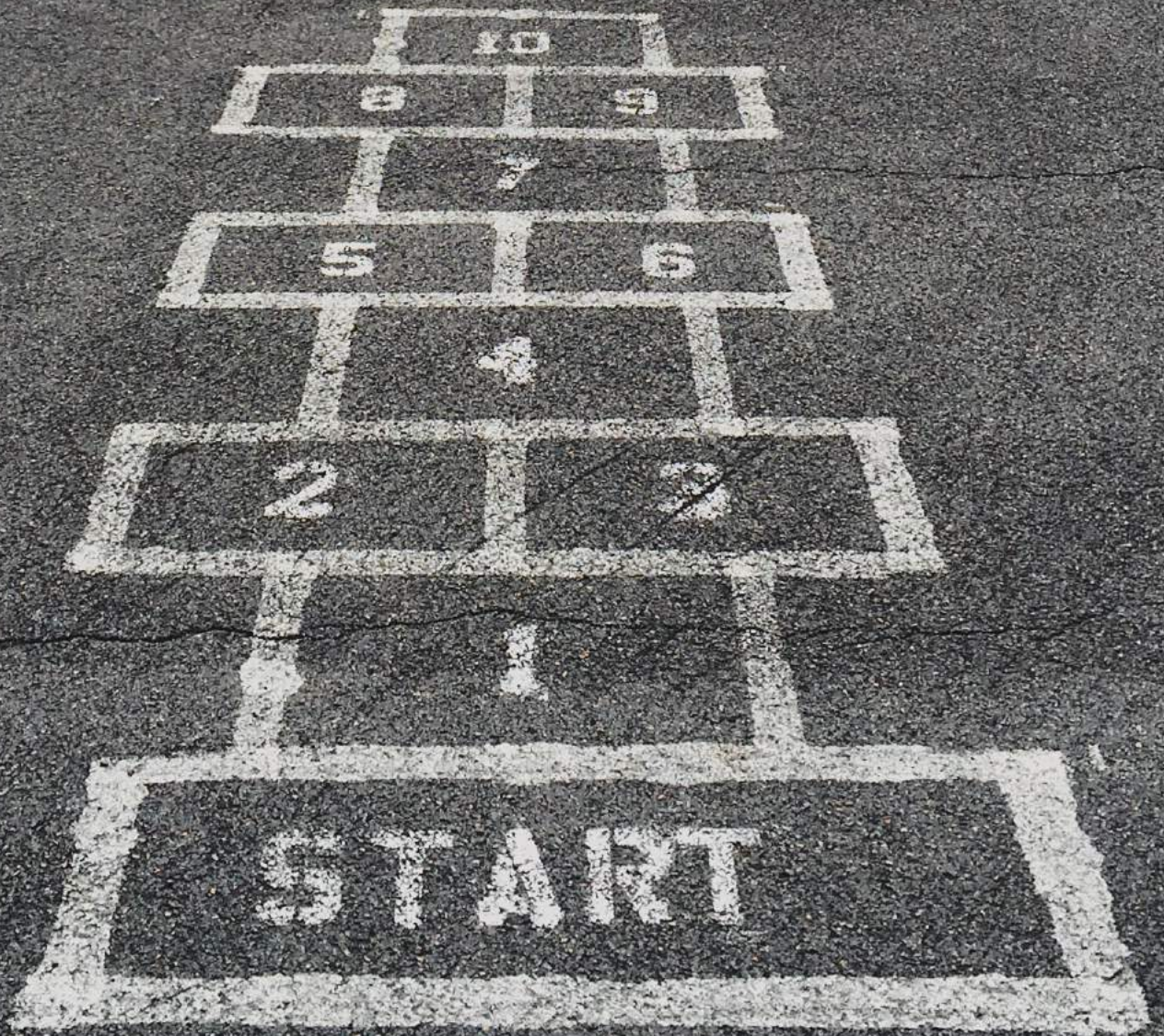


August 27, 2023 • Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
9:00 and 11:30 am



Zion <sup>+</sup>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.

## ON THE COVER

Photo by Jon Tyson on Unsplash

## Zion Lutheran Church

9944 Leslie Road • San Antonio, Texas 78254 • 210-688-3090 • [zion@zionsa.org](mailto:zion@zionsa.org)

# GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

*O God, Thou Faithful God*, setting by Paul Manz

WELCOME

Pastor Dan Heim

*Please rise, as you are able.*

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God, fountain of living water, source of mercy, tender and mighty, you are clothed with majesty and splendor. Your steadfast love fills the earth.

**Your steadfast love fills the earth.**

Your love flows through water, satisfying the thirst of all living things, sustaining life, nourishing and delighting us. We bless you for the gift of water. Your steadfast love fills the earth.

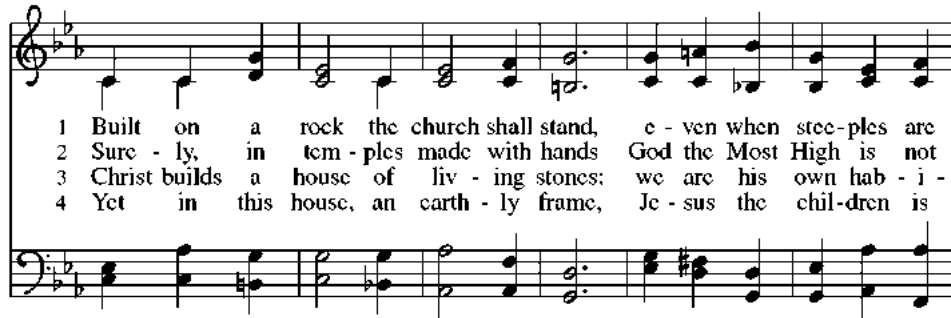
**Your steadfast love fills the earth.**

Your love flows through the water of baptism joined to your life-giving Word: your well of mercy and cleansing flood, your sea of deliverance from death into life, your healing river washing sin away, your living water springing up to eternal life. Your steadfast love fills the earth.

**Your steadfast love fills the earth.**

Shower us with your Holy Spirit. Fill us with your love. Clothe us and all your people with grace. Embolden us to do justice and help us to love mercy. Guide us to walk humbly with you, whom we thank and praise, through Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

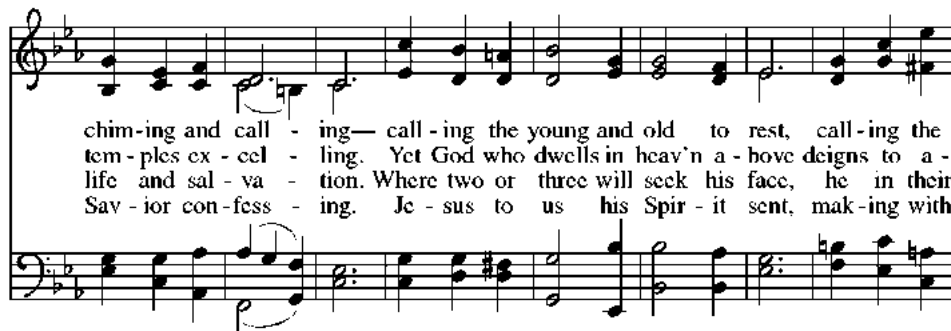
**Amen.**



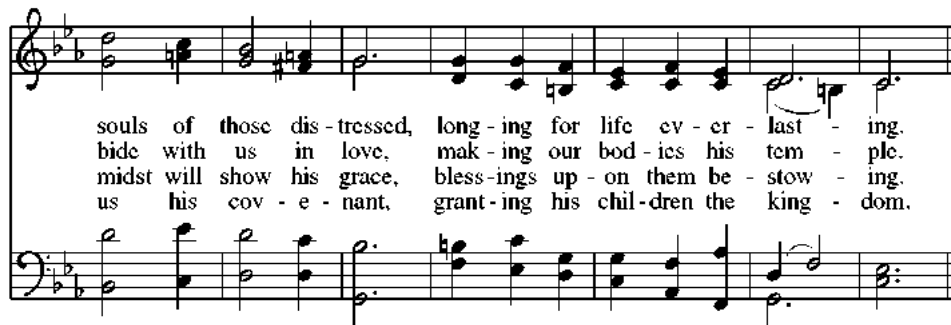
1 Built on a rock the church shall stand, e - ven when stee - ples are  
 2 Sure - ly, in tem - ples made with hands God the Most High is not  
 3 Christ builds a house of liv - ing stones; we are his own hab - i -  
 4 Yet in this house, an carth - ly frame, Je - sus the chil - dren is



fall - ing; crum - bled have spires in ev - 'ry land, bells still are  
 dwell - ing— high in the heav'ns his tem - ple stands, all earth - ly  
 ta - tion; he fills our hearts, his hum - ble thrones, grant - ing us  
 bless - ing; hith - er we come to praise his name, faith in our



chim - ing and call - ing— call - ing the young and old to rest, call - ing the  
 tem - ples ex - cel - ling. Yet God who dwells in heav'n a - bove deigns to a -  
 life and sal - va - tion. Where two or three will seek his face, he in their  
 Sav - ior con - fess - ing. Je - sus to us his Spir - it sent, mak - ing with



souls of those dis - tressed, long - ing for life ev - er - last - ing.  
 bide with us in love, mak - ing our bod - ies his tem - ple.  
 midst will show his grace, bless - ings up - on them be - stow - ing.  
 us his cov - e - nant, grant - ing his chil - dren the king - dom.

- 5 Through all the passing years, O Lord,  
 grant that, when church bells are ringing,  
 many may come to hear your Word,  
 who here this promise is bringing:  
 "I know my own, my own know me;  
 you, not the world, my face shall see;  
 my peace I leave with you, Amen."

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Carl Doving, 1867–1937, adapt.  
 Music: KIRKEN DEN ER ET GAMMELT HUS; Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887  
 Text © 1958 *Service Book and Hymnal*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## GREETING

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

**And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, 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: Isaiah 51:1-6

<sup>1</sup>Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the LORD. Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. <sup>2</sup>Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. <sup>3</sup>For the LORD will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.

<sup>4</sup>Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples. <sup>5</sup>I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. <sup>6</sup>Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

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

## PSALM 138

**Refrain**



Let ev - 'ry voice give praise; to God our songs we raise, for  
God a-lone is King; to God a-lone we sing.

**Refrain text:** Hal H. Hopson, and copyright © 2008 Birnamwood/MorningStar Music Publishers.

**Music:** Tune: based on a trad. Nicaraguan melody (PD).

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

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O Lord, my heart will sing, I give you thanks and praise,  
And in your temple bow through all my length of days. *Refrain*

You answered when I called, responding to my need;  
The rulers of the earth shall name you Lord indeed! *Refrain*

When dangers gather round, O Lord, you save my life;  
And by your forceful arm I conquer every strife. *Refrain*

### SECOND READING: ROMANS 12:1-8

<sup>1</sup>I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. <sup>2</sup>Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

<sup>3</sup>For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. <sup>4</sup>For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, <sup>5</sup>so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. <sup>6</sup>We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; <sup>7</sup>ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; <sup>8</sup>the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

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 16:13-20

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

<sup>13</sup>Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” <sup>14</sup>And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” <sup>15</sup>He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” <sup>16</sup>Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” <sup>17</sup>And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. <sup>18</sup>And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. <sup>19</sup>I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” <sup>20</sup>Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

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

*Please be seated.*

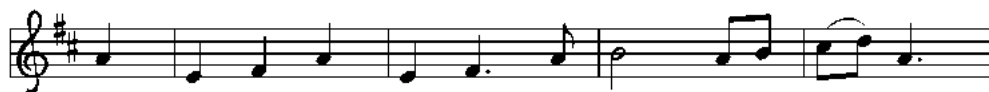
## SERMON

Pastor Kathi Johnson

Please rise as you are able.

## HYMN OF THE DAY

## Beloved, God's Chosen



1 Be - lov - ed, God's cho - sen, put on as a gar - ment  
2 With - in, call forth Wis - dom, to dwell in you rich - ly;  
3 Be - lov - ed, God's cho - sen, put on as a gar - ment



com - pas - sion, for - give - ness, and good - ness of heart.  
let peace rule your hearts and that peace be of Christ.  
com - pas - sion, for - give - ness, and good - ness of heart.



A - bove all, be - fore all, let love be your rai - ment  
And from the heart's cham - ber, be - lov - ed and ho - ly,  
A - bove all, be - fore all, let love be your rai - ment



that binds in - to one ev - 'ry dis - so - nant part.  
let sing - ing thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er rise.  
that binds in - to one ev - 'ry dis - so - nant part.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953  
Music: ANDREW'S SONG, Robert A. Hobby, b. 1962  
Text © 1994 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress.  
Music © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

## BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING

### 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

The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

*Each petition ends: God of grace.*

*Response: **Hear our prayer.***

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; 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](http://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      *How Firm a Foundation*, arranged by John Turner

*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

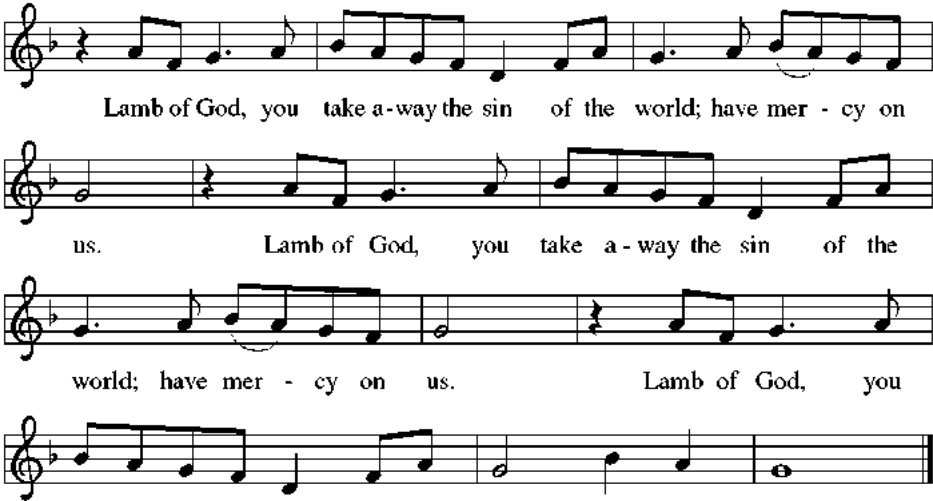
These are the gifts of God for you, the beloved people of God.

*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 HYMN

Take My Life, That I May Be

*Refrain/Estrillo*



To - ma, oh Dios, mi vo - lun - tad, y haz - la tu - ya, na -  
Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord,



da más; to - ma, sí, mi co - ra - zón  
to thee; take my mo - ments and my days;



y tu tro - no en él ten - drás. ten - drás.  
let them flow in cease - less praise. less praise.



1 Que mi vi - da en - te - ra es - té  
1 Take my hands and let them move  
2 Take my sil - ver and my gold,  
3 Take my voice and let me sing  
4 Take my will and make it thine;



con - sa - gra - da a ti, Se - ñor;  
at the im - pulse of thy love;  
not a mite would I with - hold;  
al - ways, on - ly for my King;  
it shall be no lon - ger mine;



que a mis ma - nos pue - da guiar el im -  
take my feet and let them be swift and  
take my in - tel - lect and use ev - 'ry  
take my lips and let them be filled with  
take my heart, it is thine own; it shall



*Refrain/Estrillo*

pul - so de tu a - mor.  
beau - ti - ful for thee.  
pow'r as thou shalt choose.  
mes - sag - es from thee.  
be thy roy - al throne.

2 *Que mis pies tan sólo en pos de lo santo puedan ir, y que a ti, Señor, mi voz, se complazca en bendecir.* Estrillo

3 *Que mis labios al hablar hablen sólo de tu amor; que mis bienes dedicar yo los quiera a ti, Señor.* Estrillo

4 *Que mi tiempo todo esté consagrado a tu loor; que mi mente y su poder sean usados en tu honor.* Estrillo

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, adapt.; Spanish text: Vincent Mendoza, 1875-1955  
Music: TOMA MI VOLUNTAD, William Dexheimer Pharris, b. 1956  
Music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.

*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.**

1 We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,  
 2 We all are called for ser - vice, to wit - ness in God's name.  
 3 Now let us be u - nit - ed, and let our song be heard.

our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.  
 Our min - is - tries are dif - f'rent; our pur - pose is the same:  
 Now let us be a ves - sel for God's re - deem - ing Word.

A sin - gle great com - mis - sion com - pels us from a - bove  
 to touch the lives of oth - ers with God's sur - pris - ing grace,  
 We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,

to plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love,  
 so ev - 'ry folk and na - tion may feel God's warm em - brace.  
 our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955  
 Music: KUORTANE, Finnish folk tune; arr. hymnal version  
 Text © 1986 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.  
 Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

*Caprice sur les Grand jeux*, by Louis-Nicolas Clerambault

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.*



## Worship Support

### Altar Guild

Alyssa Brodbeck,  
Mary Jo Goldenbaum,  
Chris & Don Jones, Suzi Lockamy,  
Belynda McKenzie,  
Susan & Joe Noonan, Kathy Null,  
Linda & Roy Tschirhart

### Lay Readers

9:00

Kristyn Bova  
11:30  
Kim Lisenbardt

### Cantor

Jeff Williams

### Communion Servers

9:00

Lisa Beekley, Bev Rosel  
11:30  
David & Karen Umlang

### Livestream

Steve Johnson, Kevin McGee

### Sound

Sammy Mikulski

### August Ushers

9:00

Jake Apodaca, Irvin Moss,  
Matt Murray,  
Bill and Mary Ann Schmitt  
11:30  
Chris Berg, Audrey DeHart,  
Caleb DeHart,  
Kim and Mike DeHart

## THIS WEEK AT ZION



Scan QR code for  
this month's  
calendar

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### Sunday, August 27

Worship in person	9am	Sanctuary
Intergenerational Faith Formation	10:20	Family Life Center
Worship in person and online	11:30	Sanc & YouTube

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### Monday, August 28

Zion Bunco Group	1pm	Fellowship Hall
Mah Jongg	1pm	Fellowship Hall

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### Tuesday, August 29

Exercise Group	9am	Church 2
Handbell Choir	6:30	Sanctuary
Warriors Anonymous	7pm	Church 2
Youth Choir	7pm	Music Apse

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### Wednesday, August 30

Crafty Bunch	9:30	Education Building
Weight Watchers	9:30	Church 2
MOPS Kickoff Registration	10am	Nani Falcon Park
AA Meeting	7pm	FLC 202
Al-Anon Meeting	7pm	FLC 101
Chancel Choir	7:15	Sanctuary

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### Thursday, August 31

Weight Watchers	9:30	Church 2
Pat Gobar Funeral	10am	Sanctuary

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### Friday, September 1

MOPS Steering Team	10:30	MC 1
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### Saturday, September 2

Weight Watchers	7:30 & 9:30	Church 2
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### Sunday, September 3

Worship in person	9am	Sanctuary
Intergenerational Faith Formation	10:15	Family Life Center
Worship in person and online	11:30	Sanc & YouTube

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### Wednesday Worship Resumes after Labor Day!

Beginning September 6, Wednesday Worship will resume at 1pm and 6:30pm in our Historic Chapel (Church 1). Join us for this simple time of Scripture, Prayer, Song, and Holy Communion.

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## Blessed Change for August

You might've heard that our ministry partners at Christian Assistance Ministry (or CAM) recently had a warehouse fire. We're designating our Blessed Change offering this weekend to support CAM and the important work they do in San Antonio. You can give cash or checks - or donate online at: <https://christianassistanceministry.org!>



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## Pr. Kathi's Sunday Morning Class Resumes September 3

Throughout the fall, Pr. Kathi's Sunday morning class will meet in the Family Life Center at about 10:20am. This fall, we'll be discussing the liturgical year, loosely using the book *Calendar: Christ's Time for the Church* by Laurence Hull Stookey (which is NOT required reading). In September, we'll meet 9/3, 9/10, and 9/24. Please join us!

---

## Music Rehearsals Resume Handbells

Rehearsals begin on Tuesday, August 29 at 6:30pm in the sanctuary balcony.

### Youth Choir (Grades 6-12)

Begins on Tuesday, August 29 at 7:00pm in the music apse.

### Children's Choir (Grades 2-5)

Begins on Tuesday, September 5 at 7:00pm in the ministry center.

---

## September Dinner Out

Thursday, September 7

PoPo Family Restaurant, I-10W at Exit 533  
Enjoy a 50-year-old traditional supper club, filled with memories and all kinds of good food! Contact: Jim or Sandy Chillstrom at [chillstrom@sbcglobal.net](mailto:chillstrom@sbcglobal.net),

## CONTACT



[zionsa.org](http://zionsa.org)



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



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



[zion@zionsa.org](mailto:zion@zionsa.org)



210-688-3090



9944 Leslie Road, 78254



8:30am-5:00pm

Friday close at 3:00pm

---

## STAFF DAY OFF

Pastor Kathi - Monday

[kjohnson@zionsa.org](mailto:kjohnson@zionsa.org)

Pastor Dan - Friday

[dheim@zionsa.org](mailto:dheim@zionsa.org)

Rob Mikulski - Monday

[rmikulski@zionsa.org](mailto:rmikulski@zionsa.org)

Sammy Mikulski - Monday

[theatre@zionsa.org](mailto:theatre@zionsa.org)

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## Publicity Notices

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

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## Quilting for LWR

Weekly quilting meetings resume September 7.

Quilters are in need of new or gently used flat sheets, which are used for quilt bottoms. Twin size works best; however, larger ones will be cut to size, and the rest of the sheet will be used to piece the top. Sheets can be dropped off during Thursday meetings from 9:30 – 12:00. Contact Diane Stewart for more information.

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## Zion Bunco Group

Fourth Mondays, 1-4pm, starting August 28

We have 28 players signed up, but we still need people will to be subs.

ZBG will gather the 4th Monday of each month, 1-4 pm in the Fellowship Hall. You may also bring snack refreshments to share. For additional information contact Shirley Homeier-McBrayer. Hope to see you there for fun and fellowship!

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## Mah Jongg, Anyone?

Fourth Mondays, 1-4pm, Fellowship Hall

Anyone interested in getting together for a game of National Mah Jongg, please contact Algine Perry.

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## 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](mailto:WOZ@zionsa.org).

### Women of Zion Events

Tuesday September 12, 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](mailto:WOZ@zionsa.org)

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## Zion MOPS and MOMSnext

Kickoff Playdate August 30, 10am  
Nani Falcon Park

Zion hosts a MOPS (Moms of PreSchoolers) and MOMSnext (Moms of school age kids) group one Wednesday morning per month.

A MOPS/MOMSnext meeting includes practical teaching through speakers, demonstrations, and videos. Plus, there's usually food...food you didn't make! But more importantly, you'll get to have honest conversations with other moms who understand the joys and frustrations of motherhood. In addition to our monthly meetings, Zion MOPS/MOMSnext has playdates and Mom's Night Out events. If you would like to learn more about MOPS/MOMSnext email Nicole Stender at [mops@zionsa.org](mailto:mops@zionsa.org).

Our program year begins September 13 at 9:30 am. Join us on August 30 at 10am for our Pops with MOPS Kickoff Playdate at Nani Falcone Park.

## Zion MOPS and MOMSnext - Childcare Needs

We are seeking loving, responsible childcare volunteers (ages 16+) to help make this year of Zion MOPS/MOMSnext a success! Help moms enjoy their time together. No special skills required, come snuggle a baby, play with a toddler or sing songs with a preschooler. Only 1 morning a month from 9-12, September to May. If you or

### Men's Fellowship

Third Monday, September 18 at 6:30pm  
All men are invited to meet at Sea Island (11715 Bandera) for food, thoughtful study, camaraderie, and all YOUR ideas for Men's Ministry! Contact David Umlang at [imm@zionsa.org](mailto:imm@zionsa.org) if you need more details.

### Lutheran Men in Mission Southwestern Texas Synod Gathering

Saturday, September 30, 2023  
Zion Lutheran Church, San Antonio  
Information and registration on-line at: [swtlmm.org](http://swtlmm.org)  
Cost is a free will offering for refreshments.  
And join us for our Habitat for Humanity service project on Friday, September 29 - information and registration QR code on the next page.

CROSS TRAILS MINISTRY  
**FALL FESTIVAL**  
Fredericksburg Marktplatz

**SEPT 16** 9 AM  
3 PM

CRAFT VENDORS | FOOD VENDORS | MUSIC | RAFFLE  
KIDS GAMES | FUN RUN | QUILT AUCTION

RAISING FUNDS FOR THE EBERT RANCH POND  
Visit [crosstrails.org](http://crosstrails.org) for more information

### Zion is a Stephen Ministry Church!

Stephen  
Ministers Are  
There to Care

Are you going through a difficult time—emotionally, spiritually, or relationally? Are you lonely, experiencing a crisis, or simply stressed by everyday life? You don't have to suffer alone. Our Stephen Ministers are trained caregivers, ready to listen, care for and encourage you, pray with and for you, and provide confidential one-to-one Christian care to help you through whatever it is that you are facing.



*To find out more about Stephen Ministry for you or someone you know, talk with one of our Stephen Ministry Leaders: 210-688-3090.*

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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.



## Habitat for Humanity Work Days

September 9 & 29

We need about 10 more people for our Habitat build on Saturday, September 9 at Rancho Carlotta in Von Ormy.

We'll have another work day on Friday, September 29.

Construction volunteers must be age 14+. All tools and training are provided - no experience necessary. Please note that job site will not have any shade. If we are still experiencing this heat, we will begin a little earlier and work will end after lunch.

Other volunteer needs:

- Drive for carpools
- Make phone calls

For details and registration, scan the QR code for September 9 or 29 (or both!) Please email Matt Iwanicki at [Mkiwanicki@yahoo.com](mailto:Mkiwanicki@yahoo.com) with any questions.



September 9



September 29



## Change of Seasons Reflection

*Pastor Kathi Johnson*

As of the day I'm sitting down to write this, a popular coffee chain has released its pumpkin spiced latte to kick off the fall season. Halloween stuff is on store shelves and has been for awhile. Never mind that the high today will be 100+ degrees - we are going to celebrate fall now, ready or not!

And this weekend at Zion, we have our annual Back To School Blessing - to send students, teachers, administrators, and school staff members into another school year with the blessings of God spoken over them. We are changing seasons, ready or not.

Thousands of years ago, some wise person said: "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace." (Ecclesiastes 3)

This passage reminds us that changing seasons is a natural part of life, and that some seasons are easier than others. Some seasons require us to work harder (school supply shopping, anyone?) and some are peaceful.

Whatever the season is that you are facing - know this: God is with you, and God loves you!

PrK

**AUGUST 27, 2023  
THIRTEENTH SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST**



*Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of the living God.*

### **DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

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

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Matthew 16:13-20</b>	<b>Peter's confession of Christ</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Isaiah 51:1-6</b>	<b>Blessings for God's people</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Romans 12:1-8</b>	<b>Christ brings new life</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>1 Peter 1:13-25</b>	<b>A call to holy living</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Exodus 20:1-6</b>	<b>You shall have no other gods</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Genesis 35:1-15</b>	<b>Jacob returns to Bethel</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Psalms 138</b>	<b>Praise God with all your heart</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Matthew 16:21-28</b>	<b>Take up your cross and follow</b>

### **SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK**

*Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven."*

**Matthew 16:16-17 (NRSV)**

### **PRAYERS AND BLESSING**

#### **A Prayer for the Week:**

Dear God, we thank you for being our sure foundation, our rock on which we stand secure through Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God. Amen.

#### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Almighty and Living God, we thank you for this food that gives us strength to shout out our praise to you for the sake of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

#### **A Blessing to Give:**

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ give you joy and gladness now and always.



**AUGUST 27, 2023**

**HYMN OF THE WEEK**

*Built on a Rock*



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:

- A false god is anything that we put our trust in instead of putting our trust in Jesus Christ. What are some false gods that people turn to today?
- How is putting our trust in Jesus Christ different from following false gods?

**DEVOTIONS**



*Read:* Matthew 16:13-20.

Caesarea Philippi was a place for the ancient people to gather and worship many gods. Those gods were understood to have powers that controlled people's lives, often arbitrarily. Instead of such instability, the disciples were there to witness to Jesus' life that heals, forgives, and teaches us of the God of steadfast love and faithfulness (Psalm 138:2). Peter confesses what only God can reveal: Jesus is the Messiah (another word for Christ) and the Son of a living—therefore real—God! In Romans 12:2 the Apostle Paul tells us not to be conformed to the world that is filled with false gods (powers), destructive passions, and self-love instead of love for others. This non-conformity that Jesus brings is a challenge to our everyday thinking. No wonder Jesus told his disciples not to tell anyone about him. It will take time for them—and us—to wrap heads and hearts around worshiping Jesus as Lord instead of worshiping a nation, ethnicity, bank account or any other false god.

*Discuss:* What is it in your life that gets in the way of confessing Jesus as the Messiah?

*Pray:* **Almighty God, your ways are not our ways; give us hearts and minds to grasp that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God for the sake of the world you love. 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 instead of serving your own interests this week?

**RITUALS AND TRADITIONS**



Peter confessed his faith by stating that Jesus is the Son of the living God. Because of this confession, Jesus called him the "rock" upon which he would build his church (Matthew 16:18). Place a rock in your living space or in a garden to remember the confession of Peter and the church throughout the centuries. Write or paint the words "Jesus is the Son of God" on the rock.



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