

March 10, 2024 • Fourth 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

Photo by James on Unsplash

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

9:00

Amazing Grace, setting by Michael Larkin

11:30

And He Never Said a Word, setting by Michael Ryan

Handbells

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.

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till

all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
 2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
 3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
 4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Refrain

our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
 bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
 as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956
 Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947
 Text and music © 1974 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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.



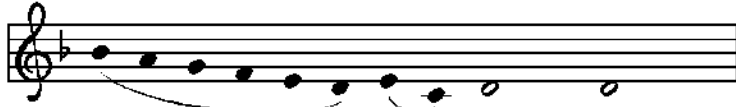
Lord, have mer - cy.



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.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, 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

Gina Williams

FIRST READING: Numbers 21:4-9

⁴From Mount Hor [the Israelites] set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. ⁵The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." ⁶Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." ⁹So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

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

PSALM 107

Refrain



You de - li - ver your peo - ple from their dis - tress.

Psalm 107:19

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year B* © 2008 Augsburg Fortress.

Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good, for God's mercy endures forever.

Let the redeemed of the Lord proclaim that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe,
gathering them in from the lands;

from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

Some were fools and took rebellious paths; through their sins they were afflicted.

They loathed all manner of food and drew near to death's door.

Then in their trouble they cried to the Lord and you delivered them from their distress. *Refrain*

You sent forth your word and healed them and rescued them from the grave.

Let them give thanks to you, Lord,

for your steadfast love and your wonderful works for all people.

Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving and tell of your deed with shouts of joy. *Refrain*

SECOND READING: EPHESIANS 2:1-10

¹You were dead through the trespasses and sins ²in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. ³All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. ⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—⁹not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

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

Please rise, as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: JOHN 3:14-21

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

[Jesus said:] ¹⁴“Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

The gospel of the Lord.

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

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Kathi Johnson

Please rise as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

What Wondrous Love Is This

1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and

won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this
I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down
God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,

that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my
be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my
who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing

soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing,
on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.
Music: WONDRIOUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Paul J. Christiansen, 1914-1997, alt.
Arr. © 1955 Augsburg Publishing House. admin. Augsburg Fortress.

APOSTLES' CREED

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

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

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

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

**catholic: universal*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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>There in God's Garden</i> , setting by Jeremy Young	
11:30	<i>Come, Ye Disconsolate</i> , arranged by Terry Osman	Handbells

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

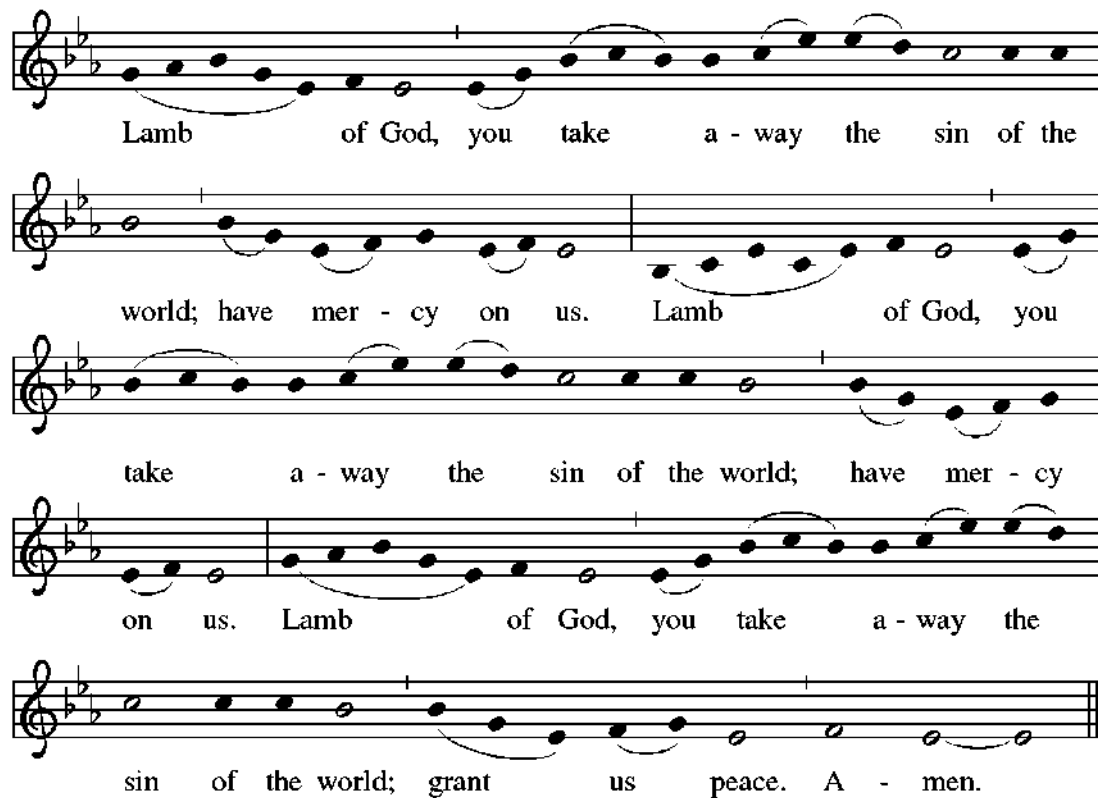
These are the gifts of God for you, the beloved people of God.

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

11:30

O Sacred Head Now Wounded, arranged by Ron Mallory

Handbells

1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;
 2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;
 3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;
 4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,

free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
 there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.
 help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.
 till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.

Refrain

In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;

till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915
 Music: NEAR THE CROSS, William H. Doane, 1832-1915

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

Give to Our God Immortal Praise!

1 Give to our God im - mor - tal praise! Mer - cy and
2 He sent his Son with pow'r to save from guilt and
3 Give to the Lord of lords re - nown; the King of

truth are all his ways. Won - ders of grace to
dark - ness and the grave. Won - ders of grace to
kings with glo - ry crown. His mer - cies ev - er

God be - long; re - peat his mer - cies in your song.
God be - long; re - peat his mer - cies in your song.
shall en - dure when lords and kings are known no more!

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are arranged in three systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The first system contains three verses of lyrics. The second system continues the lyrics. The third system concludes the hymn with a final line of lyrics and a double bar line.

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

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Toccata by Girolamo Frescobaldi

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, March 10

Worship in person	9am	Sanctuary
<i>No Children's or Youth Classes—Spring Break</i>		
Adults: Have a Beautiful, Terrible Lent	10:15	Ministry Center 6
Coffee Talk: Landscaping on Campus	10:20	Fellowship Hall
Worship in person and online	11:30	Sanctuary & YouTube
Pre-Show Reserved Dinner	1:30	Family Life Center
<i>A Night on Broadway</i> Matinee Show	2:30	Family Life Center

Monday, March 11

Zion Zippers Potluck & Fellowship	6pm	Fellowship Hall
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Tuesday, March 12

Exercise Group	9am	Church 2
Women of Zion Bible Study	10am	Fellowship Hall
Staff Meeting	11am	Breakroom
Handbell Choir	6:30	Sanctuary Balcony
Warriors Anonymous	7pm	Church 2

Wednesday, March 13

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
AA Meeting	7pm	Church 2
Al-Anon Meeting	7pm	Fellowship Hall
Chancel Choir	7:15	Sanctuary

Thursday, March 14

Bible 101 Bible Study	9:30	Fellowship Hall
Weight Watchers	9:30	Church 2
HOA Meeting—Lifetime	6pm	Fellowship Hall
Stephen Ministry	7pm	Ministry Center 5, 6
Fiesta Flutes Rehearsal	7pm	Church 2

Saturday, March 16

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

Altar Guild

Chris & Don Jones, Alyssa Brodbeck,
Mary Jo Goldenbaum, Suzi Lockamy,
Belynda McKenzie,
Susan & Joe Noonan, Kathy Null,
Linda & Roy Tschirhart

Lay Readers

9:00 Karen Umlang
11:30 Mike DeHart

Cantor

Kirby Olson

Communion Servers

9:00 Bonnie & Brinkley Harrell
11:30 Jennifer Kretschmar
Suzi Lockamy

Livestream

Steve Johnson
David Umlang

Sound

Scott Van Doren

Ushers

9:00 Paul & Mary Jo Goldenbaum
Carolyn Pfeiffer
Gus & Shannon Rios
David Thamm
11:30 Mel & Joanna Arviso
Mike & Kim DeHart

Calendar continued next page

Sunday Faith Formation for Children and Youth at 10:15

Meet in Ministry Center Classrooms

No Children's and Youth Classes

March 10, Spring Break.

<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

Two Midweek Services

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

Simple communion worship services in Zion's historic chapel.

Sunday, March 17

St. Vincent de Paul Drive	8:30	Gazebo, Narthex
Worship in person	9am	Sanctuary
Faith Formation Hour for all ages	10:15	Details Next Page
Coffee Talk: Financial Scams	10:20	Fellowship Hall
Worship in person and online	11:30	Sanctuary & YouTube

Adult Class

Sundays in Lent: Have a Beautiful, Terrible Lent
10:15 in Ministry Center 6

Have a Beautiful, Terrible Lent!

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."

- Use this QR (katebowler.com) to sign up for daily Lenten e-mail prompts.
- come to Sunday morning discussions during Faith Formation hour in MC-6.



☞ Coffee Talk ☞ Today, March 10, 10:20am

Fellowship Hall

Join Pastor Bill Swantner, Master Gardener, who will discuss native planting, and what he's working on around Zion's campus.

- March 17 with Dan Graham, discussing financial scams and how to avoid fraud.

Bible 101: Bible Studies from a Lutheran Perspective

2nd and 4th Thursdays - 9:30am

Led by Pastor Eileen Spehr in the Fellowship Hall on March 14, 28, and April 11. Series will continue with new topics.



**A Night on Broadway
Musical Revue
March 10, 2:30pm
In Zion's Family Life Center**

- Regular theatre seating tickets for today's performance available at the door. Adults \$15, children (11 and under) are \$10.
- Dinner seating is completely sold out.

Zion Zippers Potluck and Fellowship

Monday, March 11 at 6:00pm

Zion Zippers meet on the second Monday of each month for a potluck dinner, beginning at 6pm. If you're fifty years or older, you're invited. Please bring a dish or two to share, along with your own plate and utensils if you can. Invite a friend, too! Stay for after-dinner socializing and Bingo.

Contact Kathy Newman through the church office if you have a question or suggestion for a guest speaker or activity.

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

Youth Nights/Confirmation Mentoring

March 21 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.



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*
Theatre Director
theatre@ZionSA.org

**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



210-688-3090



zion@zionsa.org



Website zionsa.org



Facebook zionsa



Instagram @zionsatx



9944 Leslie Road, 78254

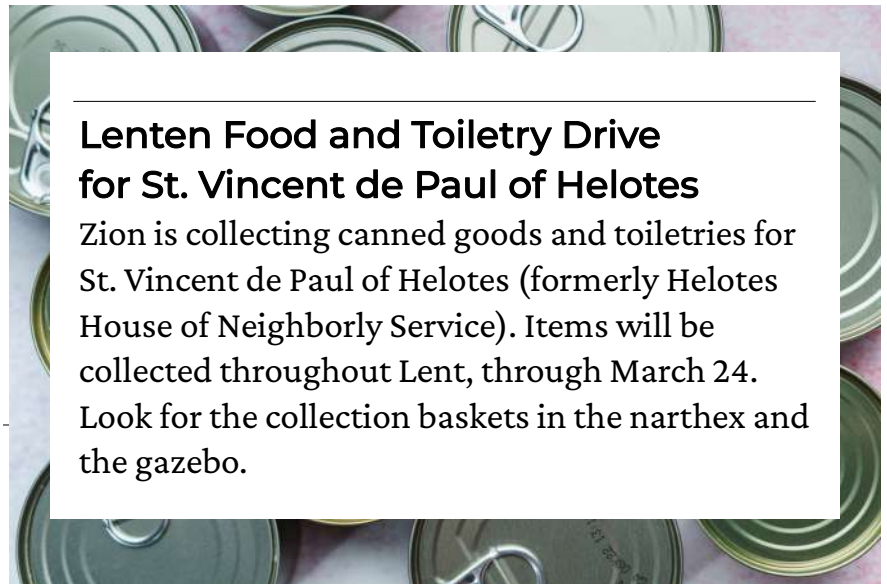
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Lenten Food and Toiletry Drive for St. Vincent de Paul of Helotes

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



Men's Fellowship Dinner

Third Monday, March 18 at 6:30pm

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

Game Group—Updated Time

Monday, March 18 at 12:30pm

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.

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.

The LWR Quilters are always in need of new and gently used twin size and larger fl at sheets for quilt backing. Sheets can be dropped off at the Fellowship Hall during any quilting time.

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.



<https://secure.myvanco.com/YJYN/campaign/C-12GYC>

Update to Zion's Recycling Collection

Zion is currently collecting ONLY aluminum cans in the swing-top collection barrel in the south (cemetery side) parking lot, next to the shed. For the health and safety of our volunteers:



Please empty, dry, and crush aluminum beverage cans, without any food or beverage residue that will attract vermin.



Do not include plastic-lined cans, steel cans or other metal in this swing-top aluminum can collection barrel.



Do not put paper, plastic, food or any other trash in this swing-top aluminum can collection barrel. A trash can is provided nearby for everything else.



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.



EASTER EGG HUNT
Saturday, March 30
10am
Ministry Center 1



HOLY WEEK WORSHIP

Palm Sunday—March 24

Festival Worship with Palm Procession
9am & 11:30am (livestream at 11:30)

Maundy Thursday—March 28

Holy Communion with Stripping of the Altar
1pm & 7pm

Good Friday—March 29

Choral Stations of the Cross
1pm & 7pm

Holy Saturday—March 30

The Great Vigil of Easter
7pm

The Resurrection of Our Lord—March 31

Festival Worship
8am, 9:45am, & 11:30am (livestream at 11:30)

**MARCH 10, 2024
FOURTH SUNDAY
IN LENT**



God is rich in mercy.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	John 3:14-21	God so loved the world
Monday	Numbers 21:4-9	The serpent of bronze
Tuesday	Ephesians 2:1-10	Faith is a gift from God
Wednesday	Romans 9:6-18	God's choice of Israel
Thursday	Isaiah 30:18-22	God's promise to Zion
Friday	Titus 3:1-8	Maintain good deeds
Saturday	Psalms 107:1-3, 17-22	Thanksgiving for deliverance
Sunday	John 12:20-33	The hour has come

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved.

Ephesians 2:4-5 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

God of mercy, your love for us is more than we deserve but all that we need and want through Jesus Christ, your Son who came to give us eternal life. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, your kindness to us is everlasting; we thank you for your daily love for us that includes this gift of food. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the mercy of God be your everlasting joy.



MARCH 10, 2024

HYMN OF THE WEEK

*There's a Wideness in
God's Mercy*



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:

- When is a time you needed to ask for help with something because you could not do it alone?
- A relationship with God is a gift that only God can give us. How is this a challenge to our desire to control our own destiny?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Ephesians 2:1-10.

These verses are packed with powerful themes, some of which pose a challenge to make-it-on-your-own individualism and flawed self-confidence. Ephesians points out that 1) we were spiritually dead because of our brokenness, 2) our misguided passions for pleasure lead us away from God, 3) only God's mercy, grace, and love can intervene to renew our lives in Christ, and 4) God's intervention gives us a new and God-focused passion to do good works, not to earn anything but to simply live as we were created to be. Once we get beyond a sense of making it on our own in life—including making it spiritually with God—we are set free to experience lives that *"God prepared beforehand to be our way of life"* (v. 10). God's nature is love and mercy. In the language of Psalm 107:1, God is good and God's *"steadfast love endures forever."* Similarly, Ephesians 2:8 summarizes much of our biblical faith: *"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God."*

Discuss: How does God's mercy and grace make a difference in your daily life?

Pray: **Almighty and merciful God, we thank you for your love that never ceases to reach out to us with your saving grace through Jesus Christ. 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 show love and mercy to someone who is hurting?

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. Light four candles of the seven votive candles shaped like a cross being used for Lent. Sit in silence for a moment while looking at the cross.

Then pray: **Merciful God, we thank you for your love for us that calls us out of darkness and into the light of Christ so that we may not perish but have eternal life. Amen.** (John 3:16)



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