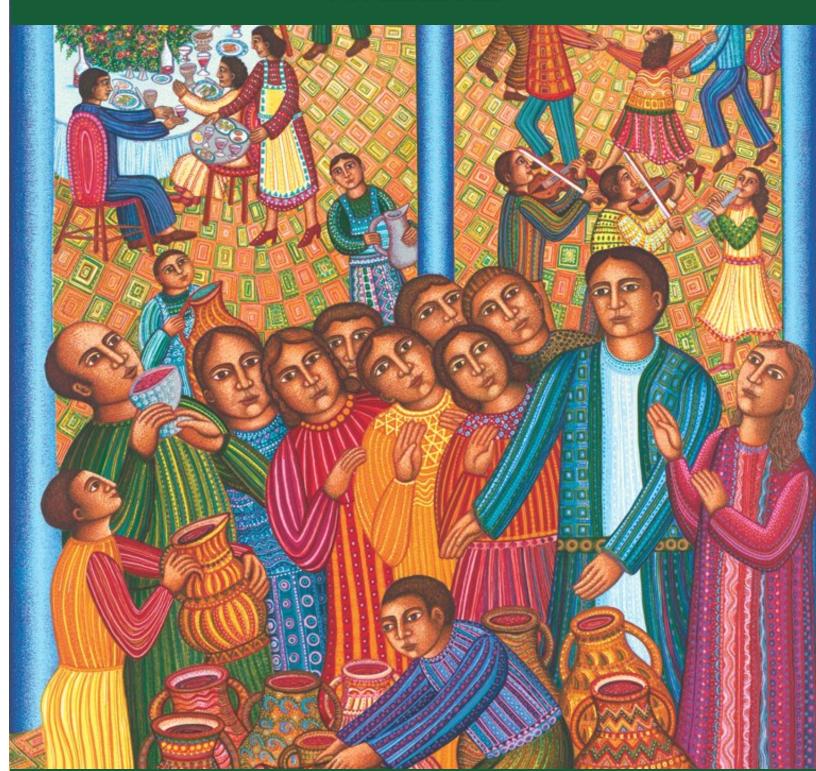
# January 19, 2025 • Season of Epiphany 9:00 and 11:30 am





#### WELCOME TO ZION

When we gather for worship, we're receptive to God's word and we rejoice in God's grace through song, prayer, and Holy Communion. The history of Christian worship is rich with rituals formed by generations. These traditions, prayers, and pastoral teachings help connect our lives with Christ. In our daily lives, we show God's love by serving our community, both locally and globally.

We are a group of believers seeking to respond to Christ's call to worship and serve, even as we wrestle with the big questions of life. We want you to know that you and your questions, faith, and doubts are welcome here!

#### HOW WE WORSHIP

The Holy Spirit gathers people around the means of grace: the Word of God and the Sacraments. From the table of Holy Communion where Christ comes with forgiveness, life, and salvation, God sends us out to share the good news and care for those in need. Our worship follows this pattern in four parts: Gathering, Word, Meal, and Sending. By its very nature, Lutheran worship is participatory and the service is contained within this bulletin. Worship leaders guide us through the service and our responses are printed in **bold type**.

We welcome children in our worship services! If needed, a nursery is available down the hall past the restrooms. The restrooms contain changing tables, as needed.

Throughout the service, members of Zion's music ministry offer their talents as an offering to God. Please receive their musical gifts as a time for prayer, contemplation, or praise of God rather than a performance to be applauded, so that we may worship God throughout our time here together.

Most Sundays, our 11:30 service is livestreamed at YouTube.com/ZionSanAntonio. Our practice is to maintain a wide angle view of the sanctuary, occasionally focusing on worship leaders, not individual worshipers. If you have questions or concerns about appearing on camera, please speak with an usher or pastor.

#### ON THE COVER

Wedding Feast by John August Swanson, 1996

From Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=58581. Original source: Estate of John August Swanson, https://www.johnaugustswanson.com/.

#### 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** 

A Taste of Cana's Wine by David Evan Thomas

WELCOME Pastor Al Jensen

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

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

#### O my God, in you I trust.

Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation;

#### for you I wait all day long.

O Lord, remember your mercy and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

#### Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid,

God is my strength and my might;

and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

(Based on Psalm 25, Isaiah 12, and Luke 1)



Text and music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Text and music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

#### **GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

#### WORD

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

#### CHILDREN'S CHAT

Pastor Dan Heim

Children may come forward for the Children's Chat and the rest of the congregation is seated.

#### FIRST READING: Isaiah 62:1-5

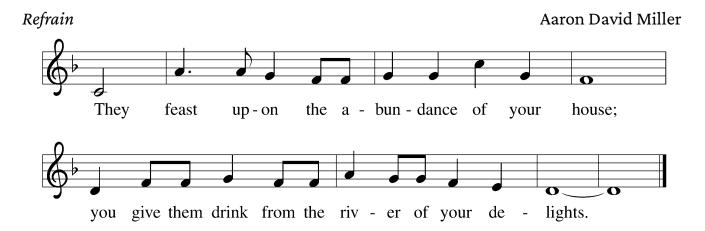
<sup>1</sup> For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. <sup>2</sup> The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. <sup>3</sup> You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. <sup>4</sup> You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the LORD delights in you, and your land shall be married. <sup>5</sup> For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

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

Season of Epiphany Page 5

#### PSALM 36:5-10

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



Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalm Settings for the Church Year: Revised Common Lectionary* © 2008 Augsburg Fortress. May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds. Your righteousness is like the strong mountains, your justice like the great deep; You save humankind and animals. *Refrain* 

How priceless is your love, O God! All people take refuge under the shadow of your wings. They feast upon the abundance of your house; you give them drink from the river of your delights. *Refrain* 

With you is the well of life, and in your light, we see light. Continue your loving kindness to those who know you, Your favor to those who are true of heart. *Refrain* 

#### SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

<sup>1</sup> Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. <sup>2</sup> You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. <sup>3</sup> Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit.

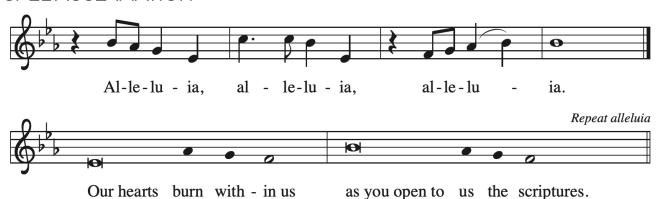
<sup>4</sup> Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; <sup>5</sup> and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; <sup>6</sup> and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. <sup>7</sup> To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. <sup>8</sup> To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, <sup>9</sup> to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, <sup>10</sup> to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another

the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. <sup>11</sup> All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

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

Please rise, as you are able.

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



GOSPEL: John 2:1-11

Wedding at Cana Spark Children's Bible Page 410

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

¹ On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ² Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³ When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." ⁴ And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." ⁵ His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." ⁶ Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁶ Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. ⁶ He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. ⁶ When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom ¹o and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." ¹¹ Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

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

Please be seated.

Please rise as you are able.

#### HYMN OF THE DAY

Jesus, Come! For We Invite You



Text: Christopher Idle, b. 1938

Music: UNION SEMINARY, Harold Friedell, 1905–1958

Text © 1982 Jubilate Hymns, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Music © 1957, 1985 H. W. Gray, admin. CPP/Belwin.

#### 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

With hope, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await God's day of restoration.

Each petition ends: Hear us, O God. Response: Your mercy is great.

Abide with us, O God of mercy, and receive our prayers according to your abundant grace. **Amen.** 

#### SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Please be seated.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Additional announcements and a schedule for the week are on the back pages of this bulletin.

#### **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

My God Is So High, African-American Spiritual Celeste Mussey, soloist

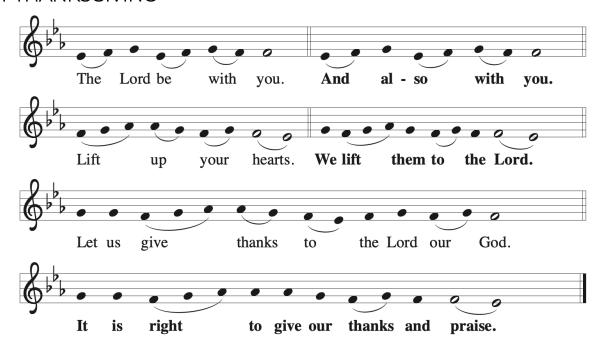
Please rise, as you are able. The ushers bring the offering forward for the Offering Prayer.

#### OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Gracious God,

your Son shows us your great love. As we offer ourselves and these gifts, prepare us to receive the grace you offer at this table and renew in us the song of your salvation, through Jesus Christ our Savior. 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. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. 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:



#### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming. **Come, Lord Jesus.** 

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come № among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, 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

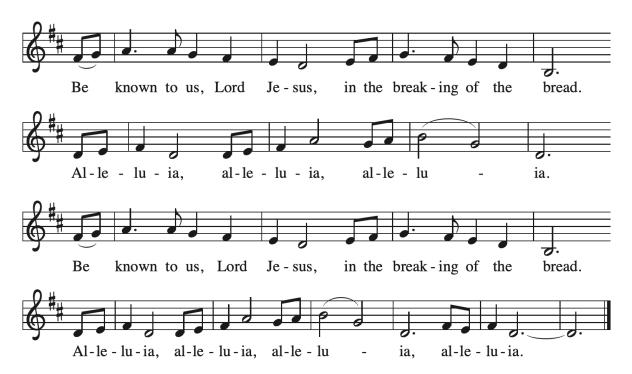
These are the gifts of God for you, the beloved people of God.

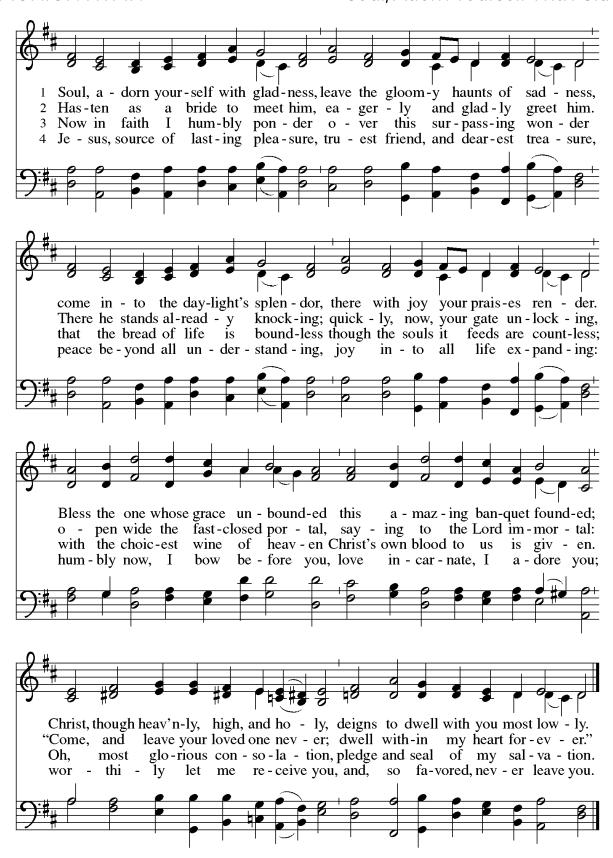
Please be seated.

#### 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





Text: Johann Franck, 1618–1677; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship Music: SCHMÜCKE DICH, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662
Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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 thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus, present in these gifts of bread and wine. As we have shared this feast of love, strengthen us to share your love with all the world. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

#### **SENDING**

God blesses us and sends us out in peace.

#### BENEDICTION

The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through ♥ Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN on next page

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior.

Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE** 

*Intrada* by John Marsh

#### **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.

Season of Epiphany Page 15



Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955
Music: KUORTANE, Finnish folk tune; arr. hymnal version
Text © 1986 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

#### **Worship Support**

#### **Altar Guild**

Alyssa Brodbeck, Ruth Dunn, Madison Harris, Suzi Lockamy, Randalyn Nickel, Karen Umlang

#### Lay Reader

9:00 Scott McKenzie

11:30 Joe Noonan

#### Cantor

Celeste Mussey

#### **Communion Servers**

9:00 Lisa & Philip Beekley

11:30 LeShea Clabough Kevin McGee

#### Livestream

Kevin McGee

#### Sound

Scott Van Doren

#### **Ushers**

9:00 LeShea Clabough Kevin McGee Doris & Dave Newman Karen & James Sturdivant Suzanne & Russell Warren

11:30 Pam Gammage

#### THIS WEEK AT ZION

Scan QR code for this month's calendar

#### Sunday, January 19

Worship in person	9am	Sanctuary
Pastor Al's Reception	10:15	Gazebo
Faith Formation Hour for all ages	10:15	Details Next Page
Stephen Ministry Informational Meeting	10:15	Conference Room
Worship in person and YouTube@ZionSanAntonio	11:30	Sanctuary & online
Jesus Christ Superstar Performance	2:30	Family Life Center

#### Monday, January 20

Funeral Service for Roger Smith 11am Sanctuary

#### Tuesday, January 21

<u> </u>		
Exercise Group	9am	Church 2
Staff Meeting	11am	Breakroom
Council Meeting	6:30	Fellowship Hall
Handbell Choir	6:30	Sanctuary Balcony
Children's Choir	7pm	Ministry Center 1
Youth Choir	7pm	Music Apse
Warriors Anonymous	7pm	Church 2

#### Wednesday, January 22

High School/Elementary Mentoring		7:15am	Nichols Elementary
Crafty Bunch		9:00	$Ed\ Bldg\ Craft\ Room$
Midweek Worship	1:00 &	6:30pm	Church 1
AA - Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting		7pm	Fellowship Hall
Al-Anon Meeting		7pm	Church 2
Chancel Choir		7:15	Sanctuary

#### Thursday, January 23

Bible Study with Pastor Eileen	9:30	Ministry Center 1
Weight Watchers	9:30	Church 2
Stephen Ministry	7pm	Ministry Center 5, 6
Fiesta Flutes Rehearsal	7pm	Church 2

#### Friday, January 24

Jesus Christ Superstar Performance 7:30pm Family Life Center

#### Saturday, January 25

Weight Watchers	8:30am Church 2	
Memorial Service for Gail Josephson	1pm	Sanctuary
Jesus Christ Superstar Performance	7:30pm	Family Life Center

Calendar continued next page

Season of Epiphany Page 17

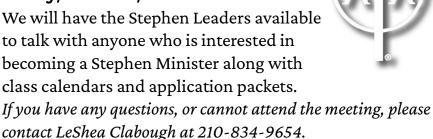
#### Sunday, January 26

Worship in person	9am	Sanctuary
Faith Formation Hour for all ages	10:15	Details next page
Worship in person and YouTube@ZionSanAntonio	11:30	Sanctuary & online
Jesus Christ Superstar Performance	2:30	Family Life Center

#### Reception for Pastor Al Jensen - Today!

Join us in the gazebo at 10:15am for an informal reception to welcome our new Associate Pastor for Congregational Care Al Jensen to Zion!

#### Stephen Ministry Informational Meeting Today, 10:15am, Conference Room



Weekday Bible Study Series: Book of Ruth Thursday, January 23, 9:30am, Ministry Center 1

Led by Pastor Eileen Spehr. Second and fourth Thursdays, through March 27.

#### **Upcoming Funerals and Memorials**

Funeral Service for Roger Smith

Monday, January 20, 11am

Memorial Service for Gail Josephson

Saturday, January 25, 1pm

# Faith Formation for Children and Youth

10:15 in Ministry Center Rooms

Age or Grade	Room
Two Years-Kinder	MC-3
Grades 1-5	MC-4
Grades 6-9	MC-7
High School Grades 10-12	MC-8

#### Music Rehearsals

Handbells

Tuesday 6:30pm Sanctuary Balcony

Children's (Gr 2-5)

Tuesday 7-7:45pm MC-1

Youth (Gr 6-12)

Tuesday 7-8pm Music Apse

Chancel (Adults)

Wednesday 7:15pm Sanctuary

# Two Midweek Services Wednesdays at 1pm and 6:30pm in Church 1

Simple communion worship services in Zion's historic chapel.

# Important Info About Announcements

Reminder that with the new year, announcements for the bulletin and Zmail need to be sent to Publications@ZionSA.org.

#### STAFF CONTACT

Day Off

Pastor Kathi Johnson

Monday

**Senior Pastor** 

kjohnson@ZionSA.org

Pastor Dan Heim

Friday

Associate Pastor, Youth and Family dheim@ZionSA.org

Pastor Al Jensen

Friday

Associate Pastor, Congregational Care ajensen@ZionSA.org

Pastor Eileen Spehr

Visitation Pastor

visitation@ZionSA.org

Suzie Wyatt

Administrator

swyatt@ZionSA.org

Rob Mikulski

Monday

**Music Director** 

rmikulski@ZionSA.org

Sammy Mikulski

Monday

Theatre Director

theatre@ZionSA.org

2025 COUNCIL

**Bud Halstead** 

**President** 

Karen Umlang

Treasurer

Chris Jones

Erica Macha

Rachel Williams

Shiloh Love

Matt Iwanicki

Pr. Kathi Johnson

**Senior Pastor** 

Pr. Dan Heim

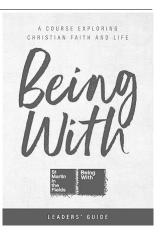
**Associate Pastor** 

Pr. Al Jensen

**Associate Pastor** 

#### New Series: Being With Starts Next Sunday, January 26, 10:15am

The 10-week "Being With" adult course is an introduction to Christianity with a difference. At its heart is the idea that God's greatest desire is to be with us in Jesus. The sessions focus on the themes of Meaning; Essence; Jesus; Church;



Bible; Mission; Cross; Prayer; Suffering and Resurrection. Drawing on the practices of Godly Play, the course uses storytelling, wondering and reflection to encourage and welcome the insights that each person brings.

Small groups of 8-12 people will be facilitated by a host and storyteller (3 groups currently, led by Susan Johns, John Macha, Ana Garcia, Kathy Null, Mike DeHart and

Derek Roberts). If more than 36 people register, additional groups may form.

As each group's cohesion will depend on relationships forming over time, please thoughtfully consider your participation Being With Registration and register with the intention and availability to join at least 7 of the 10 sessions, Sundays 10:15-11:15 am, January 26 – April 6 (with a break for the start of Lent, March 2). If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Dan.

#### Heaven and Earth **Bible Class**

Resumes Sunday, January 26 10:15am, Ministry Center 1

This study of Genesis and the Psalms picks up where it left off in



November. With Amy McFadden and other adult leaders. (No registration required.) 10:15 am, Sundays.



# Men's Fellowship Dinner Third Monday, January 20, 6:30pm

All men are invited to meet at El

Chapparal, 15103 Bandera Rd, Helotes, 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.

#### One Year to Live

#### Men's Retreat, February 21-23, 2025

A weekend to reflect and prioritize. First time in Texas since 2022. Sponsored by SW Texas

Synod Lutheran Men in Mission At Camp

Chrysalis in Kerrville. For info and registration, scan this



QR or pick up a registration brochure from the narthex.

Early registration due: January 24
Regular registration due: February 9



#### Tickets on Sale for January 24-26 Performances

 Online theatre seating ticket sales are now open via this QR or



ZTG.Booktix.net

ZTG.Booktix.net.

- Dinner seating reservations may be made by email to Theatre@ZionSA.org
- In-person sales and ticket pickup is in the gazebo on Sundays.

#### 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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Social media vectors created by myriammira - freepik.com



#### Camp Hope Registration Open Camp Hope 2025 at Zion June 9-13 and/or June 16-20

Zion's youth-led, adult-mentored, day camp for children/
youth entering Kindergarten - 7th
grade in Fall 2025. Sign up below for one or two unique weeks of camp
with faith formation through the
Bible, worship, art, STEM,
leadership development and more.
Disciple Campers (6th-7th graders)
are further challenged with off-site
service-learning
projects. As campers



Current 7th-12th graders interested in staff positions, e-mail camphope@zionsa.org for an application or check e-newsletters.

age up, they grow into staff roles supporting

younger campers!

#### **Zion Bunco Group**

4th Monday, January 27, 1:00pm, Fellowship Hall Zion Bunco Group will meet on the fourth Monday for a rousing game of Bunco and fellowship. For info contact Shirley Homeier-McBrayer through the church office.

#### Game Group

1st & 3rd Mondays, 12:30pm, Fellowship Hall Next one: February 3

Come for table games and daytime fellowship for all ages. Contact Algine Perry through the church office if you have questions.

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#### Women of Zion (WOZ) Events in January **WOZ Bible Study & More**

#### Second Tuesday February 11 at 10:00am

Join in activities and fellowship with other women in the congregation. Fellowship and 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

#### **Crafty Bunch**

#### Wednesdays at 9:00am

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.

### **Quilting for Lutheran World Relief**

#### 1st, 3rd & 5th Thursdays, 9:30am, Fellowship Hall Next one: January 30

Even if you don't sew, consider learning some basics with LWR Quilters! Contact Diane Stewart through the church office if you need more details.

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.

# 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

#### JANUARY 19, 2025 SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY



Jesus' ministry overflows with joy and love.

#### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	John 2:1-11	The wedding at Cana
Monday	Isaiah 62:1-5	Jerusalem will be saved
Tuesday	1 Corinthians 12:1-11	Spiritual gifts
Wednesday	Psalm 16:7-11	Song of trust in God
Thursday	Jeremiah 33:10-13	Healing after punishment
Friday	Philemon 1:4-7	Philemon's love and faith
Saturday	Psalm 36:5-10	Human sin and God's goodness
Sunday	Luke 4:14-21	Jesus returns to Nazareth

#### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the LORD delights in you, and your land shall be married. Isaiah 62:4 (NRSV)

#### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

#### A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, you take delight in bringing us joy when we are discouraged; help us to use our abilities so that others may see Jesus as the source of your abundant goodness. Amen.

#### Mealtime Prayer:

God of abundant care, we thank you for this food and all that you provide us, signs of your constant love for us through Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### A Blessing to Give:

May the God of abundant love give you joy.



#### JANUARY 19, 2025 HYMN OF THE WEEK

Jesus, Come! For We Invite You



#### 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 gives you joy?
- When has faith in Christ brought you hope in difficult times?

#### **DEVOTIONS**



Read: John 2:1-11.

In the Gospel of John, the first sign of Jesus that pointed to his glory (his death and resurrection) is seen in water turned to wine. That moment leads us to a deep understanding of Jesus' entire ministry. It is about abundance that brings joy, not gloom and doom. The amount of wine Jesus provides from the water jars was excessive, and it tasted very good. Wine in the Bible was meant to gladden the heart. It was associated with a future divine banquet as well as daily hospitality and celebration. The sign of changing water into wine at a wedding feast introduces Jesus' ministry as overflowing with goodness, joy, and love. It turns our shame and embarrassment (like a bridegroom's shame for running out of wine) into simple delight without limits, without measure. It leads us to long for more of what Jesus has in store for us.

Discuss: When is a time that Jesus' overflowing joy and love made a difference in your life? Pray: God of love, give us joy in your presence that we may be a sign of your love to others through Jesus Christ our Savior and 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 share God's overflowing love and joy with someone in need?

#### **RITUALS AND TRADITIONS**



In 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 we learn that all Christians are given gifts from the Holy Spirit. These gifts are given "for the common good" (v. 7). The larger world around us sees these personal gifts as something that emphasizes our own success. For Christians, our gifts are meant to serve others. Write a list of the gifts you feel you have or that others see in you. Take a moment to say each gift aloud.

Then pray: Dear God, thank you for the gifts I have been given. Help me to use them to serve others in your name. Amen.

