

January 8, 2023 • The Epiphany of Our Lord
9:00 and 11:30am



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

We Three Kings arr. Biery

Please rise, as you are able.

GATHERING HYMN Brightest and Best of the Stars

1 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,
2 Cold on his cra - dle the dew - drops are shin - ing;

dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.
low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;

Star of the east, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,
an - gels a - dore him in slum - ber re - clin - ing,

guide where our in - fant re - deem - er is laid.
mak - er and mon - arch and sav - ior of all.

The musical score consists of four systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are printed below the treble staff of each system.

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Jens Christian Aaberg, 1877–1970, alt.
Music: MORNING STAR, James P. Harding, 1850–1911, adapt.

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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

O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, 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.

9:00 CHILDREN'S CHAT

Pastor Dan Heim

ISAIAH 60:1-6

¹Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

²For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.

³Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

⁴Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.

⁵Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

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

Bright and Glorious is the Sky

1 Bright and glo - rious is the sky, ra - diant are the
 2 On that ho - ly Christ - mas night through the dark - ness
 3 Sa - ges from the east a - far, when they saw this

heav - ens high where the gold - en stars are shin - ing,
 beamed a light; all the stars a - bove were pal - ing,
 won - drous star, went to find the king of na - tions

All their rays to earth in - clin - ing beck - on us to
 all their lus - ter slow - ly fail - ing as the won - drous
 and to of - fer their ob - la - tions to the child, the

heav'n a - bove, beck - on us to heav'n a - bove.
 star drew nigh, as the won - drous star drew nigh.
 new - born king, to the child, the new - born king.

5 Guided by the star, they found
 him whose praise the ages sound.
 We too have a star to guide us,
 which forever will provide us
 with the light to find our Lord,
 with the light to find our Lord.

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783-1872; u. Jens Christian Ahberg, 1877-1970, alt.
 Music: DEHLIG ER DEN HIMMEL, B.L.A. Danish, 19th cent.
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PSALM 72:1-7, 10-14

Congregation reads bold verses

¹Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to a king's son.

**²May he judge your people with righteousness,
and your poor with justice.**

³May the mountains yield prosperity for the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.

**⁴May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,
give deliverance to the needy,
and crush the oppressor.**

⁵May he live while the sun endures,
and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.

**⁶May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass,
like showers that water the earth.**

⁷In his days may righteousness flourish
and peace abound, until the moon is no more.

**¹⁰May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles
render him tribute,
may the kings of Sheba and Seba
bring gifts.**

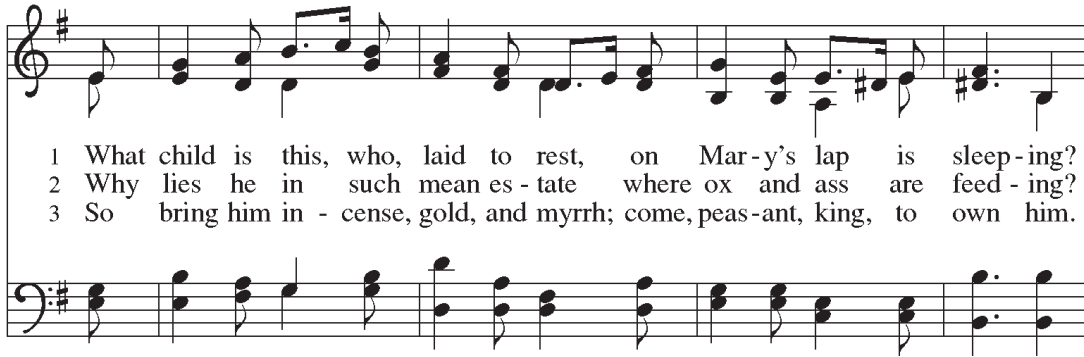
¹¹May all kings fall down before him,
all nations give him service.

**¹²For he delivers the needy when they call,
the poor and those who have no helper.**

¹³He has pity on the weak and the needy,
and saves the lives of the needy.

**¹⁴From oppression and violence he redeems their life;
and precious is their blood in his sight.**

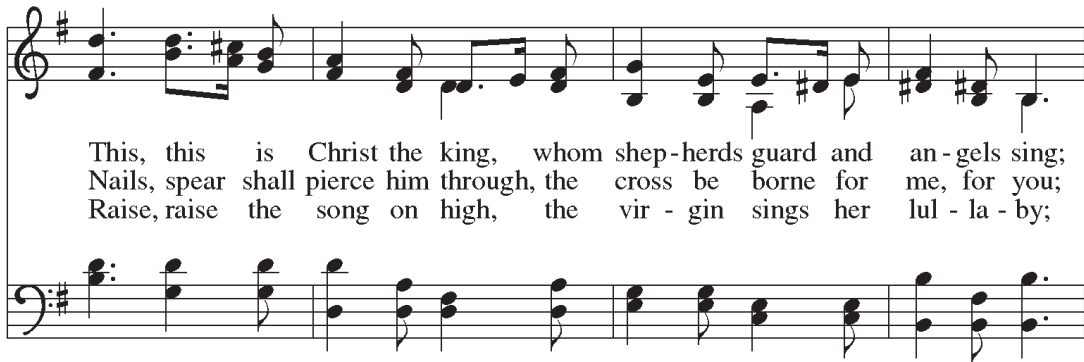
What Child is This?



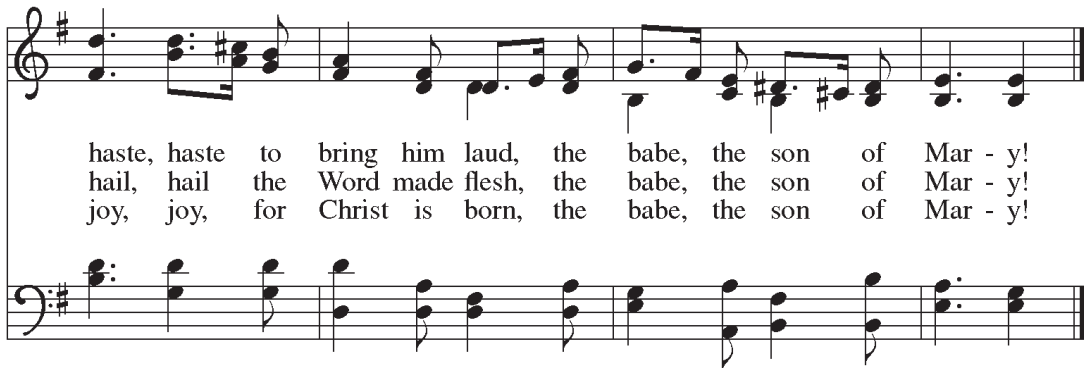
1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?
Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead-ing.
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an-gels sing;
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898
Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

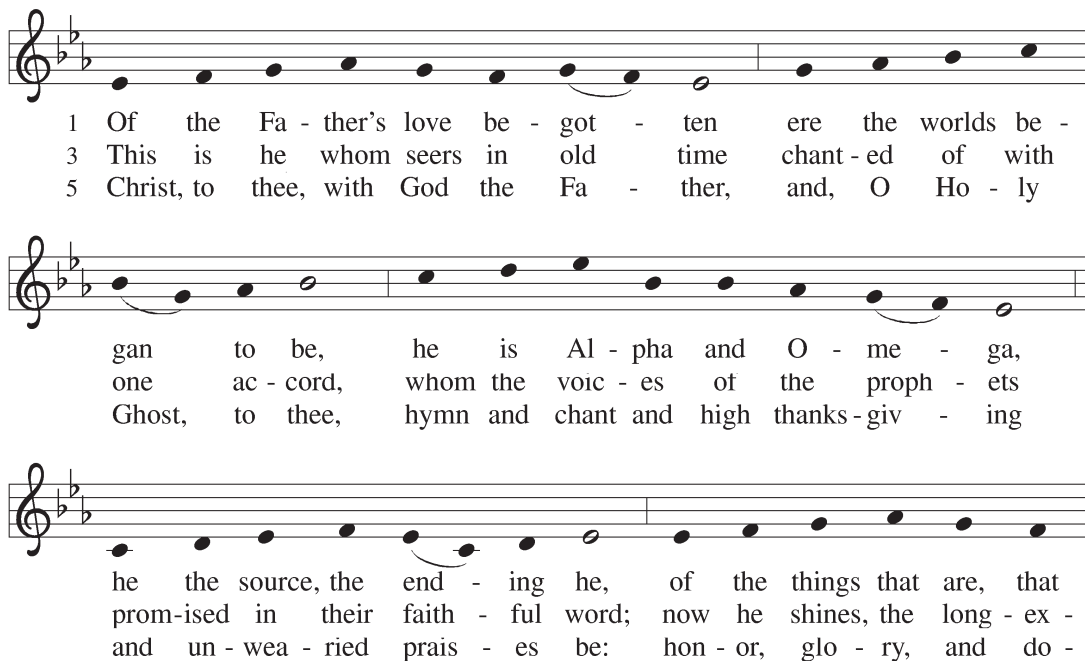
EPHESIANS 3:1-12

¹This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles — ²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God’s grace that was given me for you, ³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God’s grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

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

Of the Father’s Love Begotten



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be -
3 This is he whom seers in old time chant - ed of with
5 Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly

gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
one ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing

he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that are, that
prom - ised in their faith - ful word; now he shines, the long - ex -
and un - wea - ried prais - es be: hon - or, glo - ry, and do -

have been, and that fu - ture years shall see,
 pect - ed; let cre - a - tion praise its Lord
 min - ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more! A - men.

Text: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348–413; tr. composite
 Music: DIVINUM MYSTERIUM, plainsong mode V, 13th cent.

MATTHEW 2:1-6

Spark Children’s Bible Page 295

Wise Men

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶“And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
 are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
 for from you shall come a ruler
 who is to shepherd my people Israel.””

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

O Little Town of Bethlehem

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
 2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!
 4 O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - d'ring love.
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.
 cast out our sin, and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.

yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light.
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
 No ear may hear his com - ing; but, in this world of sin,
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!
 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
 oh, come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835–1893
 Music: ST. LOUIS, Lewis H. Redner, 1831–1908

MATTHEW 2:7-12

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

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

We Three Kings



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing
 2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I
 3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a
 5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and



gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,
 bring to crown him a - gain; king for - ev - er,
 owns a de - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing,
 life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing,
 God and Sac - ri - fice; heav'n sings al - le -



moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
 ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.
 glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.
 bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
 lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.



Refrain
 Oh, star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright;



west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

Text: John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891, alt.
 Music: THREE KINGS OF ORIENT, John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891

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,
Response: hear our prayer.

We entrust all of these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus.
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

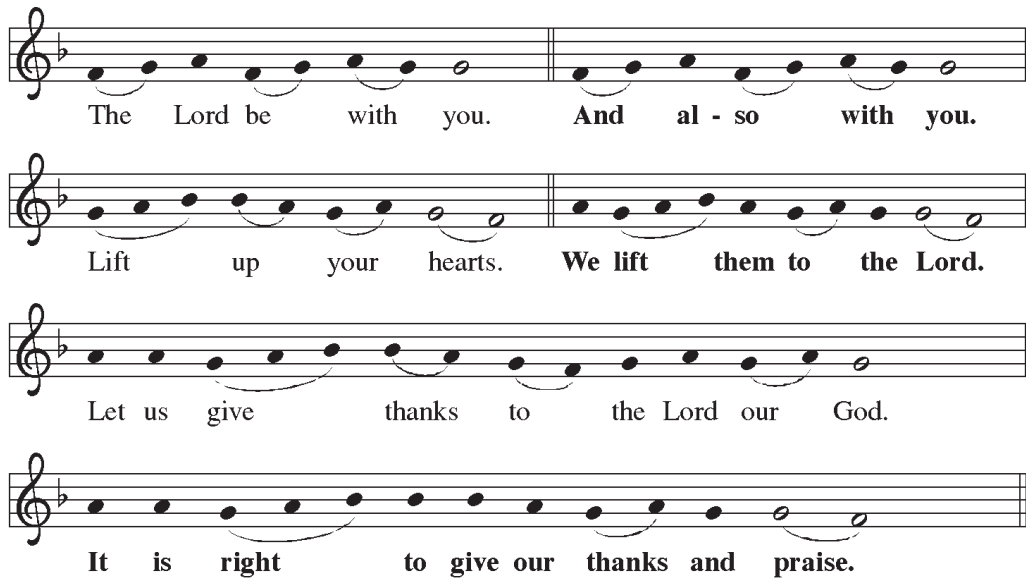
What Star is This? arr. Davenport

Please rise, as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

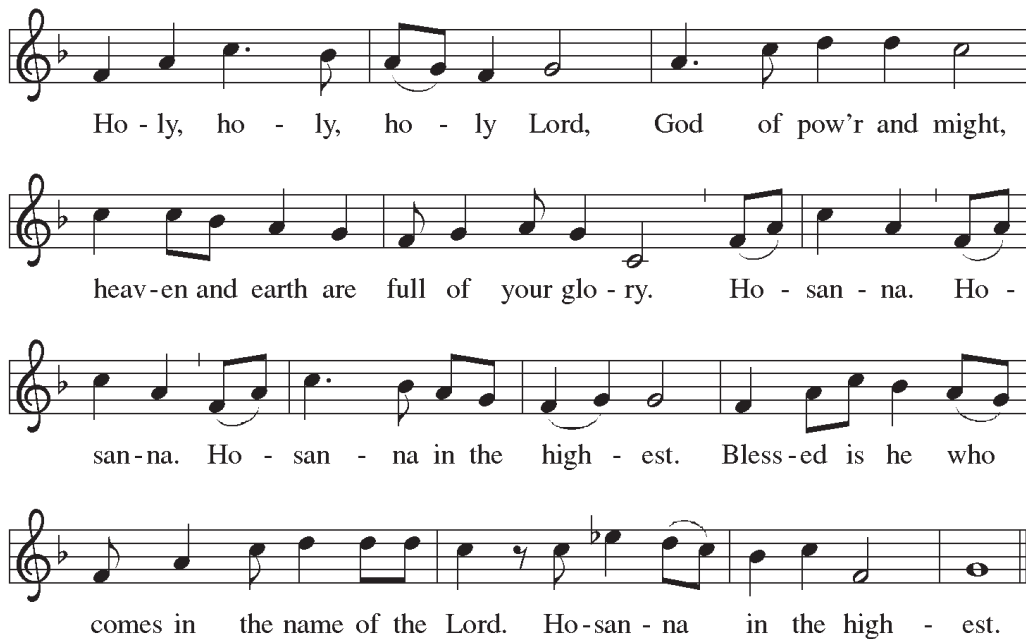
Let us pray. Gracious God,
your Son born to us shows us your great love.
As we offer ourselves and these gifts,
prepare us to receive the grace you offer at this table
and renew in us the song of your salvation,
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

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. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. 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

These are the gifts of God for you, the beloved 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 HYMN

The First Noël

1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to
2 They look - ed up and saw . . a star shin - ing
3 And by the light of that . . same star three . .
4 This star drew near to the . . north - west, o'er . .
5 Then en - tered in those wise . . men three, full . .

cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
in . . the east . . be - yond . . them far; and to the
wise . . men came . . from coun - try far; to seek for a
Beth - le - hem . . it took . . its rest; and there it
rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . their knee, and of - fered

they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's
earth it gave . . . great light, and . . so it con -
king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the
did both stop . . . and stay right . . o - ver the
there in his . . . pres - ence their . . gold, . . . and

Refrain

night that was so deep.
tin-ued both day and night.
star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -
place where Je - sus lay.
myrrh, and frank - in - cense.

el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Text: English traditional
Music: THE FIRST NOWELL, English traditional; arr. John Stainer, 1840-1901

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.

God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life.

As you have gathered us together today, send us forth as messengers of your peace.

Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us out in peace.

BENEDICTION

God bless you and keep you, ✠ Jesus grant you grace and truth,
and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever.

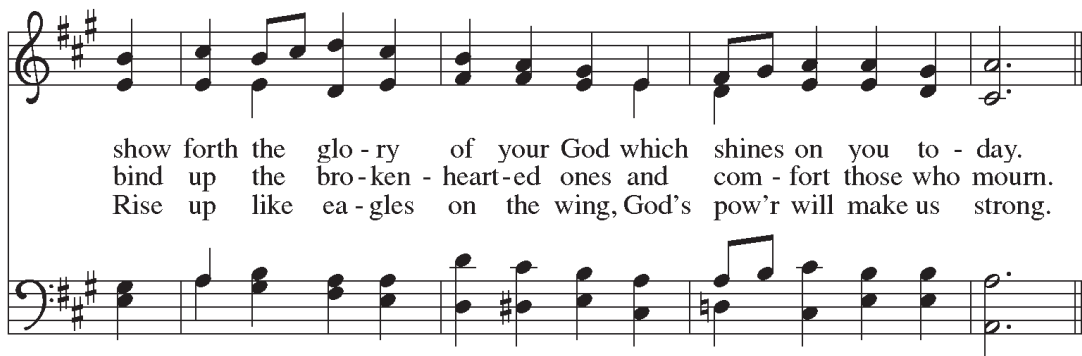
Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Arise, Your Light Has Come!



1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,
4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!



show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.
bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825-1893

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

March of the Kings arr. Thygerson

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.

**THIS
WEEK
AT
ZION**



Scan this QR code for
web calendar

Sunday, January 8

Worship in person	9am	Sanctuary
Faith Formation - Intergenerational Epiphany Celebration for all	10:15	Family Life Center
Adult Class: Week Ahead	10:15	Fellowship Hall
Worship in person and online	11:30	Sanc & YouTube
Auditions for <i>Sound of Music</i>	2pm	Family Life Center

Monday, January 9

Zion Zippers Potluck Fellowship	6pm	Fellowship Hall
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Tuesday, January 10

Exercise Group	9am	Church 2
Dorcas Circle	10am	FH
Executive Committee	6pm	Zoom
Bell Choir	6:30	Sanc Balcony
<i>No Children's Choir - resumes Jan 17</i>		
Youth Choir	7pm	Music Apse
Warriors Anonymous	7pm	Church 2

Wednesday, January 11

High School/Elementary Mentoring	7:15am	Nichols' Elem.
MOPS - Mothers of Preschoolers	9:30	MC 1
Crafty Bunch	9:30	Ed Bldg Craft Rm
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 12

Quilting for Lutheran World Relief	9:30	Fellowship Hall
Weight Watchers Mtg	9:30	Church 2
Stephen Ministry	7pm	FLC 101
Fiesta Flutes	7pm	Church 2

Saturday, January 14

Weight Watchers Mtg	9am	Church 2
Pastor Dave Schulte Retirement Celebration Dinner	5pm	Family Life Center

Sunday, January 15

Pastor Dave Schulte's Final Sunday at Zion

Worship in person	9am	Sanctuary
Worship in person and online	11:30	Sanc & YouTube
<i>Faith Formation for Children, Youth and Adults resumes January 22</i>		

Worship Support

January Altar Guild and Bread Offering

Carolyn Thronson

Doris Enderlin, Susan Johns

Debbie Christian-Schulte

Mary Ann Schmitt, Sharon Solanik

Lay Readers

9:00

Jake Apodaca, Bruce Krueger

11:30

Jeff Williams

Communion Servers

9:00

Shannon Rios, Bev Rosel

11:30

Suzi Lockamy

Livestream

Paul Omans

Steve Johnson

Sound

Scott Van Doren

January Ushers

LeShea Clabough & Kevin McGee

Susanne & Russell Warren

Karen & James Sturdivant

Doris & Dave Newman

Dan Graham

Pam Gammage

Brandon Dubuisson

Mike DeHart, Chris Berg



TODAY, January 8 Intergenerational Epiphany Celebration



in the Family Life Center. The whole family is invited to hear the story of the wise men, eat Epiphany king cakes, make crafts, and meet new people. Events begin at 10:15. Everyone is invited.



Adult Class Today: Week Ahead Bible Study with Pastor Dave*

10:15 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?
**Last in series with Pastor Dave.*

Children's Classes Resume January 22

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 January 22

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

Auditions TODAY for Sound of Music

Sunday, January 8 in the Family Life Center. Begins at 2:00pm. Come prepared to sign and learn some dance steps. Performances are April 21-23 and 28-30.

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.thebiblerecap.com/start>



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 congregation. 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.

Zion Zippers Pot-Luck & Fellowship

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! Zippers meet on the second Monday. After dinner, hang around for Bunco and socializing!

M

MOPS Chapter at Zion

Wednesday, January 11 in MC Room 1

Zion MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) supports moms by building community for growth in faith and as parents. Monthly meetings are in Zion's Ministry Center from 9:30-noon on the second Wednesday. They also are in need of adult volunteers to provide child care those second Wednesdays.

Scan the QR to contact Nicole Stender (mops@zionsa.org) to register, volunteer or get more info!



Youth Nights Start January 12

Middle & High School Dinner and Fellowship
2nd/4th Thursdays, 6:30-8:30 in Ministry Center

High school and middle school will meet to enhance the impact Zion youth can make on their community, collectively -- with service projects, Bible discussion that relates to their daily lives, dinner and something else fun -- to build a community on mission.

Allen Cockrell and Kim DeHart are helping with this launch. Please use the QR code to RSVP so we have enough food and supplies to get started!



*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.



CONTACT



zionsa.org



zionsa



@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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Midweek Worship

6:30pm in Church 1

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

Choir Rehearsals in 2023

Children's Choir (Gr 2-5) rehearsals resume January 17, with Ms. Sammy. Rehearsals include not just learning songs, but music theory and performance behavior skills. And there's always some fun time!

Youth Choir (Gr 6-12) resumes January 10. Director Gavin Magee encourages older students to develop their musical "chops" and become better vocalists and worship leaders.

Rob Mikulski directs the adult **Chancel Choir**. Rehearsals have begun in the sanctuary, but new singers are still welcome. Chancel Choir leads Sunday worship music several times a month.

Children's	Tues Jan 17	7-7:45	MC Room 1
Youth	Tues Jan 10	7-8pm	Apse
Chancel	Wed	7:15	Sanctuary

Handbell Choir



New ringers are welcome to join Amy Causey and the Handbell Choir on Tuesday evenings. Come to the sanctuary balcony at 6:30pm.

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 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!

Game Group

Tuesday, January 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 on February 6.

LUTHERAN MEN IN MISSION®

Men's Fellowship

Third Monday, January 16 at 6:30pm

All men are invited to meet at Sea Island (11715 Bandera) for food, thoughtful study, camaraderie, and all YOUR ideas for Men's Ministry! Contact David Umlang at Imm@zionsa.org if you need more details.



Zion is a Stephen Ministry Church!

This week, Kevin McGee will begin the Stephen Series Leader's Training Course on-line for ten weeks. Upon his completion, he will join Zion's Stephen Ministry Leadership Team, helping to train, supervise, teach, and affirm our current Stephen Ministers - as well as those of you who may want to become Stephen Ministers.

Our Stephen Ministers are a part of the caring ministry here at Zion and the Helotes area, providing one-to-one care for those who are in need.

Please pray for meaningful, spirit-filled learning experiences for Kevin.

If you would like to request help from a Stephen Minister, contact LeShea Clabough by calling the Zion office at: 210-688-3090

JANUARY 8, 2023
EPIPHANY OF
OUR LORD



Jesus brings people of different backgrounds together.

EPIPHANY BIBLE READINGS

Take time to read and reflect on these Bible passages as part of your Epiphany celebration.

Matthew 2:1-12

The magi worship Jesus

Isaiah 60:1-6

The glory of God shines on the people

Ephesians 3:1-12

Paul's ministry to the Gentiles

Psalms 72:1-7, 10-14

Prayer for guidance

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR EPIPHANY

In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Ephesians 3:5-6 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for Epiphany:

Dear God, through wise men from the East, you reveal your plan to bring all the nations of the world together in Christ. Guide your church to live and teach that message today. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

God of the nations, we thank you for this food and ask that all people be given enough to eat so that together our lives may flourish through your grace. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the promise of Christ Jesus bless you to live in peace with all people.



JANUARY 8, 2023

HYMN FOR EPIPHANY

This is My Song



EPIPHANY 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:

- To what teams, schools, or groups do you claim to have a loyalty?
- How can loyalty to only a certain group of people be hurtful to others?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Ephesians 3:1-12.

Epiphany points to Jesus and God's plan for all the world. That plan is like a mystery that is now revealed through the work of Christ for the world. The mystery is the power of God's grace (undeserved kindness) to bring together diverse people, people as far apart as Jews and Gentiles (non-Jews). Paul wrote to the church of this mystery because the people were still divided and opposing one another on the basis of being Jewish or Gentile. The work of the church is to reveal God's plan in Christ, the plan to unite all people under one rule, the merciful rule of God in Christ. In Ephesians we learn that in Christ we are all now "*fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel*" (v. 6).

Epiphany, therefore, has become a message of repentance for the church. It represents a call to return to the mystery of Christ and refrain from divided loyalties by nation, by race, and by various Christian creeds and practices.

Discuss: How can the church today show acceptance of all people, regardless of nation, ethnicity, gender or race?

Pray: **Gracious God, in Christ you have made us one. Give us the will and the power to overcome divisions so that we may point to the mystery of Christ's love for us all. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this day, how might you help others experience a sense of belonging?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Epiphany is celebrated 12 days after Christmas. Countries around the world have different traditions on this day. From cakes to carols to candles to gifts, it is a time remembered when the wise men visited Jesus. A star led them to Jesus. Tell the story of the wise men's visit in your own words. Then draw or cut out the shape of a star. Write the name of a person in the star who has led you to Jesus. Display it in a visible place in your home as a reminder.

Pray: **Dear God, the wise men were led to Jesus. You have placed someone wise in my life. Thank you for [name in star]. I pray that I, too, may point the way for someone in my life to be led to you. Amen.**



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