

January 26, 2025 • Season of Epiphany
9:00 and 11:30 am



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 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 live-streamed at [YouTube.com/ZionSanAntonio](https://www.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

Christ and the Pauper, 2008
by Andreï (Andreï Nikolaevich) Mironov,
1975-

From Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57309>.
Original source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Christ_and_the_pauper.jpg.

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

Let Streams of Living Justice
Setting by Marianne Kim

WELCOME

Pastor Kathi Johnson

TEMPLE TALK

Mike DeHart

Capital Campaign: Welcoming God's Community

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,

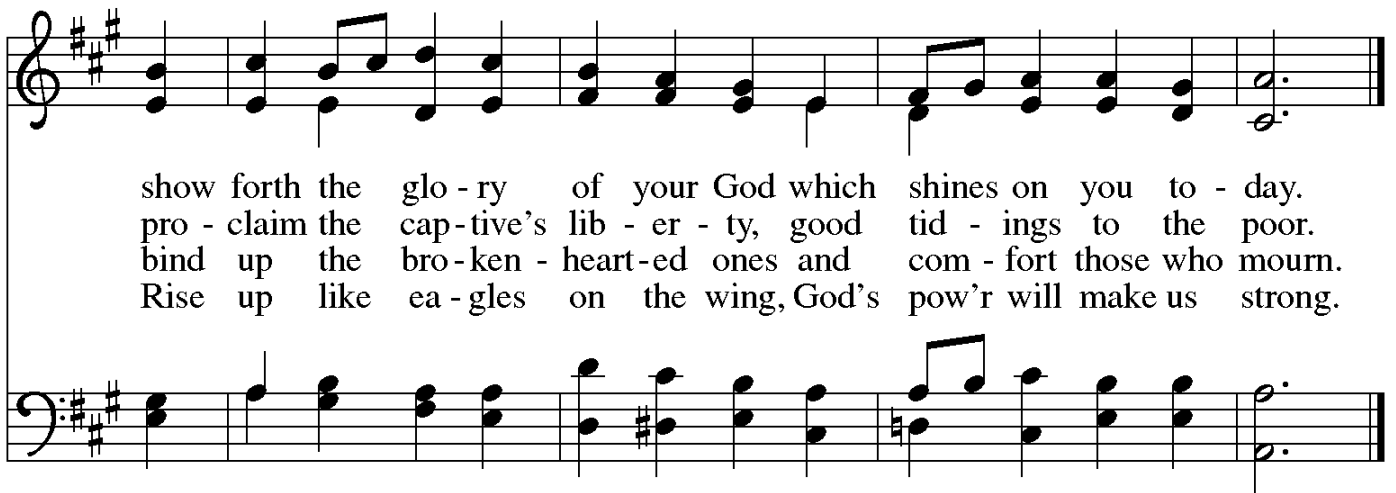
God is my strength and my might;

and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

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



1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
 2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
 3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,
 4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!



show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.
 pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.
 bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
 Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893

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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. Blessed Lord God, you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our 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: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

¹All the people [of Israel] gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel.

²Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. ³He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. ⁵And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. ⁶Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. ⁸So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

⁹And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. ¹⁰Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

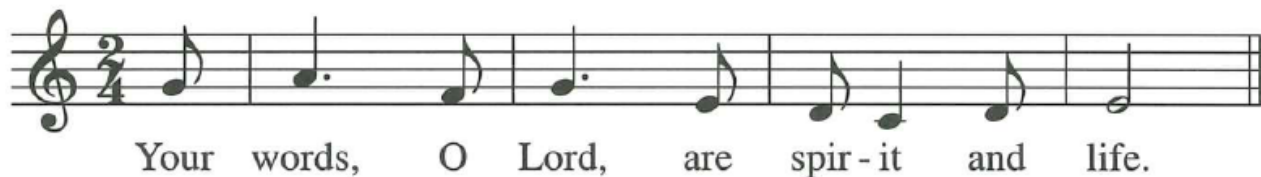
Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 19

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 law of the LORD is perfect,
it revives the soul.
The rule of the LORD is to be trusted,
it gives wisdom to the simple. Ṛ.

The precepts of the LORD are right,
they gladden the heart.
The command of the LORD is clear,
it gives light to the eyes. Ṛ.

The fear of the LORD is holy,
abiding for ever.
The decrees of the LORD are truth
and all of them just. Ṛ.

May the spoken words of my mouth,
the thoughts of my heart,
win favor in your sight, O LORD,
my rescuer, my rock! Ṛ.

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Music Copyright © 2001 by GIA Publications, Inc. All Rights Reserved

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

¹⁴Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many members, yet one body. ²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” ²²On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; ²⁴whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, ²⁵that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

²⁷Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. ²⁹Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ^{31a}But strive for the greater gifts.

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.



Our hearts burn with - in us as you open to us the scriptures.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹⁴Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

¹⁶When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

¹⁸“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, ¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

²⁰And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

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

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Al Jensen

Please rise as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

O Zion, Haste

1 O Zi - on, haste, your mis - sion high ful - fill - ing,
2 Pub - lish to ev - 'ry peo - ple, tongue, and na - tion
3 He comes a - gain! O Zi - on, ere you meet him,

to tell to all the world that God is light;
 that God, in whom they live and move, is love;
 make known to ev - 'ry heart his sav - ing grace;

that he who made all na - tions is not will - ing
 tell how he stooped to save his lost cre - a - tion
 let none whom he has ran - somed fail to greet him,

one soul should per - ish, lost in shades of night.
 and died on earth that we might live a - bove.
 through your ne - glect, un - fit to see his face.

Refrain

Pub - lish glad tid - ings, tid - ings of peace,

tid - ings of Je - sus, re - demp - tion, and re - lease.

Text: Mary A. Thomson, 1834–1923
 Music: ANGELIC SONGS, James Welch, 1837–1901

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

Andante from Voluntary No. 1
by John Stanley

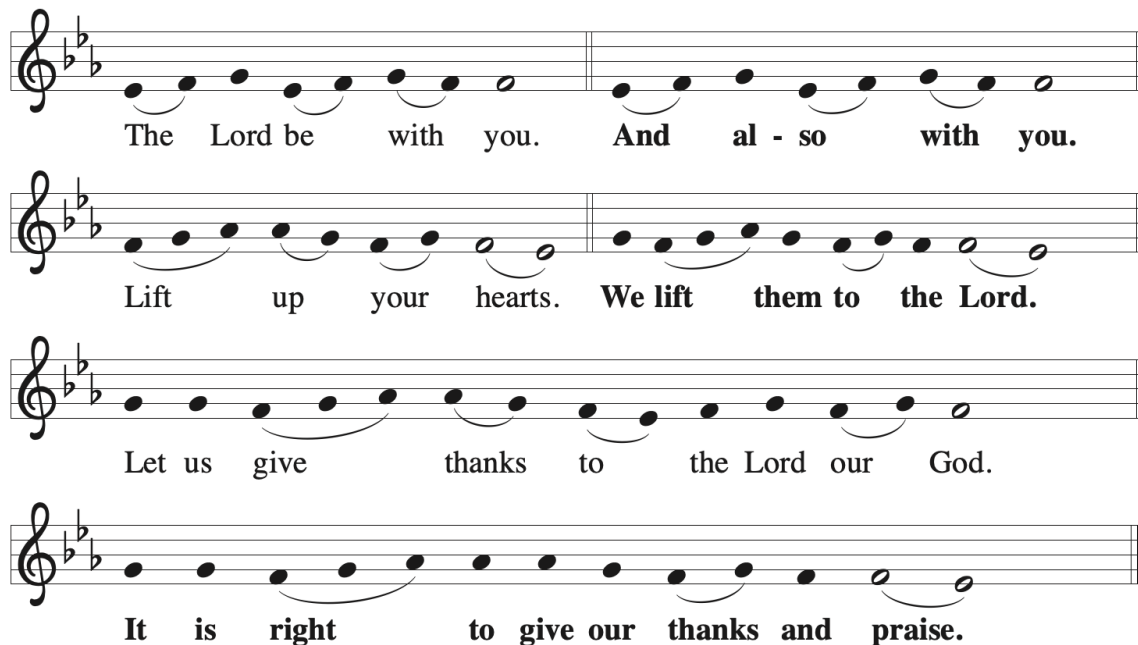
Please rise, as you are able. The ushers bring the offering forward for the Offering Prayer.

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



The Great Thanksgiving section consists of four lines of musical notation in a single system. Each line begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The notes are simple, with stems pointing up and down, and are connected by slurs. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

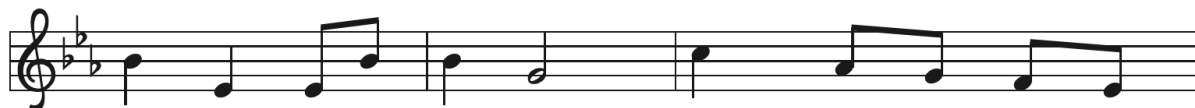
The Lord be with you. **And al - so with you.**

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. 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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and



God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your



glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the



Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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



Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

COMMUNION HYMN

Here Is Bread

C G/B Am E⁷ F C/G G

1 Here is bread, here is wine, Christ is with us,
 2 Here is grace, here is peace, Christ is with us,
 3 Here we are, joined in one, Christ is with us,

F/A Am G C G/B Am E⁷

he is with us. Break the bread, taste the wine,
 he is with us. Know his grace, find his peace,
 he is with us. We'll pro - claim till he comes

F/A C/G G⁷ C Gm⁷ B \flat /C

Christ is with us here.
 feast on Je - sus here.
 Je - sus cru - ci - fied.

Refrain

FM⁷ F Em⁷ Am⁷ Dm⁷ G⁷

In this bread there is heal - ing, in this cup is

B \flat /C F F \sharp dim⁷ Em⁷ A⁷(\sharp 5)

life for - ev - er. In this mo - ment, by the Spir - it,

Dm⁷ G⁷ C

Christ is with us here.

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

O Zion, Haste
Setting by Mark Sedio

AVAILABLE FOR PRAYER

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



1 Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth;
 2 For heal - ing of the na - tions, for peace that will not end,
 3 Your ci - ty's built to mu - sic; we are the stones you seek;



give free - dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth.
 for love that makes us lov - ers, God grant us grace to mend.
 your har - mo - ny is lan - guage; we are the words you speak.



The hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights,
 Weave our var - ied gifts to - geth - er; knit our lives as they are spun;
 Our faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in oth - ers' dreams,



the mourn - ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight.
 on your loom of time en - roll us till our thread of life is run.
 our love in hand of neigh - bor; our home - land bright - ly gleams.



Make lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the i - ron pow'r;
 O great weav - er of our fab - ric, bind church and world in one;
 In - scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way—the path un - tried;



a - bol - ish an - cient ven - geance: pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.
 dye our tex - ture with your ra - diance, light our col - ors with your sun.
 your truth—the heart of strang - er; your life—the Cru - ci - fied.

THIS WEEK AT ZION

Scan QR code for this month's calendar



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

Monday, January 27

Zion Bunco Group	1pm	Fellowship Hall
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Tuesday, January 28

Exercise Group	9am	Church 2
Staff Meeting	11am	Breakroom
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 29

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	Family Life Center 202
Al-Anon Meeting	7pm	Family Life Center 101
Chancel Choir	7:15	Sanctuary

Thursday, January 30

Quilting for Lutheran World Relief	9:30	Fellowship Hall
Weight Watchers	9:30	Church 2
Youth Night	6:30	Ministry Center
Fiesta Flutes Rehearsal	7pm	Church 2

Saturday, February 1

Weight Watchers	8:30am	Church 2
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Sunday, February 2

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

Worship Support

Altar Guild

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

Lay Reader

9:00 Carolyn Pfeiffer

11:30 Mike DeHart

Cantor

Kirby Olson

Communion Servers

9:00 Bev Rosel

Amy Swanson

11:30 Rachel Cannady

Meagan Lenz

Livestream

Dave Umlang

Sound

Scott Van Doren

Ushers

9:00 LeShea Clabough

Kevin McGee

Doris & Dave Newman

Karen & James Sturdivant

Suzanne & Russell Warren

11:30 Kim & Mike DeHart

Paul Spehr

Laura Walsh

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.

Submitting Announcements

If you have announcements for the
bulletin and Zmail, please send
them to Publications@ZionSA.org.

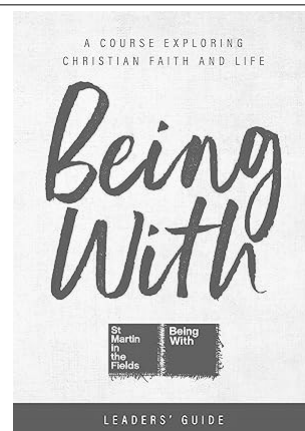
New Series: *Being With* Starts Today, January 26, 10:15am

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.

Sundays 10:15-11:15 am, January 26 – April 6 (with a
break for the start of Lent, March 2). If you have not
registered, but would like to join us, you may join no later
than February 2. Please contact Pastor Dan if you would
like to join, or have any other questions.

The three adult *Being With* groups will meet in
Ministry Center 5, Ministry Center 6,
and the Fellowship Hall.



Heaven and Earth Bible Class

Resumes Today, 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.



Weekday Bible Study Series: Book of Ruth Thursday, February 13, 9:30am, Ministry Center 1

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

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.



Men's Fellowship Dinner

Third Monday, Feb 17, 6:30pm

All men are invited to meet at El

Chapparral, 15103 Bandera Rd, Helotes, for food, thoughtful study, camaraderie, and all YOUR ideas for Men's Ministry! Contact David Umlang at imm@zionsa.org if you need more details.

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.

Registrations due: February 9

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

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OFFICE CONTACT



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



210-688-3090



zion@zionsa.org



Website zionsa.org



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Instagram @zionsatx



9944 Leslie Road, 78254

SUBSCRIBE TO

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

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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.

Dinner Out at Ming's

Thursday, February 6, 6:30pm

The Dinner Out group will get together at Ming's at :a Canterra, 17022 Fiesta Texas Dr, Suite 104. Come early for socializing; dinner seating is at 6:30pm. RSVP by February 2 to Doris or Dave Newman. Call the church office if you need their contact information.

Zion Zippers 50+ Fellowship

Monday, February 10 at 6:00pm, Fellowship Hall

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!

Dinner will be followed by a presentation on acupuncture by Dr. Bing Han (<https://drhantcm.com>) of the Dr. Han Acupuncture & Med Spa at 5309 Wurzbach Rd Suite 100-6, Leon Valley, TX 78238. Come for an informative, entertaining evening.

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

Camp Hope Registration Open Camp Hope 2025 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 age up, they grow into staff roles supporting younger campers!

Camp Hope
Registration

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

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 26, 2025
THIRD SUNDAY
AFTER EPIPHANY**



Jesus sets us free.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 4:14-21	Jesus returns to Nazareth
Monday	Nehemiah 8:1-10	Ezra reads God's law to the people
Tuesday	1 Corinthians 12:12-31	One body, many parts
Wednesday	Isaiah 61:1-7	The good news of deliverance
Thursday	Leviticus 25:1-24	The year of jubilee
Friday	Galatians 5:13-15	Christian freedom
Saturday	Psalms 19	God's glory in creation and the law
Sunday	Luke 4:21-30	The prophet Jesus is rejected

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." Luke 4:18-19 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, for your message of freedom that is more desired than gold and sweeter than honey, we praise you through Christ our Lord. Amen. (Psalm 19:10)

Mealtime Prayer:

For this food that strengthens the body and your word that strengthens our souls, we thank you. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Spirit of Christ Jesus bless you and set you free.



JANUARY 26, 2025

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Soli Deo Gloria



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 burdens or worries do you have? What would help set you free from them?
- Jesus came to set us free. From what would you like Jesus to set you free?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Luke 4:14-21.

This is Jesus' first sermon in Luke. That makes it a particularly important message, one that reveals recurring themes in Jesus' ministry. Jesus chooses to read from Isaiah 61. The message is clear. Jesus has God's Spirit to encourage the poor, free captives, give sight to the blind, and set free those who are burdened. Finally, he is to announce the "year of the Lord's favor" (v.19), a phrase that represents the year of jubilee announced in Leviticus 25. Every fifty years slaves and prisoners would be freed, debts would be forgiven, and lands lost to debts would be returned to ancestral owners. This keeps society from unraveling into unlimited wealth for some and perpetual poverty for others. Jesus brings all sorts of new beginnings for powerless people. Jesus would be one of the powerless and die on a cross as a criminal. His life, death, and resurrection become the good news for a world where unfairness and abuse of powers seem to win the day, but never really will in God's rule.

Discuss: Where is there a need in today's world for Jesus' freeing power?

Pray: **Almighty and merciful God, we thank you for freeing us to serve you with thanksgiving and serve our neighbor in love, through Christ Jesus who preaches good news for all. Amen.**

SERVICE



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme this week, how can you help someone be released from their worries?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



The closing prayer in Psalm 19 is often used at the beginning of sermons, "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer" (v. 14). Pray this verse as part of a morning prayer ritual to honor the day and see your actions and thoughts as a form of praise to God.



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