

January 14, 2023 • The Baptism of Our Lord
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.

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

When Jesus Came to Jordan
setting by David Cherwien

WELCOME

Pastor Kathi Johnson

Please rise, as you are able.

INVOCATION

We worship today in the name of the Father, and the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

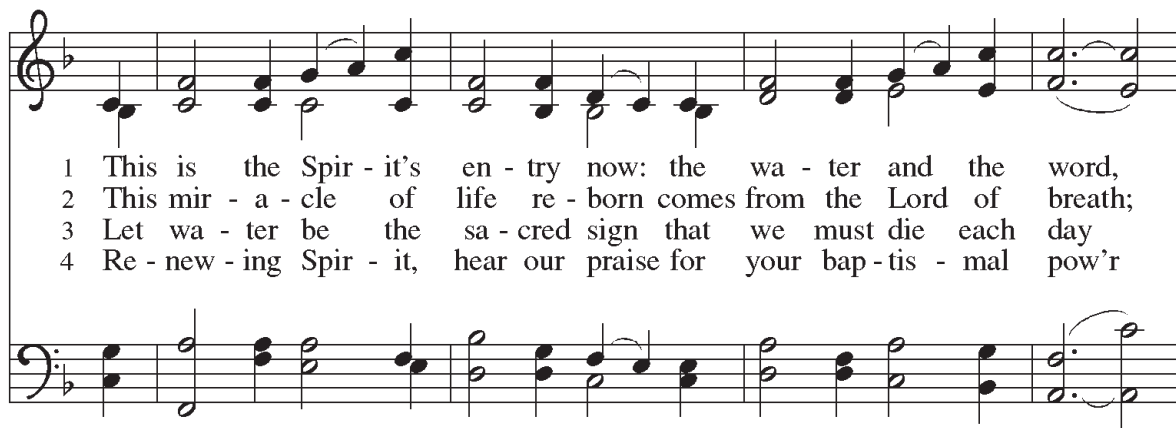
Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

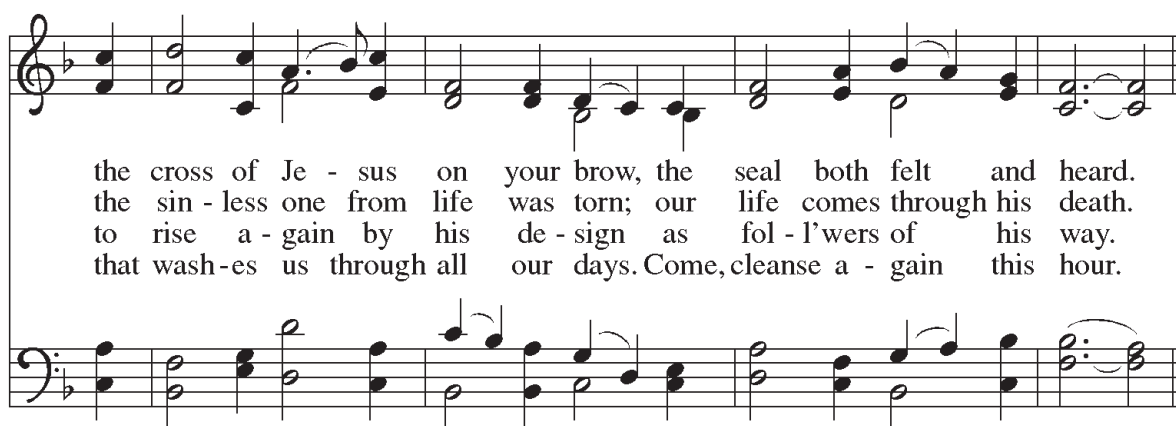
To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

During the Gathering Hymn, the pastors will sprinkle water on the congregation as a reminder of baptism.



1 This is the Spir - it's en - try now: the wa - ter and the word,
 2 This mir - a - cle of life re - born comes from the Lord of breath;
 3 Let wa - ter be the sa - cred sign that we must die each day
 4 Re - new - ing Spir - it, hear our praise for your bap - tis - mal pow'r



the cross of Je - sus on your brow, the seal both felt and heard.
 the sin - less one from life was torn; our life comes through his death.
 to rise a - gain by his de - sign as fol - l'wers of his way.
 that wash - es us through all our days. Come, cleanse a - gain this hour.

Text: Thomas E. Herbranson, b. 1933
 Music: North American traditional; arr. hymnal version
 Text © Thomas E. Herbranson, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
 Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Refrain



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.

Refrain



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of



God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us; you are

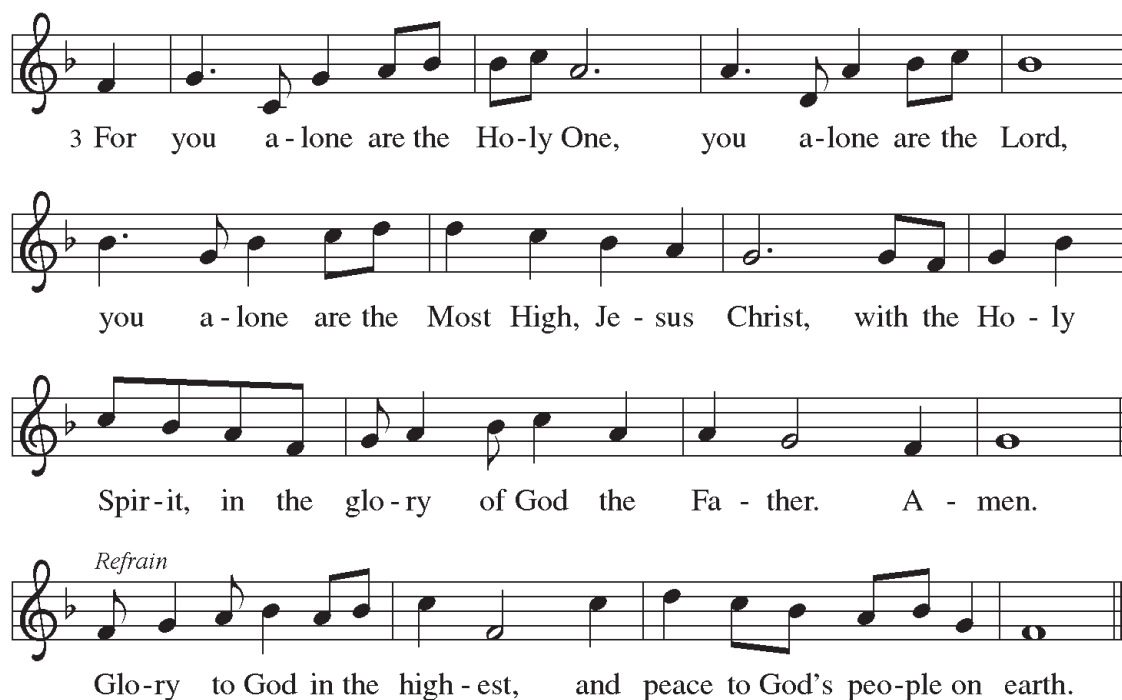


seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

Refrain



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



3 For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,
 you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly
 Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Refrain
 Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, 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.

Section End

WORD

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

CHILDREN'S CHAT

Pastor Dan Heim

FIRST READING: GENESIS 1:1-5

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

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

PSALM 29

Refrain

Hal Hopson



Praise the Lord. — Praise the name of the Lord.

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The voice of the Lord is heard upon the waters; the God of glory thunders,
God's voice is heard across the ocean.

The voice of the Lord is heard in all its power; the voice of the Lord is full,
It speaks with might and splendor.

The voice of the Lord breaks down the tallest cedar;

Lebanon, Mount Hermon now leap like frightened calves and oxen.

The voice of the Lord makes lightning strike the heavens; deserts shake in tumult,
The desert lands of Kadesh tremble.

The voice of the Lord, like thunder, shakes the oak trees; it strips the forest bare, the
throngs in the temple shout, "Glory." *Refrain.*

For God is the Lord, the Lord of all the waters; all the raging rivers,
All the floods are stilled by God, the maker.

The Lord gives us peace, makes quiet all the waters;

God will be our strength, our hope, our peace forevermore. *Refrain.*

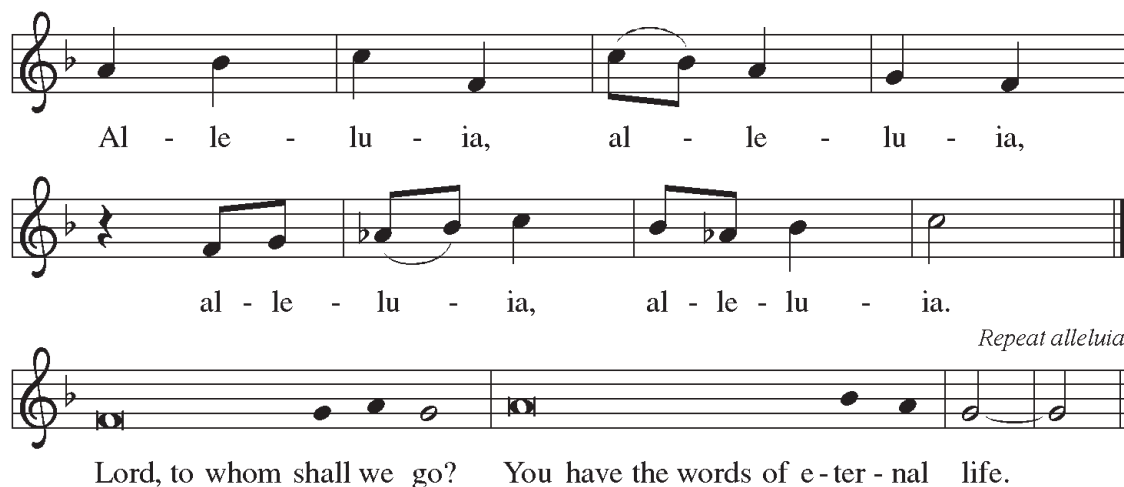
SECOND READING: ACTS 19:1-7

¹While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. ²He said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?” They replied, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.” ³Then he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” They answered, “Into John’s baptism.” ⁴Paul said, “John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus.” ⁵On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—⁷altogether there were about twelve of them.

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

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

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

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Dan Heim

Please rise, as you are able.



1 Down Gal - i - lee's slow road - ways a strang - er trav - eled on
 2 A - ris - ing from the riv - er he saw the heav - ens torn;
 3 We too have found a road - way; it led us to this place.



from Naz - a - reth to Jor - dan to be bap - tized by John.
 it seemed the sky so o - pen re - vealed the Spir - it's form.
 We all have had to trav - el in search of hope and grace.



He went down to the wa - ters like sol - dier, scribe, and slave,
 The ho - ly dove de - scend - ed a - mid a glo - rious voice:
 But now be - side this wa - ter a - gain a voice is heard.



but there with - in the riv - er the sign was birth and grave.
 "You are my own be - lov - ed, my child, my heart, my choice."
 "You are my own, my cho - sen, be - lov - ed of your Lord."

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: MERLE'S TUNE, Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933

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Please be seated.

COMMISSIONING OF CHURCH COUNCIL

Please rise as you are able.

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

As we celebrate Christ coming to dwell among us, we pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

Each petition ends: God of grace,

Please respond:

receive our prayer.

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, 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	<i>Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters</i> Setting by John Carter	
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Please rise, as you are able.

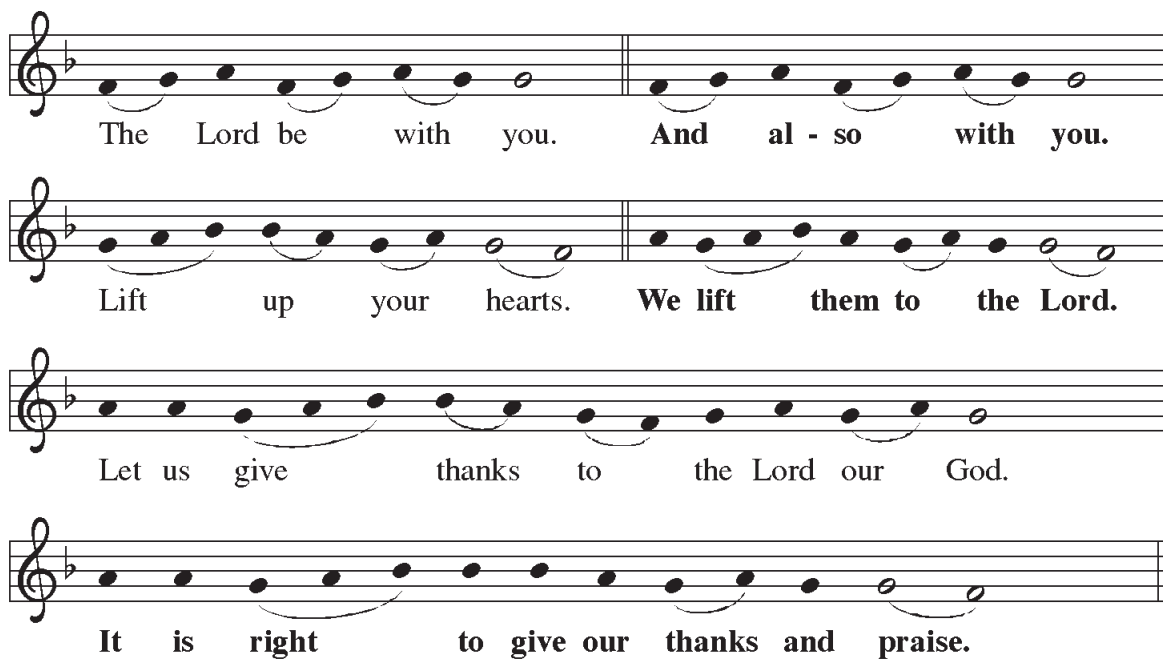
OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. God of mercy and grace,

the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. Amen.

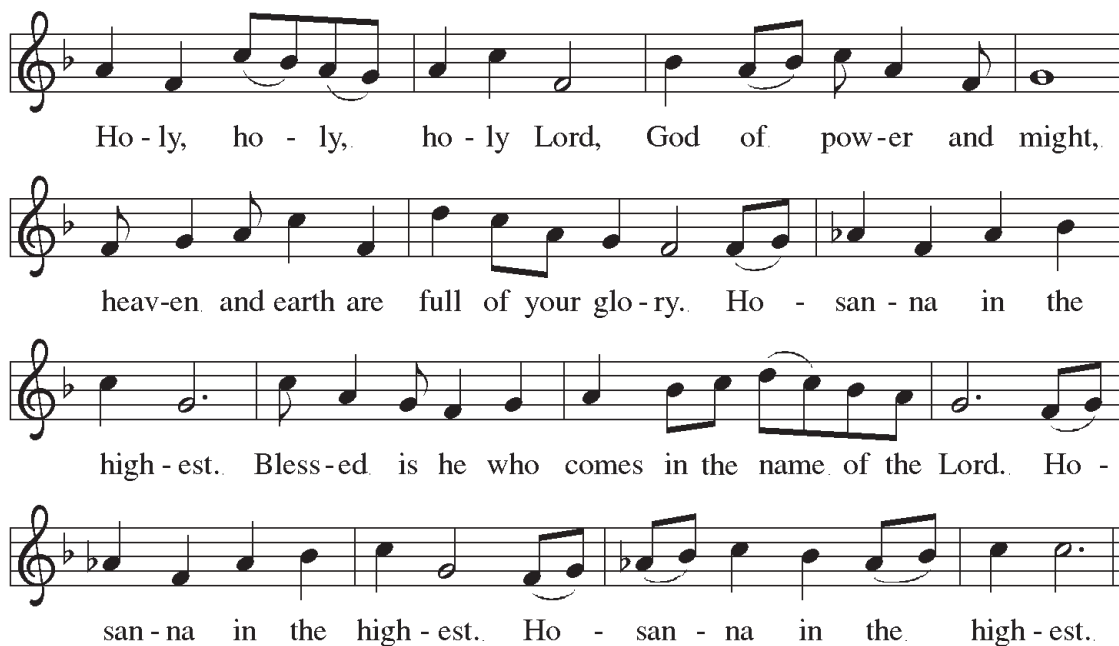
[Next page](#)

GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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 leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. 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:



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.

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age: the promise to Israel, the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the words of the prophets; and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son, who proclaimed the good news in word and deed and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

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.

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray, your ✠ Holy Spirit, that we who share in Christ's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, 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

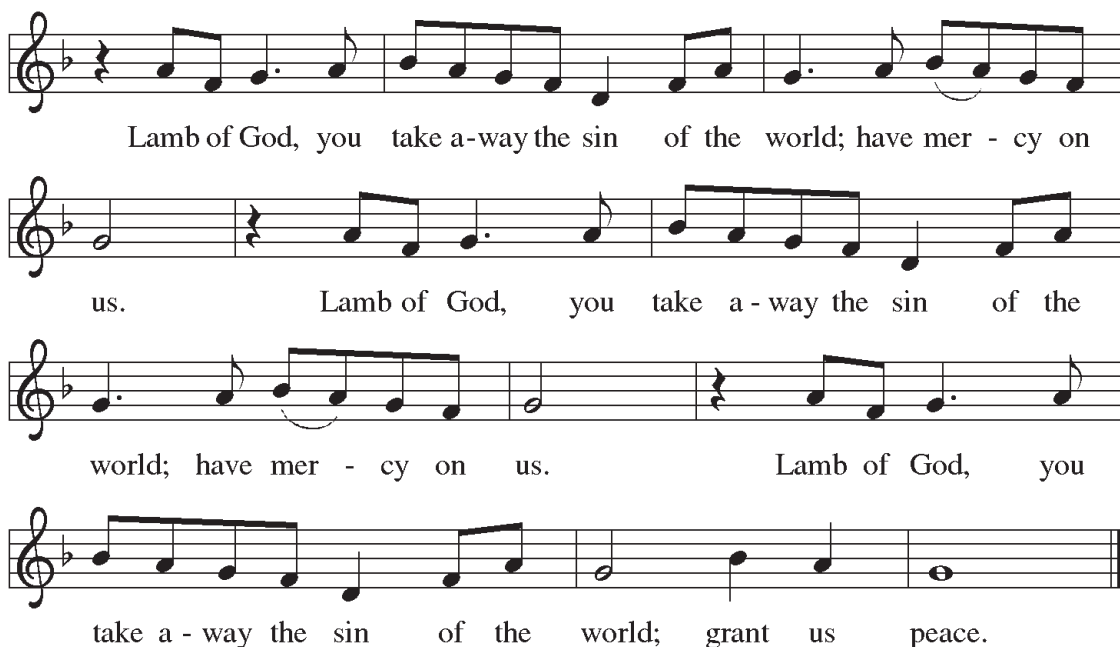
These are the gifts of God for you, the beloved people of God.

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.

Refrain
All

Wade in the wa - ter, wade in the wa - ter, chil - dren,
wade in the wa - ter, God's a - goin' - a trou - ble the wa - ter.

Cantor

All

1 See that host all dressed in white,
2 See that band all dressed in red, God's a - goin' - a trou - ble the
3 Look o - ver yon - der, what do I see?
4 If you don't be - lieve I've been re - deemed,

Cantor

wa - ter. the lead - er looks like the Is - rael - ite.
looks like the band that . . . Mo - ses led.
the Ho - ly Ghost a - com - ing on me.
just fol - low me down to . . . Jor - dan's stream.

All

Refrain

God's a - goin' - a trou - ble the wa - ter.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: WADE IN THE WATER, African American spiritual

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. Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Section end

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us out in peace.

BENEDICTION

God bless you and keep you, ✠ Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN (next page)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is near.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Azmon, setting by Barbara Harbach

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 Hail to the Lord's a - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!
 2 You come with res - cue speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong,
 4 Kings shall fall down be - fore you, and gold and in - cense bring;



Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, your reign on earth be - gun!
 to help the poor and need - y, and bid the weak be strong;
 all na - tions shall a - dore you, your praise all peo - ple sing.



You come to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive
 to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to
 To you shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows as -



free, to take a - way trans - gres - sion and
 light, whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, are
 cend; your king - dom still in - creas - ing, a



rule in eq - ui - ty.
 pre - cious in your sight.
 king - dom with out end.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.
 Music: FREUT EUCH, IHR LIEBEN, Leonhart Schröter, 1540–1602

THIS WEEK AT ZION

Scan QR code for this month's calendar



Sunday, January 14

Worship in person	9am	Sanctuary
Faith Formation Hour for all ages	10:15	Details next page
Adult Class: What...Planning Worship?	10:20	Fellowship Hall
Worship in person and online	11:30	Sanctuary & YouTube
New Member Orientation & Lunch	12:30	Fellowship Hall
Dinner by Reserved Table	1:30	Family Life Center
The Play That Goes Wrong	2:30	Family Life Center
Nat'l Youth Gathering Pre-Trip Mtg	6:30	MC - 1

Monday, January 15

Game Group	1pm	Fellowship Hall
LMM Fellowship & Dinner	6:30	Sea Island Restaurant

Tuesday, January 16

Exercise Group	9am	Church 2
Staff Meeting	11am	Break Room
Council Mtg 3rd	6:30	Fellowship Hall
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, January 17

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, January 18

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

Saturday, January 20

Weight Watchers Meetings	7:30 & 9:30am	Church 2
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Sunday, January 21

Worship in person	9am	Sanctuary
New Member Class #2	9:30	TBA
Faith Formation Hour for all ages	10:15	Details next page
Adult Class: What...Planning Worship?	10:20	Fellowship Hall
Worship in person and online	11:30	Sanc & YouTube

Worship Support

Altar Guild

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

Lay Reader

9:00 Mary Mora

11:30 Eileen Spehr

Cantor

Celeste Mussey

Communion Servers

9:00 Linnell & Dave Brewton

11:30 Jennifer Kretzschmar
Suzi Lockamy

Livestream

Steve Johnson, David Umlang

Sound

Scott VanDoren

Ushers

9:00 Doris & Dave Newman
LeShea Clabough &
Kevin McGee
Karen & James Sturdivant
Suzanne & Russell Warren

11:30 Kim & Mike DeHart
Joanna & Mel Arviso

Sunday Faith Formation for 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

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

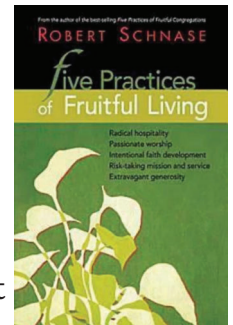
Adult Classes Begin Today

• *What Goes Into Planning Worship?*

This class begins on January 14 in the Fellowship Hall at about 10:20. Join Pastor Kathi and Director of Music Ministries Rob Mikulski for a five-week series about planning worship. Topics include: how we plan liturgies for Sundays and Wednesdays, how sermons are written, how do we plan ahead AND allow room for the Holy Spirit to work?

• *Five Practices of Fruitful Living*

Begins today in Ministry Center Room 6 (upstairs), through February 11. Discussions based on the book (not required reading) by Robert Schnase, considering radical hospitality; passionate worship; intentional faith development; risk-taking mission and service; and extravagant generosity. Led by John Macha and Amy McFadden.



Men's Fellowship Dinner

Third Monday, January 15 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.

Game Group

Monday, January 15 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 the group.

Quilting for Lutheran World Relief

Thursday, January 18 at 9:30am

Even if you don't sew, consider learning some basics with LWR Quilters! The durable quilts we make are sent all over the world to be used as bedding, room dividers, and shelter. If you can't make it to the quilting meetings, quilt tops can be sewn at home at your convenience. Fabric is provided.

Come on out on the first and third Thursdays of the month at 9:30 in the Fellowship Hall. Contact Diane Stewart through the church office if you need more details.

The LWR Quilters are always 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 any quilting time.

Crafty Bunch

Every Wednesday at 9:30

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



Camp Hope 2024:
On the Open Sea

June 17-21
and/or
June 24-28

For those entering Kindergarten

through grade 7 in Fall '24. Youth-led daycamp, developing young leaders through hands-on activity with the Bible, worship, art, STEM, games, drama, snacks and more.

Disciple Campers (6th & 7th graders) are further challenged with off-site service and learning projects with our mission partner, Nichols Elementary School.

Cost is \$125 first camper, \$115 each additional sibling. Before/after care \$25 per hour. Use this QR to register. Scholarships available.



STAFF CONTACT

Day Off

Pastor Kathi Johnson
kjohanson@ZionSA.org

Monday

Pastor Dan Heim
dheim@ZionSA.org

Friday

Suzie Wyatt,
Administrator
swyatt@ZionSA.org

Thursday
afternoon

Rob Mikulski,
Music Director
rmikulski@ZionSA.org

Monday

Sammy Mikulski,
Theatre Director
theatre@ZionSA.org

Monday

2024 CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Bud Halstead *President*

Allen Cockrell *Treasurer*

Other Council officers TBD.

Erica Macha, Chris Jones,
David Umlang, Rachel Williams,
Shiloh Love, Pr. Kathi Johnson,
Pr. Dan Heim

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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Youth Nights/Confirmation Mentoring

Thursday, January 25 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! Suggested meal offering is \$4.



Dinner Out at Umberto's Italian Grill

Thursday, February 1 at 6:30pm

Dinner Out invites all adults to meet this month at Umberto's Italian Grill, 7616 Culebra Road (at Ingram Road). Come early for socializing; dinner seating is at 6:30.

RSVP by January 28 to Doris & Dave Newman; call the church office if you need their contact info.

CAM's Current Needs

Christian Assistance Ministry (CAM) is on the campus of Grace Lutheran Church downtown. With the support of individuals and churches throughout San Antonio, CAM provides both emergency and ongoing help to our neighbors in need. Is there something you can help with? Zion's yellow collection bins are behind the stairs on the north side of our narthex.

- Men's jeans (all sizes)
- Little boy's clothing
- Large reusable shopping bags (bigger than grocery bags)
- People/groups to serve at CAM on Saturdays
- Weekly volunteers
- Financial support - this QR links directly to CAM's donation page.

E-mail CAM Volunteer Director Mary Henderson, mhenderson@cam-sa.org to talk about volunteering.



Pastor's Reflection

Today, we remember the Baptism of Our Lord. Sometimes, people are curious why Jesus was baptized when he had no sins to wash away. One explanation is that his baptism served as a commissioning, of sorts. At his baptism, Jesus was named as God's own Son. Following his baptism, he was sent into the wilderness for forty days to prepare for the work he was called to do: healing, teaching, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God.

Today in worship, we also commission our 2024 Church Council members. Serving on Council is a tremendous honor; it also can include a tremendous amount of work. The people who are elected to serve truly have hearts of servants, called by God to serve God's church in this way. They love our Lord, and they love you, the people of Zion. Please take a moment to say thank you to them!

As the baptized believers in Christ, God calls all of us to new life: loving others and serving them in God's name. How is God calling YOU to love and serve?

In peace,
Pastor Kathi

Zion Bunco Group

Monday, January 22 at 1:00pm

Zion Bunco Group will meet for a rousing game of Bunco and fellowship at 1:00, Monday January 22 in the Fellowship Hall. For info, contact Shirley Homeier-McBrayer through the church office.

*Your
generosity
empowers
Zion's ministry*

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

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

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



Zion is a Stephen Ministry Church!

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

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

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



Festival of Faiths - San Antonio

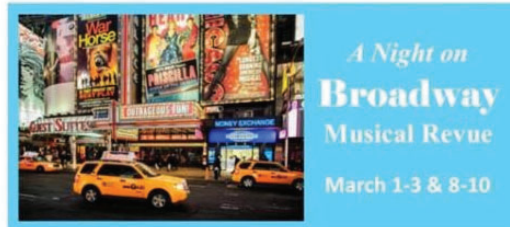
Sunday, January 21

Interested in learning more about other faiths? Attend the inaugural Festival of Faiths - San Antonio!

The Festival is on January 21, from 1:00-6:00pm, at University of the Incarnate Word, on Broadway at Hildebrand. The festival will include music, art, and discussions from the many different faiths that make up our city. Registration is required - Click this QR (or type in festivaloffaithssa.org) for information and to sign up!



Music and Theatre Events



March 1-3 & 8-10

2:30 and 7:30 pm performances

Zion Lutheran Church
Family Life Center

Tickets available online beginning
February 1, 2024 at ZTG.booktix.com



May 3 & 4

7:30 pm

Zion Lutheran Church Sanctuary

Free will offering



July 18-21 & 25-28

2:30 and 7:30 pm performances

Zion Lutheran Church
Family Life Center

Tickets available online beginning
June 10, 2024 at ZTG.booktix.com

**JANUARY 14, 2024
SECOND SUNDAY
AFTER EPIPHANY**



Trusted relationships help people follow Jesus.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	John 1:43-51	Jesus calls Philip and Nathanael
Monday	1 Samuel 3:1-20	The call of Samuel
Tuesday	1 Corinthians 6:12-20	Honor God in body and spirit
Wednesday	Ephesians 6:1-4	Nurturing faith at home
Thursday	2 Timothy 1:1-7	Timothy's faith through family
Friday	2 John 1:12-13	Nurturing faith by relationships
Saturday	Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18	The Lord knows us well
Sunday	Mark 1:14-20	Jesus calls the first disciples

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." **John 1:45 (NRSV)***

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Nurturing God, we thank you for your love that reaches out to us through others that we may have confidence and joy as followers of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, with this food you care for our lives and our physical wellbeing; we thank you for the many ways you show your love for us. In Jesus' name, amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you with joy as a follower of Jesus.



JANUARY 14, 2024

HYMN OF THE WEEK

*You Have Come Down
to the Lakeshore*



**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:

- Who is someone you trust and why do you put your trust in that person?
- Who has helped you as a follower of Jesus? What was it about this person that encouraged you in your Christian life?

DEVOTIONS



Read: John 1:35-51.

Beginning with the wise men from the East and Jesus' baptism, Epiphany is the season that focuses on revealing Jesus to the world. In John 1 it is the followers of Jesus who do some of that revealing. Jesus "found" Philip and brings him into the fold of followers. Just as Jesus "found" Philip, now Philip finds Nathanael (vv. 43, 45). Philip is described as someone from Bethsaida, the same hometown as Andrew and Peter who were just added to Jesus' followers. It is likely they had been neighborhood boys, familiar with one another. These are examples of faith formed through personal relationships. First, it was John the Baptist pointing to Jesus that drew in Andrew, and then Andrew "found" Peter and brought in his brother. Now Philip is added to the group, and he goes and gets his friend Nathanael. Nathanael is a skeptic. Philip simply suggests with a note of confidence that Nathanael should find out for himself.

Nathanael then has his own experience of being "found" by Jesus and he, too, is drawn in.

Discuss: How do you speak about Jesus to others?

Pray: **Faithful God, we thank you for those you have placed in our lives to help us in our life's journey as a follower of Jesus. Amen.**

SERVICE



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, as a follower of Jesus, how can you encourage someone in their faith?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Psalms 139 speaks poetically about the intimate relationship that God has with us. We are fully and utterly known by God and God's love for us. Take time to read Psalm 139:1-6 and 13-18.

Think about the personal relationship you have with God. How has that relationship been enriched by others who have nurtured you in the Christian faith over the years? Consider writing a card thanking one or more people for their care for you in your Christian faith.



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

