

January 22, 2023 • Third Sunday after the Epiphany
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

Trilogy on Liebster Jesu, wir sing hier
by J.S. Bach, Johann Walther, Paul Manz

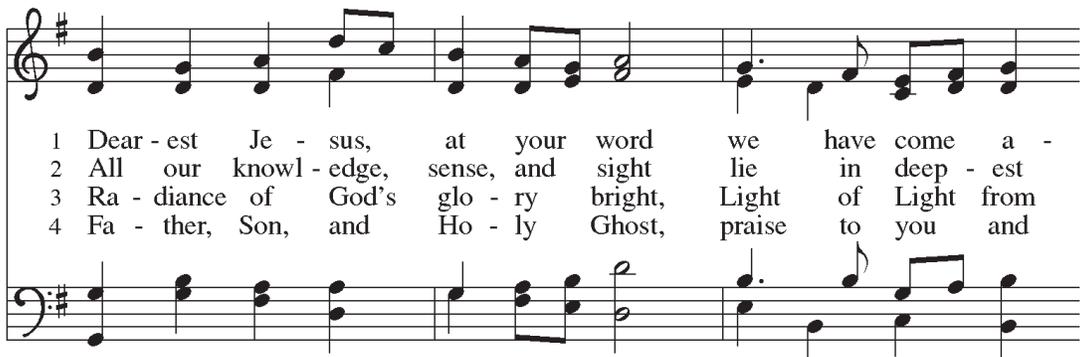
Sandy Musk

INSTALLATION OF CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

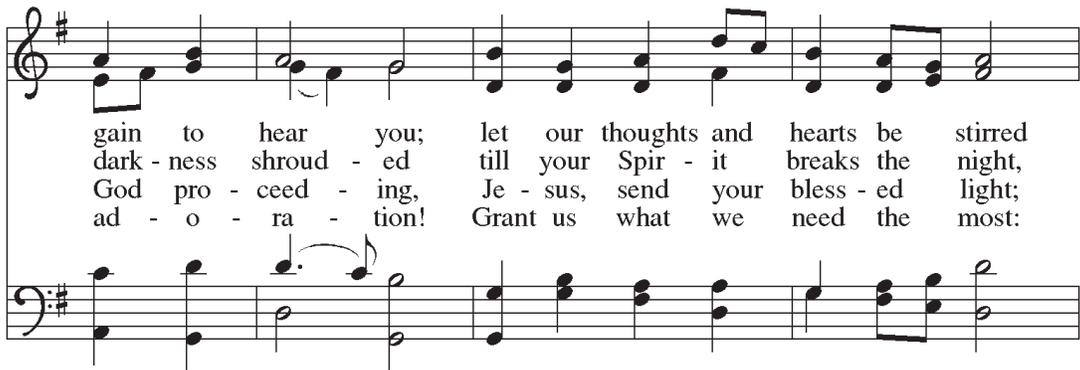
Please rise, as you are able.

GATHERING HYMN

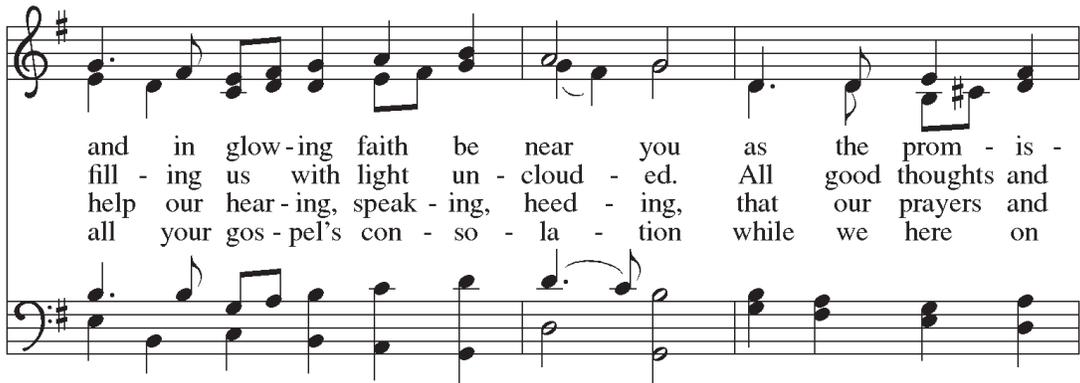
Dearest Jesus, at Your Word



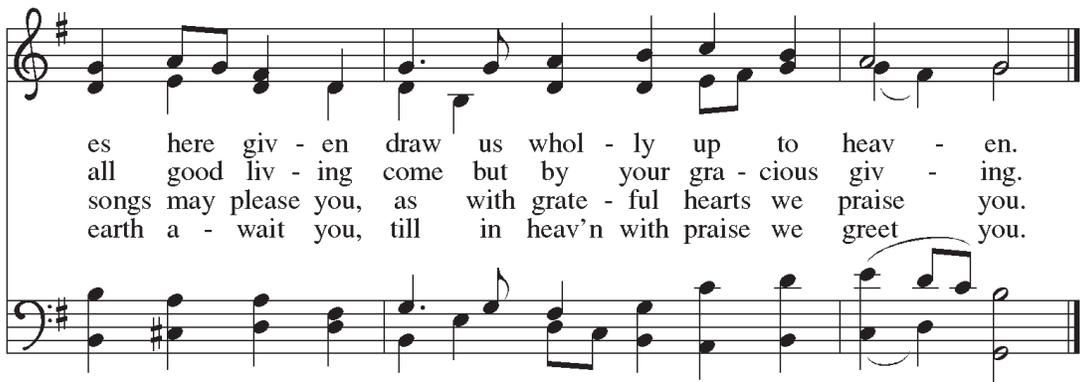
1 Dear - est Je - sus, at your word we have come a -
 2 All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est
 3 Ra - diance of God's glo - ry bright, Light of Light from
 4 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, praise to you and



gain to hear you; let our thoughts and hearts be stirred
 dark - ness shroud - ed till your Spir - it breaks the night,
 God pro - ceed - ing, Je - sus, send your bless - ed light;
 ad - o - ra - tion! Grant us what we need the most:



and in glow - ing faith be near you as the prom - is -
 fill - ing us with light un - cloud - ed. All good thoughts and
 help our hear - ing, speak - ing, heed - ing, that our prayers and
 all your gos - pel's con - so - la - tion while we here on



es here giv - en draw us whol - ly up to heav - en.
 all good liv - ing come but by your gra - cious giv - ing.
 songs may please you, as with grate - ful hearts we praise you.
 earth a - wait you, till in heav'n with praise we greet you.

Text: Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619–1684, sts. 1–3; *Gesangbuch*, Berlin, 1707, st. 4; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, adapt.
 Music: LIEBSTER JESU, WIR SIND HIER, Johann R. Ahle, 1625–1673

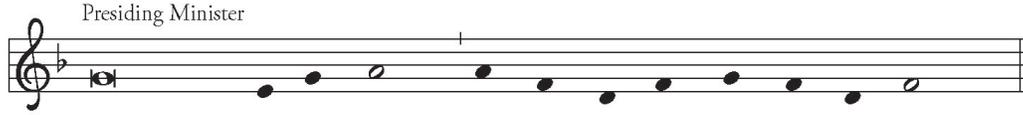
GREETING

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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Presiding Minister

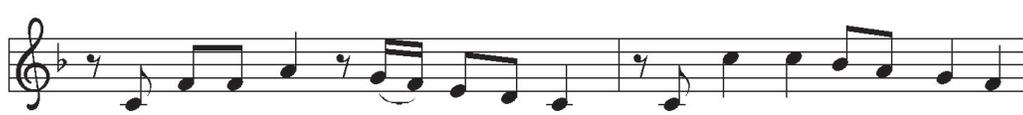


Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

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

9:00 CHILDREN'S CHAT

Pastor Dan Heim

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 9:1-4

¹There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time [the LORD] brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.

³You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.

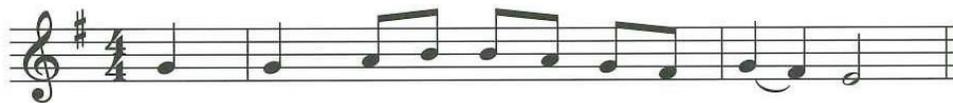
⁴For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

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

PSALM 27

Refrain

Michel Guimont



The Lord is my light and my sal - va - tion.

The LORD is my light and my help;
whom shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
before whom shall I shrink? *R.*

I am sure I shall see the LORD's goodness
in the land of the living.
In the LORD, hold firm and take heart.
Hope in the LORD! *R.*

There is one thing I ask of the LORD,
for this I long,
to live in the house of the LORD,
all the days of my life,
to savor the sweetness of the LORD,
to behold his temple. *R.*

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SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 1:10-18

¹⁰Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹²What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." ¹³Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. ¹⁸For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

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

Please rise, as you are able.

Please rise, as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY
Will You Come and Follow Me: The Summons



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't
your name? Will you care for cruel and
your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
your name? Will you quell the fear in -
my name. Let me turn and fol - low



know and nev - er be the same?
kind and nev - er be the same?
free and nev - er be the same?
side and nev - er be the same?
you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be
tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
world a - round, through my sight and touch and
foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"
pray'r in you and you in me?"
mean in you and you in me?"
sound in you and you in me?"
grow in you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949
Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional
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APOSTLES' CREED

Let us now confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed:

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

Called to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

Each petition ends: Merciful God,

Response: receive our prayer.

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed to us in Christ 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

I Love to Tell the Story by Susanna Keeney

Sandy Musk

Please rise, as you are able.

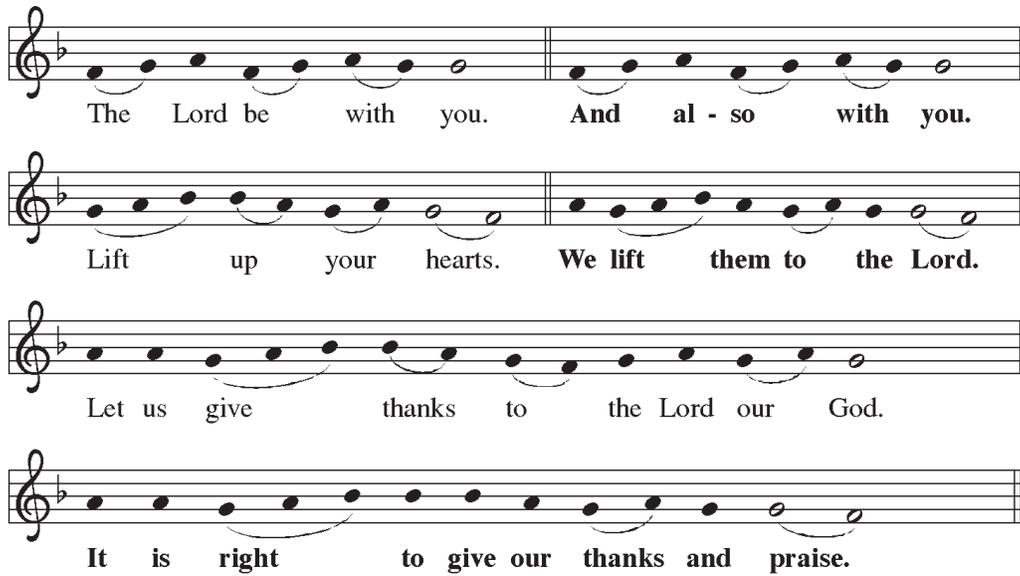
OFFERING PRAYER

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.

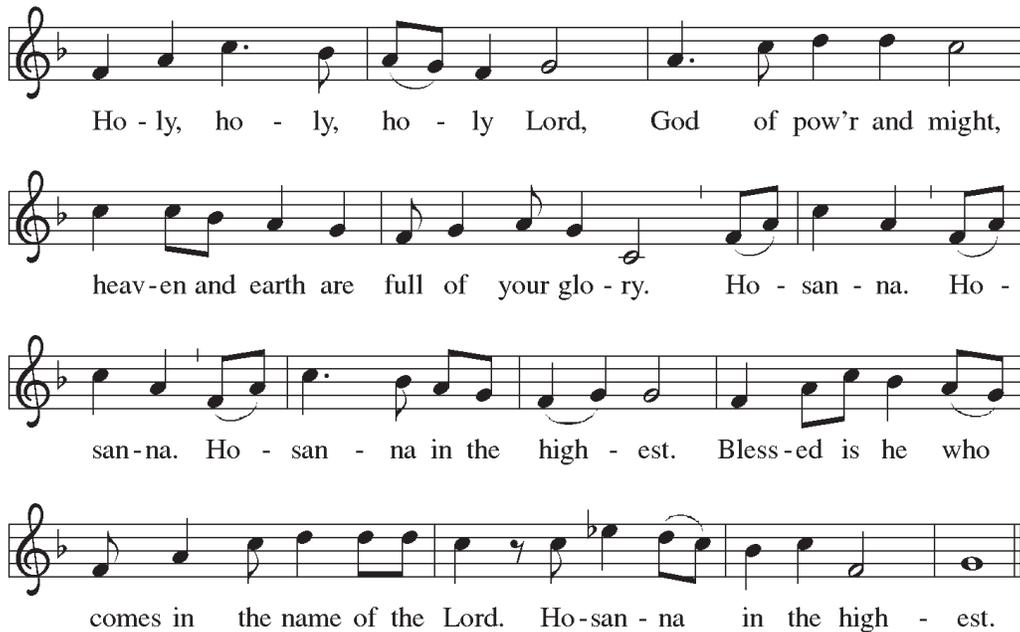
Amen.

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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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

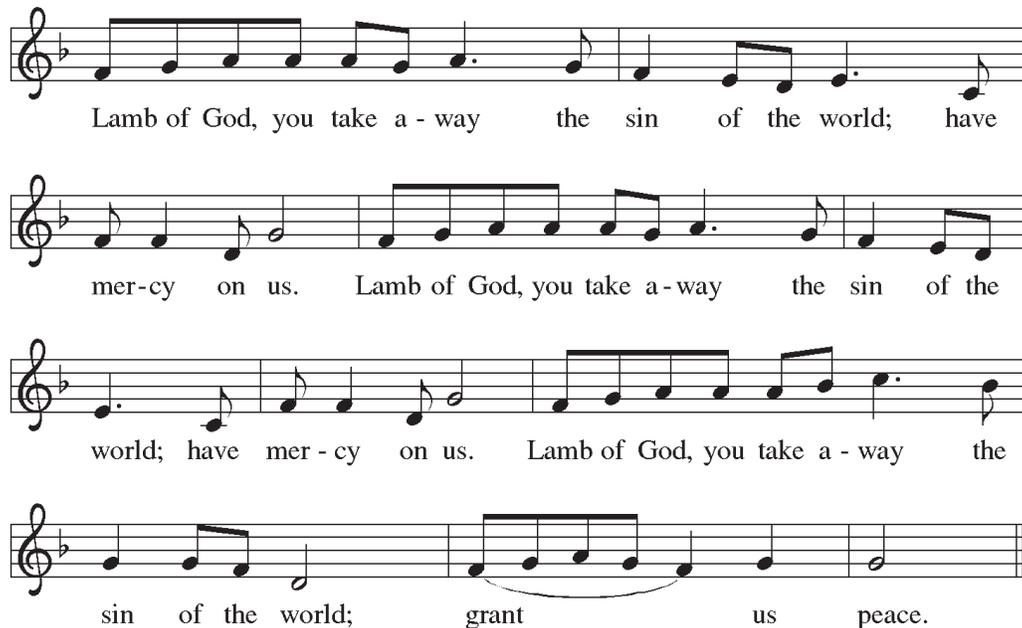
These are the gifts of God for you, the beloved people of God.

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.

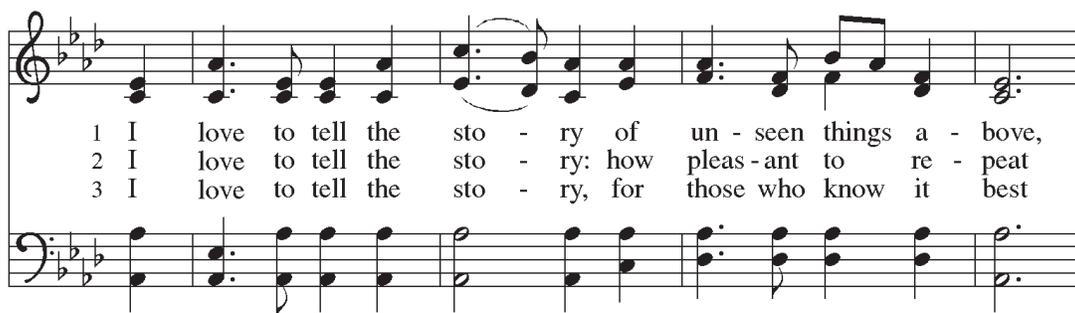
LAMB OF GOD



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

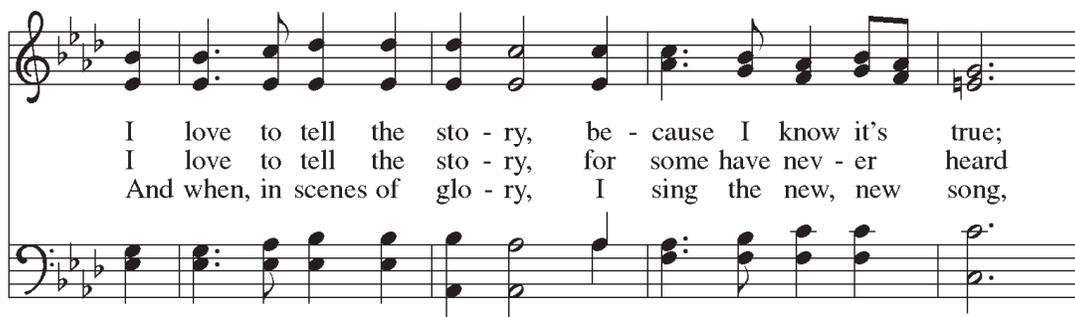
I Love to Tell the Story



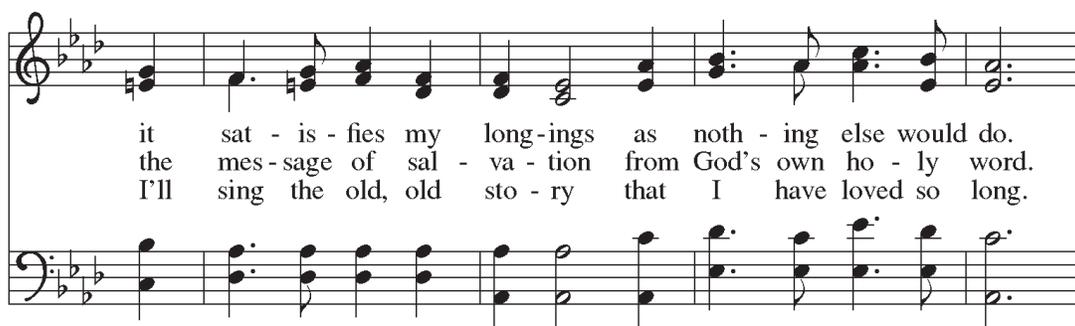
1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat
3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;
I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else would do.
the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.
I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

Refrain next page

Refrain



I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry
to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834–1911
Music: HANKEY, William E. Fischer, 1849–1936

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.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us out in peace.

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN *on next page*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

In Christ There Is No East or West by Dale Wood

Sandy Musk

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

Jesus Calls Us

1 Je - sus calls us; o'er the tu - mult of our
4 In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of
5 Je - sus calls us! By your mer - cy, Sav - ior,

life's wild, rest - less sea, day by day his clear voice
toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and
may we hear your call, give our hearts to your o -

sound - ing, say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me":
plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."
be - dience, serve and love you best of all.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818–1895
Music: GALILEE, William H. Jude, 1851–1922

Worship Support

January Altar Guild and
Bread Offering

Carolyn Thronson

Doris Enderlin, Susan Johns

Mary Ann Schmitt, Sharon Solanik

Shirley Homeier-McBrayer

Lay Readers

9:00

Mary Mora

11:30

Chris Jones

Cantor

Bud Halstead

Communion Servers

9:00

Carolyn Pfeiffer, Brinkley Harrell

11:30

Chris Jones, Don Jones

Livestream

David Umlang

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

THIS WEEK AT ZION



Scan this QR code for
web calendar

Sunday, January 22

Worship in person	9am	Sanctuary
Faith Formation Hour	10:15	Details next page
Adult Class: Week Ahead	10:15	Fellowship Hall
Worship in person and online	11:30	Sanc & YouTube

Tuesday, January 24

Exercise Group	9am	Church 2
Bell Choir	6:30	Sanc Balcony
Children's Choir	7-7:45	Ministry Ctr 1
Youth Choir	7pm	Music Apse
Warriors Anonymous	7pm	Church 2

Wednesday, January 25

High School/Elementary Mentoring	7:15am	Nichols' Elem.
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 26

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

Saturday, January 28

Weight Watchers Mtg	9am	Church 2
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Sunday, January 29

Worship in person	9am	Sanctuary
Camp Hope 2023 Info Mtg for Children, Youth, and Adults	10:15	Details next page
Adult Class: Week Ahead Study	10:15	FH
Worship in person and online	11:30	Sanc & YouTube

Youth Night this Thursday, January 26

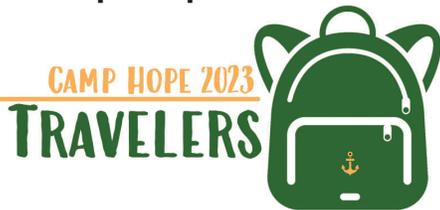
Middle & High School Dinner and Fellowship
2nd/4th Thursdays, 6:30-8:30 in Ministry Center

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!



Camp Hope Informational Meeting



Next Sunday, 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.

Midweek Worship

6:30pm in Church 1

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

SUNDAY FAITH FORMATION

Children

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

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

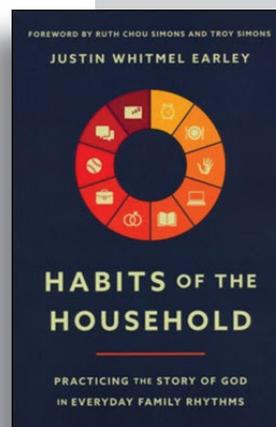
Adult Classes

Today: Week Ahead Bible Study

10:15 at with 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?

February 5: Habits of the Household

Pastor Dan leads this adult forum at 10:15 in MC 1, February 5 through March 26. Based on the book of the



same name, on practicing the story of God in everyday family rhythms. Presentations and small group discussions on waking, mealtimes, work, pay, conversation, bedtime and mores. Book not required but available on Amazon.



Zion is a Stephen Ministry Church!

Stressed? Feeling Down?
Need Encouragement?

Stephen Ministers don't just provide care for people experiencing a major crisis. They also provide care and support for people weighed down by the "little things" in life. If you're feeling down, lonely, stressed, or discouraged, you could benefit from the care, support, and encouragement of a Stephen Minister. It's free. It's confidential. And it could really make a difference in your life! Our Stephen Ministers are there to care! To find out more, talk with one of our Stephen Leaders:

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

Choir Rehearsals

Children's Choir (Gr 2-5) rehearsals resume this Tuesday, 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 after the work!

Youth Choir (Gr 6-12) 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	7-7:45	MC Room 1
Youth	Tues	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.

Dinner Out at The Lion Indian Restaurant

Thursday, February 2 at 6:30pm

Dinner Out meets on the first Thursday of each month. All adults are welcome. On February 2, meet at The Lion Indian Cuisine, 8202 N Loop 1604, Suite 122. Come early for socializing; dinner seating is at 6:30.

RSVP by January 29 to Doris & Dave Newman.
Call the church office if you need contact info.

Crafty Bunch

Wednesdays at 9:30

The Crafty Bunch 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!

Let's Read the Bible in a Year!

In 2023, we are 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. The best part is that you don't have to do this alone. Every other week there is 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>



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

STAFF DAYS OFF

Pastor Kathi - Monday

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**JANUARY 22, 2023
THIRD SUNDAY
AFTER EPIPHANY**



The power of God changes and heals lives.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 4:12-23	Jesus calls his first disciples
Monday	Isaiah 9:1-4	A new day is coming
Tuesday	1 Corinthians 1:10-18	Divisions in the church
Wednesday	2 Corinthians 5:16-21	Bringing people to God
Thursday	Lamentations 3:19-32	God's love endures
Friday	James 1:12-18	Trial and temptation
Saturday	Psalms 27:1, 4-9	Trust in God
Sunday	Matthew 5:1-12	Sermon on the Mount

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." **Matthew 4:17 (NRSV)***

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear Lord, may the light of your goodness and mercy be brought to all corners of the earth, heal lives, and restore hope through Christ Jesus our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, may we see in this meal your light that shines brightly in the world; strengthen our lives and give all people hope through Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the power and mercy of God protect you in times of trouble. (Psalm 27:5)



JANUARY 22, 2023

HYMN OF THE WEEK

*Jesus Call Us; o'er the
Tumult*



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:

- When is a time you have seen or been involved in a protest? Describe the protest.
- What kind of protest do you think Jesus would be part of in our world today?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Matthew 4:12-23.

In February, 2022, Russia invaded Ukraine. Thousands of Russian protestors were arrested. Kings and rulers past and present do not take kindly to dissenters. John the Baptist was a dissenter and disrupter of the status quo. He challenged Herod Antipas and eventually paid the ultimate price. Jesus, too, was a disrupter. His call to follow led Peter, Andrew, James, and John to leave their jobs, their families, and their families' economic stability to follow him. Jesus disrupted the daily lives of his followers. Jesus' call to repent is more than a moral change of heart. Repentance is a changed way of seeing and thinking about life. Jesus calls us to the kingdom standards of the rule and power of God, not to our own accepted standards. Jesus leads his followers into a world in need of good news preached and where lives need to be healed. In today's world, it may sound like foolishness, but it is the very power of God at work in the world (1 Corinthians 1:18).

Discuss: How have you been called to tell good news and bring healing to others in the name of Christ?

Pray: **Almighty God, help us to see you at work in the world and to follow you above all else so that mercy and healing may touch lives through Christ Jesus 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 help others in need of healing and hope?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Epiphany is a season during the church year that emphasizes the light of Christ in the world. The psalmist in Psalm 27 reminds us that God is present in times of danger and when we feel afraid. Write a list of fears you may have for yourself or for others. Think or talk about those fears. Each day this week, read the list you have made. Add to the list if needed. Then light a candle and pray: **Lord, you are my light and my salvation. When I cry aloud, be gracious and answer me. I ask this in the name of Jesus, the light of the world. Amen.**



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