

April 28, 2024 • Season of Easter
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.

THE SEASON OF EASTER

"Alleluia! Christ is Risen!" This Easter greeting rings out our joy every year. Because Jesus lives, we also live.

"Christ died for our sins," 1st Corinthians reminds us. But the good news of God doesn't dwell in the tomb. The good news is that God's power was shown fully in raising Christ from the dead. The good news is that God's great love for us was also shown fully in raising Christ from the dead. Because Jesus lives, we also live.

We are now in the Season of Easter - a whole season in our church year is dedicated to remembering and celebrating the resurrection of Our Lord. "Alleluia! Christ is Risen!" He is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

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	<i>Ubi Caritas</i> by Colin Mawby	Chancel Choir
11:30	<i>Christ the Lord Is Risen Today</i> arranged by Judy Endean	Handbells

WELCOME

Pastor Dan Heim

COMMISSIONING OF CALL TEAM

Susan Johns, Chair

Deborah Hearn

Kim DeHart

Kevin Kretzschmar

Dan Graham

Irvin Moss

Please rise, as you are able.

Section end. Section end.

GATHERING HYMN

There in God's Garden

1 There in God's gar - den stands the Tree of Wis - dom,
 2 Its name is Je - sus, name that says, "Our Sav - ior!"
 4 See how its branch - es reach to us in wel - come;

whose leaves hold forth the heal - ing of the na - tions:
 There on its branch - es see the scars of suf - f'ring;
 hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye wea - ry!

Tree of all knowl - edge, Tree of all com -
 see there the ten - drills of our hu - man
 Give me your sick - ness, give me all your

pas - sion, Tree of all beau - ty.
 self - hood feed on its life - blood.
 sor - row, I will give bless - ing."

6. All heav'n is singing, "Thanks to Christ whose passion offers in mercy healing, strength, and pardon. Peoples and nations, take it, take it freely!" Amen! My Master!

Text: Király Imre von Pécselyi, c. 1590-c. 1641; tr. Erik Routley, 1917-1982
 Music: K. Lee Scott, b. 1950
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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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, 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.

Section End

WORD

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

CHILDREN'S CHAT

Pastor Dan Heim

FIRST READING: ACTS 8:26-40

Philip and the Ethiopian
Spark Children's Bible Page 510

²⁶An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³²Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. ³³In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

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

PSALM 22

Refrain

Michel Guimont



I will praise you, Lord, in the as -
sem - bly of your peo - ple.

My vows I will pay before those who
fear God.
The poor shall eat and shall have their fill.
Those who seek the LORD shall praise the
LORD.
May their hearts live for ever and ever! *R.*

All the earth shall remember and return to
the LORD,
all families of the nations shall bow down
in awe.
They shall bow down in awe, all the

mighty of the earth,
all who must die and go down to the
dust. *R.*

My soul shall live for God and my
children too shall serve.
They shall tell of the Lord to generations
yet to come;
declare to those unborn, the faithfulness
of God.
“These things the Lord has done.” *R.*

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SECOND READING: 1 JOHN 4:7-21

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

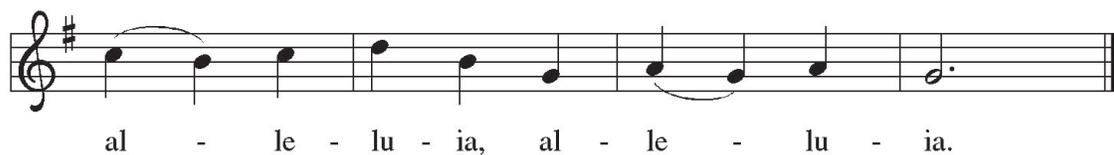
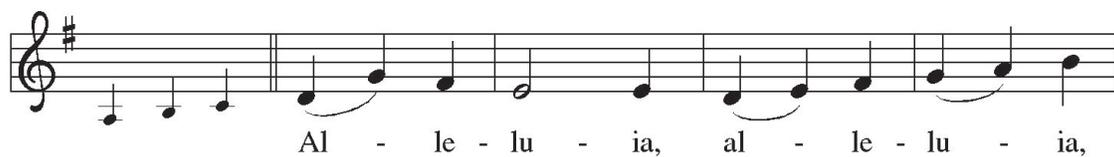
¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. ¹⁷Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. ²¹The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

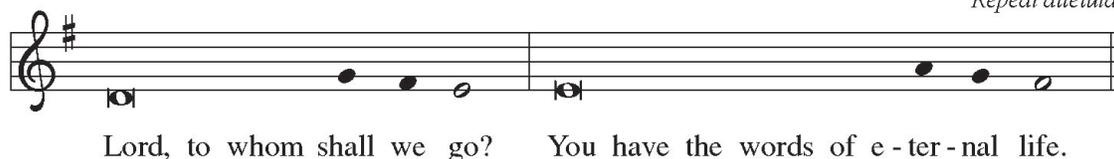
Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Please rise, as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Repeat alleluia



GOSPEL: JOHN 15:1-8

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

[Jesus said:] ¹“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

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

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Kathi Johnson

Please rise, as you are able.



1 O bless - ed spring, where word and sign em - brace us
 2 Through sum - mer heat of youth - ful years, un - cer - tain
 3 When au - tumn cools and youth is cold, when limbs their
 4 As win - ter comes, as win - ters must, we breathe our
 5 Christ, ho - ly Vine, Christ, liv - ing Tree, be praised for



in - to Christ the Vine: here Christ en - joins each one to
 faith, re - bel - lious tears, sus - tained by Christ's in - fus - ing
 heav - y har - vest hold, then through us, warm, the Christ will
 last, re - turn to dust; still held in Christ, our souls take
 this blest mys - ter - y: that word and wa - ter thus re -



be a branch of this life - giv - ing Tree.
 rain, the boughs will shout for joy a - gain.
 move with gifts of beau - ty, wis - dom, love.
 wing and trust the prom - ise of the spring.
 vive and join us to your Tree of Life.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953

Music: BERGLUND, Robert Buckley Farlee, b. 1950

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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

On this day of resurrection joy, let us offer our prayers for ourselves, our neighbors, and our world.

Each petition ends: God of grace,

Response: Hear our prayer.

We offer to you these petitions and those we carry in our hearts, trusting in your abundant and ever-present mercy.

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 Know That My Redeemer Lives
by Robert Farrell

Chancel Choir

11:30

Crown Him with Many Crowns
arranged by Patricia Hurlbutt

Handbells

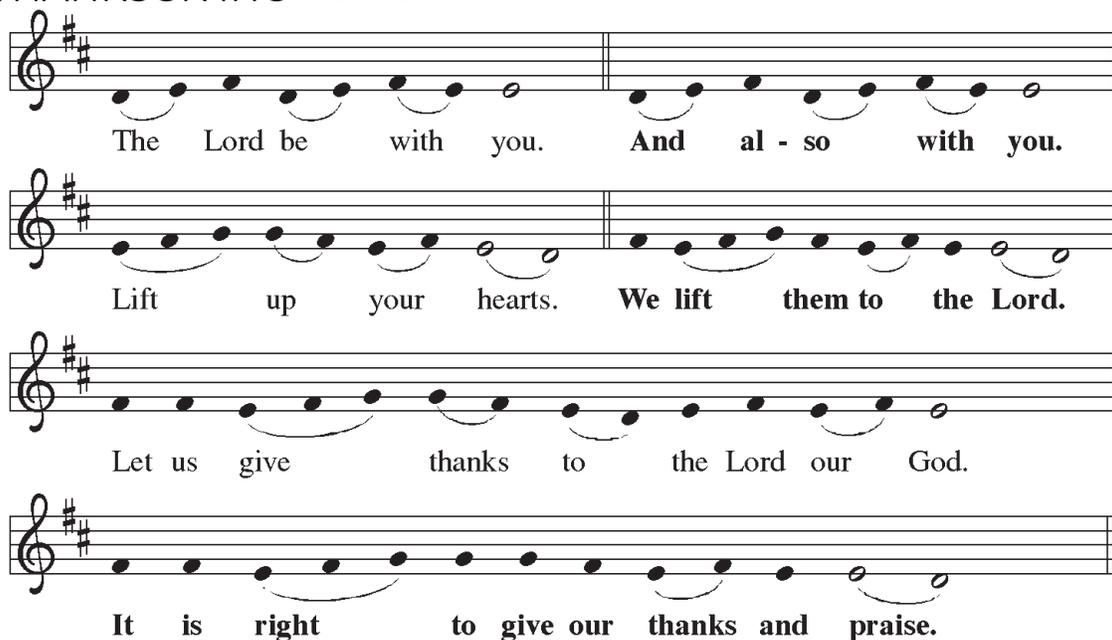
Please rise, as you are able.

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.

[Next page](#)

GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, 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. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. 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

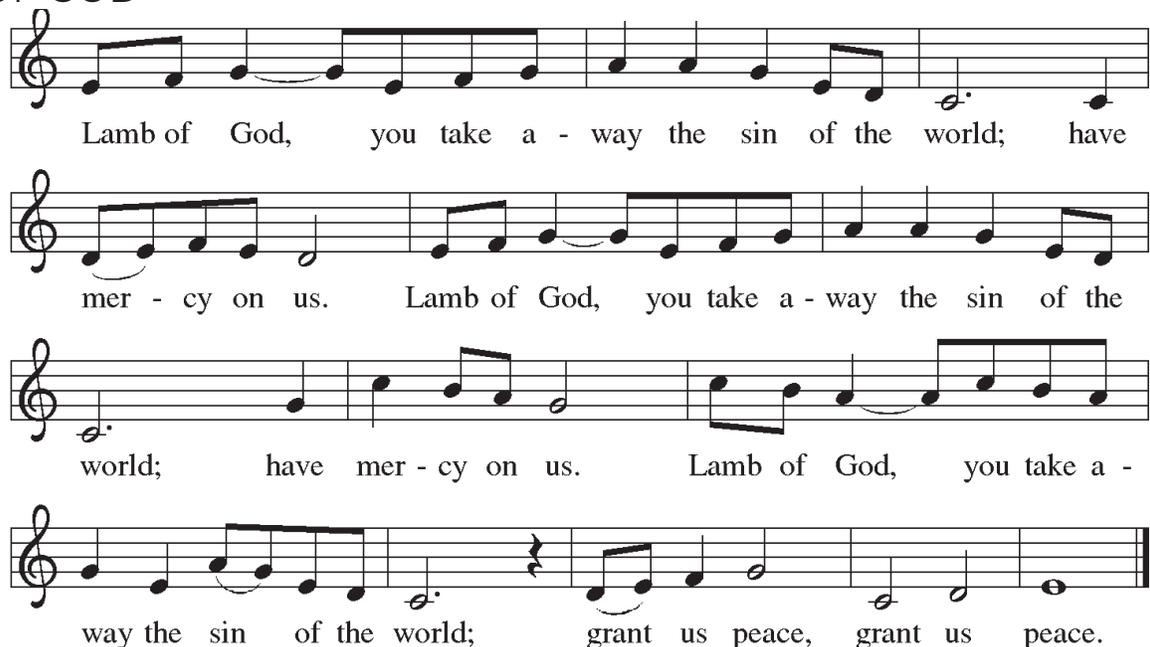
These are the gifts of God for you, the beloved people of God.

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, grant us peace.

COMMUNION MUSIC

9:00

Agnus Dei by Karl Jenkins

Chancel Choir

11:30

Communion Prayer
by Michael Mazzatenta

Handbells

COMMUNION HYMN

Where Charity and Love Prevail

1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
 2 With grate-ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;
 3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;
 4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
 5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,

brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
 let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.
 as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
 Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
 that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.
 Music: TWENTY-FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842
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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. Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

Amen.

Section end

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us out in peace.

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN *on next page*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace and share the good news.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Resurrection Dance by Adrian Vernon Fish

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.

SENDING HYMN

Let All Things Now Living



1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to
2 God rules all the forc - es: the stars in their cours - es and



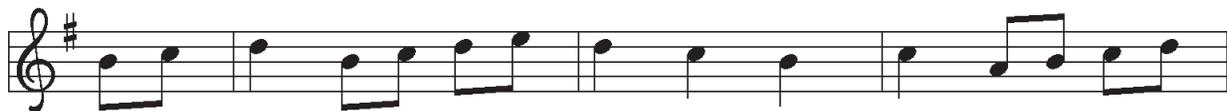
God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,
sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;



who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who
the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the



still guides us on to the end of our days.
deeps of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.



God's ban - ners are o'er us, God's light goes be -
We too should be voic - ing our love and re -



fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,
joic - ing; with glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise



till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished, as
till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing: "To



for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.
God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

Text: Katherine K. Davis, 1892-1980, alt.
Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune
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THIS WEEK AT ZION

Scan QR code for this month's calendar



Sunday, April 28

Worship in person	9am	Sanctuary
Faith Formation Hour for all ages	10:15	Details next page
Science & Faith Series	10:15	MC 1
Worship in person and online	11:30	Sanctuary & YouTube
Hymn Festival for all, hosted by American Guild of Organists	3:00	Sanctuary

Tuesday, April 30

Exercise Group	9am	Church 2
Staff Meeting	11am	Break Room
Orchestra Rehearsal	6:30	Sanctuary
Children's Choir (final Spring rehearsal)	7-7:45	Ministry Center 1
Youth Choir (final Spring rehearsal)	7pm	Music Apse
Warriors Anonymous	7pm	Church 2

Wednesday, May 1

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
Rehearsal <i>Mass for Peace</i>	7:00	Sanctuary

Thursday, May 2

Quilting for Lutheran World Relief	9:30	Fellowship Hall
Weight Watchers Mtg	9:30	Church 2
Dinner Out (Details page __)	6:30	Red Hook Seafood
Fiesta Flutes Rehearsal	7pm	Church 2

Friday, May 3

<i>A Mass for Peace</i> Concert and Panel Discussion	7:30	Sanctuary
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Saturday, May 4

Weight Watchers Meetings	7:30 & 9:30am	Church 2
<i>A Mass for Peace</i> Concert and Panel Discussion	7:30	Sanctuary

Sunday, May 5

Worship in person	9am	Sanctuary
Faith Formation Hour for all ages	10:15	Details next page
Adults: Science & Faith Series	10:15	MC 1
Worship in person and online	11:30	Sanctuary & YouTube
Nat'l Youth Gathering Meeting	12:30	MC 1

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 Reader

9:00 John Macha
11:30 LeShea Clabough

Cantor

Jeff Williams

Communion Servers

9:00 Melanie Murray
Karen Umlang
11:30 Jennifer Kretzschmar
Karen Umlang

Livestream

Steve Johnson, Kevin McGee
Deb Hearn

Sound

Brinkley Harrell

Ushers

9:00 Allen Cockrell
John Macha
Meredith & Brandon Price
Travis Nickel
11:30 LeShea Clabough &
Kevin McGee
Paul Spehr
Laura Walsh

Sunday Faith Formation for Children and Youth at 10:15

Meet in Ministry Center classrooms.

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

TODAY Science & Faith Series

April 28, May 5 and 12, 10:15am
Adult class, *Test of Faith*: does science threaten belief in God? Join in this video and discussion series, with guest speakers. No preparation required. Meets in MC 1.

NEW TOPIC for Weekday Bible Study

Led by Pastor Eileen Spehr. Meets at 9:30am on Thursdays as scheduled below, in the Fellowship Hall.

New series begins May 9, *The Psalms*. Meeting dates for this series are May 9 and 23, June 13 and July 11.

TODAY: Hymn Fest at 3:00pm

in Zion's Sanctuary

The American Guild of Organists is hosting a Hymn Festival, as part of their weekend conference at Zion. The congregation and wider community are invited to this event, to sing and enjoy the hymns that are so integral to our Christian traditions.

Sign Up Now to Volunteer at the San Antonio Food Bank

Saturday, May 11 from 9:00-11:30am

All are invited to join this community volunteer event, packing and sorting donations in the San Antonio Food Bank warehouse at 5200 Historic Old Hwy 90. This activity is open to all ages.

Scan this QR to register or contact Mark Laneman via the church office. Hosted for the congregation by Zion's Lutheran Men in Mission.



Men's Fellowship Dinner

Third Monday, May 29 at 6:30pm

All men are invited to meet

at Sea Island Restaurant
(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.

Dinner Out at Red Hook Seafood

RSVP Now for Thursday, May 2 at 6:30pm

Dinner Out invites all adults to meet this month at



Red Hook
CAJUN SEAFOOD & BAR

Red Hook Seafood,
6759 NW Loop 410, between In-
gram and Culebra. Come early

for socializing; dinner seating is at 6:30.

RSVP by tomorrow, April 29 to Jim or Sandy Chillstrom; call the church office if you need their contact info.

Youth Nights/Confirmation Mentoring

May 2, 16 and 30 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.



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



Camp Hope 2024

Music Rehearsals

Handbells

Tuesday 6:30 Balcony

Children's (Gr 2-5)

Tuesday 7-7:45 MC Rm 1 (last until Fall)

Youth (Gr 6-12)

Tuesday 7-8pm Apse (last until Fall)

Chancel (Adult)

Wednesday 7:15 Sanctuary

TODAY Blessed Change for the Southwest Texas Synod Benevolence Collection

in the Narthex

Zion is collect-

ing your Blessed

Change to for-

ward to the benev-

olence collection

at the SWTX Synod

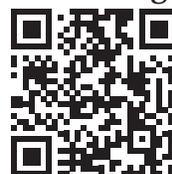
convention in May.

This year's collec-

tion will go toward

Lutheran Disaster Ministry.

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 get to Zion's donations web page.



Two Midweek Services

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

Simple communion worship services
in Zion's historic chapel.

STAFF CONTACT *Day Off*

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

Pastor Dan Heim *Friday*
Pastor, Youth & 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



Mother's Day Home Baked Pie Sale

Sunday, May 12 beginning at 10:00am

Whole pies to go are \$15.00 each.

Bakers, if you can donate a home baked pie for the sale, please contact Linnell Brewton or Mary Jo Goldenbaum. Call the church office if you need their contact info. Donated pies need to be in the gazebo by 9:00am on May 12.

This fundraising event is sponsored by the Women of Zion to benefit Lutheran World Relief

ELCA NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING FUNDRAISER

Free Will Offerings Also Accepted

CREATED TO BE

Car Wash

Sunday, May 12, 8:30 am – 12 pm

Drop off your car and youth will wash during worship or Faith Formation hour.

In July, twenty-two Zion youth and four adults will go to New Orleans for the triennial gathering of ELCA youth. The trip costs \$1200 per person, and we have set a goal of raising half of that through Zion fundraisers, with participants paying the remaining \$600. The Fall Craft Fair got us off to a nice start with about \$5,000 raised, and your generosity at the April 21 Breakfast and Lunch brings us to \$8,500.

As you are able, please bring your dirtiest vehicle and support the youth for this trip! A free will offering will be accepted.

Pastor's Reflection

Pastor Kathi Johnson

The people of God have always been interested in gathering together. Even back to our roots in Judaism, the people found the idea of community important. The first Christians gathered in homes to hear Scripture, to listen to letters (epistles) written by church leaders, and to worship God through song, prayer, and Holy Communion. Over time, after Christianity was legalized, and as Christian gatherings outgrew homes, church sanctuaries and other buildings were built so that a sense of community could be fostered.

Here at Zion, we are blessed to have a variety of groups that meet for a variety of purposes. Some groups are study or formation groups who learn together, others meet for fun and fellowship, and others meet to create something together. The heart of all of these groups is community, gathering together as friends in Christ. To that end, we are beginning to use round tables in the Fellowship Hall as of last weekend. Round tables create a great sense of community because we can see everyone at the table face-to-face. (We realize that rectangular tables are better for things like serving food and other things, so a few of those will remain in the Fellowship Hall to be used as needed. If your group needs more than four rectangular tables, please let Karen in the Church Office know so that staff can get them set up.)

We had a great chance to fellowship together last weekend at our NOLA Celebration and fundraiser. Thanks for supporting our youth by coming over to eat and to be a part of community building!

In peace,
Pr. Kathi



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.



Zion Zippers 50+ Fellowship

Monday, May 13 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, plus a little extra for the entertainers. Bring your own plate and utensils if you can, and invite a friend, too!

On May 13, the Zion Zippers will be treated to a performance by the puppeteer troupe of Colonial Hills United Methodist Church, led by Jason Chandler. It should be great entertainment, so come join the fun!

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

Women of Zion

Tuesday May 14, 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

Game Group

May 6 and 20 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

Even if you don't sew, consider learning some basics with LWR Quilters! 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 flat sheets for quilt backing. Sheets can be dropped off at the Fellowship Hall during any quilting time.

**APRIL 28, 2024
FIFTH SUNDAY
OF EASTER**



Jesus abides with us like a vine to its branches.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	John 15:1-8	Jesus the true vine
Monday	Acts 8:26-40	Phillip and the eunuch
Tuesday	1 John 4:7-21	God is love
Wednesday	Ephesians 3:14-19	Christ's love for us
Thursday	Psalm 91	Assurance of God's protection
Friday	Exodus 34:6-7	God of steadfast love and faithfulness
Saturday	Psalm 22:25-31	A vow of thanksgiving
Sunday	John 15:9-17	Love one another

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.

John 15:5 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Loving God, we thank you for your steadfast love that remains with us forever and guides us into the future through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for feeding us with this food and for nurturing our lives with your presence through the true vine, Christ our Lord, who gives us life. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God's love lead you to love others. (1 John 4:19)



APRIL 28, 2024

HYMN OF THE WEEK

*Like the Murmur of the
Dove's Song*



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 have felt lost or alone?
- How does knowing of God's love through Jesus help you when you feel anxious or lost?

DEVOTIONS



Read: John 15:1-8.

This is the last of Jesus' "I am" statements. Earlier in the Gospel of John he said "I am the bread of life," "I am the light of the world," "I am the gate," "I am the good shepherd," "I am the resurrection and the life," and "I am the way, the truth, and the life." These self-descriptive statements are all introduced with the words, "I am," that is reminiscent of the name for God in the Old Testament. "Yahweh," is translated as "I am who I am." In John, Jesus is presented as one with God without any uncertainty. The final "I am" statement is important because it comes during Jesus' lengthy message to his eleven disciples before his crucifixion (John 14 through 17). Jesus makes it clear that he will not abandon them. He will abide with them. The identity and ministry of the disciples will endure and be full of life because they are intimately part of Jesus, like branches given life by the vine.

Discuss: When the future is uncertain and you feel anxious, lost, or alone, what do you do and how can you be reminded that Jesus abides with you always?

Pray: **Almighty God, give us confidence in your presence and abide with us in our life's journey through Jesus Christ, the true vine who feeds us with your love and strength. 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 encourage and help those who feel lost or alone?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



God sent his only Son, Jesus Christ into the world to teach us about love. 1 John 4:12 tells us that "No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us." It is this love that we are to show to others. Draw the outline of a body with a heart inside. Write God inside the heart. Then write words inside the body that describe how we can show God's love to one another.

Pray: **Loving God, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Amen.** (1 John 4:7)



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

Zion

Music & Theatre Events



The Armed Man
**A Mass
for Peace**

**Friday, May 3
Saturday, May 4**

The Zion Lutheran Chancel Choir and Orchestra invite you to join us for Karl Jenkins' *The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace*. This work, dedicated to the victims of the Kosovo crisis, is a powerful and compelling account of the descent into war and its terrible consequences.

The Latin Mass provides the framework for the piece while also incorporating texts from other religious and historical sources, including the Islamic adhan (call to prayer), the Bible, and the Mahabharata. Words from Rudyard Kipling, Alfred Lord Tennyson, and Sankichi Toge are also included in the text.

A panel discussion led by spiritual and mental health professionals from throughout San Antonio will also be a part of this event.

Friday, May 3 and Saturday, May 4 at 7:30 pm

Zion Lutheran Church Sanctuary— 9944 Leslie Road, San Antonio, TX 78254

No reserved seating. Free will offering. ZionSA.org

On April 28 at 10:15 in the Fellowship Hall, Director of Music Ministries Rob Mikulski and Pr. Kathi will hold a pre-concert discussion about the Mass for Peace.
Please join us!