

November 26, 2023 • Christ the King Sunday
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.

WORSHIP IN NOVEMBER

As we wind down the Church Year for 2023, we jump from our last true "Green Season" Sunday on November 12 to Zion's annual Sunday of Giving Thanks on November 19. Each year on the Sunday before the Thanksgiving holiday, we as a congregation also take time to focus on giving thanks to God. Then, on the last Sunday of the month (November 26), the Church Year finishes with Christ the King Sunday: "Acknowledging Christ as our merciful ruler, we go forth that his reign may be known in our loving words and deeds" (*Sundays & Seasons*).

ON THE COVER

Christ the King monument in Swiebodzin, Poland, photo by Mirek Kijewski.

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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

Take My Life and Let It Be
arranged by Ron Mallory

Handbell Choir

WELCOME

Pastor Dan Heim

Please rise, as you are able.

GATHERING HYMN

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros - trate fall;
2 O seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race now ran - somed from the fall,

bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.
hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.

Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.
Hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.

5 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe
on this terrestrial ball
to him all majesty ascribe
and crown him Lord of all.

6 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song
and crown him Lord of all.

Text: Edward Perronet, 1726-1792, ss. 1-4; J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, ss. 5-6
Music: CORONATION, Oliver Holden, 1765-1844

GREETING

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

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, 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: EZEKIEL 34:11-16, 20-24

¹¹Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. ¹²As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

²⁰Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, ²²I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

²³I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

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

PSALM 95

Refrain

Michel Guimont



Come, ring out our joy to the Lord.

Come, ring out our joy to the LORD;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before God, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord. *℟.*

Come in; let us bow and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for this is our God
and we the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand. *℟.*

A mighty God is the LORD,
a great king above all gods,
in whose hands are the depths of the earth;
the heights of the mountains as well.
The sea belongs to God, who made it
and the dry land shaped by his hands. *℟.*

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

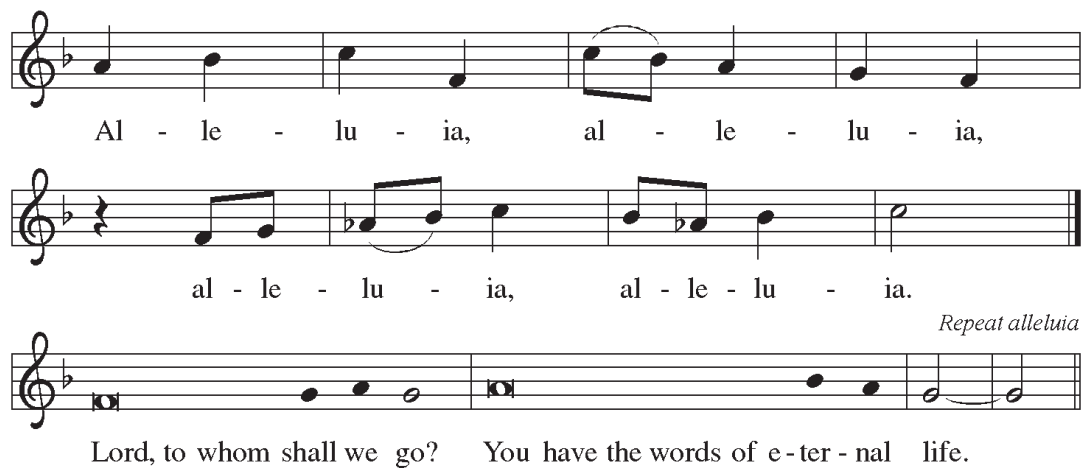
SECOND READING: EPHESIANS 1:15-23

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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 Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ³¹“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink?’ ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing?’ ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family you did it to me.’ ⁴¹Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴²for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ ⁴⁴Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

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

Please be seated.

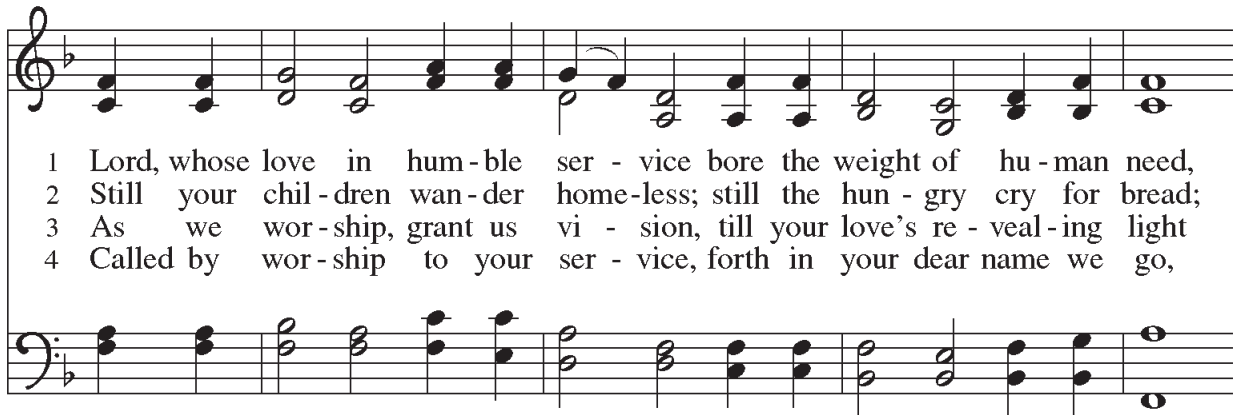
SERMON

Pastor Bill Swantner

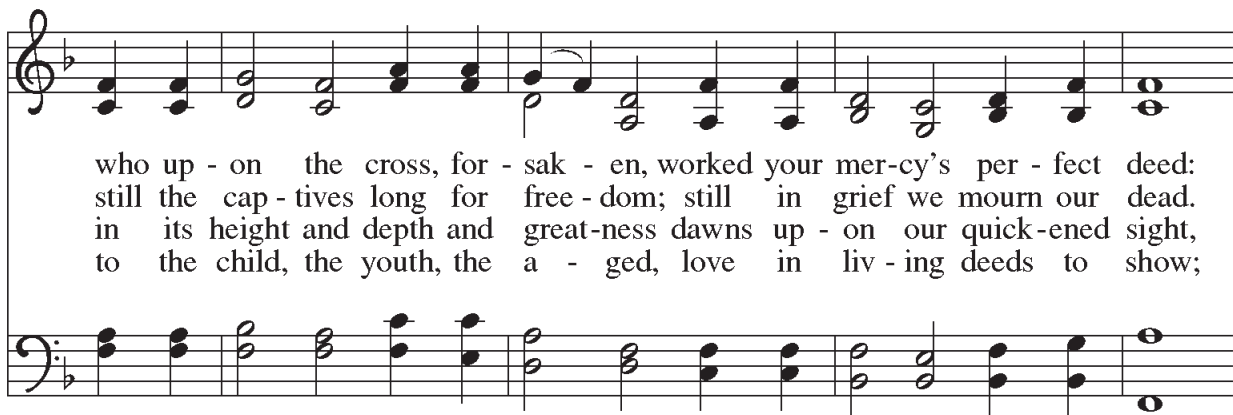
Please rise, as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

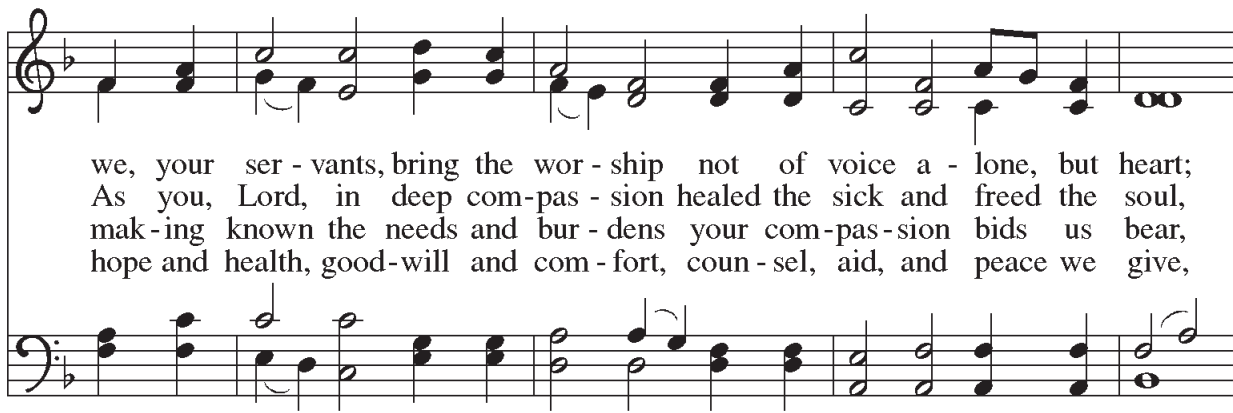
Lord Whose Love in Humble Service



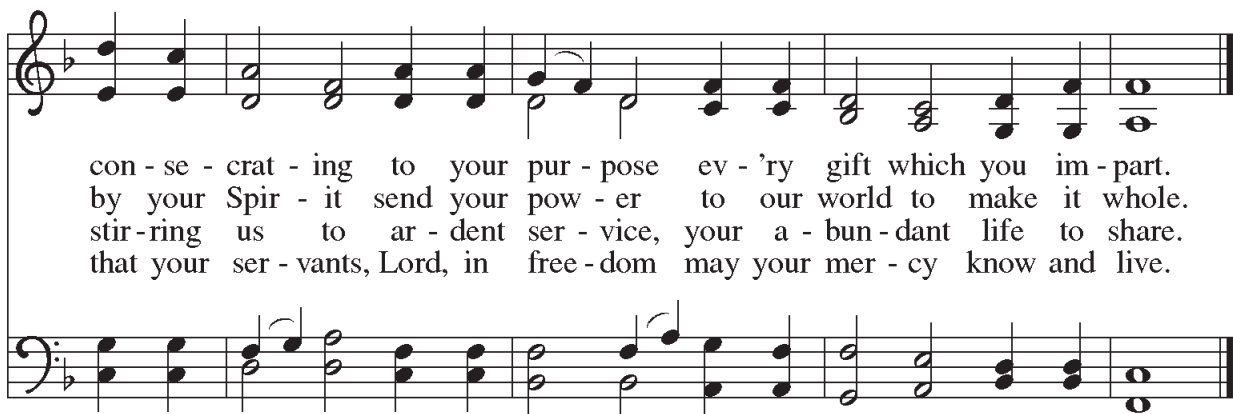
1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser - vice bore the weight of hu - man need,
2 Still your chil - dren wan - der home - less; still the hun - gry cry for bread;
3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re - veal - ing light
4 Called by wor - ship to your ser - vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, worked your mer - cy's per - fect deed:
still the cap - tives long for free - dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
in its height and depth and great - ness dawns up - on our quick - ened sight,
to the child, the youth, the a - ged, love in liv - ing deeds to show;



we, your ser - vants, bring the wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart;
As you, Lord, in deep com - pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
mak - ing known the needs and bur - dens your com - pas - sion bids us bear,
hope and health, good - will and com - fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give,



con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift which you im - part.
by your Spir - it send your pow - er to our world to make it whole.
stir - ring us to ar - dent ser - vice, your a - bun - dant life to share.
that your ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

Text: Albert E. Bayly, 1901-1984
Music: Albert E. Bayly, 1901-1984
Title: "Lord Whose Love in Humble Service," from *Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. Selected Hymns, 1985
Arr. © 1985 Augsburg Fortress.

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.

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	<i>Peace I Give You</i> arranged by Ron Mallory	Handbell Choir
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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.

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.

Prayer Preface for Nov 12, 2023

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.

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 ✠ 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.

INVITATION

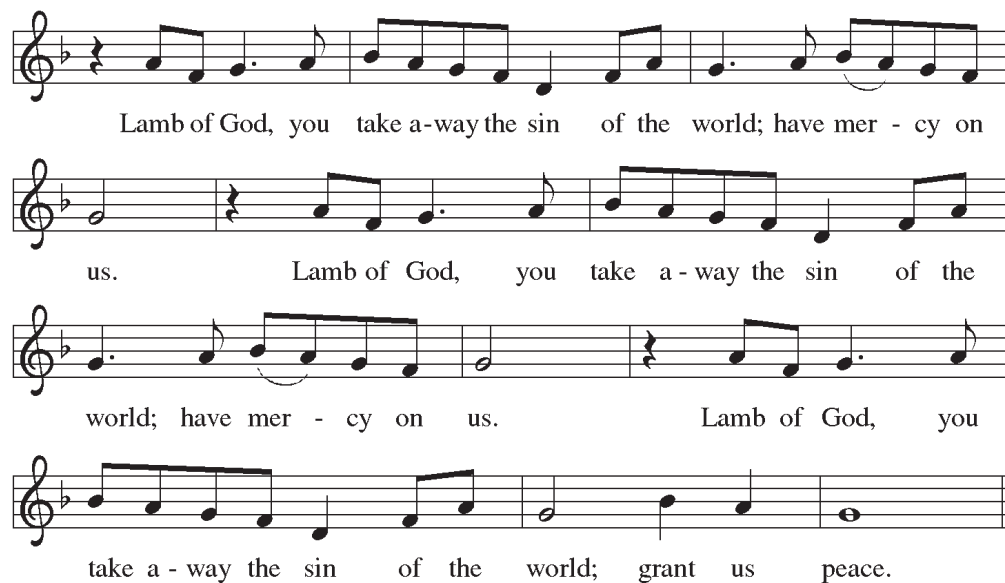
These are the gifts of God for you, the beloved people of God.

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

Let Us Break Bread Together
arranged by Kurt Meyer

Handbell Choir

1 O Sav - ior, pre - cious Sav - ior, whom yet un - seen we love;
 2 O bring - er of sal - va - tion, who won - drous - ly hast wrought,
 3 In thee all full - ness dwell - eth, all grace and pow'r di - vine;
 4 Oh, grant the con - sum - ma - tion of this our song a - bove,

O name of might and fa - vor, all oth - er names a - bove:
 thy - self the rev - e - la - tion of love be - yond our thought:
 the glo - ry that ex - cel - leth, O Son of God, is thine.
 in end - less ad - o - ra - tion and ev - er - last - ing love;

we wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;
 we wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;
 We wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;
 then shall we praise and bless thee where per - fect prais - es ring,

we praise thee and con - fess thee, our ho - ly Lord and King.
 we praise thee and con - fess thee, our gra - cious Lord and King.
 we praise thee and con - fess thee, our glo - rious Lord and King.
 and ev - er - more con - fess thee, our Sav - ior and our King!

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879
 Music: ANGEL'S STORY, Arthur H. Mann, 1850-1929

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

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.

1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -
 3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue dwell on his
 5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar

ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from
 love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es
 hon - ors to our king; an - gels de - scend with

shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
 shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.
 songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.
 Music: DUKE STREET, arr. John Hatton, d. 1793

DISMISSAL

Go in peace and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE	<p><i>Duke Street</i> arranged by David Cherwien</p>	<p>Sandy Musk Guest Organist</p>
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AVAILABLE FOR PRAYER

Immediately following each service, Stephen Ministers are often available to pray with you at the altar rail. All prayers and conversations are confidential.

Worship Support

Altar Guild

Bonnie Bahr, Betsy Howard
Mona McQuien, Ruth Medbury
Karen Sturdivant, Laura Walsh

Guest Organist

Sandy Musk

Lay Reader

9:00 Shannon Rios

11:30 LeShea Clabough

Cantor

Jeff Williams

Communion Servers

9:00 Carolyn Pfeiffer
Paul Goldenbaum

11:30 LeShea Clabough & Kevin McGee

Livestream

Justin Heinen, David Umlang

Sound

Scott VanDoren

Ushers

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

11:30 Pam Gammage, Chris Berg

THIS WEEK AT ZION



Scan QR code for
this month's
calendar

Sunday, November 26 Christ the King Sunday
Worship in person 9am Sanctuary

No Faith Formation or Adult Classes Nov 26, Thanksgiving break

Worship in person and online 11:30 Sanc & YouTube

Monday, November 27

Mah Jong 1pm Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, November 28

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, November 29

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 30

Weight Watchers Mtg 9:30 Church 2

Youth Night 6:30 Ministry Center

Fiesta Flutes Rehearsal 7pm Church 2

Saturday, December 2

Weight Watchers Meetings 7:30 & 9:30am Church 2

LMM Meeting 8:30 Ministry Center 1

Sunday, December 3

 First Sunday in Advent

Worship in person 9am Sanctuary

Intergenerational Advent Event 10:15 Details next page

Worship in person and online 11:30 Sanc & YouTube

Celebration of New Ministry and
Installation of Pastor Kathi Johnson 3pm Sanctuary

Intergenerational Advent Event next Sunday, December 3 at 10:15

All children, youth and adults are invited to the Fellowship Hall for Advent activities. Enter into the season by making a family Advent Calendar, luminaria and more! No other classes on Dec 3.

Sunday Faith Formation Continues Dec 10 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 November 26, Thanksgiving break.
December 3 Intergenerational Advent Event.*

Adult Classes Continue Dec 10

*No classes November 26, Thanksgiving break
December 3 Intergenerational Advent Event*

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 “re-introduces 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.”

The Liturgical Year with Pastor Kathi

Dec 10 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). No class meeting Nov 26 or Dec 3.

Blessed Change for St. Vincent ^{de}Paul Society



Today in the Narthex Zion is collecting blessed change for St. Vincent ^{de}Paul (formerly Helotes House). SVdP provides assistance for our neighbors with food, utility bills,

clothing, and school supplies. Look for the water well in the narthex and drop in your loose change, folding money and checks, or use this QR code to get to Zion’s donations web page.



Midweek Services Resume November 29

Simple communion worship services in Zion’s historic chapel. Wednesdays at 1pm and 6:30pm in Church 1.

Music Rehearsals Resume November 28 & 29

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

STAFF CONTACT *Day Off*

Pastor Kathi Johnson *Monday*
Kjohnson@ZionSA.org

Pastor Dan Heim *Friday*
Dheim@ZionSA.org

Suzie Wyatt, *Thursday*
Administrator *afternoon*
Swyatt@ZionSA.org

Rob Mikulski, *Monday*
Music Director
Rmikulski@ZionSA.org

Sammy Mikulski, *Monday*
Theatre Director
Theatre@ZionSA.org

2023 CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Bud Halstead *President*
Chis Jones *Vice President*
Allen Cockrell *Treasurer*
Erica Macha *Secretary*
Carolyn Pfeiffer *At Large*
David Umlang *At Large*
Rachel Williams *At Large*
Pr. Kathi Johnson
Pr. Dan Heim

Celebration of New Ministry December 3

Installation of The Rev. Dr. Kathi I. Johnson as Zion's Senior Pastor

The service begins at 3:00pm in the sanctuary. A reception follows in the Fellowship Hall.

Angel Tree Gifts for Children in Foster Care

Now through December 3

Pick a tag from the board in the narthex, and buy one gift to fulfill a Christmas wish. We are working with the Pathways agency to support foster families through the coming season. Please note the "early" return date. Gifts should not be wrapped, but attach the gift tag.

Sign up today for the

**Women's Christmas Tea
Saturday, December 9**

The annual Christmas Tea is Saturday, Dec 9, from 3-5:00pm. Festivities take place in the Family Life Center.



Hostesses and guests may sign up in the gazebo now through Dec 3. There is no charge, but all seating is reserved in advance.

Guest speaker is Alicia Velasquez. The in-kind collection is women's new undergarments for CAM. Activities include a drawing for a quilt, a silent auction, and Fair Trade products on sale. Monetary donations benefit Texas Foundation of Hope, a community for people with developmental disabilities. Donations and sales are in cash or paper checks only.

Hostess set-up times are Dec 8 from 1-3:00pm, and Dec 9 from 9-11:00am. The event begins at 3:00pm on Saturday. Contact Mary Jo Goldenbaum if you have questions.

Mah Jong

Monday, November 27 at 1:00pm



Meet in Fellowship Hall to play (or learn!) Mah Jong. Games commence at 1:00pm. Contact Algine Perry.

Youth Nights/Confirmation Mentoring Fall 2023

Middle & High School Dinner and Fellowship

6:30-8:00 in Ministry Center

Every other Thursday night, for middle and high schoolers. Dinner, Bible study, service projects, Confirmation mentoring for 8th-9th graders. \$4 suggested offering for dinner. Remaining Fall dates: Nov 30, Dec 14.



signupgenius.com

Dinner Out at Seasons 52 Restaurant

Thursday, December 7 at 6:30pm

Dinner Out invites all adults to meet this month at Seasons 52 Fresh Grill in the Alamo Quarry Market, 255 E. Basse. Come early for socializing; dinner seating is at 6:30.

RSVP by Dec 3 to Doris & Dave Newman; call the church office if you need their contact info.

Zion Zippers 55+ Fellowship

Monday, December 11

Come and join the Zion Zippers at 6:00pm on December 11 for a potluck dinner in the Fellowship Hall. This month, the meat is provided; please bring a side dish or two to share, along with your own plate and utensils if you can. Invite a friend, too!

December entertainment is a Christmas sing-a-long led by Karen Zook. Come and join the fun!

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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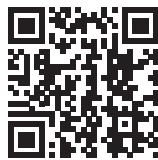
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*Your
generosity
empowers
Zion's ministry*

From Sunday morning worship to feeding families for the holidays, collecting clothing for local charity or relief supplies shipped hundreds of miles, to friendships fostered worldwide with simple hand stitches.

Because you kindly share your time, lend your skills, and support your ministry financially, Zion's impact reaches far beyond the four walls of our sanctuary. On behalf of everyone we're able to help, thank you for your contribution.

For more ways to support Zion's mission, scan this QR code.



Virtual **Bold Gathering December 2**

Southwest Texas Synod Lutheran Men in Mission host a viewing of the Bold Gathering videos on Dec 2 from 11am-2pm in Zion's Ministry Center Room 1. Lunch will be provided. All are welcome to attend, however, please RSVP to David Umlang, imm@zionsa.org.

Men's Fellowship Dinner

Third Monday, December 18 at 6:30pm

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

Food Bank Volunteer Day

LMM invites you to a volunteer event on Saturday, December 9, 2023, from 1:30 to 4pm. We'll pack and sort food in the San Antonio Food Bank warehouse (5200 Old Hwy 90). This service event is open to all ages.

Contact Mark Laneman if you have questions, or use the QR to register.



v Bucks January 4

San Antonio LMM has reserved two sections of group seating in the Frost Bank Center. All are welcome to come cheer on our Spurs! Tickets are \$40 and \$55 - consider who'd like this for a Christmas gift.

Purchase deadline is Dec 21. Get your digital tickets with the QR here or fevo-enterprise.com/event/Lutheranmen6



**Diamond + Plus Christmas Luncheon
December 14**



Everyone age 75+ is invited to this annual event in the Fellowship Hall. Doors open at 10:00am for fellowship, entertainment and lunch. Watch your mailbox for your invitation, or contact Karen Umlang by Dec 5 at 210-426-5049 (call or text) or umlang@hotmail.com.

Coming Soon: Zion Theatre Group presents



The **PLAY**
that goes
WRONG

January 5-7 & 12-14
ztg.booktix.com

Tickets will be available December 1 on-line (use QR or ZTGbooktix.com), and in the gazebo beginning December 3.



**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

NOVEMBER 26, 2023
CHRIST THE KING
SUNDAY



Jesus calls his followers to acts of mercy.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 25:31-46	The sheep and the goats
Monday	Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24	God, the true shepherd
Tuesday	Ephesians 1:15-23	Paul's prayer
Wednesday	1 Corinthians 5:1-11	Spiritual gifts
Thursday	Joshua 24:14-28	Always be faithful to the Lord
Friday	1 Peter 5:1-11	Tending the flock of God
Saturday	Psalms 95:1-7a	Worship and obey the Lord
Sunday	Mark 13:24-37	When the Son of Man appears

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker! For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. Psalm 95:6-7a (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty God, give us eyes to see you and to worship you with our love and service to others for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for creating the earth to be fruitful and satisfy our needs for food and shelter, community and peace. In the name of Christ, amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May Christ the King give you peace and courage for each day.



NOVEMBER 26, 2023

HYMN OF THE WEEK



*Will You Let Me Be
Your Servant*

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:

- What are some duties a shepherd has to do to care for the sheep?
- Jesus is called the Good Shepherd. Why do you think he is called this?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Matthew 25:31-46.

In the ancient Near East, the reference to shepherd (v.32) was a reference to the king, the one responsible to care for the people. In the Old Testament, the kings of Israel and Judah usually failed their role as the shepherd who ruled with justice for the poor. In Ezekiel, the Lord takes back the role of king and shepherds the people to safety with the promise of a new shepherd king in the line of David. For the church that shepherd is Jesus, the Son of Man. He comes as judge and as shepherd to separate sheep from goats, the ones who do the will of God and those who do not. The surprise in this reading is that the sheep don't even know they are sheep. They ask when it was that they acted with compassion as though they were serving the Son of Man. The surprising joy is that acts of love and mercy happen even—or especially—when the sheep (followers of Jesus) are not aware of their actions that love others. Following Jesus leads to a life filled with acts of compassion for the poor, the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the sick and the imprisoned.

Discuss: Where have you seen God's kingdom through people's actions that show love and mercy?

Pray: **God of justice and mercy, we pray for your reign to be visible in us that the world may know your care for the poor and others in need through Christ Jesus our Savior. Amen.**

SERVICE



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how might you serve the stranger and others who need care?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



November 26th is the last Sunday in this church year. Think or talk about your involvement in the ministries of the church in the past year. Consider these questions: What were the highlights? In what ways did you grow in your faith? How did you share your faith with others? Take a moment to consider in what ways you will serve in the congregation and the community in the coming year.

Pray: **God of glory and might, we give thanks that you are our God and that we are the sheep in your hand through Christ our Lord. (Psalm 95:7a)**



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

taking
faith
home