

February 23, 2025 • Season of Epiphany
9:00 and 11:30 am



LOVE
YOUR
ENEMIES

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

Love Your Enemies

From Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=54226>.
Original source: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/boojee/2929823056/>.

Zion Lutheran Church

9944 Leslie Road • San Antonio, Texas 78254 • 210-688-3090 • zion@zionsa.org

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

9:00

In All Our Grief
setting by Anne Krentz

11:30

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun
arranged by J. W. Kerr

Handbells

WELCOME

Pastor Kathi Inglis Johnson

TEMPLE TALK—*Capital Campaign: Welcoming God's Community*

Erica Macha

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)

GATHERING HYMN

Gather Us In



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
 light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
 make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen
 Text and music © 1982 GIA Publications Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
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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 Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

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

CHILDREN'S CHAT

Shiloh Love

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

FIRST READING: Genesis 45:3-11, 15

³Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt.

⁹Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, "Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.'" ¹⁵And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

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

PSALM 37

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

Refrain

Michel Guimont

The hum - ble shall own the land,
and en - joy the full - ness of peace.

Do not fret because of the wicked;
do not envy those who do evil,
for they wither quickly like grass
and fade like the green of the fields. *R*.

If you trust in the LORD and do good,
then you will live in the land and be
secure.

If you find your delight in the LORD,
he will grant your heart's desire. *R*.

Calm your anger and forget your rage;

do not fret, it only leads to evil.
For those who do evil shall perish;
those waiting for the LORD shall inherit
the land. *R*.

The salvation of the just comes from the
LORD,
their stronghold in time of distress.
The LORD helps them and delivers them
and saves them,
for their refuge is in God. *R*.

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

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

³⁵But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?”

³⁶Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

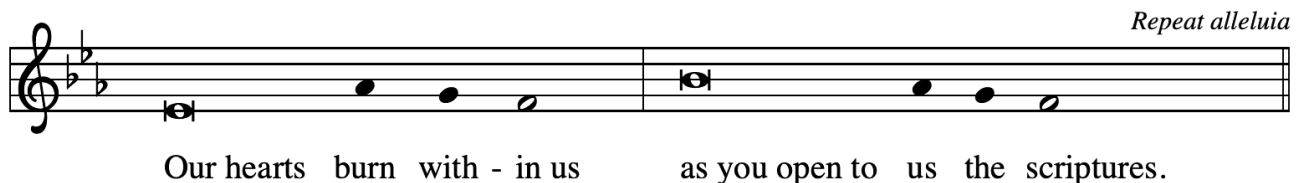
⁴²So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. ⁴⁴It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵Thus it is written, “The first man, Adam, became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

⁵⁰What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

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

Please rise, as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

[Jesus said:] ²⁷“But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³²“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

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

Please be seated.

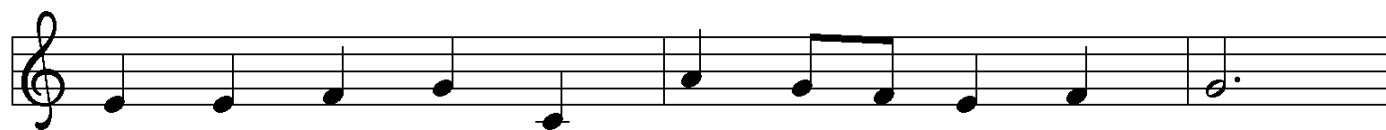
SERMON

Pastor Al Jensen

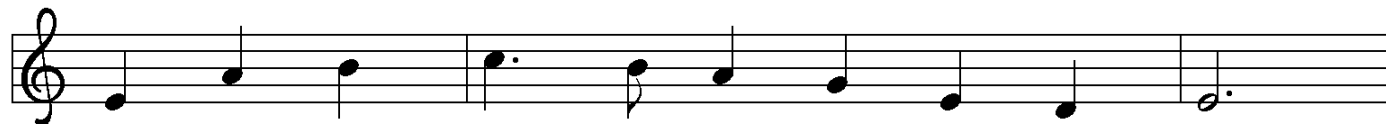
Please rise as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

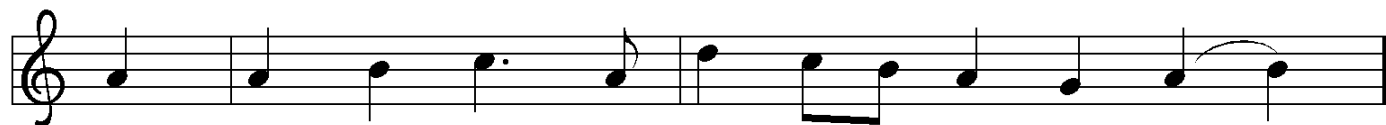
In All Our Grief



1 In all our grief and fear we turn to you.
2 Help us to put a - side the an - gry word,
3 You did not e - ven spare your on - ly Son.
4 God, when we suf - fer all that we can bear,



O God, you know all that we think or do,
the clenched fist, the wish and will to hurt.
He lived our griefs and bore all e - vil done,
then let us know that you in truth are near



you know the pain we put each oth - er through.
Teach us the way in which love best is served.
but through his cross, re - demp - tion has been won.
and will not leave us lost in all our fear.

Refrain



Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, grant us peace.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: FREDERICKTOWN, Charles R. Anders, b. 1929

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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 the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

Each petition ends: God of grace,

Response: **hear our prayer.**

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

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

9:00	<i>Can We Sing the Darkness to Light?</i> by Kyle Pederson	Youth Choir
11:30	<i>Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise</i> arranged by B. Ingram	Handbells

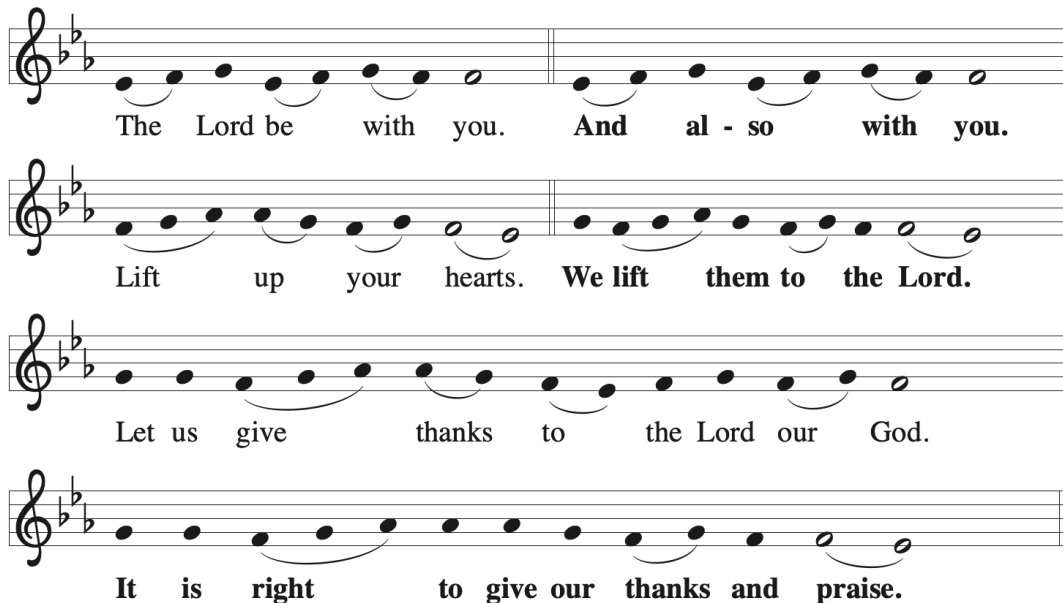
Please rise, as you are able. The ushers bring the offering forward for the Offering Prayer.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Gracious God,

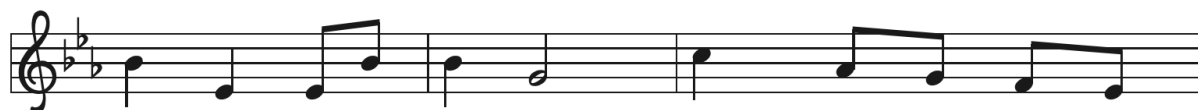
your Son shows us your great love. As we offer ourselves and these gifts, prepare us to receive the grace you offer at this table and renew in us the song of your salvation, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



The 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.

BE KNOWN TO US, LORD JESUS



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 MUSIC

9:00

Holy
by Craig Courtney

Youth Choir

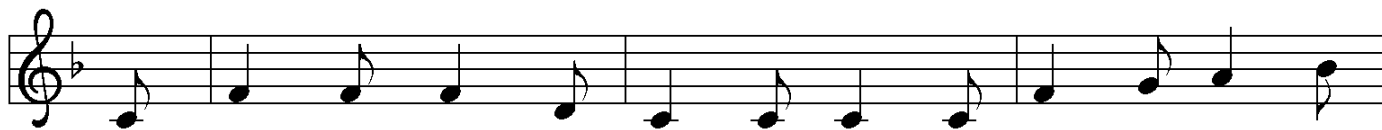
11:30

Canon of Grace
arranged by L. Lamb

Handbells

COMMUNION HYMN

I Come With Joy



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



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



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

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

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

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After communion, we rise and share in blessing and prayer.

BLESSING

May the true body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you always in God's grace.

Amen.

PRAYER

Let us pray. 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

Ita Missa Est
by Philip Moore

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 Lord, take my hand and lead me up - on life's way;
 2 Lord, when the tem - pest ra - ges, I need not fear;
 3 Lord, when the shad - ows length - en and night has come,

di - rect, pro - tect, and feed me from day to day.
 for you, the Rock of A - ges, are al - ways near.
 I know that you will strength - en my steps toward home,

With - out your grace and fa - vor I go a - stray;
 Close by your side a - bid - ing, I fear no foe,
 then noth - ing can im - pede me, O bless - ed Friend!

so take my hand, O Sav - ior, and lead the way.
 for when your hand is guid - ing, in peace I go.
 So, take my hand and lead me un - to the end.

Text: Julie von Hausmann, 1825–1901; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
 Music: SO NIMM DENN MEINE HÄNDE, Friedrich Silcher, 1789–1860
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THIS WEEK AT ZION

Scan QR code for this month's calendar



Sunday, February 23

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
All Congregational Event	4pm	Fellowship Hall

Monday, February 24

Zion Bunco Group	1pm	Fellowship Hall
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Tuesday, February 25

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

Wednesday, February 26

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, February 27

Weight Watchers	9:30	Church 2
Women of Zion General Meeting	11am	Fellowship Hall
Youth Night	6:30	Ministry Center 1,7,8
Stephen Ministry	7pm	Ministry Center 5,6
Fiesta Flutes Concert	7pm	Sanctuary

Saturday, March 1

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

Intergenerational Lent Event and Pancake Fundraiser	8am	Family Life Center
Worship in person	9am	Sanctuary
Worship in person and YouTube@ZionSanAntonio	11:30	Sanctuary & online

**All Faith Formation on a Break Next Sunday,
March 2—for the Pancake Breakfast and
Intergenerational Lent Event.**

Worship Support

Altar Guild

Bonnie Bahr, Betsy Howard
Ruth Medbury, Karen Sturdivant
Laura Walsh

Lay Reader

9:00 Rachel Williams
11:30 Jeff Williams

Cantor

Sarah Williams

Communion Servers

9:00 Lisa & Philip Beekley
11:30 Jenn Kretschmar
Suzi Lockamy

Livestream

Deb Hearn

Sound

Scott Van Doren

Ushers

9:00 Jake Apodaca
Irvin Moss
Matt Murray
Mary Ann & Bill Schmitt
Stuart Williams
11:30 LeShea Clabough
Kevin McGee
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

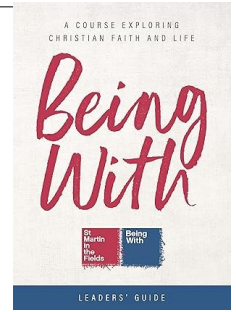
Simple communion worship
services in Zion's historic chapel.

Submitting Announcements

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

Sunday Series: *Being With* Sundays through April 6, 10:15am MC-5, MC-6, Fellowship Hall

Our groups are full for this session, but a
new round of this class may start up again
later this spring - contact Pr. Dan if you are
interested.



Heaven and Earth Bible Class

On a break this Sunday

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.)



All-Congregation Event

Today, 4-6pm
Fellowship Hall



**WELCOMING
GOD'S COMMUNITY**
WITH LOVE · GRACE · GRATITUDE

A reminder for our fun afternoon event as we celebrate
Zion's ministry, and the exciting opportunities ahead! We
will have Bingo with prizes, hors d'oeuvres, and an
inspiring presentation about our capital campaign and
how you can get involved in this awesome congregational
effort.



Blessed Change for Haven for Hope in the Narthex

Zion is collecting your Blessed Change
for Haven for Hope. Look for the water
well in the narthex and drop in your
loose change, folding money
and checks, or use this QR
code to get to Zion's
donations web page.



Zion Bunco Group

4th Monday, February 24, 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: March 3

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



LMM
LUTHERAN MEN IN MISSION
ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
SAN ANTONIO

Men's Fellowship Dinner

Third Monday, March 17 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.

Pancake Fundraiser and Intergenerational Lent Event

Sunday, March 2, 8-11:30am

Family Life Center

The beginning of Lent, Shrove

Tuesday is traditionally observed with pancakes and fellowship. On Sunday, March 2, Zion's Lutheran Men in Mission will host a pancake breakfast fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity. This is in conjunction with the Youth and Family Ministry's Intergenerational Event, all in the Family Life Center.

Breakfast pancakes will be served from 8:00 to 11:30am, with a free-will offering. Intergenerational Event activities begin at 10:15, for all ages.

The H-for-H fundraising goal for 2025 is \$6,500, and this is the first event of the year. Let's kick off the season with full stomachs and generous spirits!

To volunteer a shift at the Pancake Breakfast, contact Matt Iwanicki through the church office.



STAFF CONTACT

Day Off

Pr. Kathi Inglis Johnson *Monday*
Senior Pastor
kjohnson@ZionSA.org

Pr. Dan Heim *Friday*
Associate Pastor, Youth and Family
dheim@ZionSA.org

Pr. Al Jensen *Friday*
Associate Pastor, Congregational Care
ajensen@ZionSA.org

Pr. Eileen Spehr
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Suzie Wyatt
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Rob Mikulski *Monday*
Music Director
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Sammy Mikulski *Monday*
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2025 COUNCIL

Bud Halstead	President
Karen Umlang	Treasurer
Chris Jones	Vice President
Rachel Williams	Secretary
Erica Macha	
Shiloh Love	
Matt Iwanicki	
Pr. Kathi Johnson	Senior Pastor
Pr. Dan Heim	Associate Pastor
Pr. Al Jensen	Associate Pastor

OFFICE CONTACT



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



210-688-3090



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Women of Zion (WOZ) Events in January

WOZ Bible Study & More

Second Tuesday March 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: February 20

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 Little Italy

Thursday, March 6, 6:30pm

The Dinner Out group will get together at Little Italy at 824 Afterglow St. Come early for socializing; dinner seating is at 6:30pm. RSVP by March 2 to Jim or Sandy Chillstrom. Call the church office if you need their contact information.

Zion Zippers 50+ Fellowship

Monday, March 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!

After dinner, Tom Schock will provide a slide show about the story of the Theodore Roosevelt National Park and ranch in the North Dakota Badlands, which includes the town of Medora.

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

Home Communion Class

Sunday, March 9, 10:15 am, Conference Room

Do you have 45 minutes each month to bring Communion to someone who cannot attend Worship in person?

Pastor Al would love to meet with you (even if you're just curious about the possibility). Your attendance at the meeting does not require your participation in bringing someone Communion. However, please consider making a difference in one person's life in this way.

Grief Class Coming to Zion

Starts Monday, March 10, 10:30am-Noon

We have all experienced some form of grief in our lives. Also, each of us tends to approach it in slightly different ways. One way to work with the grief we experience is to gather with others who are also grieving.

Zion is holding a Grief Class that will meet weekly for a 6-week period. In this class, no one will be expected to do anything but be present. If you wish to share your thoughts, hurts, questions, that is always welcome. However, this is a pressure-free class intended to be a place for you to receive helpful care. Each session will involve watching a DVD that is pertinent to our losses, and then Pastor Al will offer the opportunity to speak about the subject of the day. No sign up necessary.

*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>

Weekday Bible Study Series: Book of Ruth

No Meeting February 27

**Last Session, March 13, 9:30am,
Ministry Center 1**

Led by Pastor Eileen Spehr. Second and fourth Thursdays, through March 13.

**FEBRUARY 23, 2025
SEVENTH SUNDAY
AFTER EPIPHANY**



Showing love and mercy is a lifelong journey.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 6:27-38	Love for enemies
Monday	Genesis 45:3-11, 15	Joseph reveals himself
Tuesday	1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50	The resurrection body
Wednesday	Genesis 43:16-34	Joseph is merciful and kind
Thursday	Psalm 25:6-10	A prayer for guidance
Friday	1 John 2:7-17	A new commandment
Saturday	Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40	Trust the Lord
Sunday	Luke 9:28-43a	Jesus is transfigured

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. Luke 6:36-37 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Merciful God, help us to follow the way of Jesus and do to others as we would want others to do to us. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, may this food give us strength to overcome anger and anxiety with love and mercy, through Christ Jesus our Savior and Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God show you mercy and forgiveness.



FEBRUARY 23, 2025

HYMN OF THE WEEK

*There's a Wideness in
God's Mercy*



**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:

- If someone stole from you, what do you think should happen to them?
- What is difficult about showing mercy to those who hurt you? What are the benefits of showing kindness?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Luke 6:27-38.

Even Jesus understands that his words to “*love your enemies; do good to those who hate you*” (v.27) sound challenging and are very hard to do. People don’t want to hear about kindness to those who don’t deserve it. No one wants to be abused or walked on. How do we experience the blessings of showing mercy, forgiveness, and love for our enemies? We are not going to learn it from a desire for power and dominance. Power can too easily lead to abuse of power. There are too many wars, bullies at school, and violence on the streets and in the news. It will take a lifetime for the disciples of Jesus to learn the importance—even power—of mercy from the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. That is why Jesus’ sermon in this reading is a call to a lifetime of work. We will have to listen and try to believe it and yet fail many times along the way.

Discuss: When have you seen mercy and forgiveness work for good?

Pray: **Almighty God, be our comfort and strength as we learn what it means to show mercy, forgiveness, and love for enemies. In Christ Jesus we pray, 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 forgiveness to someone who hurt you?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40 encourages us to trust the Lord when we are mistreated. Feeling mistreated by others can make us feel hurt and our relationship with them changes. Write a list of people who you have hurt or have hurt you in the past. Say the Lord’s Prayer. Pause for a moment of silence after “*forgive us our trespasses [sins or debts] as we forgive those who trespass against us.*” Then read the names you have written before finishing the prayer.



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