

July 2, 2023 • Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
9:00 and 11:30 am



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 hall 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.

GREEN SEASON

The Sundays following Pentecost take us through the summer months and into the fall. These many months take us through many of the stories during the ministry of Jesus. We will also spend a significant portion of the Green Season hearing portions of Paul's letter to the Roman church. The purpose of these readings is to encourage us to grow in our faith in Christ - like the growth of a green plant - little by little, each day.

HOLY BAPTISM TODAY

At the 11:30 service today, we receive Caroline Leigh Collins, child of Sarah and Travis Collins. Her sponsors are Laura Aelvoet Stromgren and Wayne Collins.

Please note on your Connection Card if you are visiting for the baptisms.

ON THE COVER

Christ the Redeemer

Photo by Effie Kimble on Unsplash

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

Simple Gifts, arranged by Bill Holcombe
Dean and Elyse Hearn, Clarinet and Flute

WELCOME

Pastor Bill Swantner

9:00AM CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

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

A brief silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

11:30AM SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

Candidates for baptism, sponsors, and parents gather with the pastors at the font. The parents, on behalf of the baptismal candidate, promise to help their children "grow in the Christian faith and life."

Sponsors promise to "help them live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church."

Please rise, as you are able. The presiding minister then addresses the congregation:

People of God, do you promise to support Caroline Leigh Collins and pray for her in her new life in Christ?

We do.

Let us all profess our faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Water is poured into the font as the pastor speaks words of thanksgiving. When directed, the congregation may be seated. The candidate is baptized in the name of the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. A prayer is spoken over the baptismal candidate, and the pastor marks the sign of the cross on their forehead, a symbol that they have been "sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever." A candle is then given to represent the light of the world, Jesus.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share:

join us in giving thanks and praise to God

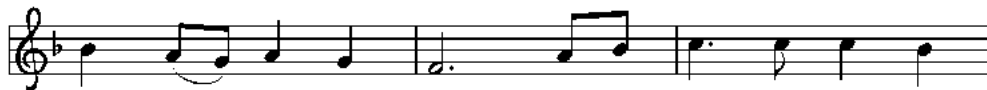
and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
 true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
 wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where
 stone to heal and strength-en, serve and teach, and
 heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
 dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
 words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in
 stran-ger bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an
 laugh-ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Refrain

Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
 claim the faith of Je - sus:
 Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
 end to fear and dan - ger:
 claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 Music: TWO OAKS, Marty Haugen
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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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



1 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.



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 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.



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



3 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.



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

WORD

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

CHILDREN'S CHAT

Pastor Dan Heim

FIRST READING: JEREMIAH 28:5-9

⁵The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD; ⁶and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD fulfill the words that you have prophesied, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD, and all the exiles. ⁷But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. ⁸The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. ⁹As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet."

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

PSALM 89

Refrain

Hal Hopson



Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord ev - er - more.

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Music: Tune: *SUSSEX CAROL*, a trad. English carol (PD).

Setting: Hal H. Hopson, and copyright © 2008 Birnamwood/MorningStar Music Publishers.

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My song forever shall record the tender mercies of the Lord:

Your faithful ways will I proclaim, And every age shall know your name.

Come every voice, sing out your song. Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord evermore! *Refrain*

Almighty God, your lofty throne has justice for its cornerstone;

And shining bright before your face are truth and love and boundless grace.

Come every voice, sing out your song. Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord evermore! *Refrain*

The swelling sea obeys your will; Its angry waves your voice can still.

The whole creation's wondrous frame proclaims its Maker's glorious name

Come every voice, sing out your song. Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord evermore! *Refrain*

With blessing is the nation crowned whose people know the joyful sound;

They, in the light, O Lord, shall live, The light your face and favor give.

Come every voice, sing out your song. Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord evermore! *Refrain*

SECOND READING: ROMANS 6:12-23

¹²Do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. ¹³No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. ¹⁴For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

¹⁵What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, ¹⁸and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. ¹⁹I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as

slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification.

²⁰When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. ²²But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. ²³For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

Please rise, as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 10:40-42

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the twelve:] ⁴⁰“Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; ⁴²and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

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

God, We Gather as Your People

Verse 1 - Cantor, Verses 2-4 - Congregation joins in



1 God, we gath - er as your peo - ple to raise our song a -
2 Oh, we sing for all the chil - dren, that one day they be
3 Oh, we pray for all the young lives cut short by fear and
4 God, we're work - ing for the fu - ture when chil - dren far and



bove, and we dare to claim the prom - ise of your love.
free; and we sing for gen - er - a - tions yet to be,
shame, so a - fraid of who they are and whom they love.
wide can . . . live their lives with dig - ni - ty and pride.



Though the day may not yet be here, we
that they nev - er have a rea - son to
May the mes - sage now be ban - ished that your
As they grow in strength and stat - ure, may they



trust it soon will be, when your chil - dren will be free.
doubt that they are blest. May they, in your love, find rest.
love is for the few; may their faith in you re - new.
join us hand in hand, as a - gainst all hate we stand.



Oh, may our hearts and minds be o - pened, fling the church doors o - pen



wide. May there be room e - nough for ev - 'ry - one in - side.



For in God there is a wel - come, in God we all be -



long. May that wel - come be our song.

Text: David Lohman, b. 1961
Music: WELCOME BE OUR SONG, David Lohman
Text and music © 2007 Welcome Song Music, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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

United by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

Each petition ends: Hear us, O God

Response: **Your mercy is great.**

Rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

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

The Water is Wide, arranged by Gary Lanier
Dean and Elyse Hearn, Clarinet and Flute

Please rise, as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. God of mercy and grace,
the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. 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; 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 - er and might,
 heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, ✠ your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray as Jesus 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 MUSIC

It Is Well with My Soul, arranged by Gary Lanier
Dean and Elyse Hearn, Clarinet and Flute

1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy blood was
 2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y a con - flict,
 3 Just as I am, thou wilt re - ceive, wilt wel - come, par - don,
 4 Just as I am; thy love un - known has bro - ken ev - 'ry

shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
 man - y a doubt, fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out,
 cleanse, re - lieve; be - cause thy prom - ise I be - lieve,
 bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea, thine a - lone,

O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871
 Music: WOODWORTH, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

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. Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us out in peace.

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you.

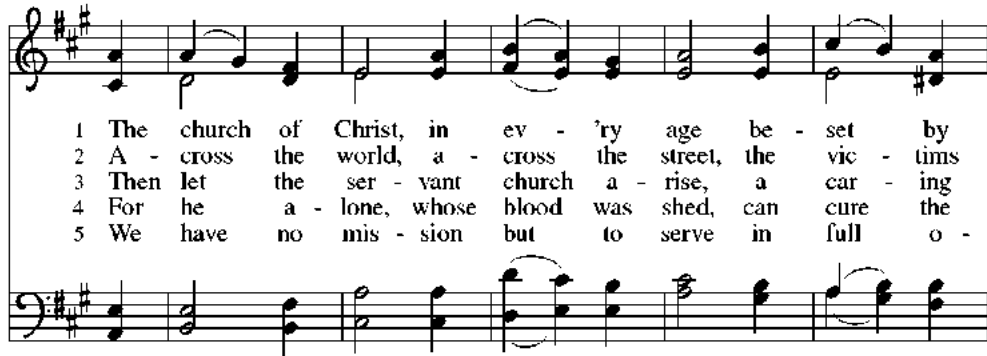
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

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

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

The Church of Christ, in Every Age



1 The church of Christ, in ev - 'ry age be - set by
2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims
3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing
4 For he a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the
5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -



change, but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its
of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for
church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's
fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to
be - dicence to our Lord; to care for all, with -



her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.
bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.
sac - ri - ficc, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.
share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.
out re - serve, and spread his lib - er - at - ing word.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000
Music: WAREHAM, William Knapp, 1698–1768
Text © 1971 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

America the Beautiful, arranged by Dana Everson
Dean and Elyse Hearn, Clarinet and Flute

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 QR code for
this month's
calendar*

Sunday, July 2

Worship in person	9am	Sanctuary
Summer Adult Class	10:15	MC 1&2
Worship in person and online	11:30	Sanc & YouTube

Monday, July 3

LMM Planning Meeting	6:30pm	MC 1, MC 2
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Tuesday, July 4

Offices Closed, no activities on campus—July 4th Holiday

Wednesday, July 5

Crafty Bunch	9:30	Education Building
Weight Watchers	9:30	Church 2
AA Meeting	7pm	Church 2
Al-Anon Meeting	7pm	Fellowship Hall

Thursday, July 6

Quilting	9:30	Fellowship Hall
Weight Watchers	9:30	Church 2
Dinner Out	6:30	Kerbey Lane
Stephen Ministry Training Class	7pm	MC 7

Saturday, July 8

Weight Watchers	7:30& 9:30	Church 2
Stephen Ministry	9am	MC 8

Sunday, July 9

Worship in person	9am	Sanctuary
Summer Adult Class	10:15	MC 1&2
Worship in person and online	11:30	Sanc & YouTube

Church Campus Closed for July 4th

Please note that on Tuesday, July 4th, Zion's campus will be closed in observance of Independence Day. We will re-open on Wednesday the 5th.

Wednesday Worship Taking a Summer Break

Our Wednesday services will go on summer break for the months of July and August. We will resume these mid-week worship services on September 6.

Worship Support

Altar Guild

Doris Enderlin, Susan Johns,
Mary Ann Schmitt, Sharon Solanik,
Carolyn Thronson, Marcy Wilburn,
Gina Williams

Lay Readers

9:00

Kevin Hoag

11:30

Jeff Williams

Cantor

Lindsay Magee

Communion Servers

9:00

Mary Jo Goldenbaum, Amy Swanson

11:30

Lisa and Philip Beekley

Livestream

Steve Johnson, David Umlang

Sound

Scott VanDoren

July Ushers

9:00


LeShea Clabough, Kevin McGee,

Dave and Doris Newman,
Karen and James Sturdivant,
Russell and Susanne Warren


11:30


Chris Berg, Audrey DeHart,
Caleb DeHart,
Kim and Mike DeHart,
Pam Gammage


CONTACT


 zionsa.org


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 zion@zionsa.org

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

STAFF DAY OFF

Pastor Kathi - Monday
kjohnson@zionsa.org

Pastor Dan - Friday
dheim@zionsa.org

Rob Mikulski - Monday
rmikulski@zionsa.org

Sammy Mikulski - Monday
theatre@zionsa.org

Staff Update

During the summer, if you have information for the bulletin and/ or Z-mail, please contact Megan via email, Publications@ZionSA.org. You can also phone Karen Sturdivant in our Church Office, 210-688-3090.

Summer Adult Class

Today and next Sunday, 10:15am

Today and next week, join Pr. Kathi for a look at the book of Romans. We hear lots of readings from Romans this summer, so this is a great chance to learn more about this letter Paul wrote so long ago. Meets July 2 & 9 in the Ministry Center - MC 1 & 2.

Zion's Dinner Out

Thursday, July 6, 6:30pm Seating

You are invited to join in fellowship and try something a bit different—breakfast for dinner at Kerbey Lane.

RSVP by June 29th to Dave or Doris Newman at 210-859-7860 or ddnewman@mac.com.

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.

Women of Zion Events

- Tuesday July 11, WOZ Bible Study & More. Fellowship, service projects with a Bible study on the second Tuesday at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall. All women are invited!



WOZ@zionsa.org

LUTHERAN
MEN IN MISSION[®]
AT ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH • SAN ANTONIO

Men's Fellowship

Third Monday, July 17 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 lmm@zionsa.org if you need more details.

Interested in Serving in Worship? Come to Worship Camp!

We welcome hundreds of people to our campus on Sunday mornings, and we'd love for you to help provide that welcome! If you'd like to serve as an usher, communion server, and/or lay reader, come to Worship Camp. We'll meet three weeks in July at 10:30am - July 16, 23, and 30. Pick the date that works for you! This is for everyone - whether you've been serving a while or are learning something new. Questions? Reach out to Pr. Kathi via email or phone.

Zion is a Stephen Ministry Church!

Stephen Ministry Training Update

Keep our Stephen Leaders and our Stephen Minister trainees in your prayers as they near the end of the 50 hours of initial training. Here is the training topic for this week; modeled by all of current Stephen Ministers at a day-long Saturday retreat:



SUPERVISION:

A KEY TO QUALITY CHRISTIAN CARE

Stephen Ministers receive twice-monthly supervision once they begin providing care. Supervision ensures that Stephen Ministers provide the best care possible. Stephen Ministers provide peer support, encouragement, and accountability to one another in their ministry.

Supervision ensures that Stephen Ministers provide the best care possible, yet is done in a way that keeps the identity of the care receiver and the details of his or her situation confidential.

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

Heart of Texas July 4th Concert

The Heart of Texas Concert Band presents its annual July 4th Concert at Trinity Baptist Church, 319 E. Mulberry, San Antonio, TX. 78212. Downbeat is 3:00 p.m. Tuesday, July 4. Admission is free, and Zion members Jessica Maple, Dean & Elyse Hearn will be playing along with many other fine musicians. Hope to see you there!

Zion Zippers

Monday, July 10, 6:00pm
The Zion Zippers monthly potluck and social will be held on July 10th, at 6 p.m. A rousing game of bunco will follow the supper.

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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.



Summer Reflection

Pastor Kathi Johnson

With the summer comes...butterflies! Have you noticed? We just put a bunch of pollinator-friendly plants in at our home, and Pr. Bill's hard work here in the gardens of Zion is bringing many butterflies to us, as well. What a delight!

We often see butterflies in spring imagery, often connected to Easter, because they are symbols of resurrection - new life. A butterfly emerges from its cocoon much like Christ emerged from his tomb. But here we are, in the heat of summer, with these flying beauties all around us.

For me, they're a good reminder of the resurrection of Jesus, even now. Romans 6 tells us that "all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death... Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life." Christ's death becomes ours; Christ's resurrection is ours, too. Hallelujah!



**JULY 2, 2023
FIFTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST**



Freed by God's undeserved kindness.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 10:40-42	Receiving and serving others
Monday	Jeremiah 28:5-9	Hananiah opposes Jeremiah
Tuesday	Romans 6:12-23	Slaves of righteousness
Wednesday	2 Timothy 1:8-14	Relying on the power of God
Thursday	Ephesians 2:1-10	From death to life
Friday	2 Corinthians 12:1-10	Paul's visions
Saturday	Psalms 89:1-4, 15-18	God's covenant with David
Sunday	Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30	Rest for the weary

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace. **Romans 6:14 (NRSV)***

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Gracious God, your loving commitment to us goes far beyond what we can imagine; give us faith to trust your never-failing love through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, help us to give thanks for this food so that we can receive this meal with a humble heart through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God of love and faithfulness give you joy.



JULY 2, 2023

HYMN OF THE WEEK

*There's a Wideness in
God's Mercy*



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 received something that you felt you did not deserve?
- When is a time you recognized God's unconditional love in your life?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Romans 6:12-23.

In this reading, God's grace—God's undeserved kindness—is under attack. Paul is responding to those who think his message encourages us to sin. He knows God's goodness does not lead us to sin and writes, "*Sin will have no dominion*" (v. 14) meaning sin will not be your master. For those who think God's grace leads to sinfulness, Paul's response is simple: "No way!" Earlier in chapter 6 he uses the image of life and death to reject such thinking. We have died to sin so we cannot continue to live in sin. Paul then uses the imagery of slavery, either a slave of sin or of God's righteousness. We are freed from being slaves of sin. Our lives are controlled by all that is right and good through Christ, our true Lord (v. 23). Paul acknowledges the difficulty to grasp all this and moves on to the real point for our lives in Christ. It is to be set free by a relationship to God for sanctification, that is, a holy life set apart for God that leads to eternal life.

Discuss: How does God's undeserved kindness set you free to love God and others?

Pray: **Dear God, your constant love is more than we can imagine. Set us free to enjoy your goodness with love for you and for all you have created 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 serve others with hospitality?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Hospitality is the practice of treating guests in a friendly and generous way. It includes the spirit in which it is given. Jesus said that anyone who welcomed one of his followers and gave them something even small, such as cup of cool water, would be rewarded (Matthew 10:42). Put an empty water jug or pitcher on the table. Think or talk about ways you can serve and help others. For each way you name, pour a cup of water into the jug. Finish with this prayer: **Lord Jesus, thank you for serving us. Make us ready to serve others, in big and small ways. Amen.**



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

