love of the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

FIRST READING: NUMBERS 6:22-27

²²The LORD spoke to Moses, saying: ²³Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless
the Israelites: You shall say to them,

²⁴The LORD bless you and keep you;

²⁵the LORD make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you;

²⁶the LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

²⁷So they shall put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 8

¹O LORD our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!—
²**you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children;
you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.**
³When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,
⁴**what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them,
human beings that you should care for them?**
⁵Yet you have made them little less than divine;
with glory and honor you crown them.
⁶**You have made them rule over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under their feet:**
⁷all flocks and cattle,
even the wild beasts of the field,
⁸**the birds of the air, the fish of the sea,
and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.**
⁹O LORD our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

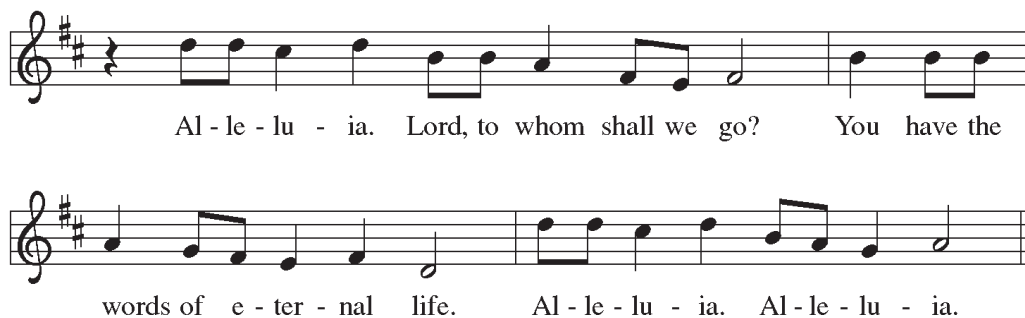
SECOND READING: GALATIANS 4:4-7

⁴When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. ⁶And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” ⁷So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Please rise, as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: LUKE 2:15-21

The holy gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

²¹After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

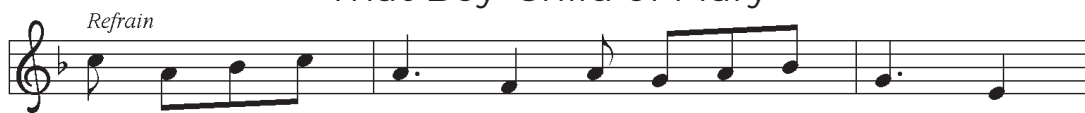
Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Dave Schulte

Please rise, as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY
That Boy-Child of Mary



That boy - child of Mar - y was born in a sta - ble,



a man - ger his cra - dle in Beth - le - hem.



- 1 What shall we call him, child of the man - ger?
- 2 His name is Je - sus, God ev - er with us,
- 3 How can he save us, how can he help us,
- 4 Gift of the Fa - ther, to hu - man moth - er,



What name is giv - en in Beth - le - hem?
 God giv - en for us in Beth - le - hem.
 born here a - mong us in Beth - le - hem?
 makes him our broth - er in Beth - le - hem.

Text: Tom Colvin, 1925-2000
Music: BLANTYRE, Malawi traditional; adapt. Tom Colvin
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APOSTLES' CREED IF NO BAPTISM

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**catholic: universal*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With wonder and thanksgiving for Christ's coming into the world, we pray for the church, the life of the earth, and the whole human family.

Each petition ends:

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of God.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

Please be seated

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please check the back pages of this bulletin for additional announcements.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus.

OFFERING

At this time, we give our offerings with thanksgiving to God. These offerings support the mission and ministry of Zion, including the care of those in need. To give online, please visit ZionSA.org. Children are invited to come forward during the music and place their offerings in the jar to the left of the Chancel area (near the Sacristy door). During the offering music, the pastor sets the table with the elements for Holy Communion. Please know that this is the Lord's table, and all are welcome to receive Communion.

OFFERING MUSIC

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly arr. Lamb

Sarah Juhasz
Handbells

Please rise, as you are able.

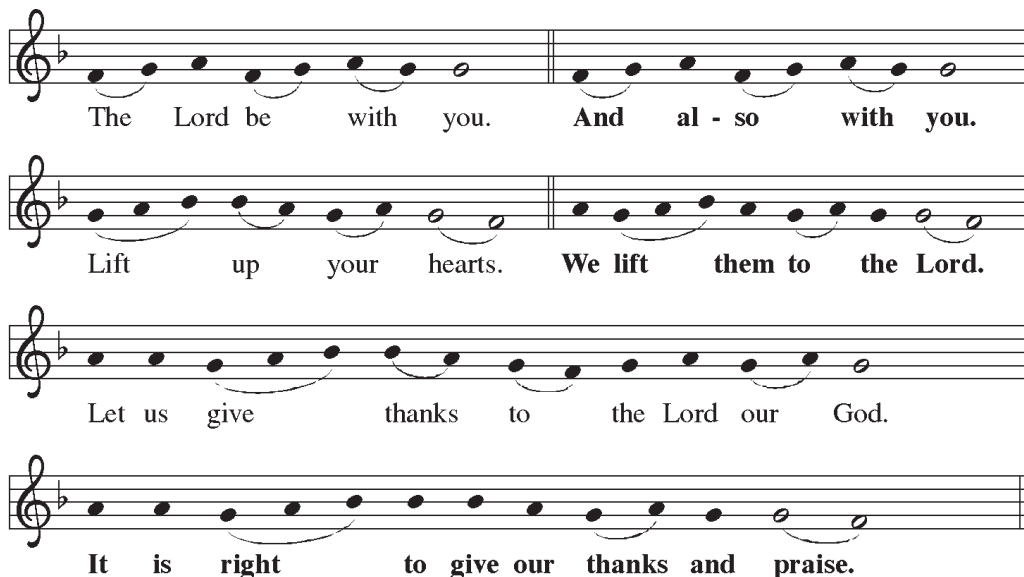
OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Holy God, gracious and merciful,

You bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



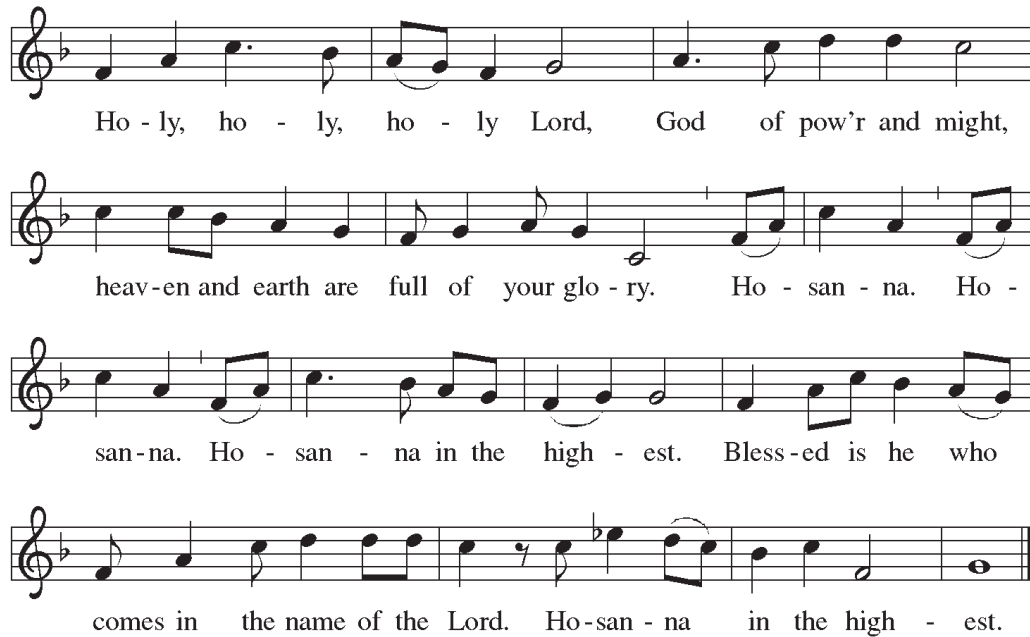
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come ✠ among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray as Jesus has taught us:

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

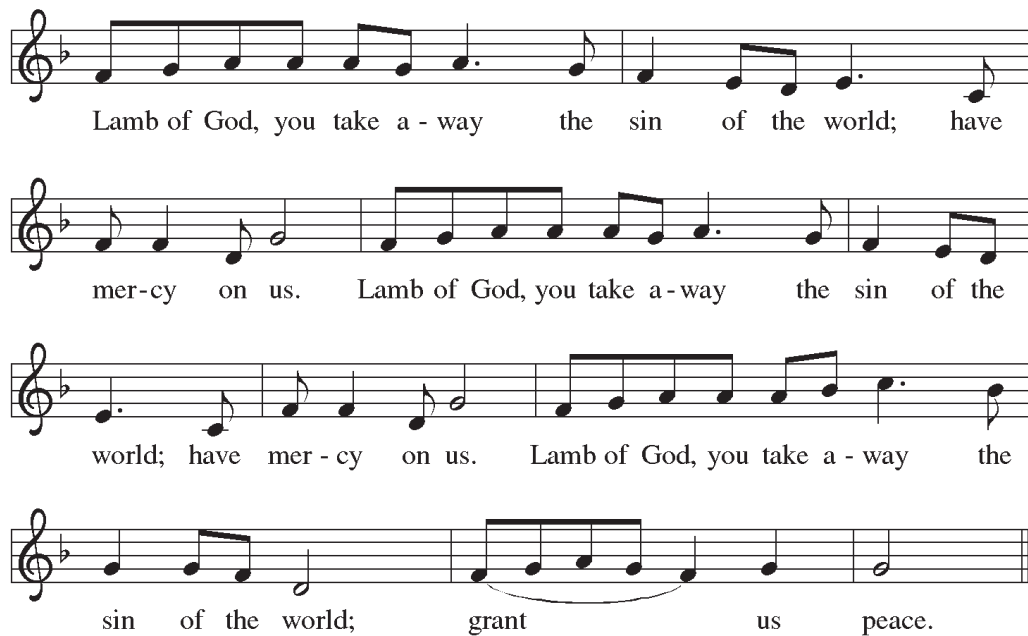
Christ invites you to this table. Come and receive the gifts of God for the people of God.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes all to this holy meal! Children who commune should be assisted by adults who are with them. Those who do not wish to receive Holy Communion are invited to come forward to receive a blessing. If you are unable to come forward, please notify an usher and we will bring the sacrament to you. Gluten-free wafers are available; please ask the person serving bread. White grape juice is available in the center of the communion tray for any who are unable to drink wine. After taking Communion, please return to your seat for singing and prayer.

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne arr. Walters

Sarah Juhasz
Alto Saxophone

COMMUNION HYMN From Heaven Above



1 "From heav'n a - bove to earth I come to bear good
2 "To you this night is born a child of Mar - y,
3 "This is the Christ, God's Son most high, who hears your

12 Ah, dear - est Je - sus, ho - ly child, pre - pare a
13 My heart for ve - ry joy now leaps; my voice no
14 "Glo - ry to God in high - est heav'n, who un - to



news to ev - 'ry home! Glad tid - ings of great joy I
cho - sen vir - gin mild; this new - born child of low - ly
sad and bit - ter cry, who will him - self your Sav - ior

bed, soft, un - de - filed, a qui - et cham - ber in my
long - er si - lence keeps; I too must sing with joy - ful
us the Son has giv'n." With an - gels sing in pi - ous



bring to all the world, and glad - ly sing:
birth shall be the joy of all the earth.
be and from all sin will set you free."

heart, that you and I may nev - er part.
tongue the sweet - est an - cient cra - dle - song:
mirth a glad new year to all the earth!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546 in *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: COSM EHNKELE, HOCH, arr. Martin Luther, Schumann, *Gesellschaftlicher Lieder*, 1539
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After communion, we rise and share in blessing and prayer.

BLESSING

May the true body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you always in God's grace.

Amen.

PRAYER

Let us pray. O God, in this holy communion you have welcomed us into your presence, nourished us with words of mercy, and fed us at your table. Amid the cares of this life, strengthen us to love you with all our heart, serve our neighbors with a willing spirit, and honor the earth you have made; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us out in peace.

BENEDICTION

God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit, ✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN *on next page*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is near.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Vom Himmel Hoch by J.S. Bach

AVAILABLE FOR PRAYER

Immediately following each service, Stephen Ministers are often available to pray with you at the altar rail. All prayers and conversations are confidential.

SENDING HYMN

O Savior, Precious Savior

1 O Sav - ior, pre - cious Sav - ior, whom yet un - seen we love;
 2 O bring - er of sal - va - tion, who won - drous - ly hast wrought,
 3 In thee all full - ness dwell - eth, all grace and pow'r di - vine;
 4 Oh, grant the con - sum - ma - tion of this our song a - bove,

O name of might and fa - vor, all oth - er names a - bove:
 thy - self the rev - e - la - tion of love be - yond our thought:
 the glo - ry that ex - cel - leth, O Son of God, is thine.
 in end - less ad - o - ra - tion and ev - er - last - ing love;

we wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;
 we wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;
 We wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;
 then shall we praise and bless thee where per - fect prais - es ring,

we praise thee and con - fess thee, our ho - ly Lord and King.
 we praise thee and con - fess thee, our gra - cious Lord and King.
 we praise thee and con - fess thee, our glo - rious Lord and King.
 and ev - er - more con - fess thee, our Sav - ior and our King!

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879
 Music: ANGEL'S STORY, Arthur H. Mann, 1850–1929

Worship Support

Altar Guild and
Bread Offering
Carolyn Thronson

Doris Enderlin, Susan Johns
Debbie Christian-Schulte
Mary Ann Schmitt, Sharon Solanik

Lay Reader
Ella Brei

Communion Servers
Mary Jo and Paul Goldenbaum

Sound
Scott Van Doren

January Ushers
Dan Graham
Pam Gammage
Brandon Dubuisson
Mike DeHart, Chris Berg

**THIS
WEEK
AT
ZION**



Scan this QR code for
web calendar

Today, Sunday, January 1

Worship in person 10am Sanctuary

Monday, January 2

Church Campus Closed

Tuesday, January 3

Exercise Group 9am Church 2
Game Group 1pm FLC 101
Warriors Anonymous 7pm Church 2

Wednesday, January 4

High School/Elementary Mentoring 7:15am Nichols' Elem.
Crafty Bunch 9:30 Ed Bldg Craft Rm
Call Team 6pm MC3
Midweek Worship 6:30 Church 1/Chapel
Chancel Choir 7:15 Sanctuary
Alcoholics Anonymous 7pm FLC 202
Al-Anon Meeting 7pm FLC 101

Thursday, January 5

Quilting for Lutheran World Relief 9:30 Fellowship Hall
Weight Watchers Mtg 9:30 Church 2
San Antonio Deanery 11am Ministry Ctr 5
Dinner Out 6:30
Fiesta Flutes? 7pm Church 2
Stephen Ministry 7pm FLC 101

Saturday, January 7

Weight Watchers Mtg 9am Church 2
Auditions for *Sound of Music* 2pm FLC

Sunday, January 8

Worship in person 9am Sanctuary
Intergenerational Epiphany
Celebration 10:15 Family Life Center
Adult Classes 10:15 FH
Worship in person and online 11:30 Sanc & YouTube
Auditions for *Sound of Music* 2pm FLC

RSVP by Tuesday for Pastor Dave Schulte's Retirement Celebration

Saturday, January 14 at 5:00pm in the FLC

Please RSVP for the meal* and event by this Tuesday, January 6. Phone the church office at 210-688-3090.

**Vegan meal option is available.*

Dinner Out at Fish City Grill Restaurant

Thursday, January 5 at 6:30pm

Dinner Out meets on the first Thursday of each month.

All adults are welcome. On January 5, meet at Fish City Grill, on Loop 1604 at Vance Jackson in the South Rim.

Come early for socializing; dinner seating is at 6:30.

RSVP by TOMORROW January 2 to Sandy or Jim Chillstrom.

Auditions Next Week for Sound of Music

Saturday, January 7 and Sunday, January 8 in the family life center. Begins at 2:00pm. Come prepared to sing and learn some dance steps.

Contact Sammy Mikulski at the church office (Tuesday-Friday) if you have questions in the meantime. Performances are April 21-23 and 28-30.

Camp Hope Informational Meeting

January 29 at 10:15am in the Sanctuary

Camp Hope is a youth-led summer ministry that develops Christian leaders through the support of adult mentors and the entire con-

gregation. The whole congregation is invited to learn how it can be part of a paradigm shift to connect and develop all generations at Zion. There is a role for everyone to play -- come hear from the leaders who were part of the 2022 camp, and about plans for next year.

Camp Hope 2023 is scheduled for June 19-23 and June 26-30. Julia Kraemer is the 2023 camp director.



SUNDAY FAITH FORMATION

January 8 is the Intergenerational Epiphany Celebration

in the Family Life Center. King Cakes, crafts, and fellowship for the whole family begins at 10:15. Everyone is invited.

Children's Classes Resume Jan 15

Music Opening in MC 1 at 10:15
Children age three years and older meet in the new Ministry Center Room 1 for opening music with Ms. Sammy, then go to classrooms.

Youth Classes Resume on Jan 15

Grade 6-7	MC Room 5
Grade 8-9	MC Room 7
Grade 10-12	MC Room 8

ADULT CLASS Week Ahead Bible Study

10:15 at with Pastor Dave or Pastor Kathi, in the Fellowship Hall. Take a look at the lessons we have in worship each week. What's their context? How do we make sense of them as 21st century Christians?

*Your
generosity
empowers
Zion's
ministry.*

From Sunday morning worship to feeding families for the holidays, collecting clothing for local charity or relief supplies shipped hundreds of miles, to friendships fostered worldwide with simple hand stitches.

Because you kindly share your time, lend your skills, and support your ministry financially, Zion's impact reaches far beyond the four walls of our sanctuary. On behalf of everyone we're able to help, thank you for your contribution.

For more ways to support Zion's mission, scan this QR code.



Game Group

Tuesday, January 3 and 17* at 1:00pm

Come for table games and daytime fellowship for all ages. Meet in Family Life Center Room 101.

*Regular Monday schedule resumes February 6.

Midweek Worship

6:30pm in Church 1

Simple service of Holy Communion, every Wednesday in Zion's historic chapel.

Let's Read the Bible in a Year!

In 2023, we will be reading the Bible cover to cover, chronologically, for a whole year! This plan is for every one of you- read it at the dinner table with your family, or during your lunch break. Listen on your commute, or while folding laundry. There is so much opportunity for God's Word to be a part of our daily lives, and we get to start on January 1! The best part is that you don't have to do this alone. Every other week, starting January 5, there will be fellowship and discussion on what has been read, led by Paul and Cheyenne Omans.

For more information, contact the church office. For the Bible reading plan, scan this QR code or go to <http://www.thebible Recap.com/start>



Choir Rehearsals Resume

Wed, Jan 4	Chancel Choir	7:15	Sanctuary
Tue, Jan 10	Handbells	6:30	Balcony
Tue, Jan 10	Youth Choir	7pm	Apse
Tue, Jan 17	Children's Choir	7-7:45	MC 1

Crafty Bunch

Wednesdays at 9:30

The Crafty Bunch now meets in the Education Building on the west side of Leslie Road. Enter at the double doors, behind Churches 1 and 2. The "new" craft room is the first room on the right.

Bring your own project to work on, or check what's in the cabinets.

Quilting for LWR

Thursdays at 9:30am

Come to the Fellowship Hall to create simple quilts for Lutheran World Relief. These durable quilts are sent all over the world to be used as bedding, room dividers, and shelter. All skill levels, including beginners are welcome!

Zion Zippers

Monday, January 9

Come and join the Zion Zippers at 6:00pm for a pot-luck dinner in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a dish to share, along with your own plate and utensils if you can. Invite a friend, too! After dinner, hang around for Bunco and socializing. Zippers meet on the second Monday.

CONTACT



zionsa.org



[zionsa](https://www.facebook.com/zionsa)



[@zionsatx](https://www.instagram.com/zionsatx)



zion@zionsa.org



210-688-3090



9944 Leslie Road, 78254



8:30am-5:00pm
Friday close at 3:00pm

STAFF DAYS OFF

Pastor Dave - Friday
dschulte@zionsa.org

Pastor Kathi - Monday
kjohnson@zionsa.org

Pastor Dan - Monday
dheim@zionsa.org

Rob Mikulski - Monday
rmikulski@zionsa.org

Sammy Mikulski - Monday
theatre@zionsa.org

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JANUARY 1, 2023
HOLY NAME OF
JESUS



There is power and blessing in the name Jesus.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Luke 2:15-21	Shepherds visit Jesus
Monday	Numbers 6:22-27	Blessing for the people
Tuesday	Galatians 4:4-7	Children of God
Wednesday	Psalm 138	Thanksgiving and praise
Thursday	Leviticus 12:2-8	After a woman gives birth
Friday	Acts 5:27-32	Apostles obey God
Saturday	Psalm 8	The wonderful name of the Lord
Sunday	Matthew 3:13-17	The baptism of Jesus

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Psalm 8:9 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, you have given us the name of Jesus to empower our lives; we give you thanks for the name of Jesus that is majestic in all the earth. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

God of power and might, we thank you for giving us the name Jesus to bless our lives, just as you give us this food to strengthen our daily lives. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the name of our Lord Jesus bless you and keep you and give you peace.



JANUARY 1, 2023

HYMN OF THE WEEK

*Jesus, Name Above
All Names*



taking **+**
faith
home

WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- Have you ever had a nickname? If so, what is the story behind your nickname?
- What does your name mean? How does your name influence who you are?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Luke 2:15-21.

This reading tells of a very Jewish foundation for the identity of this baby born in Bethlehem. On the eighth day, according to Leviticus 12:2-8, a male baby shall be circumcised. Mary and Joseph obey the will of God as it was announced by the angel and as it is required in Leviticus. They circumcise the baby and name him Jesus. Jesus is the Greek form of the Hebrew name, Joshua, meaning “the Lord saves.” Biblically, a name is more than a label. It has the power to shape and transform. Numbers 6:22-27 is called the Aaronic Benediction. It ends by noting that the name of the Lord will bless the people. The name Jesus also blesses. There is power in the name of Jesus. It is the power of the presence of God in our midst to save.

Discuss: As the New Year begins, how does knowing the name of Jesus and his power to bring salvation to you and to all people make a difference in your life?

Pray: **Almighty and merciful Lord, we thank you for the name of Jesus that blesses us and all the world with the hope of salvation and the power to live in peace through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SERVICE



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how might you bless others to know the name of Jesus, our Savior?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



The Holy Name of Jesus, a special day on the church calendar, is celebrated eight days after Christmas. Jesus officially received his name on the eighth day after his birth. This was not a name given to him by his parents. The name, Jesus, meaning “the Lord saves”, came from God. Write the name Jesus on a sticky note and place it where you will see it every day as a reminder to pray in the name of Jesus.

Pray: **Dear Lord, during this year, may we be reminded of your blessings in the holy name of Jesus, Amen.**



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org