

October 15, 2023 • Generosity
10:00am

**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

Shepherd Flute by F. Melius Christiansen

WELCOME

Pastor Kathi Johnson

TEMPLE TALK

Shelby Elkin

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.

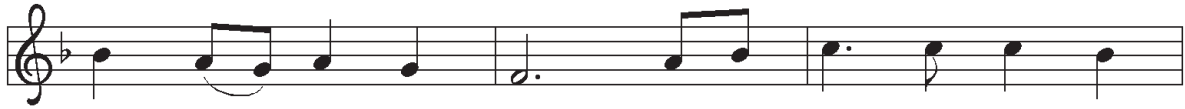
Sing to the Lord, bless God's name.



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



true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
 wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where



dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through



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



Refrain
 claim the faith of Je - sus: All are wel - come,
 Christ the feast that frees us:



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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

WORD

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

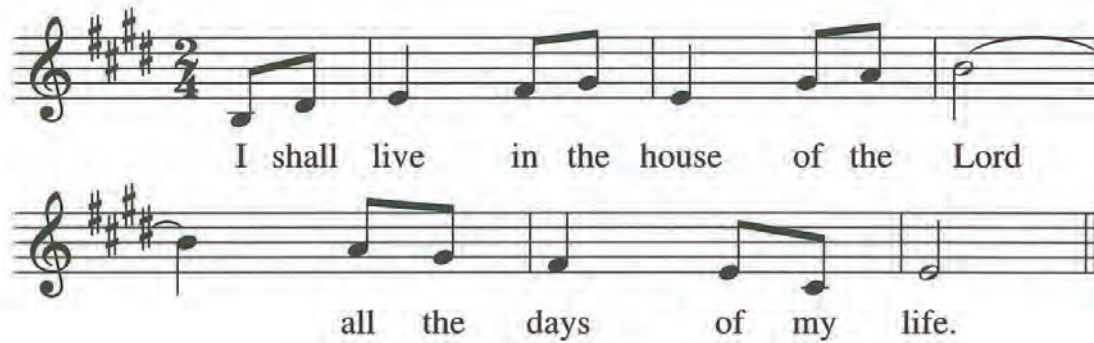
CHILDREN'S CHAT

Pastor Dan Heim

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 25:6-9

⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. ⁷And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; ⁸he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. ⁹It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

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



LORD, you are my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where you give me repose.
Near restful waters you lead me,
to revive my drooping spirit. R.

You guide me along the right path;
You are true to your name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. R.

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. R.

Surely goodness and kindness shall
follow me
all the days of my life.
In the LORD's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. R.

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SECOND READING: PHILIPPIANS 4:1-9

¹Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. ²I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

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 14:13-21

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

¹³Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” ¹⁶Jesus said to them, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” ¹⁷They replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” ¹⁸And he said, “Bring them here to me.” ¹⁹Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

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

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Dan Heim

Please rise, as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: LINSTEAD, Jamaican folk tune: adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925–1980

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APOSTLES' CREED

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

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**catholic: universal*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

The Lord is My Shepherd by John Rutter

Chancel Choir

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:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: "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." The score ends with a double bar line.

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

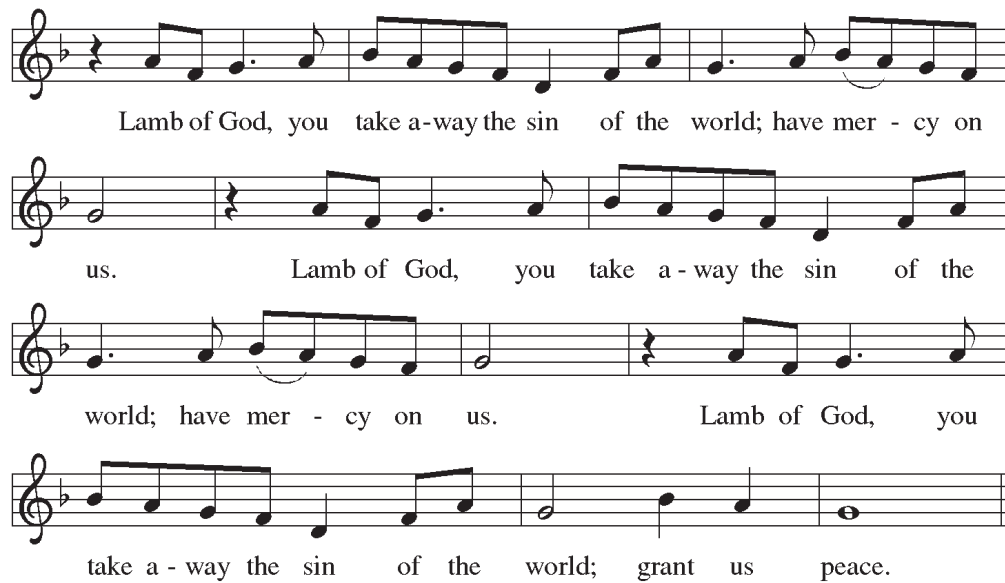
These are the gifts of God for you, the beloved people of God.

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

Locus Iste by Anton Bruckner

Chancel Choir

*Translation: This place was made by God.
The sacrament is inestimable and irreproachable.*

1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed
 3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in
 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear

fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
 soul he lead - eth and, where the ver - dant
 love he sought me, and on his shoul - der
 Lord, be - side me, thy rod and staff my

I am his and he is mine for - ev - er.
 pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
 gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
 com - fort still; thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
 thine unction grace bestoweth;
 and, oh, what transport of delight
 from thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so, through all the length of days,
 thy goodness faileth never.
 Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
 within thy house forever.

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-1877
 Music: ST. COLUMBA, Irish tune

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

Batalla Famossa – Anonymous

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.

1 Praise and thanks - giv - ing, God, we would of - fer for all things
 2 God, bless the la - bor we bring to serve you, that with our
 3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing food for your chil - dren, by Wis - dom's
 4 Then will your bless - ing reach ev - 'ry peo - ple, free - ly con -

liv - ing, you have made good: har - vest of sown fields, fruits of the
 neigh - bor we may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, we would work
 guid - ing teach us to share one with an - oth - er, so that, re -
 fess - ing your gra - cious hand. Where you are reign - ing, no one will

or - chard, hay from the mown fields, blos - som and wood.
 with you, har - vest - ing, mill - ing for dai - ly bread.
 joic - ing with us, all oth - ers may know your care.
 hun - ger; your love sus - tain - ing show - ers the land.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt.
 Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version
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Worship Support

October

Altar Guild

Randalyn Nickel

Eileen & Mel Berg

Sharon Meade

Karen Umlang

Susan Wright

Lay Reader

Jake Apodaca

Communion Servers

Melanie Murray

Rachel Williams

Livestream

Justin Heinen

Kevin McGee

Sound

Sammy Mikulski

October Ushers

Allen Cockrell

John Macha

LeShea Clabough & Kevin McGee

Meredith & Brandon Price

Travis Nickel

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 15 • ONE Worship Service

Worship in person and online	10:00	Sanctuary
Annual Church BBQ, Activities & Games	11:00	Family Life Center
UTSA Vocal Dept Recital	3:00	Sanctuary

Monday, October 16

Game Group	1pm	FLC 101
LMM Fellowship & Dinner	6:30	Sea Island Rest.

Tuesday, October 17

Exercise Group	9am	Church 2
Council Mtg	6:30	Fellowship Hall
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 18

High School/Elementary Mentoring	7:15am	Nichols Elementary
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 19

Quilting for Lutheran World Relief	9:30	Fellowship Hall
Weight Watchers Mtg	9:30	Church 2
Youth Night	6:30	Ministry Center
Fiesta Flutes Rehearsal	7pm	Church 2

Saturday, October 21

Weight Watchers Meetings	8:30 & 10:30	Church 2
Memorial Service for Carol Brown	1pm	Sanctuary

Sunday, October 22

Thanksgiving Food Basket Collection begins, through Nov 12		
Worship in person	9am	Sanctuary
Faith Formation Hour for all ages	10:15	Details next page
Adult Class with Pastor Kathi	10:15	Fellowship Hall
Worship in person and online	11:30	Sanc & YouTube

**TODAY at 11:00 Annual Church
BBQ & Picnic**

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.

This Afternoon in the Sanctuary



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.

Memorial Services

✠ **Carol Brown**

Saturday, October 21 at 1pm

✠ **Douglas Helman**

Wednesday, October 15 at 11am

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.

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

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 today, come to BBQ Sunday!*

Adult Sunday Morning Classes

All resume next Sunday, October 22

The Liturgical Year with Pastor Kathi

Come to the Fellowship Hall next Sunday 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

Resuming next Sunday, meet 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

Class resumes next Sunday 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.

Game Group

Monday, 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: Alaine 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 lmm@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!



Bunco and Mah Jong

Monday, October 23 at 1:00pm

Meet in Fellowship Hall for your choice of Bunco or Mah



Jong. Games commence at 1:00pm. Bunco contact: Shirley Homeier McBrayer. Mah Jong contact: Alaine Perry.

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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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	<i>President</i>
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Chis Jones	<i>Vice President</i>
------------	-----------------------

Allen Cockrell	<i>Treasurer</i>
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Erica Macha	<i>Secretary</i>
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Carolyn Pfeiffer	<i>At Large</i>
------------------	-----------------

David Umlang	<i>At Large</i>
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Rachel Williams	<i>At Large</i>
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Pr. Kathi Johnson	
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Pr. Dan Heim	
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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.

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.

Thanksgiving Food Basket Collection Begins Next Week

Next Sunday, choose a tag from the display board in the gazebo, and then fill the Thanksgiving need. Specific food items and grocery gift cards will be collected until November 12. Zion Theatre Group will sort and deliver to local families in need.

If you know of a family in need, contact Sammy Mikulski in the church office.

Trunk or Treat October 28

Candy and Volunteers Needed

Zion and Northwest Church of Christ join for our annual community Trunk or Treat Event. Candy donations can be dropped off at the bucket in the gazebo, until noon on Friday, October 27.



terri@nwchurch.us

To hand out candy to trick-or-treaters from your vehicle, please e-mail or use the QR to RSVP to terri@nwchurch.us, or contact Pastor Dan. Then on Saturday, October 28, be parked at NW Church of Christ by 4:30pm. Decorating your wheels is optional but so much fun! Bring one bag of candy, and the rest will be provided.

Trick-of-Treaters should park in Zion's lot, then walk to the church next door for the festivities at 5pm.

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.



**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

OCTOBER 15, 2023
TWENTIETH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST



Paul offers a guide for our life together.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 22:1-14	Parable of the wedding feast
Monday	Isaiah 25:1-9	A prayer of thanks to God
Tuesday	Philippians 4:1-9	Paul encourages his coworkers
Wednesday	Acts 2:43-47	Life among believers
Thursday	1 Peter 5:1-11	Tending the flock of God
Friday	2 Timothy 1:1-7	Timothy's spiritual background
Saturday	Psalms 23	The Lord is my shepherd
Sunday	Matthew 22:15-22	The question of paying taxes

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Philippians 4:9 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, give us your peace that we may live together as a community of faith with compassion and confidence through Jesus Christ, our Shepherd and Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for this meal, a sign of your care for us that knows no end through Christ Jesus our Lord and Shepherd. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the goodness and mercy of God follow you all the days of your life. (Psalm 23:6)



OCTOBER 15, 2023

HYMN OF THE WEEK

*We've Come This
Far by Faith*



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:

- Is there a friend or relative who thinks and acts similar to you? Explain.
- How does faith in Jesus guide and influence the way we live with others?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Philippians 4:1-9.

Two women who have worked side by side with Paul are urged to “*be of the same mind in the Lord*” (v. 2). Paul does not explain his specific concerns. They are co-workers in the gospel and need help from the community. What Paul urges is that they face whatever the issue may be with the mind, the attitude, of Christ. Paul describes the mind of Christ with words like rejoicing, prayer, and thanksgiving. All of this leads to the peace of God. In our own time, we in the church are co-workers, and yet we, too, need help to live together in peace. Paul’s message leads us to pursue our issues with one another with truth, honor, justice, purity, excellence, and praise. Simply put, the gospel leads us to remember and pursue what is commendable for our life together, not on what divides us. Paul emphasizes that his words are worth thinking about again and again.

Discuss: How can reflecting on the mind of Christ help you receive the peace of God as you live with others in the church?

Pray: **God of peace, help us to see each other with the mind of Christ that we may live with one another in peace and with honor and justice for all through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SERVICE



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, in what ways can you show humility and gentleness toward others this week?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Psalm 23 is the shepherd David’s song to God and one of the most well-known scriptures in the Bible. David likens how a shepherd cares for sheep to how God loves each one of us. Draw or make a sheep using cotton, cardboard, glue, and crayons/markers. Think or talk about ways a shepherd cares for sheep and then about how God cares for you.

Pray: **Lord, thank you for caring for me and leading me with love. Amen.**



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