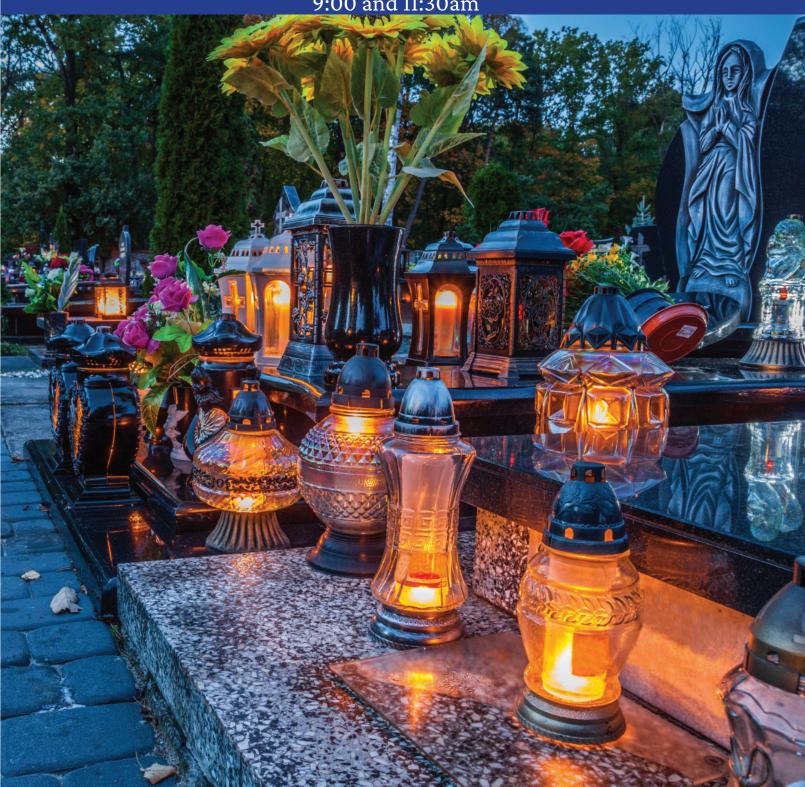
November 5, 2023 • All Saints Sunday 9:00 and 11:30am





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.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

"All Saints celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ...the readings and liturgy call us to remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. At the Lord's table, we gather with the faithful of every time and place, trusting that the promises of God will be fulfilled and that all tears will be wiped away in the new Jerusalem." (from *Sundays and Seasons*)

Here at Zion, we remember our departed loved ones and honor their memories by placing pictures and mementos on displays at the altar rail, a physical reminder of their spiritual presence with us at Holy Communion.

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

Bicinium on Sine Nomine by John Barr

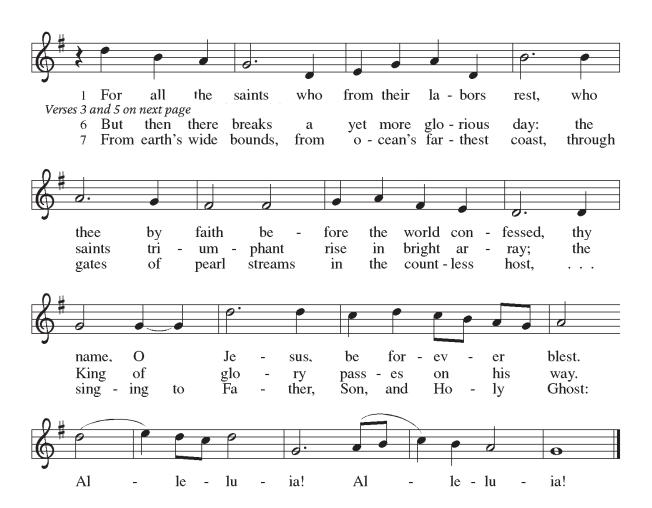
WELCOME

Pastor Dan Heim

Please rise, as you are able.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

For All the Saints





Text: William W. How, 1823–1897 Music: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958 Outside USA: Music from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906.

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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, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, 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: REVELATION 7:9-17

⁹After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

¹¹And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

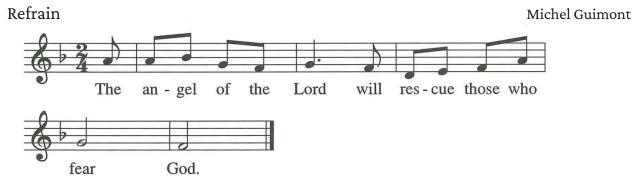
¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

15 For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
16 They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat;
17 for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,

and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,

and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.".

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



I will bless the LORD at all times, God's praise always on my lips; in the LORD my soul shall make its boast. The humble shall hear and be glad. R.

Glorify the LORD with me. Together let us praise God's name. I sought the LORD and was heard; from all my terrors set free. R.

Look towards God and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed.

When the poor cry out the LORD hears them and rescues them from all their distress. R.

The angel of the LORD is encamped around those who fear God, to rescue them. Taste and see that the LORD is good. They are happy who seek refuge in God. R.

Psalm Refrain © 1969, 1981, ICEL. All Rights Reserved Psalm Verses © 1963, 1993, The Grail, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. Music Copyright © 2001 by GIA Publications, Inc. All Rights Reserved

SECOND READING: 1 JOHN 3:1-3

¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

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

Please rise, as you are able.

GOSPEL PROCESSION

Verse 1 before Gospel reading, verse 4 after



Text: J. Athelstan Riley, 1858–1945 Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623 Outside USA: Text from *The English Hymnal*, @ Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.

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The Beatitudes
Spark Children's Bible Page 264

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

¹¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

- ³"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- ⁴"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
- ⁵"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
- 6"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
- ⁷"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
- 8"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
- ⁹"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
- ¹⁰"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

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

Gospel procession hymn, verse 4 previous page

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Kathi Johnson



Text: This that Mound with 99_1852, sts. 1-2; Thomas Hastings, 1784–1872, st. 3 Music: CONSOLATOR, Samuel Webbe Sr., 1740–1816

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

Let us turn our hearts to God as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Each petition ends: Hear us, O God,

Response: your mercy is great.

We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

COMMEMORATION OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

O God, our help in ages past and our hope for years to come, we give you thanks for all your faithful people who have followed the light of your word especially those who have died in the past year:

Austin Robinson Ruth Lampman Nancy Phillips John Simecek Barry McKinney Fred Eberhardt Gloria Anderson Marilyn Wright Ed Geimer Pat Gobar LaVonne Pederson Carol Brown Dorothy Atkisson Douglas Helman Jack Houghtling Ronnie Schuh

...and others we name in our hearts

God of all grace, we give you thanks because by his death our Savior Jesus Christ destroyed the power of death and by his resurrection he has opened the kingdom of heaven. Make us certain that because he lives we shall live also, and that neither death nor life, nor things present nor things to come, will be able to separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

O Lord, support us all the day long of this troubled life, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then, in your mercy, grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE The peace of Christ be with you all. And also with you.

Please be seated

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please check the back pages of this bulletin for additional announcements.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus.

OFFERING

At this time, we give our offerings with thanksgiving to God. These offerings support the mission and ministry of Zion, including the care of those in need. To give online, please visit ZionSA.org. Children are invited to come forward during the music and place their offerings in the jar to the left of the Chancel area (near the Sacristy door). During the offering music, the pastor sets the table with the elements for Holy Communion. Please know that this is the Lord's table, and all are welcome to receive Communion.

OFFERING MUSIC

Hark, I Hear the Harps Eternal arranged by Alice Parker

Chamber Choir

Please rise, as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.

Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Next page

GREAT THANKSGIVING SPOKEN

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

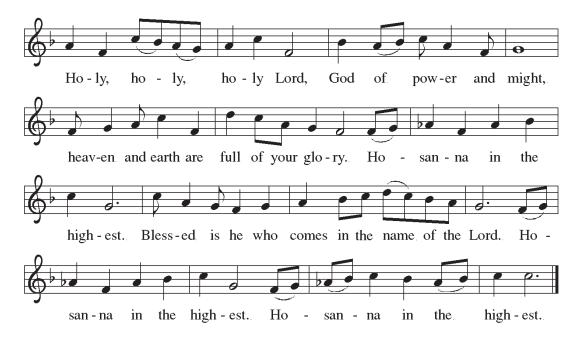
We lift them to the Lord.

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. By the witness of your saints you show us the hope of our calling and strengthen us to run the race set before us, that we may delight in your mercy and rejoice with them in glory. And so, with all the saints, with the choirs of angels and all the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY SET 2



next page

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us {CROSS} and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, 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.

next page

INVITATION

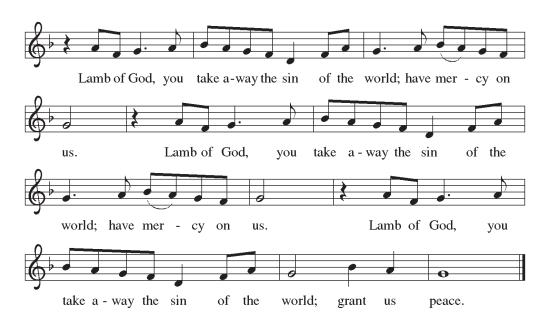
These are the gifts of God for you, the beloved people of God.

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



Text: F. B. P., 16th cent. Music: LAND OF REST, North American traditional; arr. hymnal version Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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COMMUNION MUSIC

Song for Athene by John Tavenor

Chamber Choir

Jerusalem, My Happy Home



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. God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

Section end

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 and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Epilogue by June Nixon

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.



- 5 At last the march shall end; the wearied ones shall rest; the pilgrims find their home at last, Jerusalem the blest. *Refrain*
- 6 Praise God who reigns on high, the Lord whom we adore: the Father, Son, and Spirit blest, one God forevermore. *Refrain*

Text: Edward H. Plumptre, 1821–1891, alt. Music: MARION, Arthur H. Messiter, 1834–1916

THIS WEEK AT ZION



Scan QR code for this month's calendar

ZION		t
Sunday, November 5		
Worship in person	9am	Sanctuary
Meeting with Bishop Sue Briner	10:15	Sanctuary
Worship in person and online	11:30	Sanctuary & YouTube
Monday, November 6		
Game Group	1pm	FLC 101
LMM Planning Mtg	6:30	Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, November 7		
Exercise Group	9am	Church 2
Handbell Choir	6:30	Sanctuary Balcony
Children's Choir	7-7:45	Ministry Center 1
Youth Choir	7pm	Music Apse
Warriors Anonymous	7pm	Church 2
Wednesday, Novembe	r 8	
High School/Elementary Mentorin	g 7:15am	Nichols Elementary
MOPS - Mothers of Preschoolers	9:30	Ministry Center 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, November 9		
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
Stephen Ministry Supervision	7pm	MC-1
Saturday, November 11		
0	7:30 & 9:30	Church 2
Annual CRAFT FAIR	9am-3pm	FLC & Campus
"Healing Holidays" Grief Workshop	p 10am	MC-1
Sunday, November 12 Bethlehem Art from the Holy Land	8:30-12:45	Conference Room
Worship in person and online, one worship service today		Sanctuary
P 10 110 11 134 1	11.15	0

11:15 Sanctuary

11:45 Sanctuary

4pm Sanctuary

Worship Support

Altar Guild

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

Book Bearer

9:00 Julie Dupont

11:30 Laura Knoll

Crucifer

9:00 Celeste Mussey

11:30 Suzi Lockamy

Lay Reader

9:00 Kristen Bova

11:30 Jeff Williams

Cantor

Mason Miller

Communion Servers

9:00 Beverly Rosel, Brinkley Harrell

11:30 Shannon Rios, Chris Jones

Livestream

Steve Johnson, David Umlang

Sound

Scott VanDoren

Ushers

9:00 Rachel Williams, Karen Stoldt Linda & Bruce Krueger Stuart Williams

11:30 LeShea Clabough & Kevin McGee Laura Walsh, Paul Spehr

Pastoral Call Congregational Meeting

Congregational Meeting & Elections

Handel's Messiah Performance

Meeting with Bishop Briner

Today 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, is
on campus today. Meet in the sanctuary at 10:20.

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

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.



Craft Show Fundraiser Needs Snack Bar Food Donations

Youth Gathering in New Orleans.

Zion youth's families sell breakfast and lunch at the Craft Show, and your donations can offset these kitchen expenses. Scan the QR code to sign up on the list to bring beverages, burger and taco fixin's, and other snacks and treats. You can also call the church office to sign up. Your generosity helps Zion youth participate in the 2024 National Lutheran

Sunday Faith Formation Classes Resume on November 19*

Children and Youth at 10:15

Meet in Ministry Center classrooms.

Age or Grade	Room
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

Adult Sunday Morning Classes Resume on November 19

*One Worship Service November 12 at 10:00am

The Liturgical Year with Pastor Kathi

Come to 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 "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

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.

Game Group

November 6 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 coordinates.



Bethlehem Art at Zion Next Sunday

Olive wood carvings from the Holy Land: nativity sets, ornaments, crosses and

more. Handcrafted by one of Bethlehem's oldest Christian families.

Come to the conference room before or after the 10:00am worship service next Sunday. Scan the QR to preview.



Two Midweek Services

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

Simple communion worship services in Zion's historic chapel.

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

Thanksgiving Food Basket Collection

Through next Sunday, November 12

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 this week.

Women of Zion

Join in activities and fellowship with other women in the congregation.

Scan the QR to get on the email list, or send an email to WOZ@

zionsa.org.

WOZ Bible Study & More

Tuesday, November 14
Fellowship, service projects, and
Bible study on the second Tuesday
each month. 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall. All women are invited!

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. Month-

ly meetings are in Zion's Ministry Center from 9:30noon 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!





First Baptist Church is at 14889 Old Bandera Rd in Helotes. Pastor Dan will be the guest preacher at this community worship service on November 16.

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.



Crafty Bunch Christmas Craft Sale

Sunday, November 19 in the Gazebo Home decor, ornaments, kitchen linens, toys and treats.

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.



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.

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 @zionsai



9944 Leslie Road, 7



STAFF CONTACT

Pastor Kathi Johnson off Monday Kjohnson@ZionSA.org

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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Your generosity empowers Lion'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 ba-

sis 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

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.

We are blessed by the saints we have known.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 5:1-12	The Beatitudes

Monday Revelation 7:9-17 God will wipe away tears

Tuesday 1 John 3:1-3 Our hope in God

Wednesday Romans 1:1-15 Prayer of thanksgiving

Thursday Psalm 16 Psalm of trust

Friday Colossians 1:24–2:5 Paul's interest in the Colossians

Saturday Psalm 34:1-10, 22 Honor the Lord

Sunday Matthew 25:1-13 A parable of the ten bridesmaids

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Matthew 5:4 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

God of grace and glory, you promise us a future filled with peace and joy; we thank you for giving us saints to bless us along our life's way through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, with this food we taste and see that you are good. We give you thanks for this meal and all our blessings through Christ our Lord. Amen. (Psalm 34:8)

A Blessing to Give:

May the mercy of God and the power of the Holy Spirit save you from every trouble through Christ our Lord. (Psalm 34:6)



NOVEMBER 5, 2023

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Behold the Host Arrayed in White



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:

- In what ways do you feel you have been blessed?
- Is there someone you feel God has placed in your life to bless you? Explain.

DEVOTIONS



Read: Matthew 5:1-12.

The Beatitudes (meaning blessedness) listed in this reading are a series of blessings announced by Jesus. A blessing is defined as a gift or favor bestowed by God. Society often misinterprets a blessing as a possession of the wealthy, the healthy, and the assertive, but Jesus blesses the poor, the sick, and the meek and promises a reversal of fortune. The source of that reversal is God. This includes the work of saints called by God. The saints are the children of God sent to us to heal, to forgive, and to renew life in Jesus' name. As we remember those saints who have come before us, we give thanks that they have been the source of blessings to enrich us, comfort us, and be merciful to us. Their actions reflect the kingdom of God. We take time to give thanks for all the saints, especially those who have personally touched our lives with God's love in Christ. This divine love promises to reverse the way things are to make them consistent with the ways of God.

Discuss: Who are some of the saints who have touched your life?

Pray: Eternal God, we thank you for your many blessings, especially those that have come to us through saints we have known and loved through Christ Jesus, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SERVICE



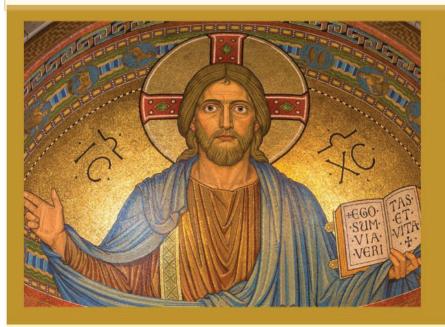
Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how might you serve others to bring comfort and hope?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



All Saints Day is a time to remember all the saints in our lives, both the living and the dead. Think or talk about memories you have of someone who has blessed your life. Light a candle and pray: Dear God, thank you for the life of [name]. I am grateful for all the blessings that came to my life through them. In Jesus' name, Amen.





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