# June 16, 2024 • Sundays after Pentecost 9:00 and 11:30am





#### 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.

#### **GREEN SEASON**

We are now in the long Green Season on the Sundays After Pentecost. Here at Zion, this summer will be a time of focusing on spiritual growth, as a community and as individuals. Our ministry this summer doesn't really slow down! In addition to worship, we will host the greater San Antonio community at two different summer camps and a summer theatre production. Many of our groups continue meeting in the summer months, too. The Green Season helps us find ways that God is helping us to grow in and through it all. How do we grow as people of welcome? How do we grow as people of care? How do we grow as people of love?

#### 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** 

Concertante in Bb by Franz Danzi – Movement 3 Elyse Hearn, Flute Dean Hearn, Clarinet John Roberts, Piano

WELCOME

Pastor Dan Heim

Please rise, as you are able.

#### INVOCATION

We worship today in the name of the Father, and of the ♥ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

OPENING DIALOGUE (based on Psalm 139)

O LORD, you search me and know me.

You know when I sit and when I rise;

You discern my thoughts from far away.

You observe my path; you are acquainted with all my ways.

Where can I go from your spirit?

Where can I flee from your presence?

Search me, O God, and know my heart;

Search me, and know my thoughts.





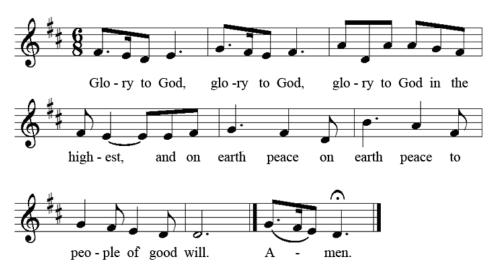
#### **GREETING**

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.** 

#### **GLORIA**







Text: ICEL, © 2010 Music: Mass of Joy and Peace , Tony E. Alonso, © 2010, GIA Publications, Inc.

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

# WORD

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

CHILDREN'S CHAT

Pastor Dan Heim

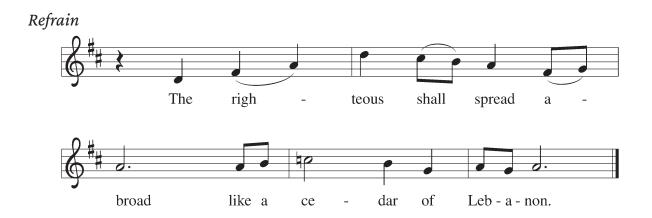
FIRST READING: EZEKIEL 17:22-24

<sup>22</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. <sup>23</sup>On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. <sup>24</sup>All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the LORD have spoken; I will accomplish it.

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

#### PSALM 92

The cantor sings the refrain once to begin, followed by the assembly. The assembly then sings the refrain when indicated by  $\mathbb{R}^{7}$ 



It is a good thing to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praise to your name, O Most High; to herald your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night; on the psaltery, and on the lyre, and to the melody of the harp. For you have made me glad by your acts, O LORD; and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands. R

The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.

Those who are planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God; they shall still bear fruit in old age; they shall be green and succulent; that they may show how upright the LORD is, my rock, in whom there is no injustice. 

\[ \textstyle \text{ The palm tree, and shall flourish in the courts of our God; they shall be green and succulent; \text{ The palm tree, and shall flourish in the courts of our God; they shall still bear fruit in old age; they shall be green and succulent; \text{ The palm tree, and shall flourish in the courts of our God; \text{ The palm tree, and shall still bear fruit in old age; they shall be green and succulent; \text{ The palm tree, and the palm tree, and

Psalm 92:12 Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year B* © 2008 Augsburg Fortress. May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

#### SECOND READING: 2 CORINTHIANS 5:6-17

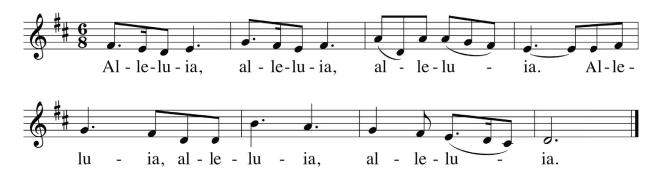
[Paul writes] 6So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—<sup>7</sup> for we walk by faith, not by sight. <sup>8</sup>Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. <sup>10</sup>For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil. 11Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. <sup>12</sup>We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. <sup>13</sup>For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. <sup>14</sup>For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. <sup>15</sup>And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. <sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup>So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

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

Please rise, as you are able.

#### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Sing twice



Music: Mass of Joy and Peace, Tony E. Alonso, © 2010, GIA Publications, Inc.

GOSPEL: MARK 4:26-34

Parable of the Mustard Seed Spark Children's Bible Page 320

The holy gospel according to Mark. Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>26</sup>[Jesus] said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,<sup>27</sup>and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how.
<sup>28</sup>The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. <sup>29</sup>But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come." <sup>30</sup>He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? <sup>31</sup>It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; <sup>32</sup>yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade." <sup>33</sup>With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; <sup>34</sup>he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

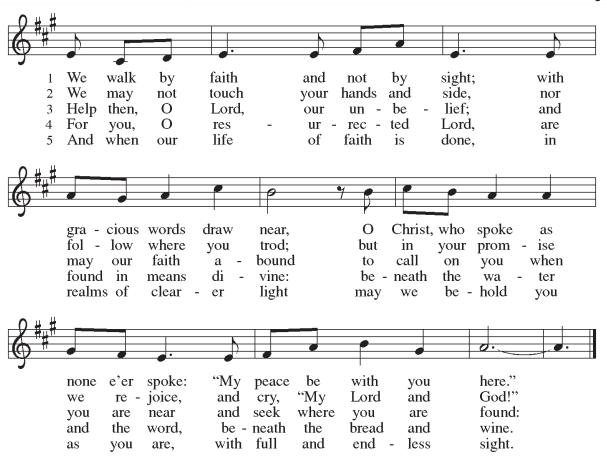
The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

**SERMON** 

Pastor Kathi Johnson

Please rise, as you are able.



Text: Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt.
Music: SHANTI, Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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# 9:00 INSTALLATION OF CAMP HOPE STAFF

# Miss Ella Brei, Director Mr. Tyler Duysen, Assistant Director

# Staff and Support Staff

Noah Arviso	Bella Gallegos	Rhyker Love
Daniel Arviso	Ben Gerber	Mathis Oliver
Mia Autobee	Anslee Gunter	Abbigail Olson
Joseph Autobee	Neva Haidin	Benjamin Osher
Brennan Clegg	Cali Haidin	Reese Peterson
Zachary Cockrell	Kendall Herrmann	Holden Smith
Caleb DeHart	Harrison Herrmann	Carter Smith
Audrey DeHart	Ava Jasso	Ameya Steubing
Arianna Dinote	Joanna Kaczmar	Christian Valentine
Ryder Dorn	Noah Kiesow	<b>Gabriel Valentine</b>
Carter Duysen	Natalie Kiesow	Payton Wyatt
Madi Frias	Jackson Kretzschmar	

#### Mentors

Mel Arviso		
Dave Brewton	Matt Iwanicki	Clint Ogburn
Allen Cockrell	Cindy Jasso	Rebekah Osher
Kim DeHart	Chris Jones	Bethany Roberts
Allison Duysen	Don Jones	Marty Schimcek
Carolyn Friemel	Daryl Knox	Kathy Schwab
Rick Friemel	Diane Knox	Darren Smith
Lori Gallegos	Kevin Kretzschmar	Jennifer Smith
Ana Garcia	Cindy Matheny	Bill Swantner
Mary Jo Goldenbaum	Kathy Null	Kat Umlang
Cassie Haidin		

#### 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

Rejoicing that God is with us, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Each petition ends: God of grace,

Response: Hear our prayer.

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected Lord.

Amen.

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of  $\maltese$  Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

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

Alleluia from Exsultate, jubilate by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Elyse Hearn, Flute Dean Hearn, Clarinet John Roberts, Piano

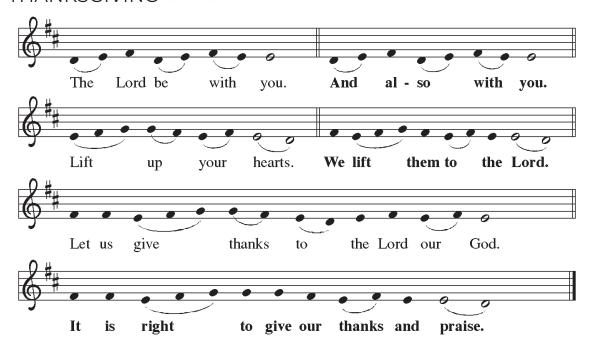
Please rise, as you are able. The ushers bring the offering forward for the Offering Prayer.

#### OFFERING PRAYER

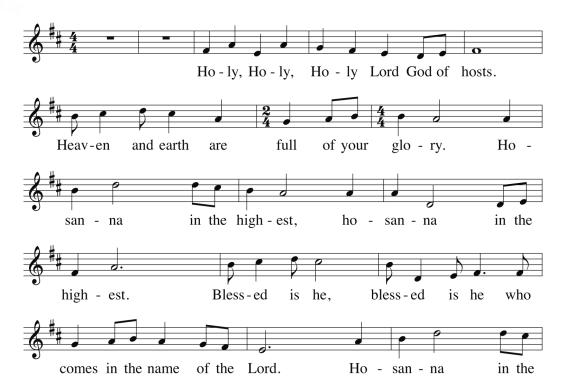
Let us pray. God of mercy and grace,

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

#### GREAT THANKSGIVING



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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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:





Text: ICEL, © 2010 Music: Mass of Joy and Peace, Tony E. Alonso, © 2010, GIA Publications, Inc.

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 your people safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading them 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 \( \mathbb{P} \) 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

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

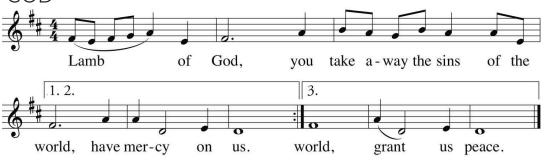
All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, come to the table.

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.





Music: Mass of Joy and Peace, Tony E. Alonso, © 2010, GIA Publications, Inc.

**COMMUNION MUSIC** 

Concertante in Bb by Franz Danzi – Movement 2

Elyse Hearn, Flute Dean Hearn, Clarinet John Roberts, Piano



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.

We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.

Amen.

# **SENDING**

God blesses us and sends us out in peace.

#### BENEDICTION

Almighty God bless us, ♣ and direct our days and our deeds in peace. **Amen.** 

SENDING HYMN on next page

DISMISSAL

Go in peace and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE** 

Trumpet Air by Paul Bryan

#### 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



Today, June 16

Worship in person 9am Sanctuary

Dinner and Theatre Seating Tickets on sale for *West Side Story* 12pm Gazebo

New Member Class #3 10:15 FLC Room 101

Worship in person and online 11:30 Sanctuary & YouTube

Monday, June 17

Camp Hope Week 1 9am Campus Game Group (alternate room) 12:30 Church 2

LMM Fellowship & Dinner 6:30 Sea Island Restaurant

Tuesday, June 18

Camp Hope Week 1 9am Campus
Exercise Group 9am Church 2
Staff Meeting 11am Break Room
Council Mtg (alternate room) 6:30 Break Room
Warriors Anonymous 7pm Church 2

Wednesday, June 19

Camp Hope Week 1 9am Campus 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 (alt. room) 7pm Church 2

Al-Anon Meeting (alternate room) 7pm Fellowship Hal

Thursday, June 20

Camp Hope Week 1 9am Campus Weight Watchers Mtg 9:30 Church 2

Friday, June 21

Camp Hope Week 1 9am Campus

Saturday, June 22

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

Sunday, June 23

Worship in person 9am Sanctuary

Dinner and Theatre Seating Tickets on sale for West Side Story 10am-Gazebo

New Member Class #4 10:15 FLC Room 101

Worship in person and online 11:30 Sanctuary & YouTube

## **Worship Support**

#### **Altar Guild**

Carolyn Thronson, Doris Enderlin, Susan Johns, Carrie Schmitzer, Amy Swanson Gina Williams

## Lay Reader

9:00 Rhyker Love

11:30 Betty Parker

#### **Cantor**

Celeste Mussey

#### **Communion Servers**

9:00 Antje Logue, Amy Swanson

11:30 LeShea Clabough & Kevin McGee

#### Livestream

Steve Johnson, David Umlang

#### Sound

Scott VanDoren

#### **Ushers**

9:00 David Umlang

Brinkley & Bonnie Harrell Amy Swanson, Bev Rosel Liz McClain, Linda Hansen

11:30 JoAnna & Mel Arviso

#### Two Midweek Services

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

Simple communion worship services in Zion's historic chapel. During May and June, we will focus on the work of the Holy Spirit.

STAFF CONTACT	Day Off
Pastor Kathi Johnson Senior Pastor kjohnson@ZionSA.org	Monday
Pastor Dan Heim Pastor, Youth & Family dheim@ZionSA.org	Friday
Pastor Eileen Spehr Visitation Pastor visitation@zionsa.org	
Suzie Wyatt, Administrator swyatt@ZionSA.org	Thursday afternoon
Rob Mikulski, Music Director rmikulski@ZionSA.org	Monday
Sammy Mikulski, Theatre Director theatre@ZionSA.org	Monday

# 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	





#### 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.

# > Coffee Talks >

Join us at 10:15 on these dates. Come to the Fellowship Hall for information on these topics:

- June 30 Treasurer Allen Cockrell will give a quarterly financial update.
- July 7 Senior Pastor Kathi Johnson will give a midyear ministry update.
- August 4 Habitat for Humanity representative will speak about the Lutheran Cluster House and the family that will live there.

All are welcome to come and hear about the ways that God is working in and through you - the people of Zion!



# **Zion Theatre Camp Presents**

Friday, July 5 at 7:30pm Saturday, July 6 at 2:00pm



Zion Theatre Campers present this

rollicking and heartfelt cultural conflict story, set in 1970's East Texas. You're invited to their performances as the finale of their 2024 Theatre Camp in the Family Life Center. There is no charge for these performances.

#### Tickets on Sale Now



Performances are:

Thur	July 18	7:30pm
Fri	July 19	7:30pm
Sat	July 20	7:30pm
Sun	July 21	2:30pm
Thur	July 25	7:30pm
Fri	July 26	7:30pm
Sat	July 27	7:30pm
Sun	July 28	2:30pm

Theatre seating tickets are available on-line at **ZTG.Booktix.net** (QR above). All seats are \$16.50, including handling charge.

Dinner seating tickets are on sale in the gazebo today at 9:00 through noon. During the week, contact Sammy at 210-688-3090 or theatre@zionsa.org.

Doors open for dinner seating at either 6:30 or 1:30, one hour before curtain. Adult \$30, child (11 & under) \$20.

#### 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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- Prayer Chain

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

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# 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



# Men's Fellowship Dinner

Third Monday, June 17 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 lmm@zionsa.org if you need more details.

# Men's Retreat September 13-15



are sponsoring a **One Year To Live Retreat**, a life-changing, lay-led event at Camp Chrysalis near Kerrville. Early Registration

discount price is \$150 (by Monday, July 15).
Scan this QR for registration form and payment options. Contact David Umlang at lmm@zionsa.org if you need more details



# **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 Lutheran World Relief**

Summer Schedule: Thursdays July 18 and August 1 Even if you don't sew, consider learning some basics with LWR Quilters! Come on out at 9:30 in the Fellowship Hall, as scheduled above. Contact Diane Stewart through the church office if you need more details.

# Weekday Bible Study Series: The Psalms

Thursday, July 11 - Psalms of Praise

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

Future Bible study topics to be announced.

## **Game Group**

Monday, July 1 and 15 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.

## Zion Zippers 50+ Fellowship

Monday, July 8 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 with your Zipper friends and the entertainers. Bring your own plate and utensils if you can, and invite a friend, too!

Entertainment and activities for July 8 have not yet been set. Contact Kathy Newman through the church office if you have a question or suggestion for a guest speaker or activity.

#### Women of Zion

WOZ Bible Study & More Second Tuesday July 9 at 10:00am

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



# Zion is a Stephen Ministry Church! Stephen Ministers Are Care-Givers, God Is the Cure-Giv-

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, 210688-3090, or email her
directly using this QR.

# JUNE 16, 2024 FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



We walk by faith, not by sight.

# **DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

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

Sunday	Mark 4:26-34	Parables of Jesus
Monday	Ezekiel 17:22-24	Israel to return from exile
Tuesday	2 Corinthians 5:6-17	The ministry of reconciliation
Wednesday	Hebrews 11:1-3	The meaning of faith
Thursday	Romans 14:1-12	Do not judge another
Friday	1 Peter 1:3-9	A living hope
Saturday	Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15	Song for the sabbath day
Sunday	Mark 4:35-41	Jesus calms the waters

# SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—for we walk by faith, not by sight. **2 Corinthians 5:6-7 (NRSV)** 

# **PRAYERS AND BLESSING**

#### A Prayer for the Week:

Creator God, in the midst of things we cannot understand or accept, give us confidence that your goodness and mercy will triumph through Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, you bring a harvest full of good things; we thank you for this food and all that you do to guide our lives through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

#### A Blessing to Give:

May the power and wisdom of God be your strength.



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# JUNE 16, 2024 HYMN OF THE WEEK We Walk by Faith WEEKLY MILESTONES Taking taking faith home

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:

- What is something that is happening in your life or world that seems hard to understand?
- What is your understanding of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus?

#### **DEVOTIONS**



Read: Mark 4:26-34.

The Gospel of Mark was written around 70 A.D. during a very chaotic period of history in Jerusalem and in the surrounding Jewish lands. Roman soldiers were everywhere and the holy temple, with all its hope and promise for the people, was doomed to destruction. The earliest followers of Jesus were unsure how to be disciples, who was to be included in the community of faith, and how to address Gentiles and ruling powers alike. Mark writes about the kingdom of God that grows like a seed sown by a farmer. The seed grows one stage at a time even while the farmer sleeps. The farmer who planted the seeds is not sure how it is all happening just as the disciples are unsure about growing God's kingdom. Nothing stops the growing seed and nothing stops the kingdom of God. Paul reminds us in 2 Corinthians 5:7 that "[W]e walk by faith, not by sight". We are part of a kingdom whose standards and powers are not fully understood. Especially when things are confusing, we trust God's work, God's promises, and God's judgments. Faith trusts that God is in control.

*Discuss:* When you experience confusing times in your life, does faith in God give you confidence?

*Pray:* God of the harvest, we thank you for the work of your kingdom that brings hope where there is pain, and confidence where there is uncertainty, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

# **SERVICE**



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you help someone who is struggling with a decision?

# RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



This Sunday is Father's Day. It is an opportunity to honor all men who have cared for you and others as well. Take time to talk about, give thanks, and reach out to the men who have parented and cared for you.

*Pray:* Dear God, we thank you for fathers and all men who care for us. We especially give thanks for [name/s of men] who have been a blessing to our lives. Amen.



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