

March 9, 2025 • First Sunday of Lent  
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.

## THE SEASON OF LENT

Lent begins with the ashes of Ash Wednesday and extends until Holy Week (the week before Easter). Traditionally, Lent is a time of greater self-examination and repentance for one's sins. In our sinfulness, we also remember that we are dust and will return to dust again.

This year, we will begin our corporate prayers with individual laments and burdens, written on slips of paper. We will place the slips into baskets, sharing these prayer concerns with God in a tangible way. We will leave the slips in the basket throughout Lent, where our prayers and praises will continue to surround them.

## ON THE COVER

Christ in the Wilderness, 1872  
Ivan Nikolaevich Kramskoi

From Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=54297>.

## Zion Lutheran Church

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

# GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

*Chorale and Prelude on “Straf mich nicht”*  
setting by A.W. Leupold

Sandy Musk  
Guest Organist

WELCOME

Pastor Al Jensen

TEMPLE TALK—*Women of Zion and WELCA*

Karen Stoldt

*Please rise, as you are able.*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and ✠ of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of word and sacrament in the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**



1 Je - sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; and, al-though the  
 2 If the way be drear, if the foe be near, let no faith - less  
 3 When we seek re - lief from a long-felt grief, when temp-ta - tions  
 4 Je - sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; heav'n-ly lead - er,



way be cheer - less, we will fol - low, calm and fear - less;  
 fears o'er - take us, let not faith and hope for - sake us;  
 come al - lur - ing make us pa - tient and en - dur - ing;  
 still di - rect us, still sup - port, con - sole, pro - tect us,



guide us by your hand to the prom - ised land.  
 safe - ly past the foe to our home we go.  
 show us that bright shore where we weep no more.  
 till we safe - ly stand in the prom - ised land.



Text: Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1700–1760; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt.  
 Music: SEELENBRÄUTIGAM, Adam Drese, 1620–1701

## 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.**

## KYRIE

Ky - rie e - lei - son Chris - te e - lei - son Ky - rie e -  
lei - son Chris - te e - lei - son Lord, have\_\_ mer - cy  
Christ have\_\_ mer - cy O Lord have mer - cy

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**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: Deuteronomy 26:1-11

<sup>1</sup>When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, <sup>2</sup>you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name.

<sup>3</sup>You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us."

<sup>4</sup>When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, <sup>5</sup>you shall make this response before the LORD your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. <sup>6</sup>When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, <sup>7</sup>we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. <sup>8</sup>The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; <sup>9</sup>and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. <sup>10</sup>So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me." You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. <sup>11</sup>Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

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

## PSALM 91

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

Refrain

Marty Haugen

Be with me, Lord, when I am in trou-ble, be  
with me Lord, when I am in trou-ble.

The English translation of the Psalm Response from the *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.  
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He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, and abides in the shade of the Almighty, says to the Lord, “My refuge, my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!” *Refrain*

Upon you no evil shall fall, no plague approach your tent.  
For you has he commanded his angels to keep you in all your ways. *Refrain*

They shall bear you upon their hands, lest you strike your foot against a stone.  
On the lion and the viper you will tread, and trample the young lion and serpent. *Refrain*

Since he clings to me in love, I will free him, protect him, for he knows my name.  
When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will be with him in distress;  
I will deliver him, and give him glory. *Refrain*

### SECOND READING: Romans 10:8b-13

<sup>8b</sup>“The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); <sup>9</sup>because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup>For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. <sup>11</sup>The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” <sup>12</sup>For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. <sup>13</sup>For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

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

*Please rise, as you are able.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Let your stead - fast love come to us, O Lord.



Save us as you prom - ised; we will trust your word.

GOSPEL: Luke 4:1-13

*Tempted*  
*Spark Children's Bible Page 248*

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

<sup>1</sup>Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, <sup>2</sup>where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. <sup>3</sup>The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." <sup>4</sup>Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.' "

<sup>5</sup>Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. <sup>6</sup>And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. <sup>7</sup>If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours."

<sup>8</sup>Jesus answered him, "It is written,

'Worship the Lord your God,  
and serve only him.' "

<sup>9</sup>Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, <sup>10</sup>for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,  
to protect you,'

<sup>11</sup>and

'On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.' "

<sup>12</sup>Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.' " <sup>13</sup>When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

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

*Please be seated.*



*Please rise as you are able.*

HYMN OF THE DAY

O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days

1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days you  
 2 You strove with Sa - tan, and you won; your  
 3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet you prayed and  
 4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, and

prayed and kept the fast; in - spire re - pen - tance  
 faith - ful - ness en - dured; lend us your nerve, your  
 fixed your mind a - bove; so teach us to de -  
 all our earth - ly days, that when the fi - nal

for our sin, and free us from our past.  
 skill and trust in God's e - ter - nal word.  
 ny our - selves that we may know God's love.  
 Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav - en's praise.

Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–1898; para. Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930  
 Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davison, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816; arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929-2003  
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.  
 Arr. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House.

## 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.**

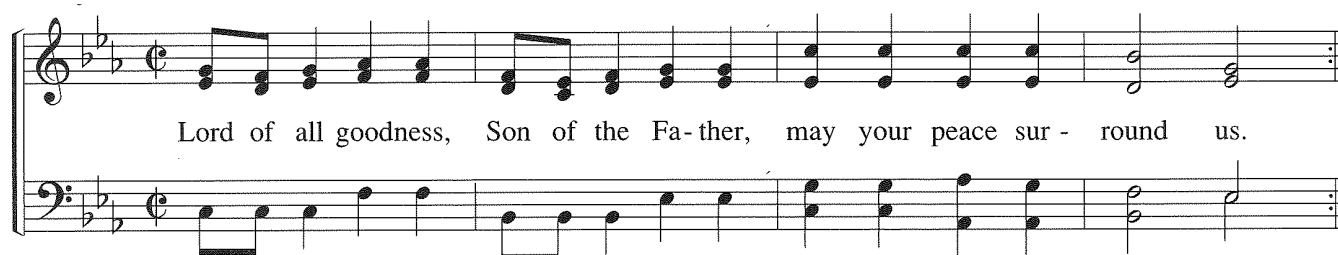
**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of 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

*During this season of Lent, our prayers begin with our laments. While we sing "Lord of All Goodness" repeatedly, take a black or purple slip from the pew rack, and on it, write those things which burden you. When you are done, place your slip in one of the baskets located in the four corners (or upstairs in the balcony).*



Each petition ends: Merciful God,  
Please respond: **receive our prayer.**

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ.  
**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](http://ZionSA.org). Children may place their offerings in the jar to the left of the Chancel (near the sacristy door). During the offering music, the pastor sets the table for Holy Communion.*

## OFFERING MUSIC

*Erhalt uns, Herr, bei deinem Wort*  
by Johann Gottlob Topfer

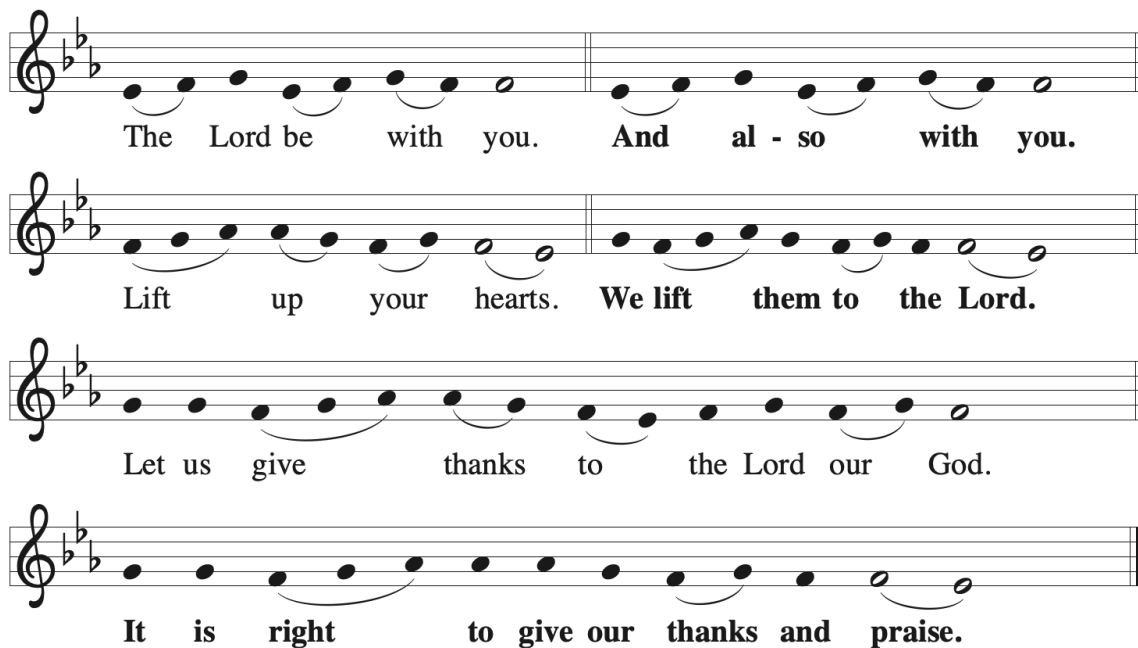
Sandy Musk  
Guest Organist

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

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. God of good gifts,  
**receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. 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. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. 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:

The image shows a musical score for a hymn, consisting of four staves of music. The music is written in a treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, heav - en and earth are full; full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est." The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes, with some phrases being phrased together with a slur.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

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

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

**Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus has taught us:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

## INVITATION

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

*Please be seated.*

## COMMUNION

*Because this is the Lord's table, we welcome all to receive Holy Communion. If you'd like to receive a blessing instead, simply come forward and cross your arms over your chest. If you are unable to come forward, please notify an usher and we will bring the sacrament to you. Gluten-free wafers are available; please ask the person serving bread. White grape juice is available in the center of the tray for those unable to drink wine. After receiving Communion, please return to your seat for singing and prayer.*

# LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -  
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

When Peace Like a River

1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when  
 2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let  
 3 He lives—oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; my  
 4 Lord, has - ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the

sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast  
 this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my  
 sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I  
 clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the

taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.  
 help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.  
 bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!  
 Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.

*Refrain*

It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.  
 It is well with my soul,

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–1888  
 Music: VILLE DU HAVRE, Philip P. Bliss, 1838–1876

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

## BLESSING

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

**Amen.**

## PRAYER

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

**Amen.**

# SENDING

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

## BENEDICTION

May God bless you and keep you.

May God grant you mercy, fill you with courage, and ✠ give you peace.

**Amen.**

SENDING HYMN *on next page*

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

*Herzliebster Jesu*  
setting by Carlos Staszek

Sandy Musk  
Guest Organist

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## AVAILABLE FOR PRAYER

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



1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this  
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing  
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me  
 wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me  
 fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me

with your pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,  
 all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,  
 safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es

feed me now and ev - er - more, ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.  
 shield me with your might - y arm, might - y arm, shield me with your might - y arm.  
 I will raise for - ev - er - more, ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

Text: William Williams, 1717-1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722-1796, alt.  
 Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873-1932

## THIS WEEK AT ZION

Scan QR code for this month's calendar



### Sunday, March 9

Worship in person	9am	Sanctuary
Faith Formation Hour for all ages	10:15	Details Next Pages
Worship in person and YouTube@ZionSanAntonio	11:30	Sanctuary & online

### Monday, March 10

Grief Class	10:30	Ministry Center 8
Zion Zippers Potluck & Fellowship	6pm	Fellowship Hall

### Tuesday, March 11

Exercise Group	9am	Church 2
Women of Zion Bible Study	10am	Fellowship Hall
Staff Meeting	11am	Breakroom
Warriors Anonymous	7pm	Church 2

### Wednesday, March 12

Crafty Bunch	9:00	Ed Bldg Craft Room
Midweek Worship	1:00 & 6:30pm	Sanctuary
AA - Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting	7pm	Family Life Center 202
Al-Anon Meeting	7pm	Family Life Center 101

### Thursday, March 13

Bible Study w/ Pr. Eileen	9:30	Ministry Center 1
Weight Watchers	9:30	Church 2
Stephen Ministry	7pm	Ministry Center 5, 6

### Saturday, March 15

Weight Watchers	8:30am	Church 2
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### Sunday, March 16

Lutheran World Relief Quilt Display	8:30	Gazebo
Worship in person	9am	Sanctuary
Faith Formation Hour for all ages	10:15	Details Next Pages
Worship in person and YouTube@ZionSanAntonio	11:30	Sanctuary & online

## Worship Support

### Altar Guild

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

### Lay Reader

9:00 John Macha  
11:30 Dick Parker

### Cantor

Bud Halstead

### Communion Servers

9:00 Mary Jo Goldenbaum  
Carolyn Pfeiffer  
11:30 Max Knoll  
Karen Umlang

### Livestream

David Umlang

### Sound

Scott Van Doren

### Ushers

9:00 Mary Jo Goldenbaum  
Paul Goldenbaum  
Dan Graham  
Carolyn Pfeiffer  
11:30 Joanna & Mel Arviso  
Kim & Mike DeHart

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## Faith Formation for Children and Youth

10:15 in Ministry Center Rooms

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

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## Music Rehearsals *Spring Break—See Calendar*

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

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## Lenten Midweek Worship Series: Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult

Wednesdays at 1pm & 6:30pm in  
the Main Sanctuary

Contemplative Worship with  
Interactive Prayer, Prayers for  
Healing, & Holy Communion.

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## Home Communion Class

Today, March 9, 10:15 am, Breakroom

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

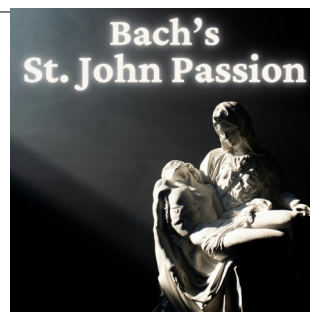
Pastor Al would love to meet with you (even if you're  
just curious about the possibility). Your attendance at the  
meeting does not require your participation in bringing  
someone Communion. Please consider making a  
difference in one person's life in this way.

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## Sundays in Lent: Class on Bach's St. John Passion & Its Theological Context Sundays in Lent, 10:15am Fellowship Hall

Join Director of Music Ministries Rob  
Mikulski and Pr. Kathi as we explore

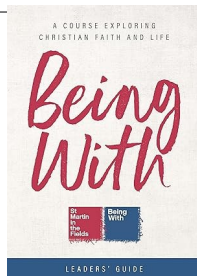
J.S. Bach's St. John Passion - its musical structure and  
historical context, as well its Lutheran theology, and the  
theology of the Gospel of John. You'll gain a deeper  
understanding of this work as both a musical  
masterpiece and a deeply theological work, rooted in the  
Christian narrative. This class will serve as great  
preparation for Good Friday, when we will hear Bach's St.  
John Passion in our evening worship. All are welcome to  
attend!



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## Sunday Series: *Being With*

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.



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## Heaven and Earth Bible Class

Sundays, 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.)



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## Grief Class

Starts Tomorrow, March 10  
Mondays, 10:30am-Noon  
Ministry Center 8

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. This is a pressure-free class intended to be a place for you to receive helpful care. Each session will involve watching a video, and then Pastor Al will offer the opportunity to speak about the subject of the day. No sign up necessary.

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## Weekday Bible Study Series: Book of Ruth

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

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

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## STAFF CONTACT *Day Off*

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

Pr. Dan Heim *Friday*  
Associate Pastor, Youth and Family  
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Pr. Al Jensen *Friday*  
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Pr. Eileen Spehr  
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Rob Mikulski *Monday*  
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Sammy Mikulski *Monday*  
Theatre Director  
theatre@ZionSA.org

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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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Instagram @zionsatx



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## SUBSCRIBE TO

- Weekly Z-Mail
- Prayer Chain

For secure subscription info, send an e-mail to Karen at [Zion@ZionSA.org](mailto:Zion@ZionSA.org)

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## WELCA Women of Zion (WOZ)

### Events in March

#### WELCA Women of Zion - New Name

Women of Zion (WOZ) is now WELCA Women of Zion. We now use many of the WELCA resources, events and projects. Watch our postings here and in Zmail for all our events and meetings. ALL Zion women members are automatically members of WELCA. You don't need to do anything to be accepted. We hope you will participate with us in-person or use the on-line resources on the WELCA website: <https://www.womenoftheelca.org/>

Please visit our table in the Gazebo this morning after both services. For more information, please contact Karen Stoldt, President, through the church office and check Zmail. *WELCA=Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.*

#### WOZ Bible Study—Second Tues, 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](mailto:WOZ@zionsa.org).



[WOZ@zionsa.org](mailto:WOZ@zionsa.org)

#### WELCA Alamo Conference Spring Gathering Sat March 22, Trinity Lutheran Church, San Antonio

The theme is based on Ephesians 6:14 (NIV) - *“Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place.”*

There will be a love offering that is split 50% Churchwide, 25% Synodical Women's Organization, and 25% St. Vincent de Paul Society. We are also collecting a physical Offering of new and gently-used men's and women's belts to donate to Dress for Success.

Lunch is included (sandwich variety) and registration is \$20 for the day. You can use this QR code to register. For more info, please contact Rhonda Knisley through the church office.



WELCA Spring  
Gathering  
Registration

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## WOZ Collection for Lutheran World Relief Kits Sundays, March 9, 16, 23

The Women of Zion are asking the congregation to participate in making Lutheran World Relief Kits this month. Please bring completed LWR kits to the red bins in the narthex and gazebo through Sunday, March 23.

Making Lutheran World Relief Kits is a simple, fun and tangible way to offer comfort to those suffering and express love to our neighbors in need. LWR Kits are designed to help people coping with poverty, disaster, conflict and more.

### For Baby Kits (Sizes 6-24 months)

- Lightweight cotton T-shirts (no onesies)
- Long or short sleeved gowns or sleepers (without feet)
- Receiving blankets
- Cloth diapers (flat folded preferred)
- Diaper Pins
- Jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood
- Cap
- Socks
- Hand towel (dark color preferred)
- Gentle Baby Soap

### For Personal Care Kits:

- Bath size towel (dark color preferred)
- Bath size soap bars
- Toothbrush (in original package)

### For Fabric Kits:

Fabric:

- Cotton or cotton-blend fabric
- NO knits or 100% polyester
- NO religious symbols, messages, US flags, military symbols, or reference to armed forces

Fabric Sizes:

- 2 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> yards of 60" -wide fabric
- 3 yards of 44" -wide fabric
- 4 yards of 36" -wide fabric

Thread: 1 spool of matching or neutral thread  
(250-300 yards each)

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# Your generosity empowers Zion's Ministry

From Sunday morning worship to feeding families for the holidays, collecting clothing for local charity or relief supplies shipped hundreds of miles, to friendships fostered worldwide with simple hand stitches.

Because you kindly share your time, lend your skills, and support your ministry financially, Zion's impact reaches far beyond the four walls of our sanctuary. On behalf of everyone we're able to help, thank you for your contribution.

For more ways to support Zion's mission, scan this QR code.



<https://secure.myvanco.com/YJYN/campaign/C-YTT8>

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## Submitting Announcements

If you have announcements for the bulletin and Zmail, please send them to [Publications@ZionSA.org](mailto:Publications@ZionSA.org).



**LMM**  
LUTHERAN MEN IN MISSION AT  
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 [imm@zionsa.org](mailto:imm@zionsa.org) if you need more details.

## 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 Powerpoint presentation, "The Story of Historic Medora," which introduces viewers to the North Dakota Badlands which is home to the Theodore Roosevelt National Park. During the 1880s, Roosevelt was a resident rancher in the Badlands and a contemporary of the founder of Medora, the Marquis De Mores who was a French Nobleman. Medora is gateway to the North Dakota Badlands and the Theodore Roosevelt National Park.

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



## MomCo, a Community for All Moms

Wednesday, March 19, Ministry Center 1

Zion MomCo supports moms by building community for growth in faith and as parents. Meetings are on the third Wednesday of the month in Zion's Ministry Center, 9:30am-noon. They also are in need of adult volunteers to provide child care those Wednesdays.

Scan the QR to register or volunteer, or contact Nicole Stender ([mops@zionsa.org](mailto:mops@zionsa.org)) to get more info!

MomCo Registration



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## 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.

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## Quilting for Lutheran World Relief

**National Quilt Day, March 15, 2025**

In recognition of National Quilt Day, on Sunday, March 16, Zion's Lutheran World Relief quilters are displaying some of the quilts that are helping worldwide when natural disasters occur. Last year, more than 370,000 quilts were shipped from the LWR warehouse to 16 countries, including the U.S. in response to hurricanes Helene and Milton. Stop by the gazebo and Ministry Center hallway and look over the sampling of quilts that Zion's quilters have put together.

**1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Thursdays, 9:30am, Fellowship Hall**

**Next one: March 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.*

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## Game Group

**1st & 3rd Mondays, 12:30pm,  
Fellowship Hall**

**Next one: March 17**

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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## Zion Bunco Group

**4th Monday, March 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.





**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 online at <https://tinyurl.com/4r33dfm4> or by using the QR code 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!

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



Camp Hope  
Registration

**Churchwide Garage Sale  
Saturday, March 22, 9am-2pm  
Family Life Center**

The music department will be hosting a churchwide garage sale. Donated items (no televisions please) can be dropped off in the FLC from Tuesday, March 18 through Thursday, March 20, 9am-5pm; or Friday, March 21, 9am-8pm.

If you do not have items to donate, please come and shop! Homemade food will also be available. All proceeds will benefit the newly established Music Performance Fund.



**Zion Summer Theatre Camp  
2025**



**Little Shop of Horrors**

**June 23-July 3**

**Zion Summer Theatre Camp  
June 23-July 3**

**Performances July 3 & 5**

Join the Zion Theatre Group for a two week intensive theatre camp beginning on June 23 through July 3. We will have some zany fun putting together a full production of "Little Shop of Horrors".

Performances are July 3 at 7:30pm and July 5 at 1:30pm. The cost is \$275 per person for 2 weeks and includes a daily light lunch. Use the QR code to download the registration form.



Theatre Camp  
Registration

**MARCH 9, 2025  
FIRST SUNDAY  
IN LENT**



*Trust in God to protect us.*

### **DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

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

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Luke 4:1-13</b>	<b>The temptation of Jesus</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Deuteronomy 26:1-11</b>	<b>A confession of faith</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Romans 10:8b-13</b>	<b>Salvation is for all</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Psalm 62</b>	<b>Song of trust in God alone</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Isaiah 12:1-6</b>	<b>Thanksgiving and praise</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Proverbs 3:5-6</b>	<b>Trust God</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16</b>	<b>The Lord is my fortress</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Luke 13:31-35</b>	<b>Jesus' sorrow over Jerusalem</b>

### **SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK**

*You who live in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty, will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress; my God in whom I trust." Psalm 91:1-2 (NRSV)*

### **PRAYERS AND BLESSING**

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

Dear God, help us to face the dangers of life with trust in your protection that will be with us always, through Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Amen.

#### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Almighty God, may the gift of this food remind us of your loving protection that provides for our needs through Christ Jesus our Savior and Lord. Amen.

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

May you trust in the Lord with all your heart.



**MARCH 9, 2025**

**HYMN OF THE WEEK**

*Guide My Feet*



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:

- Who do you turn to when you are afraid? Why that person?
- How does trust in God help you in times of fear?

**DEVOTIONS**



*Read:* Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16.

Lent helps us honestly face our vulnerability—our fear of being hurt—and our need for God’s help. Psalm 91 addresses our fears and God’s desire and ability to protect us. The writer understands that we need to face our fears, or they will overwhelm us. This psalm helps us name our fears with hope in God. There is a three-way dialog in this psalm: 1) the poet, who speaks directly to us and for us; 2) ourselves, as the ones praying and “*who live in the shelter of the Most High*” (v. 1); and, 3) God, who responds to our need for protection. This psalm is a conversation that honestly deals with the fears and challenges of life while affirming the assurance of the protection of God. Reasons for fear will always be present in life. God is our fortress, the one we can trust, and the one who offers shelter during fearful times.

*Discuss:* What fears and concerns keep you up at night?

*Pray:* **Almighty God, as we face our fears and the dangers around us, we thank you for your love and protection through Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Amen.**

**SERVICE**



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, who do you know that is feeling fearful? How can you help them?

**RITUALS AND TRADITIONS**



Prayer is an important spiritual practice for Christians. Lent is a season of the church year when we focus on prayer. This Lenten season, take time to focus on the prayer Jesus taught us to pray, the Lord’s Prayer (Luke 11:2-4). This first week in Lent we reflect on “*Father, hallowed be your name*” (v. 2a). Draw an outline of a cross on a sheet of paper. Write verse 2a at the top of the paper around the outside of the cross. Take a moment to think or talk about what this verse means to you. Place the cross in a visible place in your home to use as a devotional focus during Lent. Each week, another verse will be added around the cross.

*Pray:* The Lord’s Prayer.



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

