

October 8, 2023 • Generosity
9:00 and 11:30am

**We
Welcome Others
With
God's Love
and in
God's Name**

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.

GENEROSITY

For four weeks each October, we take time as a congregation to focus on Generosity. This year, we are specifically thinking about how our financial generosity to our congregation enables us to be a place of loving welcome. Our Scripture readings will point us towards God's generosity to us. We'll hear from several members of Zion as they share stories of generosity and welcome from their own lives. Finally, we will consider our own giving and turn in our commitments on October 22. May this time be a blessing for us and our congregation!

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

9:00

Take My Life and Let It Be arranged by Ron Mallory

Handbells

WELCOME

Pastor Bill Swantner

TEMPLE TALK

10/8 – Mike DeHart

10/15 – Shelby Elkin 10/22 – Bud Halstead

Please rise, as you are able.

OPENING DIALOGUE

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised.

Sing to the Lord, bless God's name.

Lead us in your truth, and teach us,

for you are the God of our salvation.

You prepare a table before us, and our cups overflow.

You welcome the weary and all with burdens.

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised.

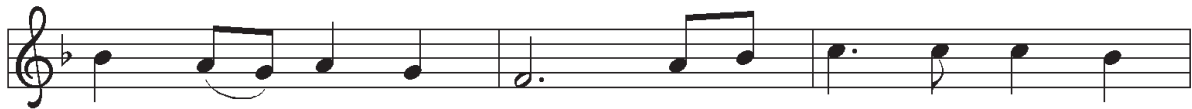
Sing to the Lord, bless God's name.



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
 stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
 strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an



Refrain
 Christ shall end di - vi - sions: All are wel - come,
 end to fear and dan - ger:



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

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 Music: TWO OAKS, Marty Haugen
 Text and music © 1994 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
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GREETING

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

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY AMETHRU OCT 22

Let us pray.

Mighty and merciful God, you call us to love our neighbor as we love ourselves. Grant us strength to support the weak and give us grace to help the suffering. By your Holy Spirit, open our hearts to welcome others with your love and in your name, so that all may be reconciled in your beloved community; through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Amen.

Please be seated.

Section End

WORD

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

CHILDREN'S CHAT

10:05 Shiloh Love

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 43:1-3A

Story Bible

¹But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.

²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

³For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

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

1 O Shep-herd, hear and lead your flock, as lambs we crave your care;
 2 Our self - ish prayers de-serve God's wrath, our pride, a sud - den burst;
 3 God's lin - eage, like a vine, once spread and flour-ished in the land;

what strength on earth ap-proach-es yours, what mer - cies can com-pare?
 we have but stones to serve as bread, and tears to quell our thirst.
 but now the vine-yard fails, the fruit lies with-ered in the sand.

Re-store, O God, your fav - or, the ra-diance of your face
 Re-store, O God Al - might - y, the ra-diance of your face
 Re-store, LORD God Al - might - y, the ra-diance of your face

to light-en and re - veal the gift of your re - deem - ing grace.
 to light-en and re - veal the gift of your re - deem - ing grace.
 to light-en and re - veal the gift of your re - deem - ing grace.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Words: Michael Morgan © 1999, 2011 Michael Morgan, admin. Faith Alive Christian Resources
 Music (ST. LOUIS 8.6.8.6.7.6.8.6): Lewis H. Redner (1831-1908), P.D.

SECOND READING: PHILIPPIANS 3:4B-14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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 14:22-33

Walking on Water
Spark Bible page 294

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

²²Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

²⁸Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³²When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

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

Precious Lord, Take My Hand



1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
2 When my way grows . . drear, pre - cious Lord, lin - ger near,
3 When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws . . near,



I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
when my life is . . . al - most . . gone,
and the day is . . . past and . . gone,



Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.
at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.



Take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.

Text: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899–1993
Music: George N. Allen, 1812–1877, adapt. Thomas A. Dorsey
Text and music © 1938, 1966 Unichappell Music Inc., admin. Hal Leonard Corp.

PRECIOUS LORD
Irregular

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

Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the world.

Each petition ends: Merciful God,

Response: receive our prayer.

Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.

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>Simple Gifts</i> arranged by Susan Geschke	Handbells
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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.

[Next page](#)

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:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

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 has taught us:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION

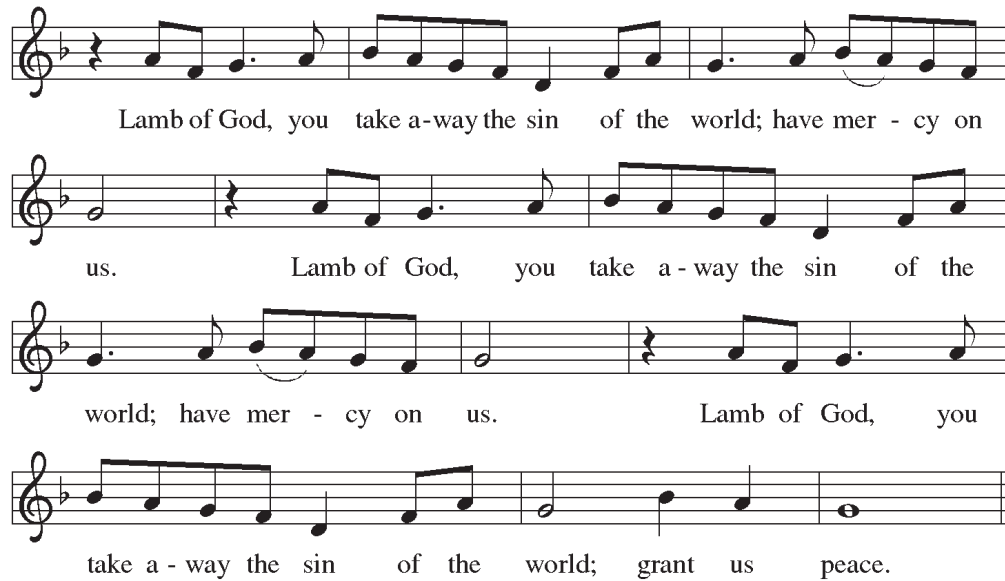
These are the gifts of God for you, the beloved people of God.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes all to this holy meal! Children who commune should be assisted by adults who are with them. Those who do not wish to receive Holy Communion are invited to come forward to receive a blessing. If you are unable to come forward, please notify an usher and we will bring the sacrament to you. Gluten-free wafers are available; please ask the person serving bread. White grape juice is available in the center of the communion tray for any who are unable to drink wine. After taking Communion, please return to your seat for singing and prayer.

LAMB OF GOD



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

COMMUNION MUSIC

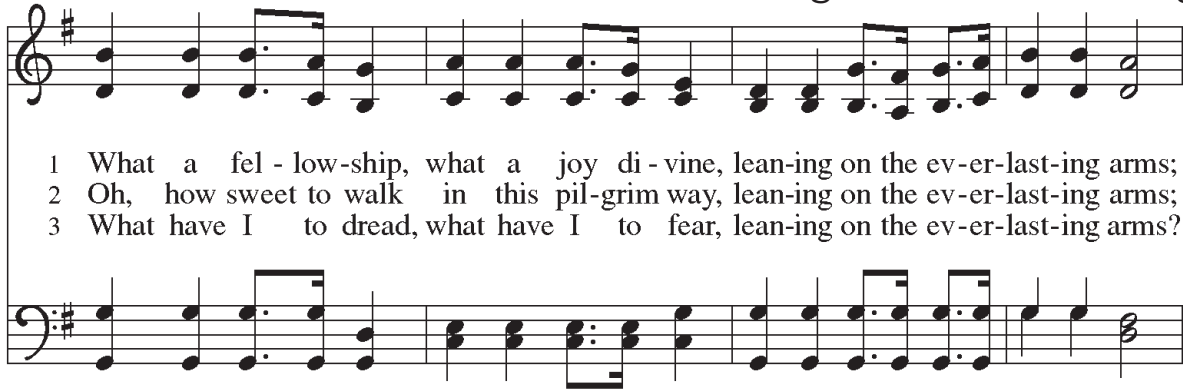
9:00

One Bread One Body arranged by Michael Ryan

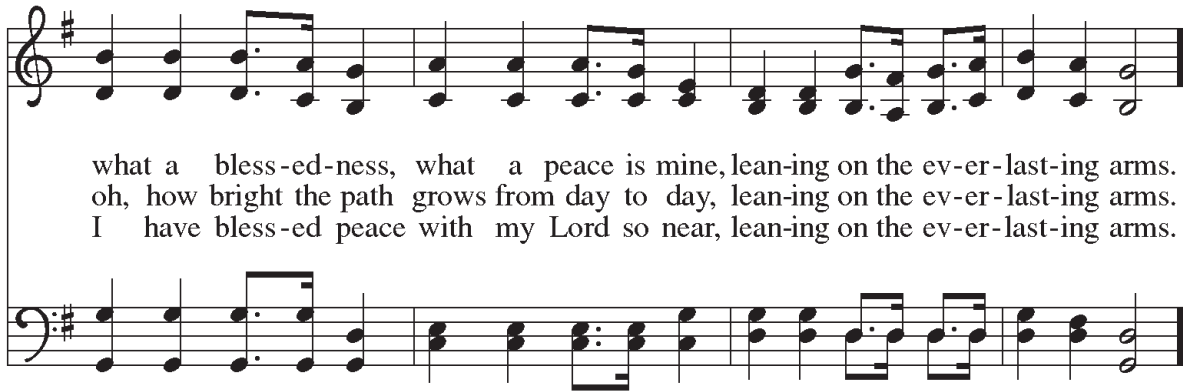
Handbells

COMMUNION HYMN

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Diviney
Leaning on the Everlasting Arms



1 What a fel - low-ship, what a joy di - vine, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms;
2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil-grim way, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms;
3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms?




what a bless-ed-ness, what a peace is mine, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.
oh, how bright the path grows from day to day, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.
I have bless-ed peace with my Lord so near, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.

Refrain



Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se-cure from all a - larms;
Lean - ing on Je - sus, lean - ing on Je - sus,



lean - ing, lean - ing, lean-ing on the ev - er - last-ing arms.
lean - ing on Je - sus, lean - ing on Je - sus,

Text: Elisha A. Hoffman, 1839-1919
Music: SHOWALTER, Anthony J. Showalter, 1858-1924

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 (NEXT PAGE)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Toccata Brillante by Ben Logan

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.



En - via - do soy de Dios, mi ma - no lis - ta es - tá
The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give,

pa - ra cons - truir con él un mun - do fra - ter - nal.
to make of all the earth a bet - ter place to live.

Los án - ge - les no son en - via - dos a cam - biar
The an - gels are not sent in - to our world of pain

un mun - do de do - lor por un mun - do me - jor;
to do what we were meant to do in Je - sus' name;

me ha to - ca - do a mí ha - cer - lo rea - li - dad.
that falls to you and me and all who are made free.

A - yú - da - me, Se - ñor, a ha - cer tu vo - lun - tad.
Help us, O Lord, we pray, to do your will to - day.

Text: Anonymous, Central America; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923
Music: ENVIADO, anonymous, Central America
English text © 1998 Augsburg Fortress.

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Worship Support

Altar Guild

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

Lay Readers

9:00
Carolyn Pfeiffer
11:30
Jeff Williams

Communion Servers

9:00
Jake Apodaca, Bev Rosel
11:30
Chris & Don Jones

Livestream

Steve Johnson
Justin Heinen

Sound

Scott Van Doren

October Ushers

9:00
Allen Cockrell, John Macha
LeShea Clabough & Kevin McGee
Meredith & Brandon Price
Travis Nickel
11:30
Pam Gammage, Chris Berg
Caleb DeHart, Audrey DeHart
Kim and Mike DeHart

THIS WEEK AT ZION



Scan QR code for
this month's
calendar

Sunday, October 8

Worship in person	9am	Sanctuary
Faith Formation Hour	10:15	Details next page
"Coffee Talk" Financial Update	10:15	Fellowship Hall
Down + Out, Adult Class	10:15	MC-6, details p 20
Growing With, Parents of Teens	10:15	MC-1, details p 20
Worship in person and online	11:30	Sanc & YouTube

Monday, October 9

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

Exercise Group	9am	Church 2
Women of Zion Bible Study	10am	Fellowship Hall
Executive Committee	6pm	Zoom
Handbell Choir	6:30	Sanc Balcony
Children's Choir	7-7:45	MC-1
Youth Choir	7pm	Music Apse
Warriors Anonymous	7pm	Church 2

Wednesday, October 11

High School/Elementary Mentoring	7:15am	Nichols Elementary
MOPS - Mothers of Preschoolers	9:30	MC-1
Weight Watchers Mtg	9:30	Church 2
Crafty Bunch	9:30	Ed Bldg Craft Rm
Midweek Worship Services	1:00 & 6:30	Chapel (Church 1)
AA - Alcoholics Anonymous	7pm	FLC 202
Al-Anon Meeting	7pm	FLC 101
Chancel Choir	7:15	Sanctuary

Thursday, October 12

Quilting for Lutheran World Relief	9:30	Fellowship Hall
Weight Watchers Mtg	9:30	Church 2
Fiesta Flutes Rehearsal	7pm	Church 2
Stephen Ministry Supervision	7pm	FLC 202

Calendar continued next page

Friday, October 13

Bring Trash-to-Treasure Donations 1pm Fellowship Hall

Saturday, October 14

Bring Trash-to-Treasure Donations 8am Fellowship Hall

Weight Watchers Meetings 8:30 & 10:30 Church 2

Sunday, October 15 • ONE Worship Service

Worship in person 10:00 Sanctuary

Annual Church BBQ,
Activities & Games 11:00 Family Life Center

Sunday Faith Formation for Children and Youth at 10:15 Today*

Meet in Ministry Center classrooms.

<i>Age or Grade</i>	<i>Room</i>
Two Years–Kinder	MC-3
Grades 1–4	MC-4
Grades 5–7	MC-5
Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation) Grades 8–9	MC-7
High School Grades 10–12	MC-8

*NO classes next week, BBQ Sunday

Two Midweek Services

Wednesdays at 1:00 and 6:30pm in Church 1

Simple communion worship services in Zion's historic chapel, on the west side of Leslie Road.

TODAY October 8

Coffee Talk with Treasurer Allen Cockrell

Come to the Fellowship Hall at 10:20 today for a Zion Financial Update from Allen.

Adult Sunday Morning Classes

The Liturgical Year with Pastor Kathi Resumes October 22 in the Fellowship Hall at 10:20. Discussion is loosely based on the book *Calendar: Christ's Time for the Church* by Laurence Hull Stookey (which is NOT required reading).

Down + Out

Meets in MC-6 (upstairs) at 10:15. Explore themes of the Lutheran Christian faith with John Macha and other volunteer leaders. Six-part video series "reintroduces you to the life-changing reality of God's promises, and points the way to a completely different view of life in the light of where grace takes you."

Growing With

Meets in MC-1 at 10:15. Lori Gallegos and other volunteer leaders lead discussions based on the podcast/book *Growing With: Every Parents' Guide to Helping Teenagers and Young Adults Thrive in Their Faith, Family and Future*. No required reading.

OFFICE CONTACT



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



210-688-3090



zion@ZionSA.org



Website ZionSA.org



Facebook zionsa



Instagram @zionsatx



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Next Sunday October 15

Annual Church BBQ & Picnic

- One worship service at 10:00am
- BBQ serving begins at 11:00am

We'll have one worship service at 10:00am that morning, followed by food, fun and fellowship in the Family Life Center. **There are no tickets - this will be a pay-what-you-want meal and delicious dessert table.** Events include the Crafty Bunch sale, Trash to Treasures sale, bounce houses, petting zoo, pony rides, and games for the entire family.

Many hands are needed to help – cooking, serving, kitchen helpers, cleanup crew, and donating to Trash to Treasures. Anyone interested in BBQing can contact Bruce Krueger.

The Dessert table needs baked goods, such as dessert bars, cakes, pies, cupcakes, and cookies. Desserts can be brought to the Family Life Center from 8:30 to 10:00am the morning of the BBQ.

Your donations are what make the Trash to Treasures sale a success. The Fellowship Hall will be open to take your items on Friday, Oct 13 from 1:00-5:00pm, and Saturday Oct 14 from 8:00am until noon. No item is too insignificant—we accept most anything, *but no television sets please.*

Zion Zippers

Monday, October 9

Are you age fifty or older? The Zion Zippers invite you at 6:00pm on October 9 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.

After dinner, join in The Paint Can Game, led by Mary Mora. You can expect fellowship, fun and laughs!

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 Bible Study & More
Tuesday October 10

Fellowship, service projects with a Bible study on the second Tuesday at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall. All women are invited!

MOPS Chapter at Zion



and MOMSnext

Wednesday October 11 in MC Room 1

Zion MOPS / MOMSnext meetings include practical teaching with speakers, demonstrations and videos. Plus, there's usually food - that you didn't make! More importantly, you'll get to have honest conversations with other moms who understand the joys and frustrations of motherhood. Playdates and Moms' Night Out events are regularly scheduled, too.

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



MOPS and MOMSnext Calendar 2023-2024

October 11	January 10, 2024	April 17
November 8	February 7	May 8
December 13	March 6	

Music Rehearsals

Handbells

Tuesday 6:30 Balcony

Children's (Gr 2-5)

Tuesday 7-7:45 MC Rm 1

Youth (Gr 6-12)

Tuesday 7-8pm Apse

Chancel (Adult)

Wednesday 7:15 Sanctuary

Zion's Music Ministry presents

Messiah by Handel

November 12, Sunday afternoon at 4:00pm in the sanctuary. The entire community is invited.

Recycling Aluminum Cans

Zion has a collection barrel for your empty, dry aluminum cans, without any food or beverage residue. Drop them off into the swing-top barrel in the south (cemetery side) parking lot, next to the shed.



Your deposits will benefit Zion's Youth program.

STAFF CONTACT

Pastor Kathi Johnson

Kjohnson@ZionSA.org *off Monday*

Pastor Dan Heim

Dheim@ZionSA.org *off Friday*

Rob Mikulski, Music Director

Rmikulski@ZionSA.org *off Monday*

Sammy Mikulski, Theatre Director

Theatre@ZionSA.org *off Monday*

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Bud Halstead *President*

Chis Jones *Vice President*

Allen Cockrell *Treasurer*

Erica Macha *Secretary*

Carolyn Pfeiffer *At Large*

David Umlang *At Large*

Rachel Williams *At Large*

Pr. Kathi Johnson

Pr. Dan Heim

Game Group

October 16 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. Contact: Algine Perry.



Men's Fellowship

Third Monday, October 16 at 6:30pm

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

Youth Night October 19

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

Every other Thursday, 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.

Please RSVP with this QR so we have enough food and supplies!



Churchwide Work Day November 4

Come on Saturday, November 4 (rain or shine!) to work on a variety of maintenance and cleanup tasks around the church campus. We'll work here from 9am to 3pm. Lunch is provided.



**Zion is a
Stephen
Ministry
Church!**

Stephen Ministers Are Care-Givers, God Is the Cure-Giver.

The role of a Stephen Minister is to give care. They listen, empathize, encourage, pray, and provide emotional and spiritual support on a weekly basis to hurting people for as long as the need persists. God works in and through them to bring hope and healing. If you are feeling lonely, experiencing a crisis, struggling through a difficult time, or simply find yourself stressed by everyday life, talk with one of our Stephen Leaders to learn more about Stephen Ministry. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to care for you!

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

*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.



Crafty Bunch

Every Wednesday at 9:30

The Crafty Bunch meets in the Education Building on the west side of Leslie Road. Enter at the double doors of the Education Building, behind Churches 1 and 2. The craft room is the first room on the right.

Bring your own handwork project, or check what's in the cabinets if you want to start something different.

Quilting for LWR

Thursdays at 9:30am in the Fellowship Hall

The Quilters are in need of new and gently used twin size and larger flat sheets for quilt backing. Sheets can be dropped off at the Fellowship Hall during Thursday quilting, 9:30-noon.

Quilters and sewists! Join in to help create simple quilts for Lutheran World Relief. The durable quilts we make are sent all over the world to be used as bedding, room dividers, and shelter. Quilt tops can also be sewn at home at your convenience. Fabric is provided. Contact Diane Stewart through the church office.

OCTOBER 8, 2023
NINETEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST



God's love leads us to bear the fruits of the kingdom.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 21:33-46	Parable of the vineyard tenants
Monday	Isaiah 5:1-7	A song about a vineyard
Tuesday	Philippians 3:4b-14	To know Christ
Wednesday	Psalms 19	The wonders of God
Thursday	Haggai 2:10-19	A rebuke and a promise
Friday	John 15:1-17	Jesus the true vine
Saturday	Psalms 80:7-15	Prayer for Israel's deliverance
Sunday	Matthew 22:1-14	Parable of the wedding feast

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom."

Matthew 22:1-14 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty God, may your passion for justice and mercy lead us to display your compassion for others for the sake of your Son, our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, may the fruit of the earth that we enjoy in this meal give us strength to care for others through Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May you know Christ's love and the power of his resurrection to love others. (Philippians 3:10)



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OCTOBER 8, 2023

HYMN OF THE WEEK

God of the Sparrow



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:

- How can correcting someone's mistakes in thoughts and actions be an act of love?
- What does it mean to you to live out the fruits of the kingdom?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Matthew 21:33-46.

Jesus continues his debate with religious leaders in the Jerusalem temple. He addresses chief priests, elders, Pharisees, Sadducees, and scribes. These leaders represent the religious life and the institutions of Judaism, a community of faith with very diverse views. Their commonality is that they all misrepresent the kingdom of God. Instead of "bearing the fruits of the kingdom," they display a power and influence that does not work for God. For Jesus the fruits of the kingdom are identified in his first public message, the Beatitudes in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:1-12). That message speaks of humility, meekness, a desire for God's righteousness, mercy, purity, peacemaking, and more. It's a message in opposition to the religious leaders of his day, that is, the wicked tenants of the parable that steal, covet, and murder to possess what is not theirs. The good news is that Jesus' parable names the coming of the son, the Son of God who bears the very fruits announced by Jesus.

Discuss: What would upset Jesus in today's religious life?

Pray: **God of power and might, cleanse us of all that does not bear the fruits of your kingdom that our lives may be a witness to your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. 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 compassion for those in need?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



In Psalm 80, Isaiah 5, and Matthew 21, the image of a vineyard and vines are used to describe God's people planted by God to produce the fruit of faith and justice. Use a potted plant or draw a picture of a plant with vines. Make a sign to place in the plant or write on the paper: "God's vineyard is full of faith, justice, love, and mercy." Place the plant or drawing in a visible place and when you pass by it each time, give thanks to God for the fruits of the kingdom.



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

**Next Sunday, October 15
one worship service
at 10:00am**

CHURCH BBQ & PICNIC

Sunday, October 15 at 11am

Join us for great food & fun!

Activities for all ages:
bouncy houses, petting zoo, shopping,
plus delicious BBQ & desserts!



This is a pay-what-you-can event -
no tickets needed.