

March 5, 2023 • Second Sunday in Lent
9:00 and 11:30am



Zion  *lutheran
church*

WELCOME TO ZION

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 lives with Christ. In our daily lives, we show God's love by serving our community, both locally and globally.

We are a group 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!

HOW WE WORSHIP

The Holy Spirit gathers people around the means of grace: the Word of God and the Sacraments. From the table of Holy Communion where Christ comes with forgiveness, life, and salvation, God sends us out to share the good news and care for those in need. Our worship follows this pattern in four parts: Gathering, Word, Meal, and Sending. By its very nature, Lutheran worship is participatory and the service is contained within this bulletin. Worship leaders guide us through the service and our responses are printed in **bold type**.

We welcome children in our worship services! If needed, a nursery is available down the hallway past the restrooms. The restrooms contain changing tables, as needed.

Throughout the service, members of Zion's music ministry offer their talents as an offering to God. Please 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.

THE SEASON OF LENT

Lent begins with the ashes of Ash Wednesday and extends until Holy Week (the week before Easter). Traditionally, Lent is a time of greater self-examination and repentance for one's sins. In our sinfulness, we also remember that we are dust and will return to dust again.

Even as our worship becomes more somber during this season, we continually remember God's mercy, which is everlasting. We confess our sins; God forgives them. We come to God's table; God feeds us. We are never far from the Lord's presence with us, and his love remains forever.

ON THE COVER

Cave Stream Scenic Reserve during sunset, South Island, New Zealand. Photographed by Martin Valgursky. Licensed through Adobe Stock.

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

Prelude on "Beach Spring" setting by Chuck Marohnic

WELCOME

Please rise, as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of word and sacrament in the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters



1 Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleansing waters flow.
2 We who bring them long for nurture; by your milk may we be fed.
3 Oh, how deep your holy wisdom! Unimagined, all your ways!



Number them among your people; bless as Christ blessed long ago.
Let us join your feast, partaking cup of blessing, living bread.
To your name be glory, honor! With our lives we worship, praise!



Weave them garments bright and sparkling; compass them with love and light.
God, renew us, guide our footsteps; free from sin and all its snares,
We your people stand before you, water-washed and Spirit-born.



Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit, holy dove and heart's delight.
One with Christ in living, dying, by your Spirit, children, heirs.
By your grace, our lives we offer. Recreate us; God, transform!

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

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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.

KYRIE

Cantor, then all:

(Invocation) Lord, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy.

Music: *Missa Pacem*, L. Randolph Babin, © 2004, 2010, GIA Publications, Inc.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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

FIRST READING: GENESIS 12:1-4A

Abram's Call
Spark Children's Bible Page 26

¹The LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ²I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

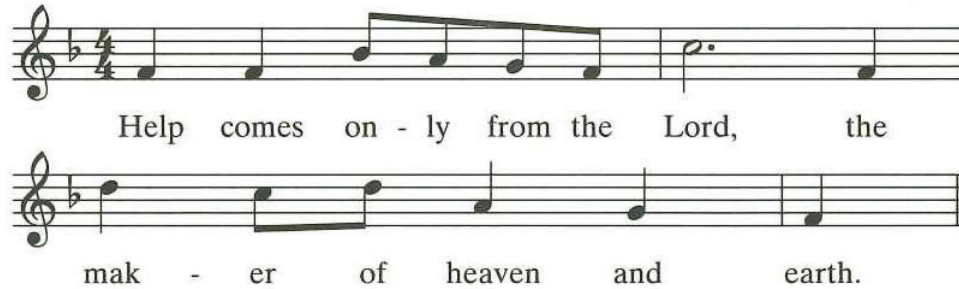
⁴aSo Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

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

PSALM 121

Refrain

Hal Hobson



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I look high to the hills. From where shall come my help?
My help comes only from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth. *Refrain.*

God will not let you fall: the guardian of your life never sleeps.
No never sleeps, nor slumbers, the guardian of Israel true. *Refrain.*

God is your help and shade, ever near to protect and guide you.
The sun shall not strike you by day, the moon shall not harm you by night. *Refrain.*

God protects your life, yes, guards your body and soul;
your going out your coming in, both now and forevermore. *Refrain.*

SECOND READING: ROMANS 4:1-5, 13-17

¹What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? ²For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.”

⁴Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. ⁵But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

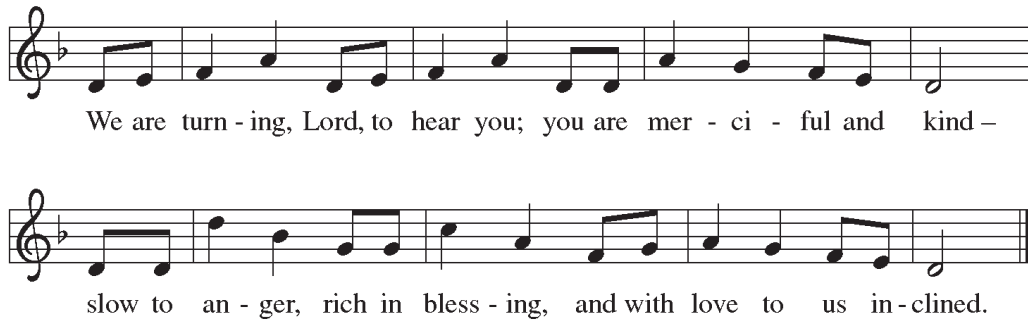
¹³For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

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

Please rise, as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -
slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

GOSPEL: JOHN 3:1-17

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

¹Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” ³Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” ⁴Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ ⁸The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” ⁹Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

¹¹“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Kathi Johnson

Please rise, as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY
We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus



1 We are bap-tized in Christ Je - sus, we are bap-tized in his death;
2 In the wa - ter and the wit-ness, in the break-ing of the bread,
3 Glo-ry be to God the Fa - ther, glo-ry be to Christ the Son,



that as Christ is raised vic - to - rious, we might live a brand new life.
in the wait - ing arms of Je - sus who is ris - en from the dead,
glo-ry to the Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er three and ev - er one;



And if we have been u - nit - ed in a dread-ful death like his,
God has made a new be - gin - ning from the ash - es of our past;
as it was in the be - gin - ning, glo - ry now re - sounds a - gain



we will all be re - u - nit - ed, for he lives.
in the los - ing and the win - ning we hold fast.
in a song that has no end - ing. A - men.

Text: John C. Yivisaker, b. 1937
Music: OULMÉTTE, John C. Yivisaker
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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

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

Each petition is spoken; please respond as directed by singing:

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord God, hear me calling.

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We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ our Savior.
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

9:00	<i>In All Our Grief and Fear We Turn to You</i> by Thomas Keesecker	Youth Choir
11:30	<i>I Want Jesus to Walk with Me</i> African American Spiritual	Children's Choir

Please rise, as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. God of good gifts,
receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also 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. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. 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
hosts. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name, who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Text: ICEL, © 2010
Music: *Missa Pacem*, L. Randolph Babin, © 2004, 2010, GIA Publications, Inc.

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, 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

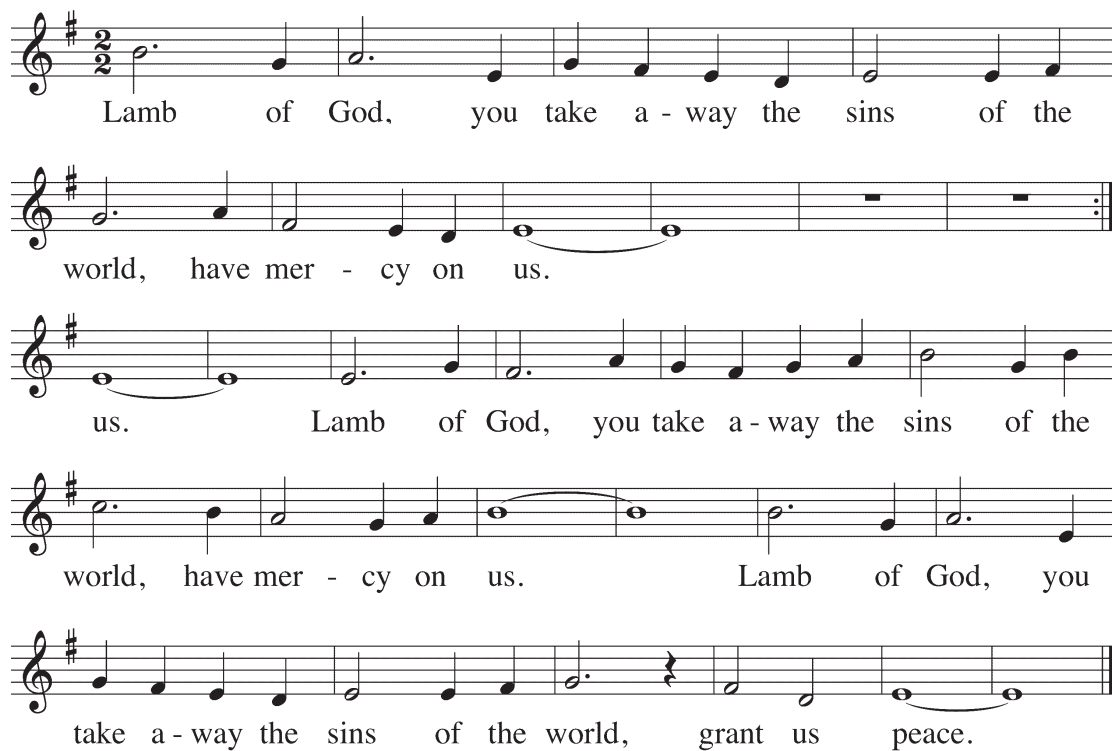
These are the gifts of God for you, the beloved people of God.

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

Music: *Missa Pacem*, L. Randolph Babin, © 2004, 2010, GIA Publications, Inc.

COMMUNION MUSIC

9:00

Behold the Lamb by John Behnke

Youth Choir

11:30

The Prayer of St. Francis by Sebastian Temple

Children's Choir

COMMUNION HYMN
O Living Breath of God



- 1 O liv-ing Breath of God, wind at the be-gin - ning up-on the wa - ters;
- 2 O liv-ing Breath of God, by whose pow'r the Son came to birth a - mong us;
- 3 O liv-ing Breath of God, bear-ing us to life through bap-tis-mal wa - ters;



- O liv-ing Breath of God, bear-ing the cre - a - tion to won-drous birth:
O liv-ing Breath of God, who to the cre - a - tion gives life a - new:
O liv-ing Breath of God, sigh-ing with cre - a - tion for free-dom's birth:



Come now, and fill our spir - its; pour out your gifts a - bun - dant.



O liv-ing Breath of God, Ho-ly Spir-it, breathe in us as we pray.

Text: Osvaldo Catena, 1920-1986; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923
Music: VÄRVINDAR FRISKA, Swedish folk tune
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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. Blessed Jesus, in this meal of grace, you have fed us with your body, the bread of life. Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope to a world in need.

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. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Comfort Ye My People setting by Paul Fejko

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

Lift High the Cross

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till

all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
 2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied tree,
 3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
 4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

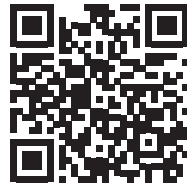
Refrain

our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
 bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
 as praise thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956
 Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947
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**THIS
WEEK
AT
ZION**



Scan this QR code
for web calendar

Sunday, March 5

Worship in person	9am	Sanctuary
Faith Formation Hour	10:15	Details next page
Adult Class: Week Ahead	10:15	Fellowship Hall
Adult Class: Habits of the Household	10:15	MC 1
Worship in person and online	11:30	Sanc & YouTube

Monday, March 6

Game Group	1pm	FLC 101
LMM Planning Mtg	6:30	Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, March 7

Exercise Group	9am	Church 2
Handbell 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, March 8

High School/Elementary Mentoring	7:15am	Nichols Elementary
MOPS - Mothers of Preschoolers	9:30	MC 1
Crafty Bunch	9:30	Ed Bldg Craft Rm
Midweek Lenten Worship Services	1:00 & 6:30	Church 1/Chapel
AA - Alcoholics Anonymous	7pm	FLC 202
Al-Anon Meeting	7pm	FLC 101
Chancel Choir	7:15	Sanctuary

Thursday, March 9

Quilting for Lutheran World Relief	9:30	Fellowship Hall
Weight Watchers Mtg	9:30	Church 2
Youth Night	6:30	Ministry Center
Fiesta Flutes	7pm	Church 2
Stephen Ministry Training	7pm	FLC 101
Stephen Ministry Supervision	7pm	FLC 202

Saturday, March 11

Trip to Mitchell Lake Audubon Ctr for all ages. Details page 19.	8:30	Leave from Zion
Weight Watchers Mtg	9am	Church 2

Sunday, March 12

Worship in person	9am	Sanctuary
Adult Class: Week Ahead	10:15	Fellowship Hall
<i>Spring Break: Child, youth and Household classes resume March 19</i>		
Worship in person and online	11:30	Sanc & YouTube

Worship Support

March Altar Guild
Randalyn Nickel
Eileen & Mel Berg, Sharon Meade
Karen Umlang, Susan Wright

Bread Offering
Susan Johns

Lay Readers

9:00

Kevin Hoag

11:30

Jeff Williams

Cantor

Casey Finn

Communion Servers

9:00

Lisa & Philip Beekley

11:30

Chris & Don Jones

Livestream

Steve Johnson

Sound

Scott Van Doren

Sunday Faith Formation

Children

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

Youth Classes

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

No Children and Youth classes on March 12.

Adult Classes

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?

Habits of the Household

Led by Pastor Dan at 10:15 in MC 1, through March 26. Adult forum 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, play, conversation, bedtime and more.

No class March 12.

The Sound of Music, April 21, 22, 23 28, 29, 30

Tickets are on sale in the gazebo today and for the next few Sundays, cash or credit card.

Show only seats	Adults	\$15
	Child < 11	\$10
Meal & Show	Adults	\$30
	Child < 11	\$20

To purchase on weekdays:

- **Show only** - use the button link at the bottom of Zion's webpage, zionsa.org. Set up an account in Book Tix, choose your seating, and pay with a credit card.
- **Dinner seats** - contact Sammy at theatre@zionsa.org, or call the church office reserve. Some dinner dates are sold out. Call for details, 210-688-3090.

Moving forward, we are not able to accommodate exchanges or refunds. Please plan carefully before purchasing tickets for any performance.

Intergenerational Invitation to Mitchell Lake Audubon Center on March 11

Wildlife photographer Kevin Hoag shares his knowledge on a guided 1.5 mile 90-minute hike. You'll have time on your own afterward.

RSVP to Dave Newman or contact the church office. Meet at Zion to carpool at 8:30am or meet at the Center at 9am (10750 Pleasanton Road).

- Bring:
- \$6 per person over 4 years
 - Release of Liability from Dave Newman
 - Brown-bag lunch and drink
 - Hiking shoes if interested
 - Binoculars if you have them
- And an appreciation of God's creation!*

Hosted by  **LUTHERAN MEN IN MISSION**
AT ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH - SAN ANTONIO

Women of Zion

Join in activities and fellowship with other women in the congregation. Scan the QR code to get on the mailing list, or send an e-mail to WOZ@zionsa.org.



WOZ@zionsa.org

March WOZ Events

- Tue Mar 14 WOZ Bible Study & More. 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall
- Sun Mar 19 National Quilt Day observance, with a display of Lutheran World Relief Quilts in the gazebo
- Tue Mar 21* Trip to Kerrville's *Coming King Scripture Prayer Gardens*. Leave Zion at 9am and arrive at the Gardens 10am. Lunch at *Cafe at the Ridge Bakery, Gift & Garden Shop*, 11:30-1pm, and arrive back at Zion by 2:30. Please RSVP by Sunday, March 19; scan the QR above or email WOZ@zionsa.org. *Rain Date - Mar 28

Pastor Kathi's Zoom Book Study

Pastor Kathi's book study group is covering: *Jesus of the East: Reclaiming the Gospel for the Wounded*. Written by Vietnamese immigrant Phuc Luu, we will examine Christian theology from the perspective of the Eastern church. Meet via Zoom on the first and third Thursdays of each month, from 7:00 to 8pm.

Email Pastor Kathi (kjohnson@zionsa.org) for more info or to sign up. The book is available on Amazon or at Bookshop.org.



Midweek Worship in Lent

1:00pm and 6:30pm in Church 1 Afternoon and evening Lenten worship services in Zion's historic chapel. Holy Communion, every Wednesday in Zion's historic chapel.

Give Help to Earthquake Relief Efforts

On February 6, powerful earthquakes hit the region of southern Turkey and northern Syria. Thousands have died; many others have been injured and displaced. Lutheran Disaster Response is already working with partners in the area to provide disaster relief to those impacted. Please support these relief efforts by visiting ELCA.org (or scan QR) to donate or call 800-638-3522.



Society of St. Vincent de Paul presents The Artists of San Antonio Fine Art Show

March 11-12, 2023

benefiting Helotes House of Neighborly Service, *providing food and assistance to neighbors in need.*

Our Lady of Guadalupe
Family Center
11762 FM 1560
in Helotes



Scan this QR code or go to www.HelotesHouse.org for event and ticket info. Admission \$10.

CONTACT



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9944 Leslie Road, 78254



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

Youth Night Thursday, March 9

Middle & High School Dinner and Fellowship
6:30-8:30 in Ministry Center

On the second and fourth Thursdays, Zion's high school and middle school youth meet to enhance their impact 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. Please use the QR code to RSVP so we have enough food and supplies!



Music Rehearsals March 7-8

Handbells	Tues 6:30	Balcony
Children (Gr 2-5)	Tues 7-7:45	MC Rm 1
Youth (Gr 6-12)	Tues 7-8pm	Music Apse
Chancel (Adult)	Wed 7:15	Sanctuary

No Children, Youth or Chancel Choir rehearsals March 14-15

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!

STAFF DAYS OFF

Pastor Kathi - Monday
kjohanson@zionsa.org

Pastor Dan - Monday
dheim@zionsa.org

Rob Mikulski - Monday
rmikulski@zionsa.org

Sammy Mikulski - Monday
theatre@zionsa.org

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Zion Zippers on March 13

Come and join the Zion Zippers at 6:00pm on March 13 for a potluck dinner in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a dish or two 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 a presentation about the Water to Thrive program, bringing clean water to rural African communities in Ethiopia, Tanzania and Uganda. W2T's mission is to transform the lives of these rural residents, and ensure their right to water that is safe and accessible.

MOPS Chapter at Zion

Wednesday March 8 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!



Game Group

March 6 and 20 at 1:00pm

Come for table games and daytime fellowship for all ages. Meet in Family Life Center Room 101 on the first and third Mondays.

*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.



Vanco Home

MARCH 5, 2023
SECOND SUNDAY
IN LENT



God loves us all through Jesus.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	John 3:1-17	For God so loved the world
Monday	Genesis 12:1-4a	Call of Abram
Tuesday	Romans 4:1-5, 13-17	God's promise gained through faith
Wednesday	Zephaniah 3:14-20	A song of joy
Thursday	Psalms 5	Trust in God
Friday	Romans 8:31-39	God's love in Christ Jesus
Saturday	Psalms 121	Assurance of God's protection
Sunday	John 4:5-42	Jesus and the woman at the well

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life."

John 3:16 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Holy God, help us to trust in your goodness and mercy and not our own strength and have faith that you save the ungodly through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear Lord, you who watch our going out and coming in each and every day, we thank you for protecting us and feeding us with this gift of food. Amen. (Psalm 121:8)

A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you with peace and joy, now and always.



MARCH 5, 2023

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Blessed Assurance



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:

- Do you think you deserve everything you have? Explain.
- God cares for us through a whole community of care. How has God cared for and protected you through family, friends, or mentors?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17.

Even though the Gentiles were not descendants through the Torah (the law), Paul is seeking to help Jews understand that Gentiles can also be descendants of Abraham. It is important to establish that God is reliable. The promise God made to Abraham—including Gentile nations—is reliable because the covenant with Abraham was established through faith, not the flesh. It is the very character of God to include all people, not just Jews. Whether Jew or Gentile, whether good or bad, God makes a solid, reliable, and saving relationship with us through faith. God saves the ungodly sinners. How can this be? It is because we have the God who creates out of nothing. God does not need to create children of God out of our goodness through the law. God takes our broken lives and makes something new because God *“gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist”* (v. 17). God does this so that all may know the love of God in Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

Discuss: Where have you seen God’s love for others and does it surprise you that God saves the ungodly?

Pray: **Loving God, you who give life to the dead and bring into existence what does not exist, thank you for creating us as children of God 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 can you offer God’s protective care to others?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Lent is a period of forty days when we focus on prayer, fasting, and almsgiving as we prepare for Easter. Almsgiving is the tradition or practice of giving money or food to those in need. This week consider an amount you might spend on yourself, and instead add that amount to the Almsgiving Box placed in your home. The collected money is to be donated at the end of Lent.

Pray: **Loving God, we often forget about the needs of others. Help us to remember to give generously to those in need. We pray in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, amen.**



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