

September 1, 2024 • Sundays after Pentecost  
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. The break room, on the left side of the hallway, provides a quiet space for nursing.

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 will continue in this long Green Season on these Sundays After Pentecost for a while longer. The summer months are phasing (slowly) into fall, yet the heat continues. During this month, we give thanks to God for the refreshing waters of baptism, wherein we receive the gift of new life in Christ - what a gift! During the month of September, we will include asperges as part of our Gathering Hymn. Asperges is an ancient rite, used by Christians all around the world as a reminder of baptism. May the refreshing waters remind you of God's love showering upon you!

## HOLY BAPTISM TODAY

At the 9:00 service today we receive Waylon James Lewis, child of Kimberly & Paul Lewis. His sponsors are Bridget & Jose Ayala.

Please note on your connection card if you are visiting for the baptism.

## Zion Lutheran Church

9944 Leslie Road • San Antonio, Texas 78254 • 210-688-3090 • [zion@zionsa.org](mailto:zion@zionsa.org)

# GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit, the Comforter, gathers us in worship.*

PRELUDE

*Beach Spring*  
setting by Anne Krentz Organ

WELCOME

Pastor Kathi Johnson

TEMPLE TALK - HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Matt Iwanicki

*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.**

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11:30am

*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.**

## THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.*

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

**We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.**

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*—*

*During the hymn, the congregation is sprinkled with water as a reminder of baptism.*

GATHERING HYMN

Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters



1 Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleansing waters flow.  
2 We who bring them long for nurture; by your milk may we be fed.  
3 Oh, how deep your holy wisdom! Unimagined, all your ways!



Num - ber them a - mong your peo - ple; bless as Christ blessed long a - go.  
Let us join your feast, partaking cup of blessing, living bread.  
To your name be glory, honor! With our lives we worship, praise!



Weave them garments bright and sparkling; compass them with love and light.  
God, renew us, guide our footsteps; free from sin and all its snares,  
We your people stand before you, water-washed and Spirit-born.



Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit, holy dove and heart's delight.  
one with Christ in living, dying, by your Spirit, children, heirs.  
By your grace, our lives we offer. Re-create us; God, transform!

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947  
Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844  
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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 our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**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: DEUTERONOMY 4:1-2, 6-9

<sup>1</sup>So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. <sup>2</sup>You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you. <sup>6</sup>You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" <sup>7</sup>For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? <sup>8</sup>And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today? <sup>9</sup>But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

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

PSALM 15



The cantor sings the refrain once to begin, followed by the assembly. The assembly then sings the refrain when indicated by Ṛ

Refrain

Michel Guimont

The musical notation is written on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The first line of music is in 2/4 time and contains the lyrics 'Those who do jus - tice will live in the'. The second line of music is in 3/4 time and contains the lyrics 'pres - ence of the Lord.' The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Those who walk without fault,  
those who act with justice  
and speak the truth from their hearts,  
those who do not slander with their tongue, Ṛ.

those who do no wrong to their kindred,  
who cast no slur on their neighbors,

who hold the godless in disdain,  
but honor those who fear the LORD; Ṛ.

those who keep their word, come what may,  
who take no interest on a loan  
and accept no bribes against the innocent.  
Such people will stand firm for ever. Ṛ.

Psalm Verses © 1963, 1993, The Grail, GIA Publications., Inc. agent. Music © 2001 by GIA Publications, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

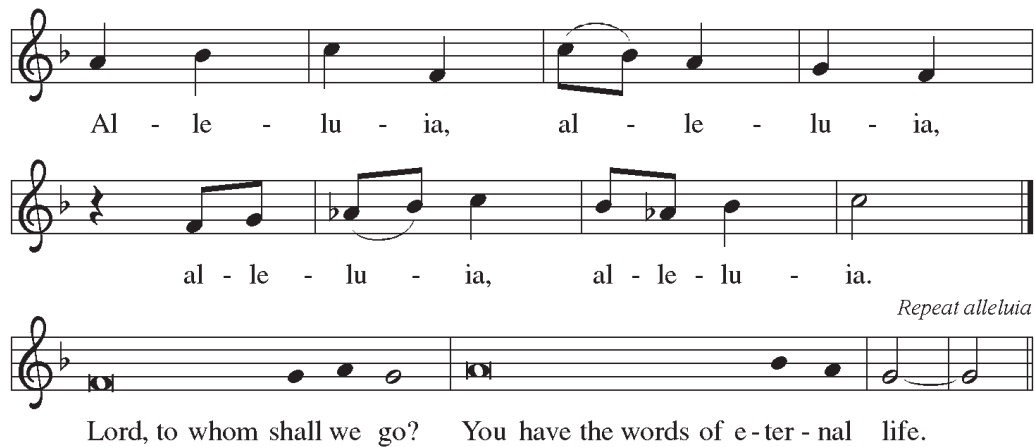
## SECOND READING: JAMES 1:17-27

<sup>17</sup>Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. <sup>18</sup>In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. <sup>19</sup>You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; <sup>20</sup>for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. <sup>21</sup>Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. <sup>22</sup>But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. <sup>23</sup>For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; <sup>24</sup>for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. <sup>25</sup>But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. <sup>26</sup>If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. <sup>27</sup>Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

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: MARK 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

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

<sup>1</sup>Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus], <sup>2</sup>they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. <sup>3</sup>(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; <sup>4</sup>and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) <sup>5</sup>So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” <sup>6</sup>He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, ‘This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.’ <sup>8</sup>You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.” <sup>14</sup>Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: <sup>15</sup>there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile. <sup>21</sup>“For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, <sup>22</sup>adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. <sup>23</sup>All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

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

*Please be seated.*

## SERMON

Pastor Dan Heim

*Please rise, as you are able.*

HYMN OF THE DAY

Restore in Us, O God



1 Re - store in us, O God, the splen - dor of your love; re -  
2 O Spir - it, wake in us the won - der of your pow'r; from  
3 Bring us, O Christ, to share the full - ness of your joy; bap -  
4 Three - per - soned God, ful - fill the prom - ise of your grace, that



new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move.  
fruit - less fear un - furl our lives like spring - time bud and flow'r.  
tize us in the ris - en life that death can - not de - stroy.  
we, when all our search - ing ends, may see you face to face.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944  
Music: BAYLOR, Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933  
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11:30am

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 COMPARE WITH KAREN

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.**

## 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](http://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

*The Feast is Ready*  
setting by Aaron David Miller

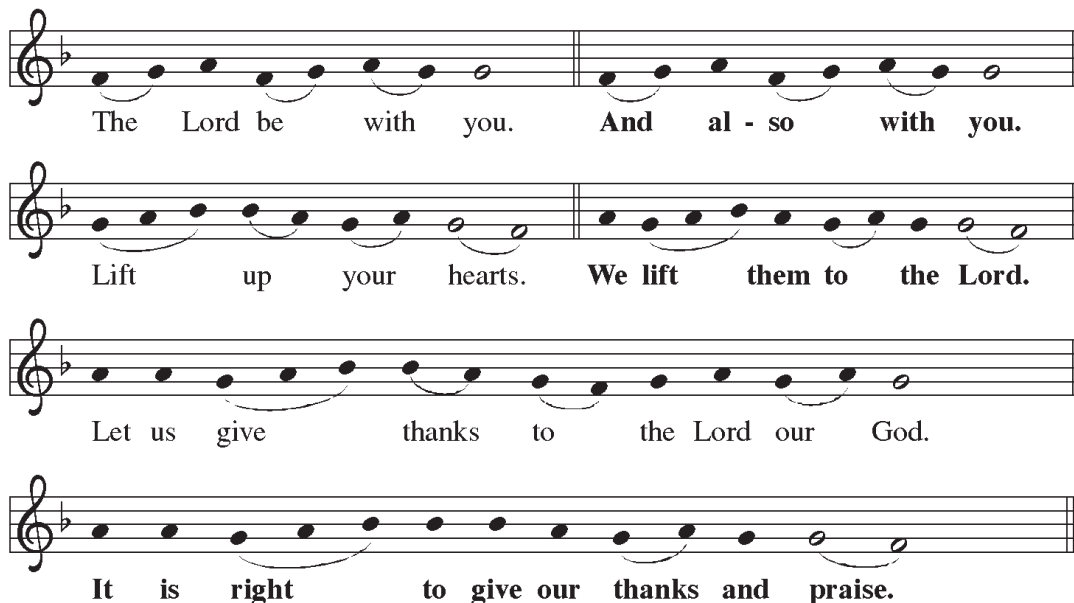
*Please rise, as you are able. The ushers bring the offering forward for the Offering Prayer.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.

**Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING



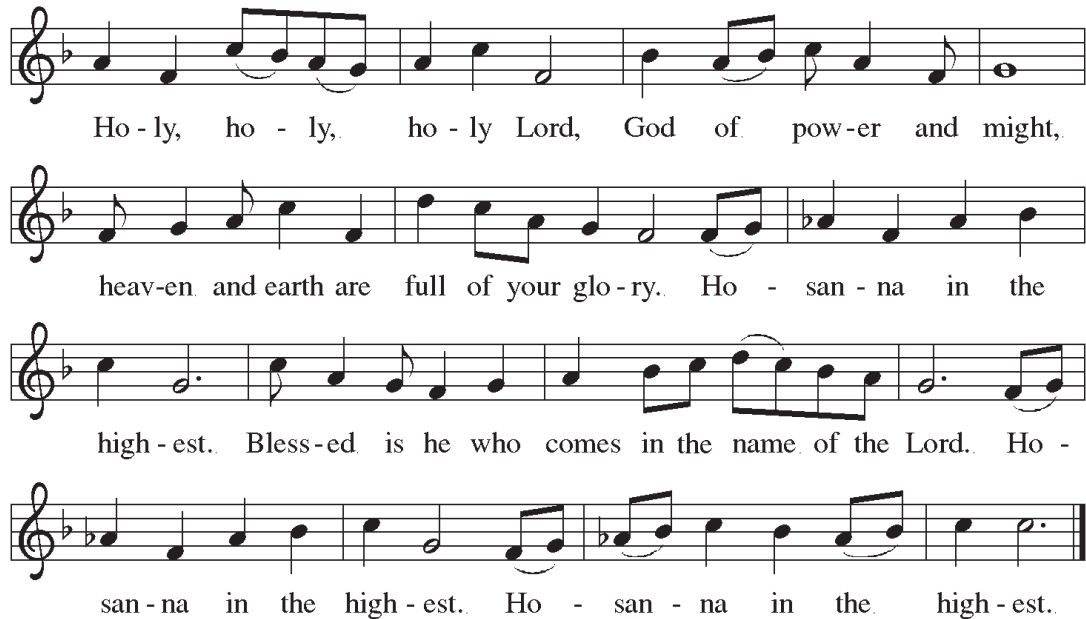
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; 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:



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. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.**

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, ✠ your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, 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

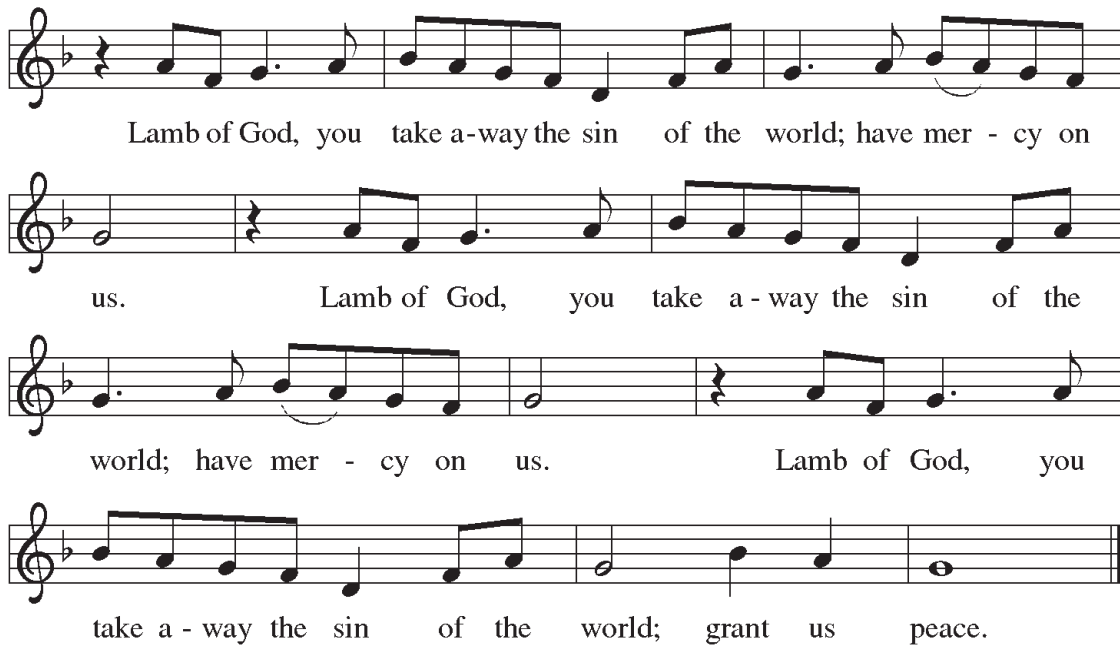
These are the gifts of God for you, the beloved people of God.

*Please be seated.*

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

*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.*

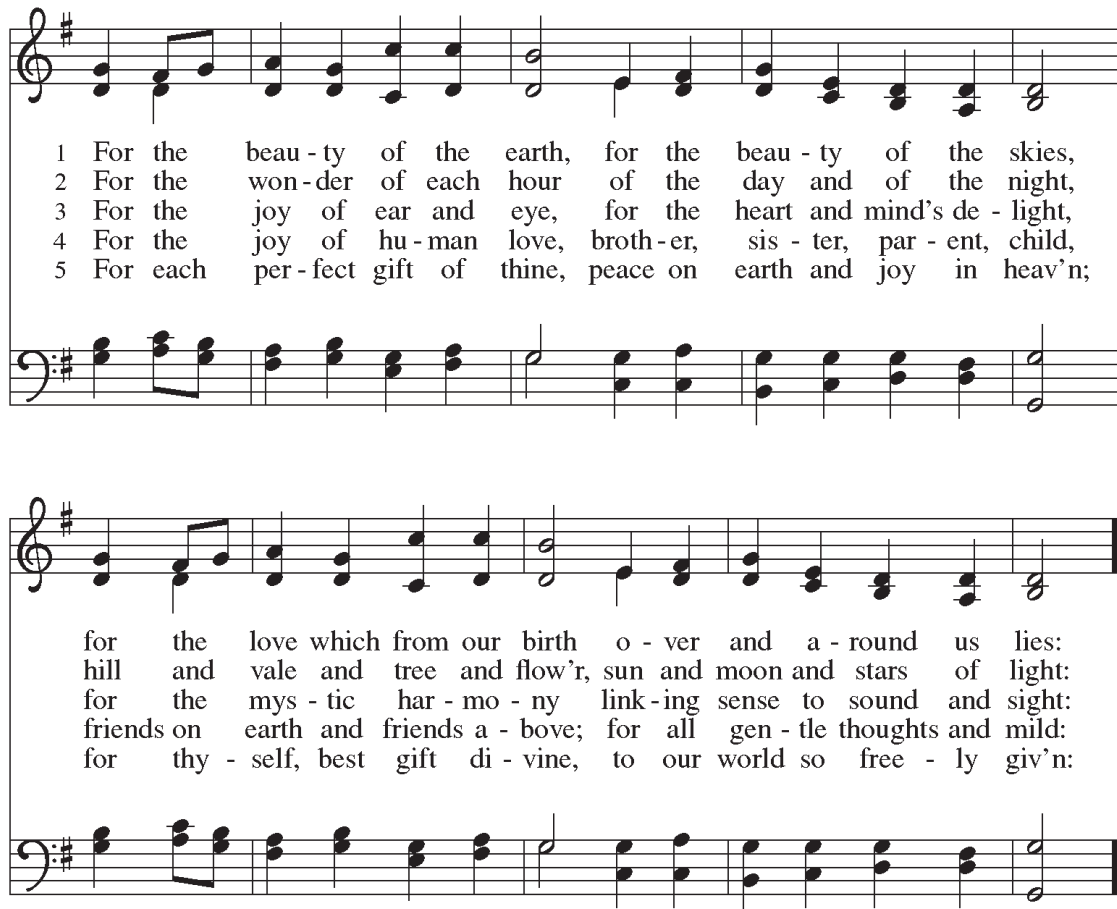
## LAMB OF GOD



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.

## COMMUNION HYMN

## For the Beauty of the Earth



1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,  
2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,  
3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,  
4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,  
5 For each per - fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;

for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:  
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:  
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:  
friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:  
for thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our world so free - ly giv'n;



*Refrain*

Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

Text: Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1835–1917, alt.  
 Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

*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. Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

# SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us out in peace.*

## BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you.

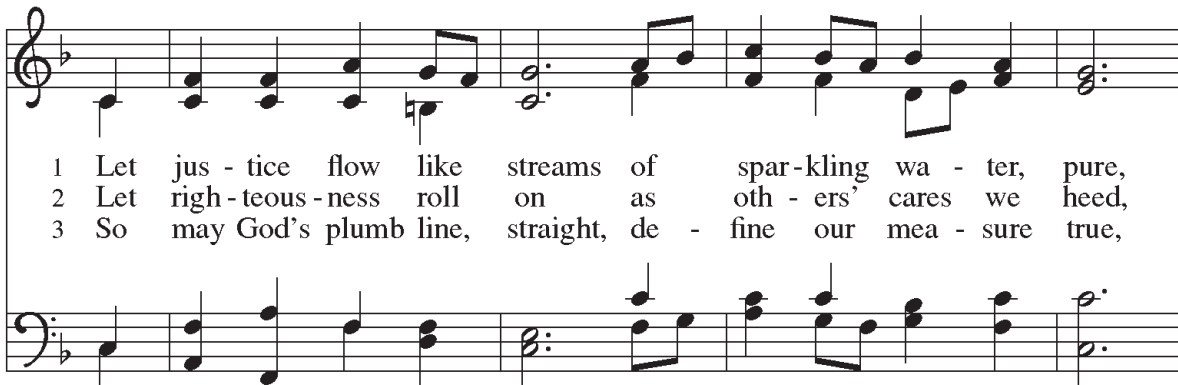
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

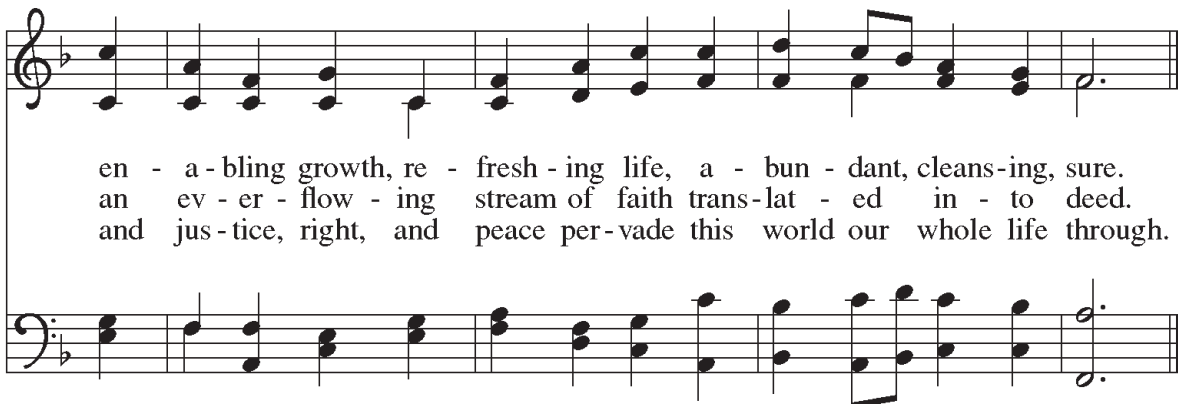
**Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

## Let Justice Flow Like Streams



1 Let jus - tice flow like streams of spar - kling wa - ter, pure,  
2 Let righ - teous - ness roll on as oth - ers' cares we heed,  
3 So may God's plumb line, straight, de - fine our mea - sure true,



en - a - bling growth, re - fresh - ing life, a - bun - dant, cleans - ing, sure.  
an ev - er - flow - ing stream of faith trans - lat - ed in - to deed.  
and jus - tice, right, and peace per - vade this world our whole life through.

Text: Jane Parker Huber, b. 1926  
Music: ST. THOMAS, Aaron Williams, 1731-1776  
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DISMISSAL

Go in peace and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE	<i>Fanfare in C</i> by Steven Blackman	
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AVAILABLE FOR PRAYER

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

## THIS WEEK AT ZION

Scan QR code for this month's calendar



### Sunday, September 1

Worship in person	9am	Sanctuary
Faith Formation Hour for all ages	10:15	Details next page
<i>Worship Matters</i> , new location	10:15	FLC Great Room
Worship in person and online	11:30	Sanctuary & YouTube

### Monday, September 2

Labor Day - Campus Closed

### Tuesday, September 3

Exercise Group	9am	Church 2
Staff Meeting	11am	Break Room
Handbell Choir	6:30	Sanctuary Balcony
Children's Choir	7-7:45	Ministry Center 1
Youth Choir	7pm	Music Apse
Warriors Anonymous	7pm	Church 2

### Wednesday, September 4

Weight Watchers Mtg	9:30	Church 2
Crafty Bunch	9:30	Ed Bldg Craft Rm
Midweek Worship	1:00 and 6:30pm	Church 1
Al-Anon Meeting	7pm	FLC 101
AA - Alcoholics Anonymous	7pm	FLC 202
Chancel Choir	7:15	Sanctuary

### Thursday, September 5

Quilting for Lutheran World Relief	9:30	Fellowship Hall
Weight Watchers Mtg	9:30	Church 2
Dinner Out: Wah Kee on Blanco Rd	6:30	Details Page 22
Fiesta Flutes Rehearsal	7pm	Church 2

### Saturday, September 6

Weight Watchers Meetings	7:30 & 9:30am	Church 2
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### Sunday, September 7

Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser for LWR	8-11:30	Fellowship Hall
Worship in person	9am	Sanctuary
Faith Formation Hour for all ages	10:15	Details next page
<i>Worship Matters</i> through Sept 15	10:15	FLC Great Room
Worship in person and online	11:30	Sanctuary & YouTube

## Worship Support

### Altar Guild

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

### Lay Reader

9:00 Kristyn Bova  
11:30 Gail Clayworth

### Cantor

Jeff Williams

### Communion Servers

9:00 Bonnie & Brinkley Harrell  
11:30 Max Knoll, Karen Umlang

### Livestream

Steve Johnson, David Umlang

### Sound

Scott VanDoren

### Ushers

9:00 Gus & Shannon Rios  
Carolyn Pfeiffer  
Mary Jo & Paul Goldenbaum  
11:30 Pam Gammage

## Two Midweek Services

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

Simple communion worship services  
in Zion's historic chapel.

## Faith Formation for Children and Youth

10:15 in Ministry Center Rooms

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

Please register for Faith Formation classes (ages two through high school) with this QR code, including returning children and youth. Volunteers can also register with this link.



FF Registration

## Worship Matters: New Series Meeting in the FLC at 10:15

Join Pastor Kathi and Director of Music Ministries Rob Mikulski for four weeks of *Worship Matters*. This is an interactive class all about the four parts of our worship services: Gathering, Word, Meal, Sending. Come with your own questions, but we'll also discuss why our service is arranged the way it is, and why we repeat some parts over and over but not others. Meet in the Family Life Center Great Room at 10:15. Youth in grade 5 through high school will participate in this series.



Sign up TODAY  
for the  
September 14  
Build Day

As part of the Lutheran Cluster for Habitat, Zion is fortunate to be the first group to start the construction for a well deserving family. We have done a great job so far in fund raising. Now we need physical work donations!

This QR is the link to sign up to work on Saturday, September 14 at the Von Ormy building site. Everything you need to know is in the link. Watch this space here and in the Z-Mail for carpool information as we get closer to the work date.



H for H

## Lunch Food for Habitat Build Day

Are you better with a spatula than a hammer? Do you just enjoy feeding people? You can help with the Habitat for Humanity event on September 14.

Contact Bonnie Harrell to get the details on donating sandwiches, chips and fruit for worker lunches. Call the church office if you need her contact info.

## Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser NEXT SUNDAY September 8

8:00am - 11:30am in the Fellowship Hall  
Enjoy pancakes, French toast, sausage and breakfast beverages, hosted by the Women of Zion. A free-will offering benefits the LWR (Lutheran



World Relief) Shipping Fund, helping get quilts, school supplies, sewing kits, etc. to the people around the world who need them.

Volunteers for this event may contact Linnell Brewton through the church office.

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## Game Group

Tuesday\*, September 3 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.

*\*Labor Day holiday reschedule*

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## Women of Zion Events

General Meeting and Lunch

Thursday, September 5, at noon in Fellowship Hall

All women are invited to the WELCA and WOZ (Women of the ELCA and Women of Zion) meeting and lunch. The event begins at noon in the Fellowship Hall, but come a little early to see what the Quilters are doing!



WOZ@zionsa.org

WOZ Bible Study & More

Second Tuesday September 10 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.

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## Dinner Out at Wah-Kee on Blanco Road

Thursday, September 5 at 6:30pm

Dinner Out invites all adults to meet at Wah-Kee Chinese Cuisine north central location, 18260 Blanco Road, outside Loop 1604. Come early for socializing; dinner seating is at 6:30.

RSVP by Monday, September 2 to Jim or Sandy Chillstrom; call the church office if you need their contact info.

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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

---

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*

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## 2024 CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Bud Halstead

President

Allen Cockrell

Treasurer

Chris Jones

Vice President

Erica Macha

Secretary

David Umlang

At Large

Rachel Williams

At Large

Shiloh Love

At Large

Pr. Kathi Johnson

Senior Pastor

Pr. Dan Heim

Pastor

## OFFICE CONTACT



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



210-688-3090



Zion@ZionSA.org



Website ZionSA.org



Facebook ZionSA



Instagram @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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## Music Rehearsals this Fall

Questions? Contact Director of Music Rob Mikulski, 210-688-3090 or email rmikulski@ZionSA.org.

Handbells

Tuesday

6:30

Balcony

Youth Choir (Gr 6-12)

Tuesday

7-8pm

Apse

Chancel Choir (Adult)

Wednesday

7:15

Sanctuary

Children's Choir (Gr 2-5) next Tuesday, September 3

Tuesday

7-7:45

MC Rm 1

## Zion Zippers 50+ Fellowship

Monday, September 9 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. Bring your own plate and utensils if you can, and invite a friend, too!

After dinner on September 9, photographer and Zion member Kevin Hoag presents a program on whooping cranes and other wildlife, with photos and talk on their habits, migration patterns, etc. Join the Zippers for an informative and entertaining evening.

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

## Weekday Bible Study Series

Begins Thursday, September 26

Led by Pastor Eileen Spehr. Meets at 9:30am on the second and fourth Thursdays. Come to the Fellowship Hall. Topics to be announced.

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## Crafty Bunch

Every Wednesday 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 left. Bring your own project to work on.

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## Quilting for Lutheran World Relief

First and Third Thursdays, September 5 and 19

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.

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.

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## ⇒ Coffee Talk ⇒

### September 22 Financial Update

10:15 in the Ministry Center Room 1-2. Presented by Allen Cockrell

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## LWR School Supply Collection

Thanks to your generosity, Women of Zion collected supplies and assembled 145 school kits to send to children in need around the world!



## 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.



*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-YTT8>  
General Fund, updated 6/18/24

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## September Needs at CAM

Christian Assistance Ministry, 110 McCullough

- Men's and women's tennis shoes/athletic shoes, all sizes
- Men's jeans and shirts
- Men's belts
- Travel size deodorant
- Bibles in English
- Financial support (use QR code for direct link to CAM)



*Bring donations to the yellow bins behind the north stairs in the narthex, closest to the office. Get volunteer info at 210-223-4099, Mary Henderson.*

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## Church BBQ October 13

Make a note now - the annual BBQ is fast approaching. There will be one worship service that day, at 10:00am.

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## Trash to Treasures October 13

Your discards might delight someone else! While you're cleaning out your closets and sheds this fall, save usable items for the Trash to Treasures sale at the Church BBQ. Donations will be collected in the Fellowship Hall on Friday and Saturday, October 11 and 12, right before the BBQ. *Please, no TVs.*

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## Cemetery Work Day

Saturday, November 2 at 9am

Our historic Lutheran cemeteries have been a local landmark since 1881, cared for through the years by volunteers from Zion. The Cemetery Board invites everyone for a few hours of fall spruce-up work. Trash bags will be provided, as well as appropriate cleaning supplies for working on headstones. Please bring your own bucket, gloves and drinking water.

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## Lutheran Fall Festival September 21

at the Marktplatz in Fredericksburg, Texas

Quilt Show and Auction • Music

Craft Booths • Food • Carnival Games

Summer Camp Raffle

Annual fundraising event to benefit Cross Trails Ministries at Camp Chrysalis, Ebert Ranch and other off-site camping experiences.



Fall Festival

Vendors, crafters, quilters, sponsors, volunteers and anyone interested in attending can use this QR for link to info and applications, or <https://crosstrails.org/tways-to-give/fall-festival/>

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## 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.

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## Where We Park Affects Our Welcome

We have an extensive campus here at Zion, and yet the parking nearest the Sanctuary is fairly limited. When you arrive on Sundays, if you're able to, please consider parking in the lower lot (next to the cemetery), on the 1604 side, or across Leslie Road. This will leave the spots closest to the Sanctuary doors for those who have limited mobility. Taking this simple step helps us welcome all to our worship space!



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## Prayer Chain

Prayer Chain requests are sent out as needed, no more than once a day. To request prayers, or to join the Prayer Chain, send an e-mail to Karen at [Zion@ZionSA.org](mailto:Zion@ZionSA.org). When requesting prayers for others by name, please confirm with that person first.

SEPTEMBER 1, 2024  
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST



*The faithful heart is filled with compassion.*

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23</b>	<b>Authentic faith</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9</b>	<b>God commands obedience</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>James 1:17-27</b>	<b>Hearing and doing the word</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Exodus 20:1-17</b>	<b>The Ten Commandments</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Psalm 103:1-14</b>	<b>Thanksgiving for God's goodness</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Colossians 3:12-17</b>	<b>New life in Christ</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Psalm 15</b>	<b>Who shall abide with God</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Mark 7:24-37</b>	<b>Jesus heals the Gentiles</b>

### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world. James 1:27 (NRSV)*

### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

#### **A Prayer for the Week:**

Compassionate God, thank you for your commandments that not only show our misdeeds but also point us to the love of our neighbor through Jesus, the one who points us to you. Amen.

#### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, we thank you for this meal, for your commandments, and for the ways you care for us that we may live lives full of compassion. Amen.

#### **A Blessing to Give:**

May God's love for you give you a caring heart.



SEPTEMBER 1, 2024

HYMN OF THE WEEK



*When the Poor Ones*

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:

- What guidelines do you follow to live a good and healthy life?
- How are God's commandments a gift to us?

DEVOTIONS



*Read:* Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23.

In this reading, the Pharisees and scribes, who obey teachings of their ancestors, question the purity of the disciples. It is easy in our religious zeal to condemn certain conduct, like eating with unwashed hands, that misses the heart of the faith. This was true of Pharisees and scribes in the first century and followers of Jesus in the twenty-first century. What truly separates us from God's will is not our maintaining a superior cleanliness but not harming others with our conduct. The intent of God's commandments seeks to promote and protect life for individuals and for entire communities. Jesus mentions a number of sins, actions that destroy human relationships, like theft, murder, pride, deceit, and more, the kinds of actions condemned by the commandments of God. Jesus says, "it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come" (v. 21). It's the evil heart, destructive human intentions, that are so harmful to us and those around us. Following Jesus is about being freed from our own sins to care for others as God wills us to do.

*Discuss:* How do God's commandments protect you and others?

*Pray:* **Righteous God, thank you for leading us to acts of love and mercy through Jesus, the one who came that we may be freed from all that separates us from you. Amen.**

SERVICE



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you show kindness and mercy to others this week?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



In James 1:17-27, we are told to "be doers of the word" (v. 22). Christian spirituality involves a life of action, a life of service. Take a moment to think or talk about what this means to you. Open your Bible to this reading. Highlight or underline words that describe ways to be a doer of God's word.

*Pray:* **Lord God, help me to be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger, and a doer, not merely a hearer of your word. In Jesus' name, amen.**



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