

January 21, 2024 • Season of Epiphany  
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.

## ON THE COVER

Detail from *Call of the Sons of Zebedee*, 1510, Marco Basaiti (approximately 1478-1530). Accademia of Venice, Italy.

From Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=56395> [retrieved January 16, 2024].

## Zion Lutheran Church

9944 Leslie Road • San Antonio, Texas 78254 • 210-688-3090 • [zion@zionsa.org](mailto:zion@zionsa.org)

# GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit, the Comforter, gathers us in worship.*

PRELUDE

*I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*  
setting by Wayne L. Wold

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.**

*God bless and be with you.*

1 Je - sus calls us; o'er the tu - mult of our  
 2 As of old Saint An - drew heard it by the  
 5 Je - sus calls us! By your mer - cy, Sav - ior,

life's wild, rest - less sea, day by day his clear voice  
 Gal - i - le - an lake, turned from home and toil and  
 may we hear your call, give our hearts to your o -

sound - ing, say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me":  
 kin - dred, leav - ing all for Je - sus' sake.  
 be - dience, serve and love you best of all.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818–1895  
 Music: GALILEE, William H. Jude, 1851–1922

## 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.



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

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## WORD

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

## CHILDREN'S CHAT

Shiloh Love

FIRST READING: JONAH 3:1-5, 10

*Jonah and the Big Fish  
Spark Bible page 190*

<sup>1</sup>The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, <sup>2</sup>“Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.” <sup>3</sup>So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. <sup>4</sup>Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, “Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” <sup>5</sup>And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

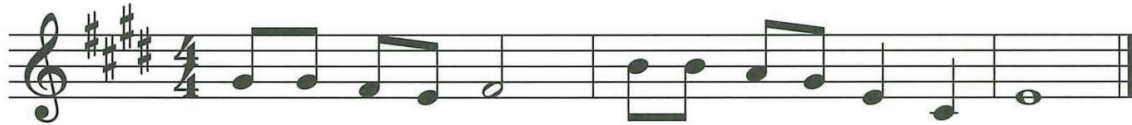
<sup>10</sup>When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

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

PSALM 62

*Refrain*

Michel Guimont



Rest in God a-lone, rest in God a-lone my soul.

In God alone is my soul at rest;  
from God comes my help.  
God alone is my rock, my stronghold,  
my fortress; I stand firm. R̄.

In God is my safety and glory,  
the rock of my strength.  
Take refuge in God, all you people,  
trusting always.  
Pour out your hearts to the Lord. R̄.

In God alone be at rest, my soul;  
from God comes my hope.  
God alone is my rock, my stronghold,  
my fortress; I stand firm. R̄.

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

SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 7:29-31

[Paul writes] <sup>29</sup>Brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, <sup>30</sup>and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, <sup>31</sup>and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

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

*Please rise, as you are able.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. *Repeat alleluia*  
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

## GOSPEL: MARK 1:14-20

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

<sup>14</sup>Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, <sup>15</sup>and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

<sup>16</sup>As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. <sup>17</sup>And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” <sup>18</sup>And immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>19</sup>As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. <sup>20</sup>Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

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

*Please be seated.*

## SERMON

Pastor Kathi Johnson

*Please rise, as you are able.*



1 Faith be - gins by let - ting go, giv - ing up what had seemed sure,  
 2 Faith en - dures by hold - ing on, keep - ing mem - 'ry's roots a - live  
 3 Faith ma - tures by reach - ing out, stretch - ing minds, en - larg - ing hearts,

tak - ing risks and press - ing on, though the way feels less se - cure:  
 so that hope may bear its fruit; prom - ise - fed, our souls will thrive,  
 shar - ing strug - gles, liv - ing prayer, bind - ing up the bro - ken parts;

pil - grim - age both right and odd, trust - ing all our life to God.  
 not through mer - it we pos - sess but by God's great faith - ful - ness.  
 till we find the com - mon - place ripe with wit - ness to God's grace.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: RATISBON, J. G. Werner, *Choralbuch*, 1815

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## APOSTLES' CREED

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

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

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

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

*\*catholic: universal*

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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](http://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.*

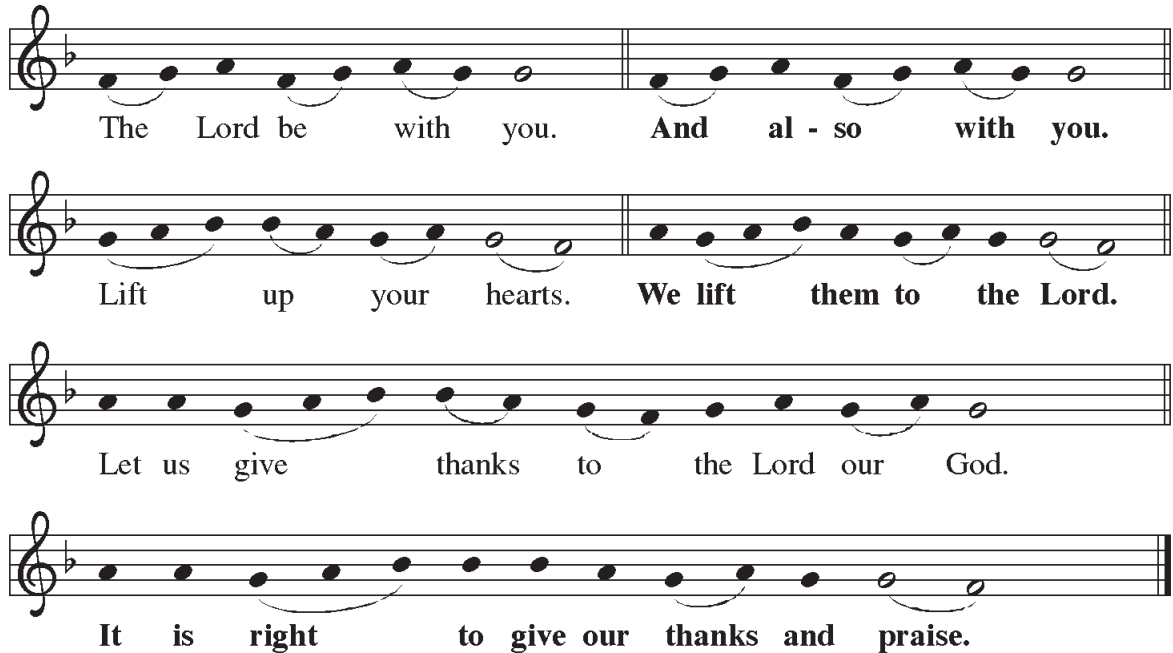
OFFERING MUSIC	<i>Brightest and Best of the Stars</i> by Michael Larkin	
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*Please rise, as you are able.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

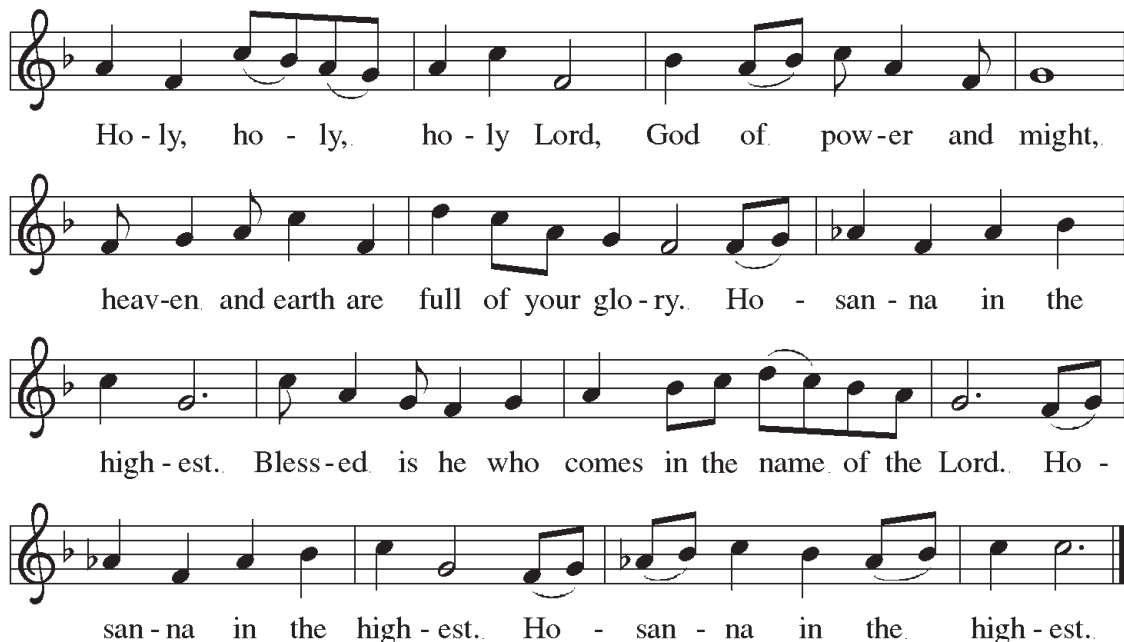
Let us pray. God of mercy and grace,  
**the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. Amen.**

# 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

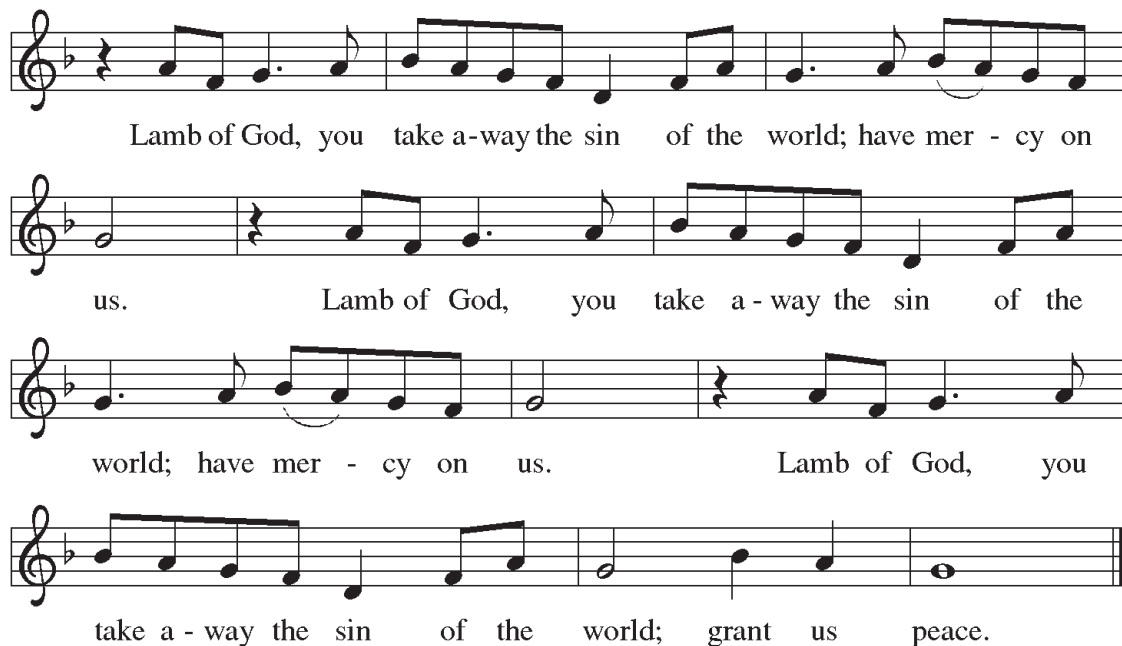
These are the gifts of God for you, the beloved people of God.

*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.

COMMUNION HYMN

I Love to Tell the Story



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,  
 2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat  
 3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.  
 what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!  
 seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;  
 I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard  
 And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else would do.  
 the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.  
 I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

*Refrain*



I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry



to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834–1911  
 Music: HANKEY, William E. Fischer, 1849–1936

*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 *on next page*

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is near.

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

*Toccata in F Major* by Dietrich Buxtehude

## 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 Sent forth by God's bless - ing, our true faith con - fess - ing,  
2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er - liv - ing,



the peo - ple of God from this dwell - ing take leave.  
the tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face—



The sup - per is end - ed. Oh, now be ex - tend - ed  
our faith ev - er shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing,



the fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.  
em - brac - ing God's chil - dren, the whole hu - man race.



The seed of Christ's teach - ing, re - cep - tive souls  
With your feast you feed us, with your light now



reach - ing, shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.  
lead us; u - nite us as one in this life that we share.



Your grace shall in - cite us, your love shall u - nite us  
Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks - giv - ing



to work for your king - dom and an - swer your call.  
give hon - or to Christ and his name that we bear.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.  
Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune  
Text © 1964 World Library Publications, 3708 River Rd., Franklin Park, IL 60131-2158. All rights reserved.  
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## THIS WEEK AT ZION

Scan QR code for this month's calendar



### Sunday, January 21

Worship in person	9am	Sanctuary
New Member Class #2	10:15	FLC Room 101
Faith Formation Hour for all ages	10:15	Details next page
Adults: 5 Practices of Fruitful Living	10:15	MC 6
Adults: What Goes Into Planning Worship	10:20	Fellowship Hall
Worship in person and online	11:30	Sanctuary & YouTube

### Monday, January 22

*Bunco canceled until Feb 26*

### Tuesday, January 23

Exercise Group	9am	Church 2
Staff Meeting	11am	Break Room
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 24

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, January 25

Weight Watchers Mtg	9:30	Church 2
NEW Bible 101: Lutheran Perspective	10am	Fellowship Hall
Youth Night	6:30	Ministry Center
Fiesta Flutes Rehearsal	7pm	Church 2
Stephen Ministry Supervision	7pm	MC-5 and 6

### Saturday, January 26

Weight Watchers Meetings	7:30 & 9:30am	Church 2
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### Sunday, January 27

Worship in person	9am	Sanctuary
New Member Class #3	10:15	FLC Room 101
Faith Formation Hour for all ages	10:15	Details next page
Adults: 5 Practices of Fruitful Living	10:15	MC 1
Adults: What Goes Into Planning Worship	10:20	Fellowship Hall
Worship in person and online	11:30	Sanctuary & YouTube

## Worship Support

### Altar Guild

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

### Lay Reader

9:00 Jennifer Kretzschmar  
11:30 Rachel Cannady

### Cantor

Jeff Williams

### Communion Servers

9:00 Bonnie Harrell  
Lisa & Philip Beekley  
11:30 Suzi Lockamy  
Laura Knoll  
Karen Umlang

### 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 Pam Gammage  
Chris Berg

## Sunday Faith Formation for Children and Youth

Meet in Ministry Center classrooms at 10:15.

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

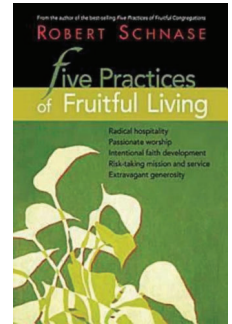
## Adult Sunday Classes

### • *What Goes Into Planning Worship?*

Join Pastor Kathi and Director of Music Ministries Rob Mikulski for a 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? In the Fellowship Hall at about 10:20, through February 11.

### • *Five Practices of Fruitful Living*

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. Ministry Center Room 6 (upstairs), through February 11.



## NEW Weekday Bible Study

Bible 101: Bible Studies from a Lutheran Perspective Led by Pr. Eileen Spehr. Thursday, January 25 at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall.

Following meetings are February 8 and 22, March 21, April 11.

## Festival of Faiths - San Antonio

TODAY, January 21

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

The Festival is this afternoon, 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!





**cam**  
christian  
assistance  
ministry

### 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](mailto:mhenderson@cam-sa.org) to volunteer.



**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 day-camp, 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 for each additional sibling. Before/after care \$25 per hour. Use this QR to register. Scholarships are available.



Camp Hope 2024

### STAFF CONTACT

*Day Off*

Pastor Kathi Johnson

*Monday*

Senior Pastor

[kjohnson@ZionSA.org](mailto:kjohnson@ZionSA.org)

Pastor Dan Heim

*Friday*

Pastor, Youth & Family

[dheim@ZionSA.org](mailto:dheim@ZionSA.org)

Suzie Wyatt,

*Thursday*

Administrator

*afternoon*

[swyatt@ZionSA.org](mailto:swyatt@ZionSA.org)

Rob Mikulski,

*Monday*

Music Director

[rmikulski@ZionSA.org](mailto:rmikulski@ZionSA.org)

Sammy Mikulski,

*Monday*

Theatre Director

[theatre@ZionSA.org](mailto:theatre@ZionSA.org)

### 2024 CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Bud Halstead

President

Allen Cockrell

Treasurer

Chris Jones

VP

Erica Macha

Secretary

David Umlang

At Large

Rachel Williams

At Large

Shiloh Love

At Large

Pr. Kathi Johnson

Senior Pastor

Pr. Dan Heim

Pastor

## OFFICE CONTACT



Mon-Thur 8:30am-5:00pm  
Friday close at 3:00pm



210-688-3090



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# Call Process Update

for our Associate Pastor

Happy New Year!

As we begin this new calendar year, the Council is moving forward with the process of identifying the Call Team members who will assist us with recommending the right candidate for our Associate Pastor position.

At this point, we encourage interested congregational members to notify a council member, listed on previous page, of your interest or send a quick note to the church office. We believe 2024 will be a fantastic year for mission and ministry opportunities and look forward to identifying and calling our new Associate Pastor.

*Bud Halstead*  
*Congregational President*

*Pastor Kathi Johnson*  
*Senior Pastor*

## Youth Nights/Confirmation Mentoring

January 25 Dinner and Fellowship  
6:30-8:30 in Ministry Center

For middle and high schoolers, every other Thursday,  
6:30-8 pm: Dinner, Bible study, service project, Confirmation mentoring. \$4 suggested offering for dinner.

Please use the QR code to RSVP so we have enough food and supplies! Suggested meal offering is \$4.





## 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 LeShea Clabough, our Stephen Ministry Leader. Get her contact information from the church office, 210-688-3090, or email her directly using this QR.



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## Blessed Change for Haven for Hope

Next Sunday, January 28



Zion's next Blessed Change Collection is for Haven for Hope. Haven has programs for jail and street outreach, the Courtyard for safe indoor sleeping, and the Transformational Campus for individuals and families. Look for the water well in the narthex next Sunday and

drop in your loose change, folding money and checks, or use this QR code to donate directly to Haven for Hope.



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

*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.



**JANUARY 21, 2024  
THIRD SUNDAY  
AFTER EPIPHANY**



*Repentance turns us to the power of God's mercy.*

### **DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

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

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Mark 1:14-20</b>	<b>Jesus calls the first disciples</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Jonah 3:1-5, 10</b>	<b>Jonah goes to Nineveh</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>1 Corinthians 7:29-31</b>	<b>Live without anxiety</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Isaiah 55:6-13</b>	<b>God's ways are not our ways</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Psalm 51:1-12</b>	<b>A prayer for forgiveness</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>2 Corinthians 12:1-10</b>	<b>Paul's visions</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Psalm 62:5-12</b>	<b>God is powerful and kind</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Mark 1:21-28</b>	<b>Jesus teaches in the synagogue</b>

### **SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK**

*Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us. Psalm 62:8 (NRSV)*

### **PRAYERS AND BLESSING**

#### **A Prayer for the Week:**

God of steadfast love and mercy, help us to be open to the depth and breadth of your power of love that reaches others through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

#### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, just as you feed us with the life-giving power of this food, feed us with your love to care for others in Jesus' name. Amen.

#### **A Blessing to Give:**

May the steadfast love of God give you peace.



**JANUARY 21, 2024**

## **HYMN OF THE WEEK**

*O God of Mercy,  
God of Light*



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:

- Do you find it hard to love certain people? Explain.
- What do you think about God showing love and mercy to people who upset you?

## **DEVOTIONS**



*Read:* Jonah 3:1-5, 10 and 4:1-4.

It is easy to get caught up in debates about whether or not Jonah was swallowed by a whale. We can miss the point—and the real miracle—of the whole book. Jonah ran away from God because God directed Jonah to preach repentance to the city of Nineveh. The great miracle in the book of Jonah is that Nineveh repented! The city was known as a corrupt, violent, and ungodly place. Jonah's harsh warning that the city would be overthrown in forty days brought the people—including the king—to repentance. Jonah was displeased about this outcome. He knew the steadfast love and mercy of God and did not want it to be given to Nineveh. Jonah didn't want God to love the people that Jonah didn't love at all. The message in the book of Jonah for us is to stop despising the people God loves. God's steadfast love is great. Even though we feel some do not deserve God's love and mercy, they may receive it anyway. Our call to repentance is the same kind of turning away from a world as we want it and be open to the power of God's kingdom to make all things new.

*Discuss:* When have you been surprised to see the power of God's love in the lives of those you felt were undeserving?

*Pray:* **God of abundant grace, help us to trust that your ways are not our ways and that your ways are filled with a love and mercy for all through your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

## **SERVICE**



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, what can you do to extend God's love to someone you dislike?

## **RITUALS AND TRADITIONS**



We read about Jesus calling the first disciples in Mark 1:16-20. They were fisherman. The fish is an important Christian symbol. Each letter in the Greek spelling of the word "fish" (*IXTHUS*) begins a Greek word that stands for "Jesus Christ Son of God Savior." During the early church, it was dangerous to be a Christian in some parts of the Roman Empire. Believers developed a code to reveal their faith to others who were Christian. One person would draw on the ground the upper half of a fish symbol. If the other person was a Christian, they would recognize this and add a second curve line to complete the drawing of a fish. Draw a simple fish design. Place it in a visible place in your home as a reminder of your faith in Jesus.



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