

October 29, 2023 • Reformation Sunday
Affirmation of Baptism and Confirmation
9:00 and 11:30am



Zion ⁺ *lutheran
church*

WELCOME TO ZION

When we gather for worship, we're receptive to God's word and we rejoice in God's grace through song, prayer, and Holy Communion. The history of Christian worship is rich with rituals formed by generations. These traditions, prayers, and pastoral teachings help connect our lives with Christ. In our daily lives, we show God's love by serving our community, both locally and globally.

We are a group of believers seeking to respond to Christ's call to worship and serve, even as we wrestle with the big questions of life. We want you to know that you and your questions, faith, and doubts are welcome here!

HOW WE WORSHIP

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

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

Throughout the service, members of Zion's music ministry offer their talents as an offering to God. Please receive their musical gifts as a time for prayer, contemplation, or praise of God rather than a performance to be applauded, so that we may worship God throughout our time here together.

REFORMATION SUNDAY

Our worship planning resource, Sundays and Seasons, has this to say: "Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work." On Reformation Sunday, we celebrate the grace of God first and foremost. Here at Zion, we also celebrate with some of our youth, who are affirming their baptismal faith in Christ today.

ON THE COVER

A photo of Zion's rose window. Martin Luther used this crest - called a Luther's Rose - to talk about his faith in Christ. The colors of each part are explained below:

- Cross – black (Jesus died on the cross)
- Heart – red (Our hearts are alive because of Jesus)
- Rose – white (We have faith, comfort, and peace from God)
- Background – blue (Reminds us of heaven)
- Outside ring – yellow (Reminds us that we will be in heaven forever, praising God)

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

Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now, setting by Paul Manz

WELCOME

Pastor Kathi Johnson

Please rise, as you are able.



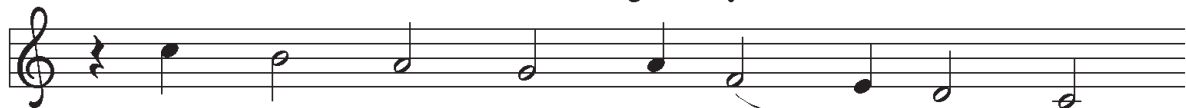
1 A might - y for - tress is our God,
 2 No strength of ours can match his might!
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide,



a sword and shield vic - to - rious;
 We would be lost, re - ject - ed.
 all threat - 'ning to de - vour us,
 no thanks to foes, who fear it;



he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod
 But now a cham - pion comes to fight,
 we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand;
 for God him - self fights by our side



and wins sal - va - tion glo - rious.
 whom God him - self e - lect - ed.
 they can - not o - ver - pow'r us.
 with weap - ons of the Spir - it.



The old e - vil foe, sworn to work us woe,
 Ask who this may be: Lord of hosts is he!
 This world's prince may rage, in fierce war en - gage.
 If they take our house, goods, fame, child, or spouse,



with dread craft and might he arms him - self to fight.
 Christ Je - sus our Lord, God's on - ly Son, a - dored.
 He is doomed to fail; God's judg - ment must pre - vail!
 wrench our life a - way, they can - not win the day.



On earth he has no e - qual.
 He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
 Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther

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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.

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

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

CHILDREN'S CHAT

Pastor Dan Heim

FIRST READING: JEREMIAH 31:31-34

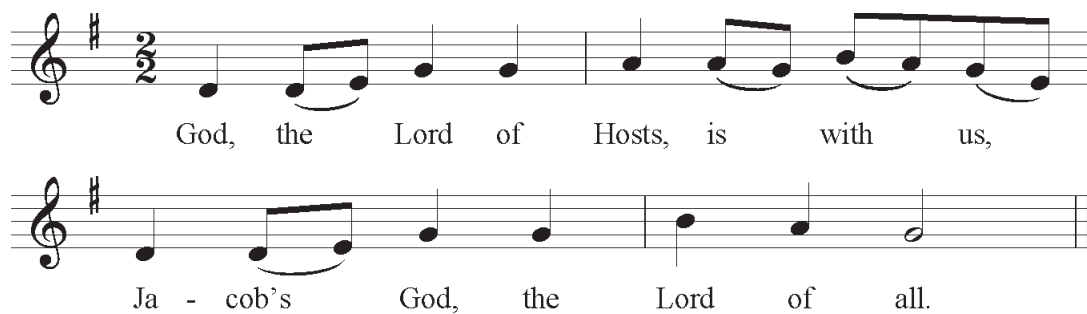
³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

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

PSALM 46

Refrain

Hal H. Hopson



God, the Lord of Hosts, is with us,
Ja - cob's God, the Lord of all.

God, our strength and mighty fortress, God, our refuge day and night;
God, whose promise is deliverance, God, whose law is truth and light;
Though the earth with fear my tremble, none can shake God's boundless might.
Refrain.

In the city of the Holy, rivers flow and streams run pure;
Where you, Lord, abide in splendor, there your people dwell secure.
In their hearts your love will flourish, through the faith your word endures. *Refrain.*

Come, behold God's matchless wonders, see the deeds of God's own hand;
Gifts beyond our expectations, works too great to understand.
Sound God's might in songs of glory sung to earth's most distant lands. *Refrain.*

Refrain text: Hal H. Hopson, and copyright © 2008 Birnamwood/MorningStar Music Publishers.
Music: Tune: *HOLY MANNA*, from William Moore's *The Columbian Harmony*, 1825 (PD).
Setting: Hal H. Hopson, and copyright © 2008 Birnamwood/MorningStar Music Publishers.

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SECOND READING: ROMANS 3:19-28

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

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.

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

³¹Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” ³³They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?”

³⁴Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

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

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Dan Heim

Please rise, as you are able.



1 For by grace you have been saved and e - ven faith is not your
 2 "So my grace is all - suf - fi - cient for each child who is my
 3 So this weak - ness with con - tent - ment I'll ac - cept now in my -



own, it's the gift of God for you and not the works that you have
 own, for my strength is now made per - fect for each child who is my
 self, all my hard - ships, pains, and griefs that still lie deep with - in my -



done. Don't let an - y - bod - y boast, for this is
 own. When you're weak, then you are strong, for this is
 self. When I'm weak, then I am strong, for this is



God's great gift. A - men.
 God's great gift." A - men.
 God's great gift. A - men. A - men.

Text: Kari Tikka, b. 1946; tr. Michael Harper
 Music: ARMOLAULU, Kari Tikka
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9:00 AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

2023 Confirmands

Ryan Dieguez
Owen Graham
Mackenzie Kennedy
Noah Kiesow

Kenny Kretzschmar
Cooper Krumbholz
Lyla Schermerhorn
Milena Yovanovich

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these people, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of their baptism.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for these people, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.

Amen.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

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

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

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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

The 11:30 service continues on the next page with the Prayers of Intercession.

Please be seated .

The presiding minister addresses those making public affirmation of baptism.

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Each person responds:

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

The minister addresses the assembly.

People of God, do you promise to support these sisters and brothers and pray for them in their life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

The pastors lay hands on the head of the person, and pray:

Stir up in [name] the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

Those affirming their baptisms stand and face the assembly.

Let us rejoice with these sisters and brothers in Christ.

We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

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>Order My Steps</i> by Glenn Burleigh	Youth Choir
11:30	<i>My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less</i> setting by Marianne Kim	

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 PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

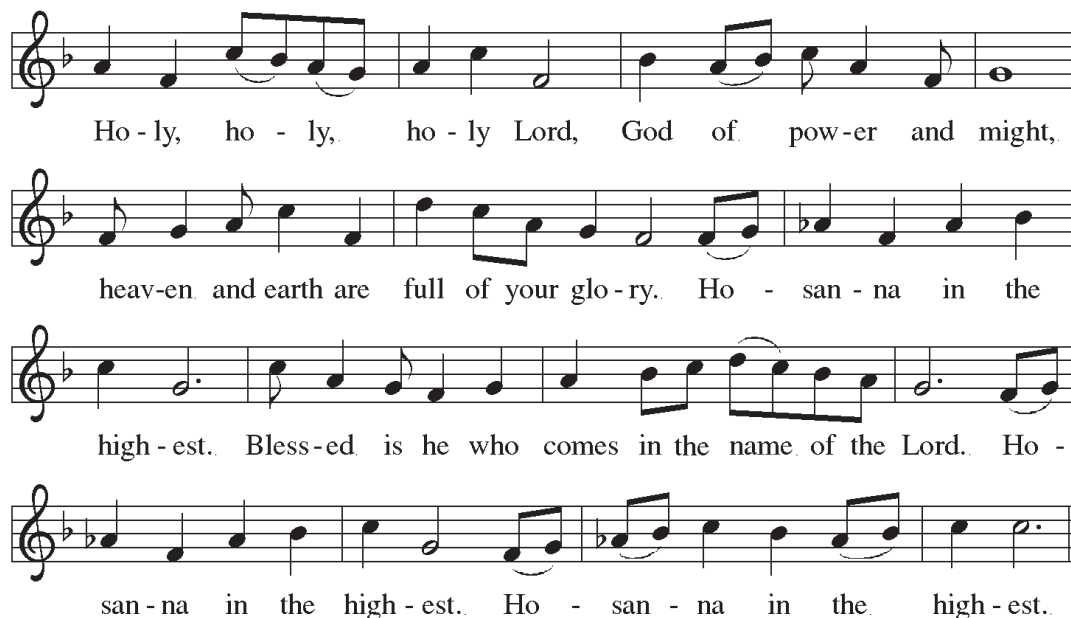
We lift them to the Lord.

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

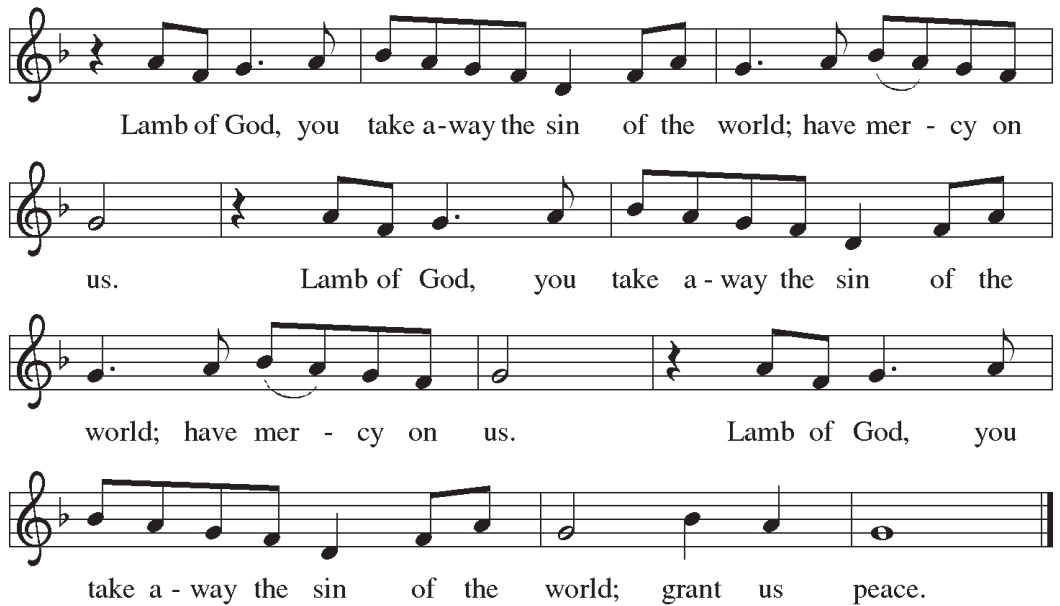
These are the gifts of God for you, the beloved people of God.

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 **SETTING 2**



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

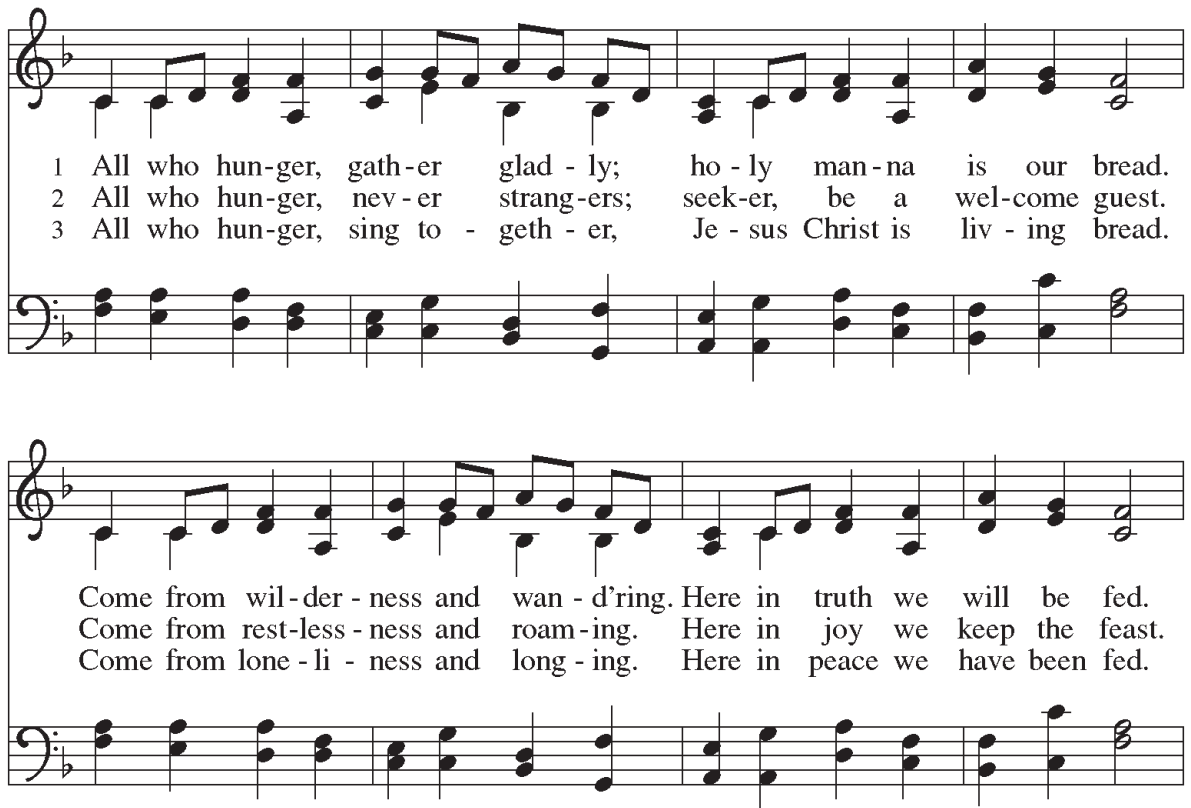
9:00

O Word of God by Craig Courtney

Youth Choir

COMMUNION HYMN

All Who Hunger Gladly Gather



1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad - ly; ho - ly man-na is our bread.
2 All who hun-ger, nev - er strang-ers; seek-er, be a wel-come guest.
3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.

Come from wil-der - ness and wan - d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.
Come from rest - less - ness and roam-ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.
Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here in peace we have been fed.

You that yearn for days of full-ness, all a-round us is our food.
 We that once were lost and scat-tered in com-mu-nion's love have stood.
 Blest are those who from this ta-ble live their days in grat-i-tude.

Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.
 Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.
 Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993
 Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Moore, *Columbian Harmony*, 1825; arr. hymnal version
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After communion, we rise and share in blessing and prayer.

BLESSING

May the true body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you always in God's grace.

Amen.

PRAYER

Let us pray. 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.

Continued

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

Ein feste Burg by Johann Walther

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 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered
 2 See how he sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;
 3 Come, cel - e - brate; your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,
 4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent the Son to save us.



our hu - man sto - ry; God in him is cen - tered. He comes to
 he brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing. All men and
 your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark - ness hurl - ing. To all the
 Tell of the Son, who life and free - dom gave us. Tell how the



us, by death and sin sur - round - ed, with grace un - bound - ed.
 wom - en, who by guilt are driv - en, now are for - giv - en.
 world go out and tell the sto - ry of Je - sus' glo - ry.
 Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry na - tion God's new cre - a - tion.

Text: Ronald A. Klug, b. 1939, alt.

Music: WOJTKIEWIECZ, Dale Wood, 1934–2003

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**THIS
WEEK
AT
ZION**



Scan QR code for
this month's
calendar

Reformation Sunday, October 29

Worship in person, with Affirmation of Baptism/Confirmation	9am	Sanctuary
Faith Formation Hour for all ages	10:15	Details next page
Adult Class with Rob Mikulski	10:20	Fellowship Hall
Worship in person and online	11:30	Sanc & YouTube

Tuesday, October 31

Exercise Group	9am	Church 2
Handbell Choir	6:30	Sanctuary Balcony
<i>No Children's or Youth Choirs</i>		
Warriors Anonymous	7pm	Church 2

Wednesday, November 1

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, November 2

Quilting for Lutheran World Relief	9:30	Fellowship Hall
Weight Watchers Mtg	9:30	Church 2
Dinner Out details page 23	6:30	Ernesto's Restaurant
Youth Night	6:30	Ministry Center
Fiesta Flutes Rehearsal	7pm	Church 2

Saturday, November 4

Weight Watchers Meetings	8:30 & 10:30	Church 2
Churchwide Workday	9am-3pm	Church Campus

Sunday, November 5

Worship in person	9am	Sanctuary
Meet with the Bishop, see page 21	10:20	Sanctuary
Worship in person and online	11:30	Sanc & YouTube

Worship Support

Altar Guild

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

Book Bearer

9:00 Kevin Kretzschmar
11:30 Jeff Williams

Crucifer

9:00 Scott McKenzie
11:30 Suzi Lockamy

Lay Reader

9:00 Scott McKenzie
11:30 Shannon Rios

Cantor

Robert Williams

Communion Servers

9:00 Belynda McKenzie
Carolyn Pfeiffer
11:30 Shannon Rios, Kevin McGee

Livestream

Justin Heinen, David Umlang

Sound

Scott VanDoren

October Ushers

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

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

Honor Your Loved Ones on All Saints

November 1 and 5

For All Saints this year, we will once again have display tables set up for photos and mementos of our deceased loved ones. You can bring items to Worship on Wednesday, November 1 or Sunday, November 5 - pictures and other small items are recommended.

With these small remembrances, we will honor those who we've loved and who have died, the saints who have gone before us.

Two Midweek Services

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

Simple communion worship services
in Zion's historic chapel.

Adult Sunday Morning Classes

Introduction to Handel's Messiah with Rob Mikulski

Today at 10:20 in the Fellowship Hall

The Liturgical Year with Pastor Kathi

Resumes November 19, 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

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.

Growing With

Today 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.

Churchwide Work Day next Saturday, 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.

Meeting with Bishop Briner Next Sunday at 10:20 in the Sanctuary

An informal meeting to discuss the Congregational Council's process to discern the recommendation for Pastor Kathi to be called as our next Senior Pastor. Our Bishop Sue Briner, from the Southwest Texas Synod, will be present. Meet in the sanctuary at 10:20 next Sunday, November 5.

The meeting to vote on the Call for our next Senior Pastor is Sunday, November 12 at 11:15am. The annual Congregational Meeting immediately follows at 11:45, with elections and voting on the 2024 Spending Plan.

Blessed Change for Cristo Rey of Hope

Today in the Narthex



Zion is collecting Blessed Change for Cristo Rey of Hope Neighborhood Ministry near downtown San Antonio. Look for the water well in the narthex and drop in your loose change, folding money and checks, or use this QR code to jump to Zion's donations web page.



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



9944 Leslie Road, 78254

Zion Craft Fair

November 11, 2023

9am - 3pm

9944 Leslie Rd
At Braun and Loop 1604
Zion Family Life Center



- Fine Art - Home Décor - Toys - Jewelry - Clothing -

Outdoor vendor spaces are still available for \$50.
Contact Karen in the church office for an application,
210-688-3090.

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*

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Grief Workshop November 11

Zion Lutheran Church sponsors “Healing Holidays- Making Your Grief Count” Workshop, hosted by Porter Loring Mortuaries and Cremation Services. This workshop is open to anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one and is having trouble reconciling that loss with the spirit of the season. Join us as we embrace grief while strengthening characteristics of resilience and learn how your loved one can live on into your life story and use this special time to continue to heal.

The workshop is November 11 from 10:00-11:30am in Ministry Center Room 1. Please contact LeShea Clabough at 830-612-2008 for more information or to sign up.

Music Rehearsals

Handbells

Tuesday 6:30 Balcony
No rehearsal Oct 31

Children’s (Gr 2-5)

Tuesday 7-7:45 MC Rm 1
No rehearsal Oct 31

Youth (Gr 6-12)

Tuesday 7-8pm Apse
No rehearsal Oct 31

Chancel (Adult)

Wednesday 7:15 Sanctuary

Dinner Out at Ernesto’s Mexican Restaurant

Thursday, November 2 at 6:30pm

Dinner Out invites all adults to meet this month at Ernesto’s Gourmet Mexican Restaurant, 2559 Jackson Keller just inside Loop 410. Come early for socializing; dinner seating is at 6:30.

RSVP by October 30 to Sandy or Jim Chillstrom; call the church office if you need their contact info or see your October 27 Z-Mail.

Youth Night November 2

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 use the QR code to RSVP so we have enough food and supplies!



MOPS: Mothers of Preschoolers



Wednesday November 8 in MC Room 1

Zion MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) supports moms by building community for growth in faith and as parents. Monthly meetings are in Zion’s Ministry Center

from 9:30-noon on the second Wednesday. They also are in need of adult volunteers to provide child care those second Wednesdays. Dec 13 Jan

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



Thanksgiving Food Basket Collection

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.

Game Group

November 6 and 20 at 1:00pm

Come for table games and daytime fellowship for all ages. Meet in the Fellowship Hall on the first and third Mondays. Algine Perry.

Zion Zippers November 13

Zion Zippers meets on the second Monday each month for a potluck supper, fellowship and entertainment geared toward adults age 50+. The dinner bell rings at 6:00pm. Bring a potluck dish or two to share, and expect some lively conversation!

On November 13, the guest speaker is veteran, author and educator Dr. Mario Longoria, "Remembering Military Service: Its Meaning and Significance".

Kathy Newman coordinates Zippers events - contact her or the church office if you have an idea or a question.

Women of Zion

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



Women of Zion Events

Tuesday November 14, 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!

*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.



2023 - 2024

Zion

Music & Theatre Events



*A sacred oratorio performance
on Baroque period instruments*

Messiah

By George Frideric Handel

Sunday, November 12

The Zion Lutheran Chancel Choir and Sonido Barroco San Antonio, directed by Rob Mikulski, are pleased to present a Baroque performance of George Frideric Handel's *Messiah*.

Performed for the first time in Dublin, Ireland in 1742, this three-part oratorio for soloists, chorus and orchestra is the most frequently performed oratorio in the world today. It tells of the coming of the Messiah, his birth, death, resurrection and ascension into heaven. The famous "Hallelujah" chorus proclaims victory over sin and death.

The Baroque performance of the *Messiah* is historically informed using period instruments. Soloists include Lily Guerrero, Soprano; Crystal Jarrell Johnson, Alto; Jeffrey Jones-Ragona, Tenor; and Eric Johnson, Bass.

Please join us for this unique and thought provoking telling of the story of the Messiah.

Sunday, November 12— 4:00 pm

Zion Lutheran Church Sanctuary— 9944 Leslie Road, San Antonio, TX 78254

No reserved seating. Free will offering. Zionsa.org



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, en-
courage, pray, and provide emotion-

al 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

Crafty Bunch

Wednesdays at 9:30

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

Bring your own project to work on, or check what's in the cabinets.

Quilting for LWR

Thursdays at 9:30am in the Fellowship Hall

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.

UPDATE to Zion's Recycling Collection

Zion is currently collecting ONLY aluminum cans in the swing-top collection barrel in the south (cemetery side) parking lot, next to the shed. For the health and safety of our volunteers,



Please empty, dry, and crush aluminum beverage cans, without any food or beverage residue that will attract vermin.



Do not include plastic-lined cans, steel cans or other metal in this swing-top aluminum can collection barrel.



Do not put paper, plastic, food or any other trash in this swing-top aluminum can collection barrel. A trash can is provided nearby for everything else.

OCTOBER 29, 2023
REFORMATION SUNDAY



The good news heals our divisions.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	John 8:31-36	The Son makes you free
Monday	Jeremiah 31:31-34	The new covenant
Tuesday	Romans 3:19-28	True righteousness
Wednesday	Psalms 141	Prayer for preservation from evil
Thursday	1 Kings 2:1-5	David's instruction to Solomon
Friday	1 Corinthians 16:13-20	Final messages
Saturday	Psalms 46	God is your refuge
Sunday	Matthew 5:1-12	The Beatitudes

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. Romans 3:19 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty and living God, may your grace and mercy cleanse the church and set us free to be your witnesses of hope and peace through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

God of power and might, thank you for the seas that roar, the mountains that tremble, and for this food that gives us strength and courage for each day. Amen. (Psalm 46:3)

A Blessing to Give:

May God free you to be blessed by our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ.



OCTOBER 29, 2023

HYMN OF THE WEEK

*A Mighty Fortress
Is Our God*



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 it easy or difficult for you to be silent when you are with friends or family? Explain.
- Silent moments can be a time of renewal as we gain new insights and appreciation for life around us. When has silence been a renewing experience for you?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Romans 3:19-28.

Paul writes to Christians in house churches in Rome. These Christians oppose one another with words and finger pointing. One group is righteous and faithful while the other is not. The church today experiences a similar polarity. Paul speaks to us now as he did then: Be silent! The law that we want to justify our own lives silences every mouth because *“all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”* (v. 23). Once Paul declares our sinfulness and judgement on one another, we are ready to hear good news. The good news is that the only thing that justifies us is God’s undeserved kindness (grace). Only God is righteous and God’s righteousness shown in Christ is more than a morality, it is an activity that brings the unholy world into God’s goodness. Through faith, we experience being reconciled to one another and to God through Christ. We are now part of God’s righteousness to heal, save the world, and trust that God’s goodness can even heal our condemnation of others through faith in Christ.

Discuss: How is this good news for you?

Pray: **Gracious God, thank you for your goodness that acts in our lives and world to bring hope and peace to our divided relationships and world through faith in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

SERVICE



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, through what words and actions can you show acceptance and care for others?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Martin Luther wrote the words for *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* and composed the melody. This well-known hymn is based on Psalm 46. Circle or highlight words in Psalm 46 that you feel describe God as a mighty fortress. Read Psalm 46 aloud and pause for a moment when you read a word that is circled or highlighted. After reading, say, “Amen.”



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