

May 5, 2024 • Season of Easter
9:00 and 11:30am



LOVE ONE
ANOTHER

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.

HOLY BAPTISM TODAY

At the 9:00 service today we receive Henry James Bennett, child of Amanda & Chad Bennett. His sponsors are Jennifer & Chris Bennett.

Please note on your attendance slip if you are visiting for the baptism.

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>Waterlife</i> setting by David Christiansen	
11:30	<i>This is the Day</i> by Mark Burrows	Children's Choir

WELCOME

Pastor Kathi Johnson

11:30am turn to Page 5

9:00AM HOLY BAPTISM

Statement of Faith

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks..... in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever,

Amen.

Welcome

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share:

join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's

creative and redeeming word to all the world.

Please rise as you are able.



1 We are peo - ple cre - at - ed, cho - sen by God.
 2 We are fed and we're nour - ished, filled and re - freshed.
 3 We are nour - ished by wa - ter, all liv - ing things,
 4 Now with praise and thanks - giv - ing, we join the song.



Then we're washed, ev - er gent - ly, in mer - cy and love.
 Then our hun - ger re - turns and a - gain we are blessed.
 and by life that the Spir - it a - bun - dant - ly brings.
 All are wel - come! We gath - er to sing loud and strong.



Sin has pow - er no more. Je - sus o - pened the door
 For what - ev - er the need, God is great - er in - deed:
 As we jour - ney toward home, may your pres - ence be known:
 Not en - slaved, but set free! From now on, all will be



to a foun - tain bring - ing heal - ing, and whole - ness and more.
 end - less o - cean, al - ways deep - er than all of our need.
 pre - cious riv - er, ev - er - flow - ing, now car - ry us home.
 one in Je - sus, one in wa - ter, bap - tized and set free!

Text: Cathy Skogen-Soldner, b. 1956
 Music: BAPTIZED AND SET FREE, Cathy Skogen-Soldner
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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 have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

Sanctus Benedict

WORD

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

CHILDREN'S CHAT

Pastor Bill Swantner

FIRST READING: ACTS 10:44-48

⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷"Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" ⁴⁸So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

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

PSALM 67 *JOSEY FINN, CANTOR*

Refrain

Michel Guimont



O God, O God, let all the na-tions praise you!

O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your saving help. *℟.*

Let the nations be glad and exult
for you rule the world with justice.

With fairness you rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth. *℟.*

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us blessing
till the ends of the earth stand in awe. *℟.*

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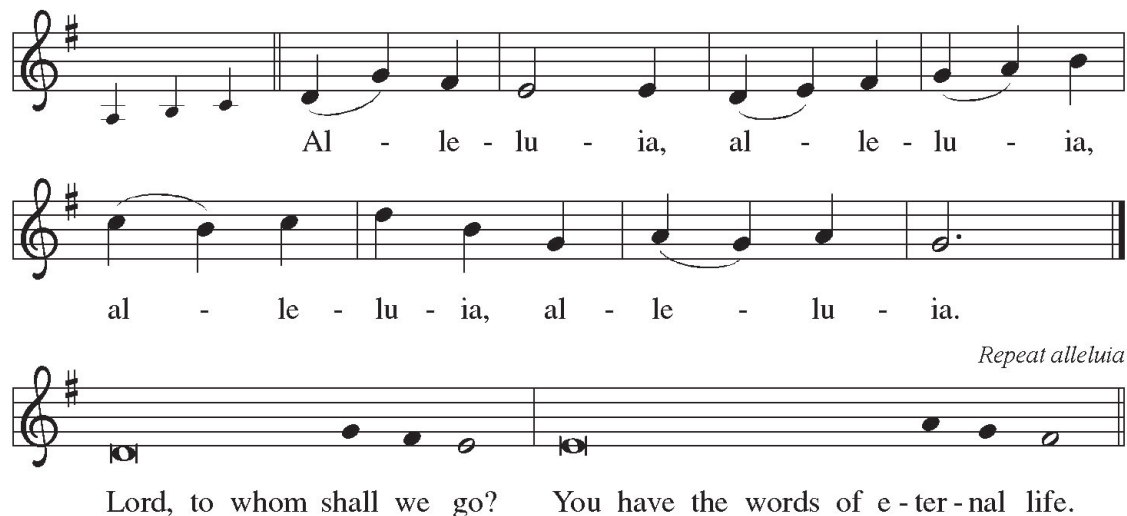
SECOND READING: 1 JOHN 5:1-6

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? ⁶This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

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

Please rise, as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

GOSPEL: JOHN 15:9-17

The Holy Spirit Comes Down
Spark Children's Bible Page 524

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

[Jesus said:] ⁹“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. ¹²“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

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

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Bill Swantner

Please rise, as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

We Know That Christ Is Raised



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.
3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.
4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows



Em-braced by death, he broke its fear - ful hold,
Re-born, we share with him an Eas - ter life,
The Spir - it's fis - sion shakes the church of God.
as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.
as liv - ing mem - bers of our Sav - ior Christ.
Bap-tized, we live with God the Three in One.
The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing:



Hal - le - lu - jah!

Text: John B. Geyer, b. 1932
Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852-1924
Text © John B. Geyer.

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11:30

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

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 may place their offerings in the jar to the left of the Chancel (near the sacristy door). During the offering music, the pastor sets the table for Holy Communion.

OFFERING MUSIC		
9:00	<i>Sing Praises</i> by Lloyd Pfautsch	Youth Choir
11:30	<i>Hymn of Promise</i> by Natalie Sleeth	Children's Choir

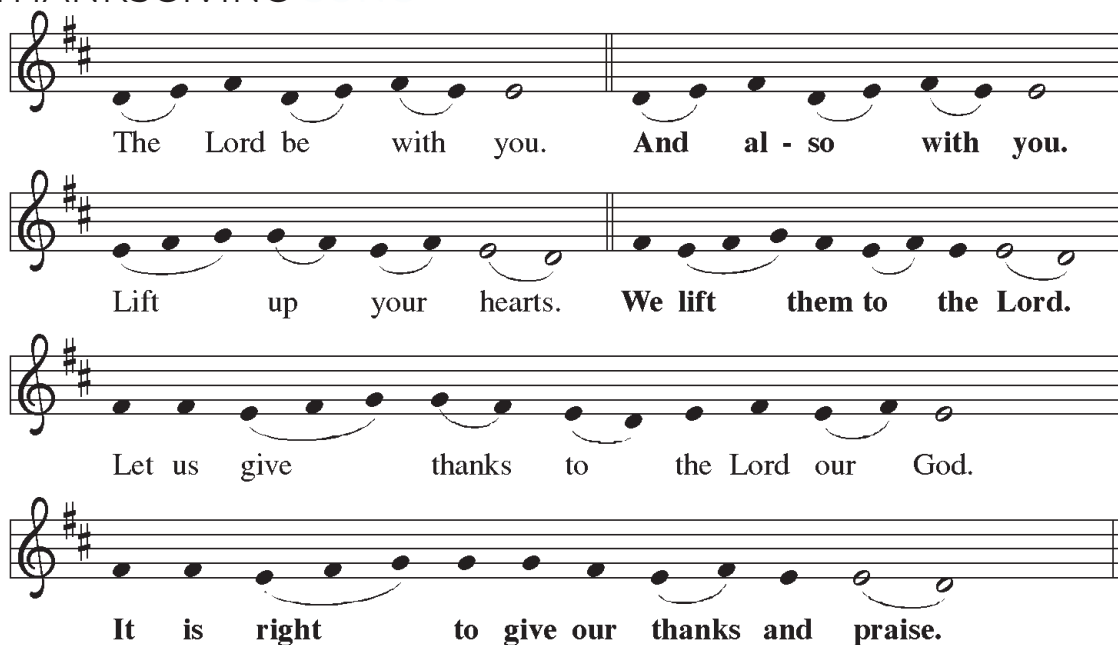
Please rise, as you are able. The ushers bring the offering forward for the Offering Prayer.

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 your grace shown in every age: the promise to your people, 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

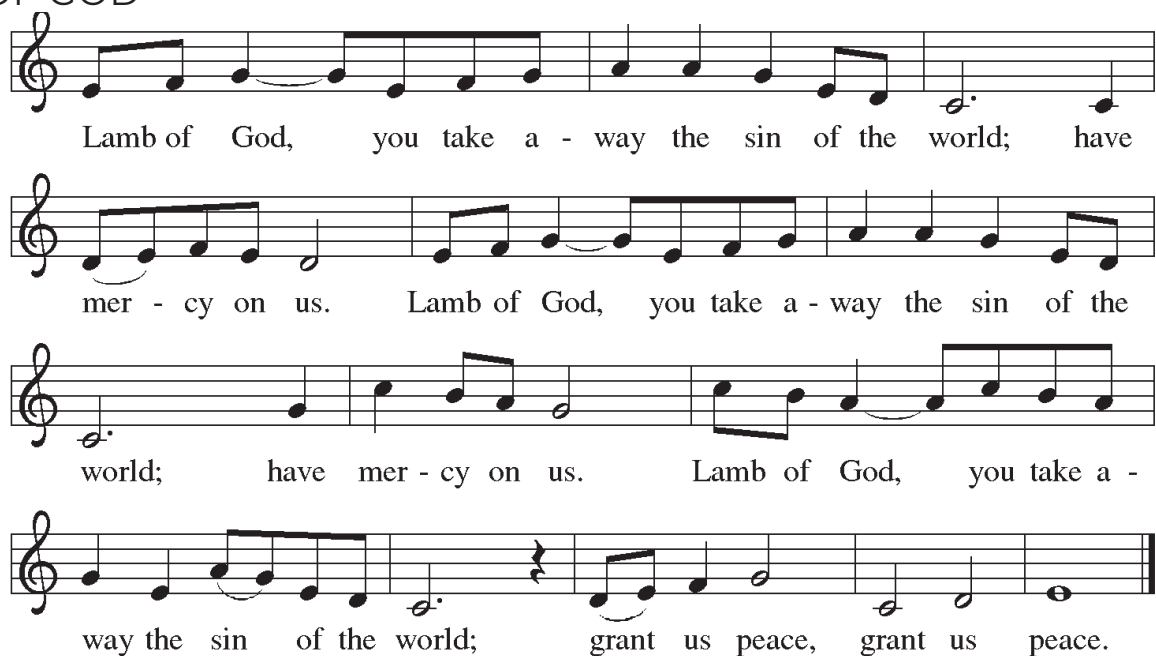
These are the gifts of God for you, the beloved people of God.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION

Because this is the Lord's table, we welcome all to receive Holy Communion. If you'd like to receive a blessing instead, simply come forward and cross your arms over your chest. 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 tray for those unable to drink wine. After receiving 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

That All May be One in You
by Thomas Keesecker

Youth Choir

11:30

Here I Am, Lord by Daniel Schutte

Children's Choir

COMMUNION HYMN

I Come with Joy



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: DOVE OF PEACE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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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

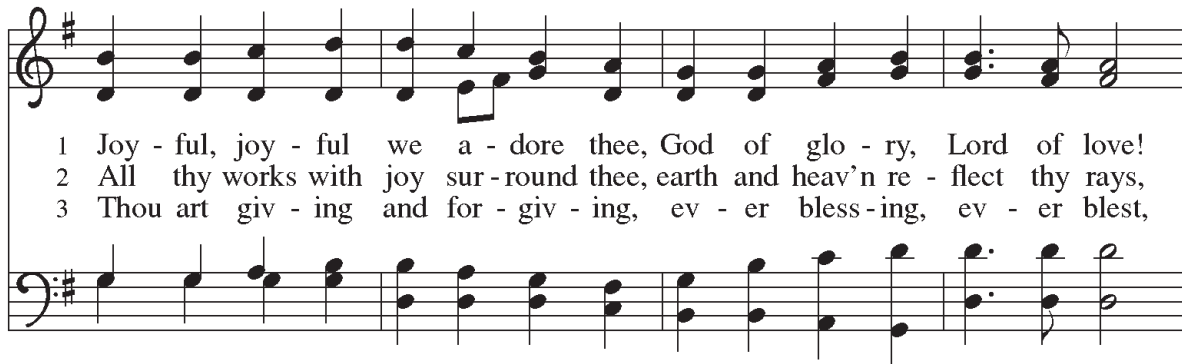
Go in peace and share the good news.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

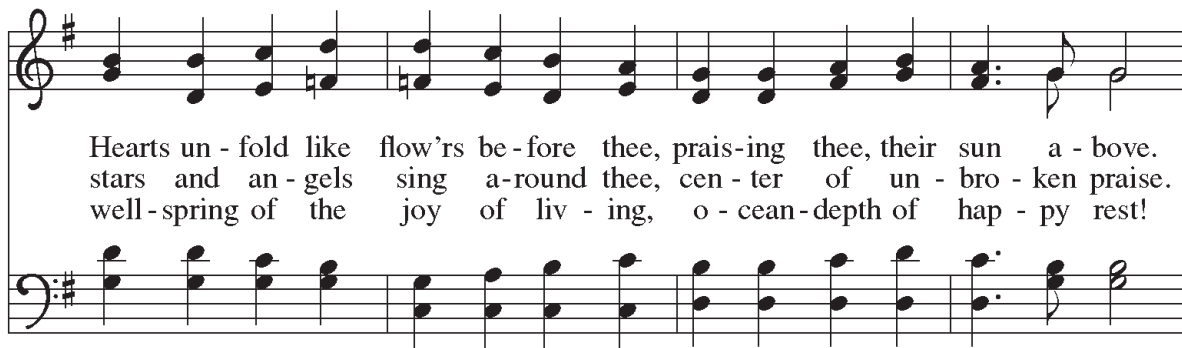
Ordinary Time-More or Less by Rosalie Bonighton

AVAILABLE FOR PRAYER

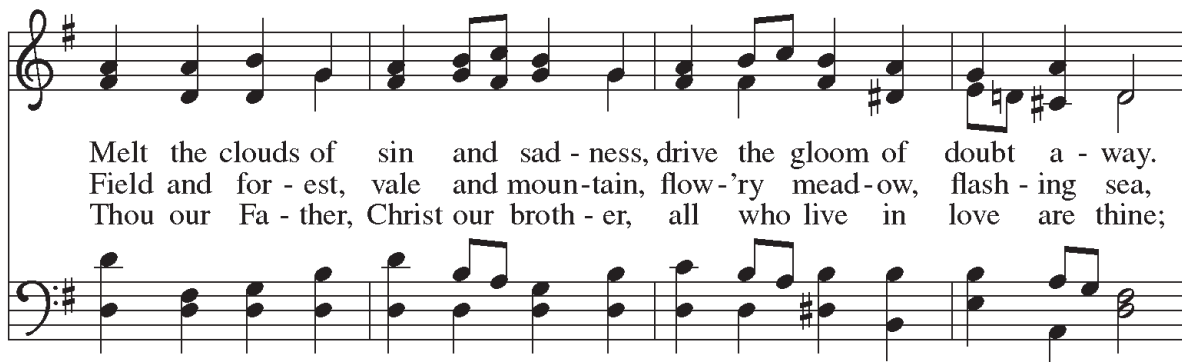
Immediately following each service, Stephen Ministers are often available to pray with you at the altar rail. All prayers and conversations are confidential.



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
 2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
 stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
 teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922
 Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

Worship Support

May Altar Guild

Randalyn Nickel
Eileen & Mel Berg
Sharon Meade
Karen Umlang

Lay Reader

9:00 Carolyn Pfeiffer
11:30 Betty Parker

Cantor

Casey Finn

Communion Servers

9:00 Beverly Rosel
Kathy Newman
11:30 Laura Knoll
Chris Jones

Livestream

Steve Johnson
Kevin McGee

Sound

Scott VanDoren

Ushers

9:00 Rachel Williams
Bruce & Linda Krueger
Karen Stoldt
11:30 Pam Gammage
Chris Berg

THIS WEEK AT ZION

Scan QR code for this month's calendar



Sunday, May 5

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
Nat'l Youth Gathering Mtg 12:30 MC 1

Monday, May 6

Game Group 12:30 Fellowship Hall
LMM Planning Mtg 6:30 Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, May 7

Exercise Group 9am Church 2
Staff Meeting 11am Break Room
Handbell Choir 6:30 Sanctuary Balcony
Warriors Anonymous 7pm Church 2

Wednesday, May 8

High School/Elementary Mentoring 7:15am Nichols Elementary
MOPS - Mothers of Preschoolers 9:30 Ministry Center 1
Weight Watchers Mtg 9:30 Church 2
Crafty Bunch 9:30 Ed Bldg Craft Rm
Midweek Worship Services 1:00 & 6:30 Chapel (Church 1)
AA - Alcoholics Anonymous 7pm FLC 202
Al-Anon Meeting 7pm FLC 101
Chancel Choir 7:15 Sanctuary

Thursday, May 9

Bible Study: Psalms 9:30 Fellowship Hall
Weight Watchers Mtg 9:30 Church 2
Youth Night/Confirmation Mentoring 6:30 Ministry Center
River City Ringers Spring Concert 7pm Sanctuary
Fiesta Flutes Rehearsal 7pm Church 2
Stephen Ministry Supervision 7pm MC-5 and 6

Calendar continued next page

Friday, May 10

Funeral: Bob Usher 10:30 Sanctuary

Saturday, May 11

Weight Watchers Meetings 7:30 & 9:30am Church 2

Food Bank Volunteer Day 9am See next page

Sunday, May 12

Car Wash Fundraiser for Youth 8:30 FH Parking Lot

Pie Sale Fundraiser for LWR by WOZ 10am Gazebo

Worship in person 9am Sanctuary

Faith Formation Hour for all ages 10:15 Details at right

Science & Faith Series 10:15 MC 1

Worship in person and online 11:30 Sanctuary & YouTube

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.

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.

Sunday Faith Formation for Children & 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

Last day of classes for children and youth is May 12. End-of-year party on the patio is May 19 at 10:15.

Science & Faith Series

Sundays May 5 and 12, 10:15am

Test of Faith: does science threaten belief in God? Join in this video and discussion series, with guest speakers. No preparation required. Meets in Ministry Center Room 1.

Women, Jesus & the Gospels

New Sunday Series with Pastor Kathi

Four weeks beginning May 19, at 10:15am in the Fellowship Hall. Join Pr. Kathi for a look at the life of Jesus and the women who became his disciples, supported his ministry, followed him to the cross, and proclaimed his resurrection from the dead. We'll focus on Mary Magdalene, Mary and Martha, and some of the unnamed women in the gospels.

Weekday Bible Study Series

New Topic Begins Thursday, May 9: *The Psalms*

Led by Pastor Eileen Spehr. Meets at 9:30am on Thursdays in the Fellowship Hall. Meeting dates May 9, 23, June 13 and July 11.

Women of Zion

WOZ Bible Study & More
Tuesday May 14,

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.



NEXT SUNDAY!



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

NEXT SUNDAY!

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 and the April 21 Mardi Gras event have brought us \$8,500 to divide among the group.

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

Two Midweek Services

Wednesdays at 1pm and 6:30pm in Church 1
Simple communion worship services in Zion's historic chapel.



**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

River City Ringers of San Antonio *Pop, Rock and Recollection*

Spring 2024 Handbell Concert Series
Thursday, May 9 at 7:00pm

Handbell concert in Zion's sanctuary is free and open to the community. Free-will donations will be appreciated.



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 by scanning this QR.



*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](https://secure.myvanco.com/YJYN/campaign/C-12GYC)

Youth Nights/Confirmation Mentoring

Thursday, May 9 Dinner and Fellowship
6:30-8pm in Ministry Center

This is the final meal and fellowship event for this school year. Middle and high schoolers meet Thursday, May 9 from 6:30-8 pm for Dinner, Bible study, service project and Confirmation mentoring. \$4 suggested offering for dinner. Use the QR to RSVP.



MOPS Chapter at Zion

Wednesday, May 8 in MC Room*

Zion MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) supports moms by building community for growth in faith and as parents. Monthly meetings are in Zion's Ministry Center from 9:30-noon as scheduled below. They also are in need of adult volunteers to provide child care those Wednesdays.

Scan the QR to contact Nicole Stender (mops@zionsa.org) to register, volunteer or get more info!

* *Final meeting of the school year.*



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 to share.



Men's Fellowship Dinner

Third Monday, May 29 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.

OFFICE CONTACT



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



210-688-3090



Zion@ZionSA.org



Website ZionSA.org



Facebook [ZionSA](https://www.facebook.com/ZionSA)



Instagram [@ZionSATX](https://www.instagram.com/ZionSATX)



9944 Leslie Road, 78254

SUBSCRIBE TO

- Weekly Z-Mail
- Prayer Chain

For secure subscription info, send an e-mail to Karen at Zion@ZionSA.org

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STAFF CONTACT *Day Off*

Pastor Kathi Johnson *Monday*
Senior Pastor
kjohnson@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

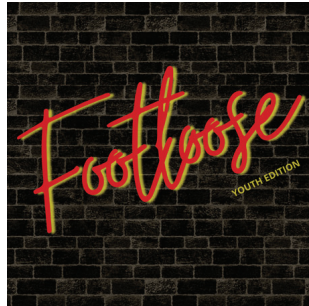
2024 CONGREGATION COUNCIL

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

Summer Theatre Camp

June 24-28 and July 1-5*

This year's camp is a musical production of FOOTLOOSE - Youth Edition (July 5 & 6). Kids will have a blast singing and dancing in this high energy musical.



The story takes place in the South, where we meet many interesting characters in the quiet town of Beaumont. SPOILER ALERT: things don't stay quiet for long!

Campers new to the Zion Theatre Group OR those interested in a larger role need to submit a singing audition video, approximately one minute, of any musical theater song. Deadline for video auditions is May 1. Ensemble performers and tech need not audition.

Theatre Camp applications are in the weekly Z-Mail, or request one through the church office. Details for submitting auditions is on the application. \$300 per person for the two week camp - ask about family discount.

**No camp July 4*

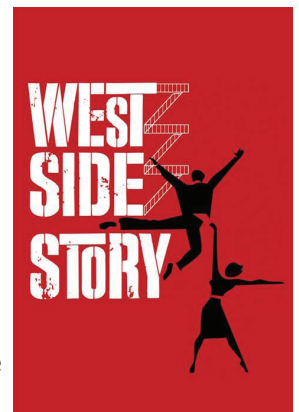


Summer Show Auditions

May 18 & 19 at 2:00pm

Auditions for high school age and adults. Be prepared to sing and learn a short dance combo. Meet in the Zion Family Life Center at 2:00 on either Saturday May 18 or Sunday May 19. Contact Sammy Mikulski if you have questions.

Performances of West Side Story are July 18-21 and 25-28.



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. The next date is May 16. 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.

For more information on LWR quilting, go to lwr.org and click on "quilts." Learn how a quilt can make a difference in someone's life.

Aluminum Beverage Can Collection

Zion is collecting aluminum drink cans in the swing-top collection barrel in the south (cemetery side) parking lot, next to the shed. Proceeds benefit Zion's Youth program.

For the health and safety of our volunteers that handle this collection:

- *Do not include plastic-lined cans, pet food cans, steel cans or other metal in this aluminum can collection barrel.*
- Please empty, dry, and crush aluminum beverage cans, without any residue that will attract vermin.
- *Do not put* paper, plastic, food or any other trash in this swing-top aluminum can collection barrel. A trash can is provided nearby, plus a bin for non-aluminum recyclables.

**MAY 5, 2024
SIXTH SUNDAY
OF EASTER**



Disciples lovingly accept the hospitality of others.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	John 15:9-17	Love one another
Monday	Acts 10:44-48	Gentiles receive the Holy Spirit
Tuesday	1 John 5:1-6	Faith conquers the world
Wednesday	Romans 12:14-21	Marks of the true Christian
Thursday	Luke 24:44-53	The ascension of Jesus
Friday	Leviticus 19:32-37	Living a holy life
Saturday	Psalms 98	Make a joyful noise
Sunday	John 17:6-19	Christ's prayer for his disciples

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

So he [Peter] ordered them [Cornelius and his household] to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.
Acts 10:48 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, being a guest in another person's home is not always easy to do. Give us love and courage to graciously accept the hospitality of others for the sake of Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Loving God, you are the host at every meal. Help me to receive your hospitality and to be open to the hospitality of others through Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God's steadfast love and faithfulness give you joy. (Psalm 98:3-4)



MAY 5, 2024

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Give Thanks for Saints



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:

- Tell or think about a memorable time when you have been a guest in someone else's home.
- In what ways do you show God's love when visiting others in their home?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Acts 10:44-48.

While Peter is speaking, he witnesses the work of the Holy Spirit that leads him to baptize Cornelius and his household. Then Peter accepts the hospitality of Cornelius, a Roman soldier (Acts 10:1-2). What would it have been like for Peter to receive food and lodging in the home of a Roman and a Gentile? It was most likely a dramatic change for Peter. It is one thing to be the host and invite someone to receive the hospitality, food, family and faith traditions of your own culture. It is quite another to be open to the cultural life of someone else. It can easily be disorienting. Will you like the food? Will you know or make adjustments to the appropriate manners expected? Will you pick up the right utensil? Will you embarrass your host or yourself? Being a guest is not easy and requires attentiveness, acceptance, and grace. That is what the church is asked to do, to be vulnerable and not in control. That is what Jesus and the Holy Spirit expect of us, too.

Discuss: How does your openness to someone else's hospitality show the love of God to that person?

Pray: **Gracious God, your kindness knows no end. Give us faith to be open to the lives and ways of others that together we may give praise to you through Christ Jesus our 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 be open to the hospitality and cultural traditions of others?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Throughout the Bible and the history of the church, singing has been a faithful way of worshiping God and expressing one's faith in God (Psalm 98). Sing or read the words of a favorite hymn. Begin your singing and reading by praying the words of Psalm 98:4: **Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises. Amen.**



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