

February 18, 2024 • First Sunday of Lent
9:00 and 11:30 am



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 hall 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.

THE SEASON OF LENT

Lent begins with the ashes of Ash Wednesday and extends until Holy Week (the week before Easter). Traditionally, Lent is a time of greater self-examination and repentance for one's sins. In our sinfulness, we also remember that we are dust and will return to dust again.

Even as our worship becomes more somber during this season, we continually remember God's mercy which is everlasting. We confess our sins; God forgives them. We come to God's table; God feeds us. We are never far from the Lord's presence with us, and his love remains forever.

ON THE COVER

Reminder, Mike Moyers

From Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57154>. Original source: Mike Moyers, <https://www.mikemoyersfineart.com/>.

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

Cantilena on a Lenten Plainsong, setting by Christopher Uehlein

WELCOME

Pastor Kathi Johnson

Please rise, as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of word and sacrament in the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Bless Now, O God, the Journey

1 Bless now, O God, the jour - ney that all your peo - ple make,
 2 Bless so - journ-ers and pil - grims who share this wind-ing way;
 3 Di - vine e - ter - nal lov - er, you meet us on the road.

the path through noise and si - lence, the way of give and take.
 your hope burns through the ter - rors, your love sus-tains the day.
 We wait for lands of prom - ise where milk and hon - ey flow,

The trail is found in des - ert and winds the moun-tain round,
 We yearn for ho - ly free - dom while of - ten we are bound;
 but wait-ing not for plac - es, you meet us all a - round.

then leads be - side still wa - ters, the road where faith is found.
 to - geth - er we are seek - ing the road where faith is found.
 Our cov - e - nant is writ - ten on roads, as faith is found.

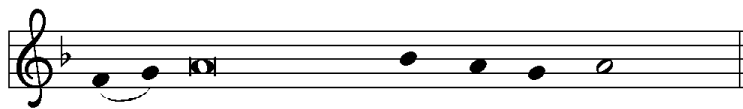
Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993
 Music: LLANGLOFFAN, Welsh tune, 19th cent.
 Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
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GREETING

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.

KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



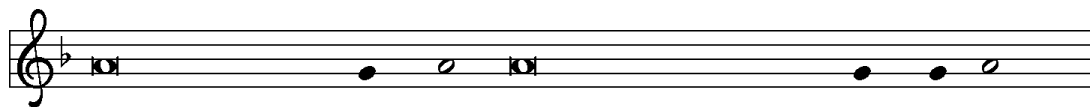
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



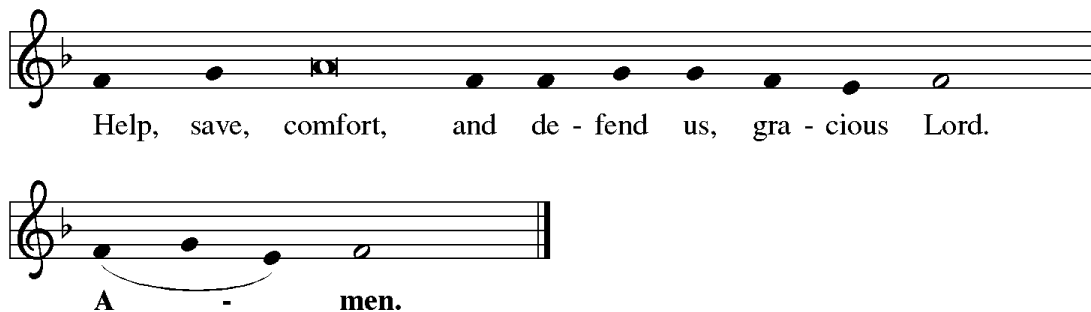
For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, 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

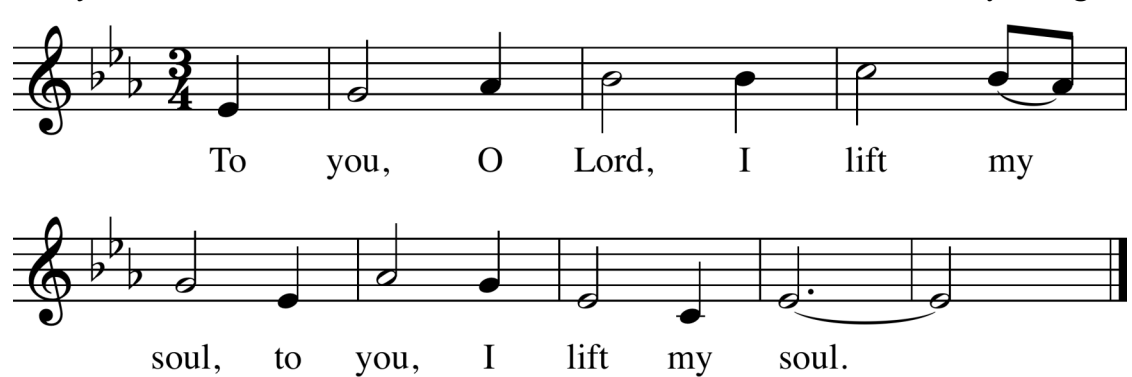
FIRST READING: Genesis 9:8-17

⁸God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹“As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, ¹⁰and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. ¹¹I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” ¹²God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” ¹⁷God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

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

PSALM 25

Refrain Marty Haugen



To you, O Lord, I lift my
soul, to you, I lift my soul.

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Lord, make me know your ways; teach me your paths and keep me in the way of Your truth,
for You are God, my Savior. *Refrain*

For the Lord is good and righteous, revealing his way to those who seek him,
gently leading the poor and the humble. *Refrain*

To the ones who seek the Lord, who look to his Word, who live his love,
he will always be near, he will show them his mercy. *Refrain*

SECOND READING: 1 PETER 3:18-22

¹⁸Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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

Please rise, as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: MARK 1:9-15

The Holy Gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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.”

¹²And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

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

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

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Dan Heim

Please rise as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

When We Are Tested



1 When we are test - ed and wres - tle a - lone,
2 When in the des - ert we cry for re - lief,
3 When we are tempt - ed to bar - ter our souls,
4 When we have strug - gled and searched through the night,



fam - ished for bread when the world of - fers stone,
plead - ing for paths marked by cer - tain be - lief,
trad - ing the truth for the pow'r to con - trol,
sort - ing and sift - ing the wrong from the right,



nour - ish us, God, by your word and your way,
lift us to love you be - yond sign and test,
teach us to wor - ship and praise on - ly you,
Sav - ior, sur - round us with cir - cles of care,



food that sus - tains us by night and by day.
trust - ing your pres - ence, our on - ly true rest.
seek - ing your will in the work that we do.
an - gels of heal - ing, of hope, and of prayer.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

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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

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

Each petition ends: God of mercy,

*Response: **hear our prayer.***

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus.

OFFERING

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

OFFERING MUSIC

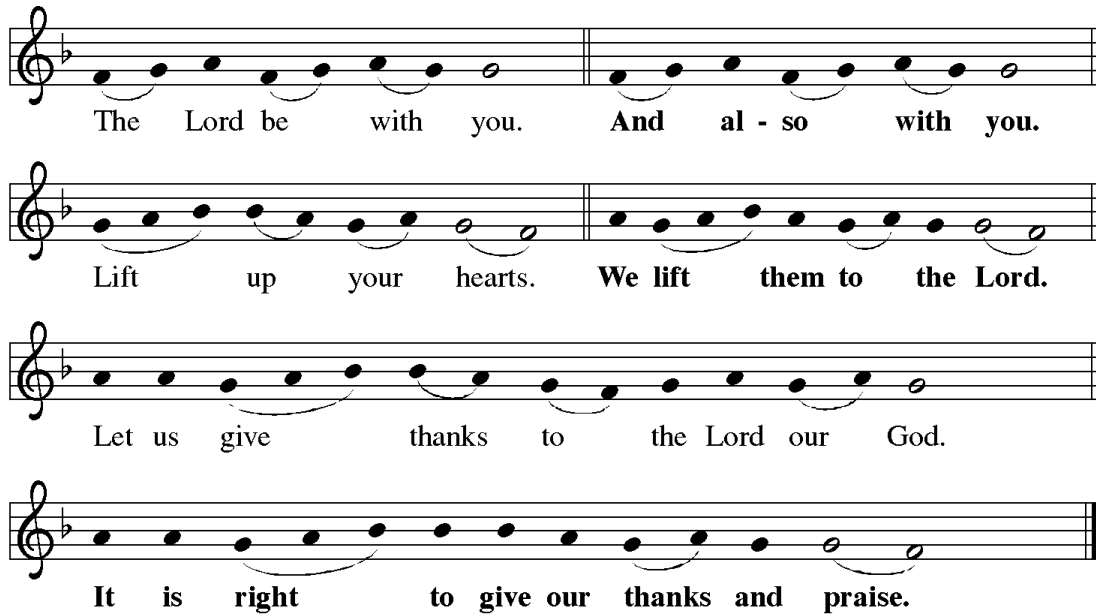
9:00	<i>You Do Not Walk Alone</i> , by Elaine Hagenberg	Chancel Choir
11:30	<i>Think on These Things</i> , by Mark Patterson	Youth Choir

Please rise, as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

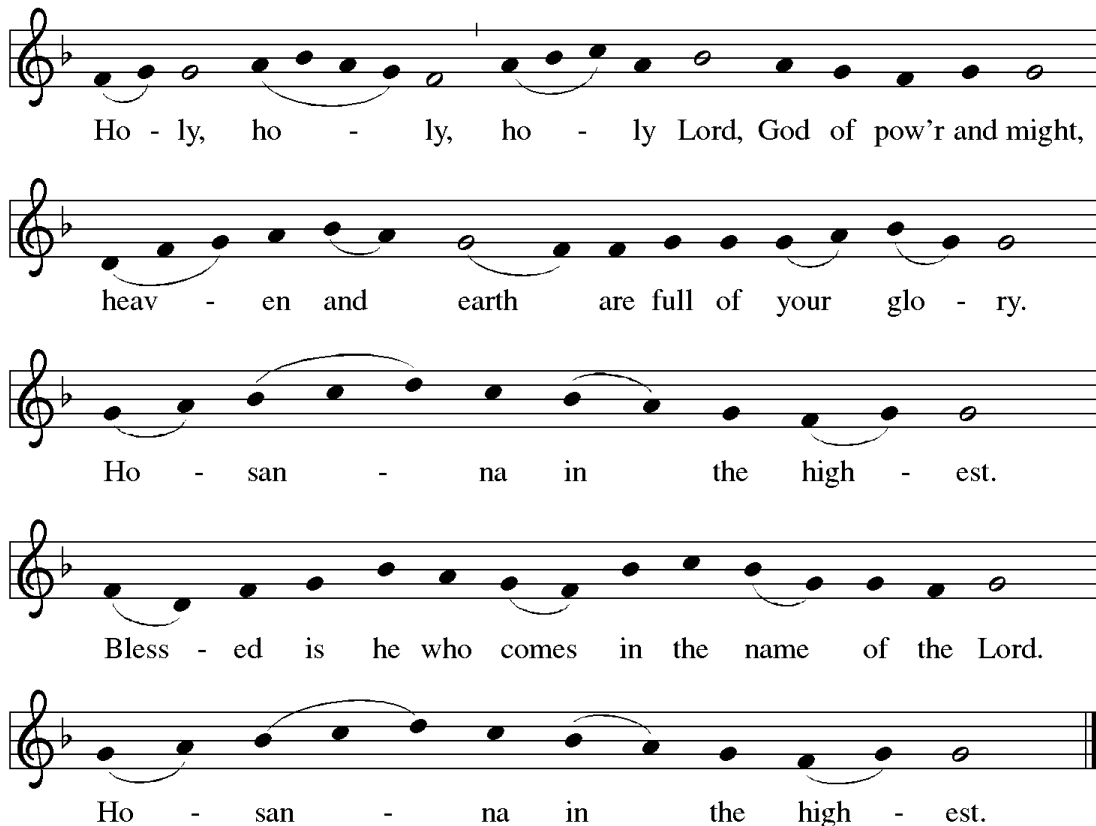
Let us pray. God of good gifts,
receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. Amen.

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. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. 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'r 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.

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 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

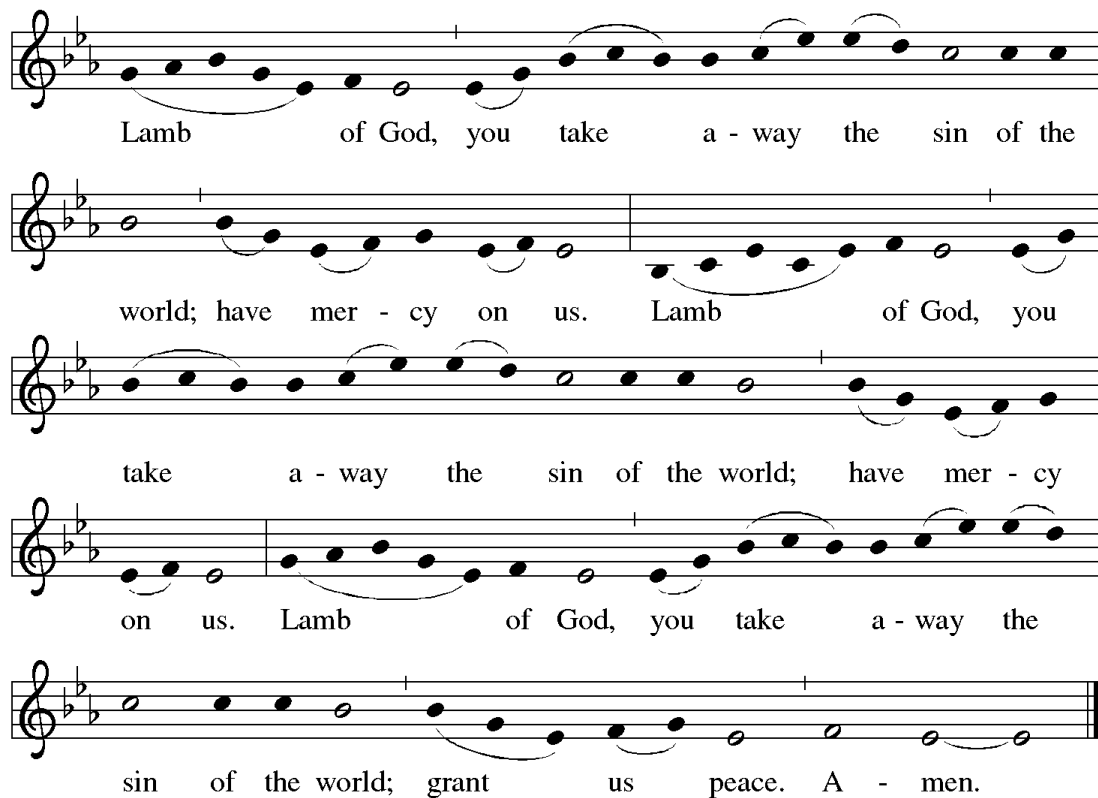
These are the gifts of God for you, the beloved people of God.

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. A - men.

COMMUNION MUSIC

9:00

Ave Verum Corpus, by Franz Liszt

Chancel Choir

Translation:

Hail, true Body, born of the Virgin Mary,
having truly suffered, sacrificed on the cross for all people,
from whose pierced side water and blood flowed:
Be for us a sweet foretaste in the trial of death.

11:00

Create in Me a Clean Heart, by Thomas Keesecker

Youth Choir

COMMUNION HYMN

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

The musical score is written for three voices (Soprano, Alto, and Tenor) and a basso continuo. It is in the key of D major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The score consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line in the treble clef and a basso continuo line in the bass clef. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line.

1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in your word; curb those who
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, send peace and

by de - ceit or sword would wrest the king - dom from your Son
Lord of lords a - lone; de - fend your ho - ly church, that we
u - ni - ty on earth; sup - port us in our fi - nal strife

and bring to naught all he has done.
may sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
and lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

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. Blessed Jesus, in this meal of grace, you have fed us with your body, the bread of life. Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope to a world in need. **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us out in peace.

BENEDICTION

Beloved ones, we are God's own people.

God bless you and keep you.

God shower you with mercy.

God fill you with courage, and ✠ give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Jesus, Still Lead On

1 Je - sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; and, al-though the
 2 If the way be drear, if the foe be near, let no faith - less
 3 When we seek re - lief from a long-felt grief, when temp-ta - tions
 4 Je - sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; heav'n-ly lead - er,

way be cheer - less, we will fol - low, calm and fear - less;
 fears o'er - take us, let not faith and hope for - sake us;
 come al - lur - ing make us pa - tient and en - dur - ing;
 still di - rect us, still sup - port, con - sole, pro - tect us,

guide us by your hand to the prom - ised land.
 safe - ly past the foe to our home we go.
 show us that bright shore where we weep no more.
 till we safe - ly stand in the prom - ised land.

Text: Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1700–1760; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt.
 Music: SEELENBRÄUTIGAM, Adam Drese, 1620–1701

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days, setting by James Biery

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.

THIS WEEK AT ZION

Scan QR code for this month's calendar



Sunday, February 18

St. Vincent de Paul Drive	8:30	Gazebo, Narthex
Worship in person	9am	Sanctuary
Intergenerational Faith Formation	10:15	Details Next Page
Worship in person and online	11:30	Sanctuary & YouTube

Monday, February 19

Game Group	1pm	Fellowship Hall
Lutheran Men in Mission Fellowship	6:30	Sea Island

Tuesday, February 20

Exercise Group	9am	Church 2
Memorial Service—Janet Hoover	11am	Sanctuary
Staff Meeting	1pm	Breakroom
Council Meeting	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, February 21

High School/Elementary Mentoring	7:15am	Nichols Elementary
Crafty Bunch	9:30	Ed Bdg Craft Room
Weight Watchers	9:30	Church 2
Wednesday Worship	1& 6:30	Historic Chapel
MOPS Event	6:30	Ministry Center 1
AA Meeting	7pm	Church 2
Al-Anon Meeting	7pm	Fellowship Hall
Chancel Choir	7:15	Sanctuary

Thursday, February 22

Bible 101 Bible Study	9:30	Fellowship Hall
Weight Watchers	9:30	Church 2
Youth Night	6:30	Ministry Center 1,7,8
Stephen Ministry	7pm	Ministry Center 5, 6
Fiesta Flutes Rehearsal	7pm	Church 2

Saturday, February 24

Weight Watchers	7:30& 9:30	Church 2
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Worship Support

Altar Guild

Carolyn Thronson, Doris Enderlin,
Cathy Jarred, Susan Johns,
Mary Ann Schmitt, Carrie Schmitzer,
Amy Swanson, Gina Williams

Lay Readers

9:00 Mary Mora
11:30 Rachel Cannady

Cantor

Gavin Magee

Communion Servers

9:00 Dave & Linnell Brewton
11:30 Laura Knoll
Bill Swantner

Livestream

Steve Johnson
David Umlang

Sound

Scott Van Doren

Ushers

9:00 Jake Apodaca, Irvin Moss
Matt Murray
Bill & Mary Ann Schmitt
11:30 Chris Berg
Pam Gammage

Two Midweek Services

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

Simple communion worship
services in Zion's historic chapel.

Sunday Faith Formation for Children and Youth at 10:15

Meet in Ministry Center Classrooms

<i>Age or Grade</i>	<i>Room</i>
Two Years-Kinder	MC-3
Grades 1-4	MC-4
Grades 5-7	MC-5
Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation) Grades 8-9	MC-7
High School Grades 10-12	MC-8

Music Rehearsals

Handbells

Tuesday 6:30pm Balcony

Children's (Gr 2-5)

Tuesday 7-7:45pm MC-1

Youth (Gr 6-12)

Tuesday 7-8pm Apse

Chancel (Adults)

Wednesday 7:15pm Sanctuary

Memorial Service for Janet Hoover

Tuesday, February 20, 11am
Sanctuary

Coffee Talk on 3/3

Sunday, March 3, 10:20am
Join Congregational Treasurer Allen Cockrell and other council members for a Coffee Talk in the Fellowship Hall.

Sunday, February 25

Pancake Breakfast	8am	Fellowship Hall
Worship in person	9am	Sanctuary
Faith Formation	10:15	See Listing for Rooms
Worship in person and online	11:30	Sanc & YouTube

Have a Beautiful, Terrible Lent!

Starting Today

Lenten devotional group, based on a resource by Kate Bowler. "Lent is full of hard truths. And it is a perfect moment for spiritual honesty. We can look on this tragicomedy with love and bemusement as we wait for the someday that will be God's promised future. There, God's kingdom comes. God's will be done on earth as it is in heaven. And in the meantime, there's this . . . our beautiful, terrible days."

Multiple ways to participate:

- Sign up for daily Lenten e-mail prompts; come to Sunday morning discussions during Faith Formation hour in MC-6.
- On February 18 come to the Intergenerational Lent Event in Fellowship Hall at 10:15; one station will be an introduction to the devotional, access to the resources and opening discussion.



Pancake Breakfast for the Congregation

Sunday, February 25 in the Fellowship Hall, 8am-11:30

LMM will host a pancake feast to celebrate Shrove Tuesday, the German-European version of Fat Tuesday. In addition to regular and gluten-free pancakes, the menu includes sausage, fruit, coffee and juice. The free-will offering benefits Habitat for Humanity. Serving begins at 8:00 and ends at 11:30.



Contact coordinator Matt Iwanicki, via the church office or Z-Mail link, if you'd like to participate in preparations.



▲ Night on Broadway Musical Revue

March 1-3 and 8-10
2:30 and 7:30 performances in
Zion's Family Life Center

- Regular theatre seating tickets are now on sale at **ZTG.booktix.net**. Adults \$15, children (11 and under) are \$10.
- Dinner seating is on sale today in the gazebo, as well as regular seating

Lenten Food and Toiletry Drive for St. Vincent de Paul of Helotes

Beginning today, February 18, Zion will collect canned goods and toiletries for St. Vincent de Paul of Helotes (formerly Helotes House of Neighborly Service). Items will be collected throughout the six weeks of Lent, through March 24. Look for the collection baskets in the narthex and the gazebo.

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.



STAFF CONTACT *Day Off*

Pastor Kathi Johnson *Monday*
Senior Pastor
kjohnson@ZionSA.org

Pastor Dan Heim *Friday*
Pastor, Youth and Family
dheim@ZionSA.org

Suzie Wyatt *Thursday*
Administrator *afternoon*
swyatt@ZionSA.org

Rob Mikulski *Monday*
Music Director
rmikulski@ZionSA.org

Sammy Mikulski *Monday*
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2024 CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Bud Halstead	President
Allen Cockrell	Treasurer
Chris Jones	Vice President
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



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Dinner Out at Ilson Garden Korean BBQ

Thursday, March 7 at 6:30pm
Dinner Out invites all adults to meet this month at Ilson Garden Korean BBQ, 6905 Blanco Road, just inside Loop 410. Come early for socializing; dinner seating is at 6:30.

RSVP by March 4 to Jim or Sandy Chillstrom; call the church office if you need their contact info.

Game Group

February 19 at 1:00pm

Come for table games and daytime fellowship for all ages. Meet in the Fellowship Hall on the first and third Mondays. Contact Algine Perry through the church office if you have questions.

Youth Nights/Confirmation Mentoring

February 22 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. Use the QR to RSVP.



Bible 101: Bible Studies from a Lutheran Perspective

2nd and 4th Thursdays - 9:30am

Led by Pastor Eileen Spehr in the Fellowship Hall.

Scheduled dates are February 22, March 14 and 28, April 11. Series will continue with new topics.

Crafty Bunch

Wednesdays at 9:30

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

Quilting for LWR

1st and 3rd Thursdays at 9:30am

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 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.

Men's Fellowship Dinner

Third Monday, February 19 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.

Women of Zion

Tuesday March 12, WOZ Bible Study & More. Join in activities and fellowship with other women in the congregation. Fellowship, service projects with a Bible study on the second Tuesday at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall. All women are invited! Scan the QR code to get on the mailing list, or send an e-mail to WOZ@zionsa.org.



WOZ@zionsa.org

*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.



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



**FEBRUARY 18, 2024
FIRST SUNDAY
IN LENT**



Jesus brings the good news of God's reign.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Mark 1:9-15	Temptation of Jesus
Monday	Genesis 9:8-17	God's promise to Noah
Tuesday	1 Peter 3:18-22	Suffering for doing right
Wednesday	Romans 14:13-23	Do not make someone stumble
Thursday	Psalm 16:5-11	Song of trust
Friday	James 3:13-18	Two kinds of wisdom
Saturday	Psalm 25:1-10	Prayer for guidance
Sunday	Mark 8:31-38	Jesus predicts his death

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent and believe in the good news."

Mark 1:14-15 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty God, you love what you have created; we thank you for your protection and that you come to bring us peace, joy, and love through Jesus Christ, your Beloved Son. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, you remember the lowly and the hungry; we thank you for remembering us with your love and with this meal that gives us strength. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the good news of Jesus give you joy.



FEBRUARY 18, 2024

HYMN OF THE WEEK 

*Jesus Calls Us; o'er
The Tumult*

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:

- How would you survive in the wilderness?
- How would you describe God's reign to someone?

DEVOTIONS 

Read: Mark 1:9-15.

It is easy to miss the power and drama of Jesus' message that now is the time for the kingdom of God. His message seems so brief. Yet, in Jesus, God's reign is taking on all other claims to power and glory. The arrest of John the Baptist calls attention to another kind of power, the kind that seeks to control and destroy. In a world ordered by inequalities, unfairness, and brutality, another power is needed that can take on such harmful ways. That power is seen in Jesus' ability to take on Satan's deceitful testing of him. We also see it in Jesus being protected from wild beasts that could otherwise cause harm. God's justice and mercy has always championed life, love, and peace. Jesus, the Beloved Son of God, now steps out of his baptismal waters with the power of God's Spirit and takes on all forms of evil and death. We are now called to join this kingdom by turning away from destructive powers and trusting this good and awesome news and kingdom that Jesus brings.

Discuss: How do you see God's kingdom in Jesus bringing you and the world good news?

Pray: **Merciful and loving God, give us courage to trust the power and presence of your reign of life, love, and peace through Jesus Christ, your Beloved Son, our Redeemer and Lord. Amen.**

SERVICE 

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you bring Jesus' message of love and peace to others?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS 

The cross is an ancient symbol of the Christian faith. It reminds us Jesus died that we may live with God forever and is a reminder of a way of life for Jesus' followers. Lay out a purple cloth (the color for repentance and Lent) and place seven votive candles or battery-operated votive candles in the shape of a cross on the cloth. Light one of the candles this first week in Lent. Sit in silence for a moment while looking at the cross.

Then pray: **Dear God, we give you thanks for your steadfast love and goodness that forgives and renews us in Christ. Amen.**



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

