

March 23, 2025 • Third 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 worshippers. 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.

HOLY BAPTISM TODAY

At the 9:00 service today we receive Harlan John Hohlbein and Hudson Joseph Hohlbein and, children of Emily B. Schroeder Hohlbein and Adam Joseph Hohlbein. Harlan's sponsors are Alex Brown, Sheyda Johnson, JD Snowman, and Nora Vaughan. Hudson's sponsors are Basima Azzad, Jonathan Conrad, Chantal & Caleb Derbyshire, and Kasey Hohlbein.

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

ON THE COVER

From serjan mijili on Unsplash.

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

Prelude on Beach Spring
by Wayne Wold

WELCOME

Pastor Dan Heim

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.

11:30 service continues on page 5

9:00am HOLY BAPTISM

Statement of Faith

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**catholic: universal*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks..... in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever,

Amen.

Welcome

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

GATHERING HYMN

Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters



- 1 Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleans-ing wa - ters flow.
- 2 We who bring them long for nur - ture; by your milk may we be fed.
- 3 Oh, how deep your ho - ly wis - dom! Un - im - ag - ined, all your ways!



Num - ber them a - mong your peo - ple; bless as Christ blessed long a - go.
 Let us join your feast, par - tak - ing cup of bless - ing, liv - ing bread.
 To your name be glo - ry, hon - or! With our lives we wor - ship, praise!



Weave them gar - ments bright and spark - ling; com - pass them with love and light.
 God, re - new us, guide our foot - steps; free from sin and all its snares,
 We your peo - ple stand be - fore you, wa - ter - washed and Spir - it - born.



Fill, a - noint them; send your Spir - it, ho - ly dove and heart's de - light.
 one with Christ in liv - ing, dy - ing, by your Spir - it, chil - dren, heirs.
 By your grace, our lives we of - fer. Re - cre - ate us; God, trans - form!

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

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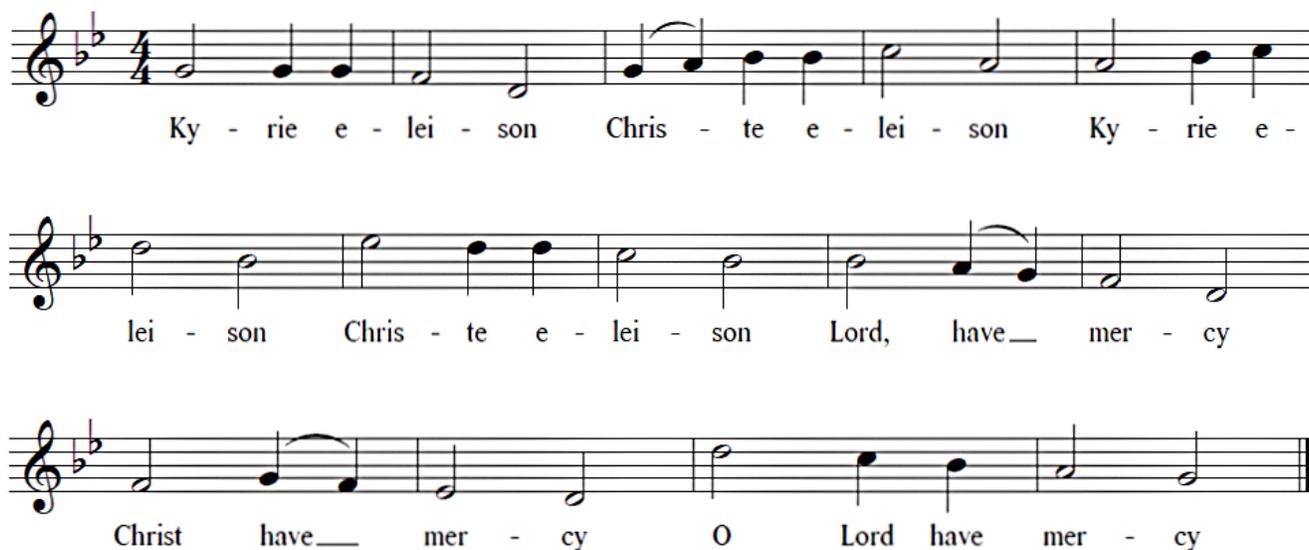
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GREETING

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.

KYRIE



Musical score for Kyrie eleison, consisting of three staves of music in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are: 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. Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, 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: Isaiah 55:1-9

¹Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ²Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. ³Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. ⁴See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. ⁵See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

⁶ Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; ⁷let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. ⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. ⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

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

PSALM 63

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

My soul is thirst - ing for you, O Lord,
thirst - ing for you my God.

O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water. R.

So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy. R.

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise. R.

For you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.
My soul clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast. R.

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SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

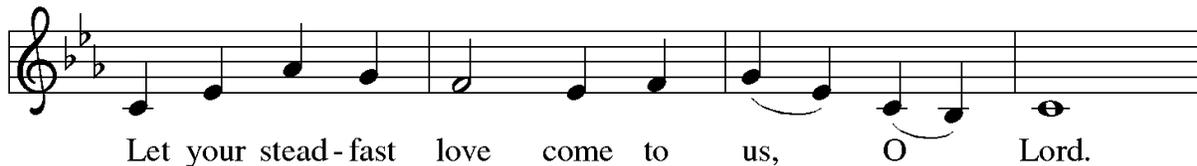
¹I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ²and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. ⁵Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

⁶Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play.” ⁸We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. ¹⁰And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. ¹²So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. ¹³No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

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.**

¹At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.²[Jesus] asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? ³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.”

⁶Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ ⁸He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

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

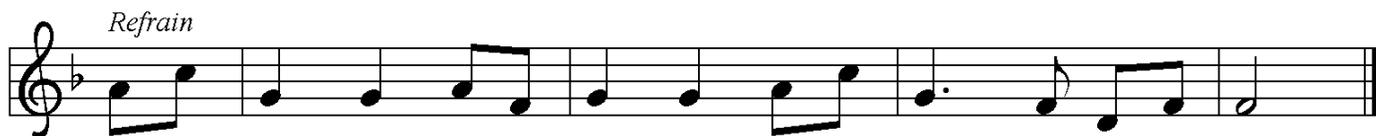
As the Deer Runs to the River



- 1 As the deer runs to the riv - er, parched and wea - ry from the chase,
- 2 When your Is - rael crossed the des - ert where no stream or spring was seen,
- 3 "Come and drink," I - sa - iah sum-moned, "all who for God's mer - cy plead!
- 4 Christ, we come from des - ert plac - es, deep - est thirst un - sat - is - fied.



we have come from hurt and hur - ry, thirst - ing for your heal - ing grace.
Mo - ses struck the rock, and wa - ter flowed for them, re - fresh - ing, clean.
God's for - give - ness, like a foun-tain, flows to sat - is - fy your need."
Lead us to the wa - ters flow - ing from the cross on which you died.



Je - sus, source of liv - ing wa - ter, may we drink of you and live!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923

Music: JULION, David Hurd, b. 1950

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11:30am APOSTLES' CREED

Let us now confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

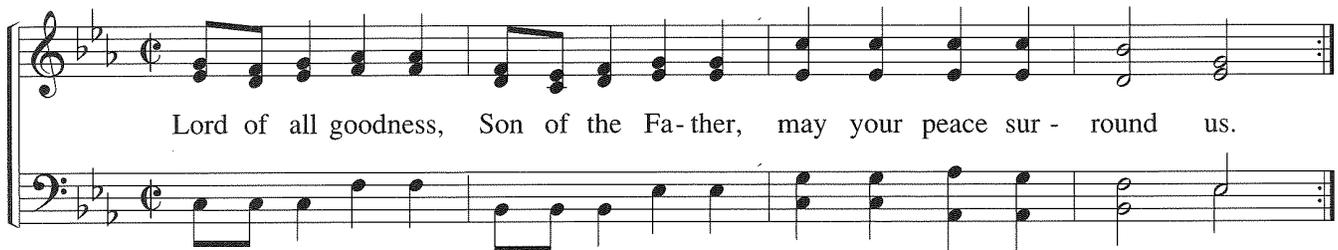
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of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

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**catholic: universal*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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).



Lord of all goodness, Son of the Fa-ther, may your peace sur - round us.

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. 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>Jesus to the Wilderness</i> by Michael Bedford	Children's Choir
11:30	<i>Can We Sing the Darkness to Light?</i> by Kyle Pederson	Youth Choir

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:

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.

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

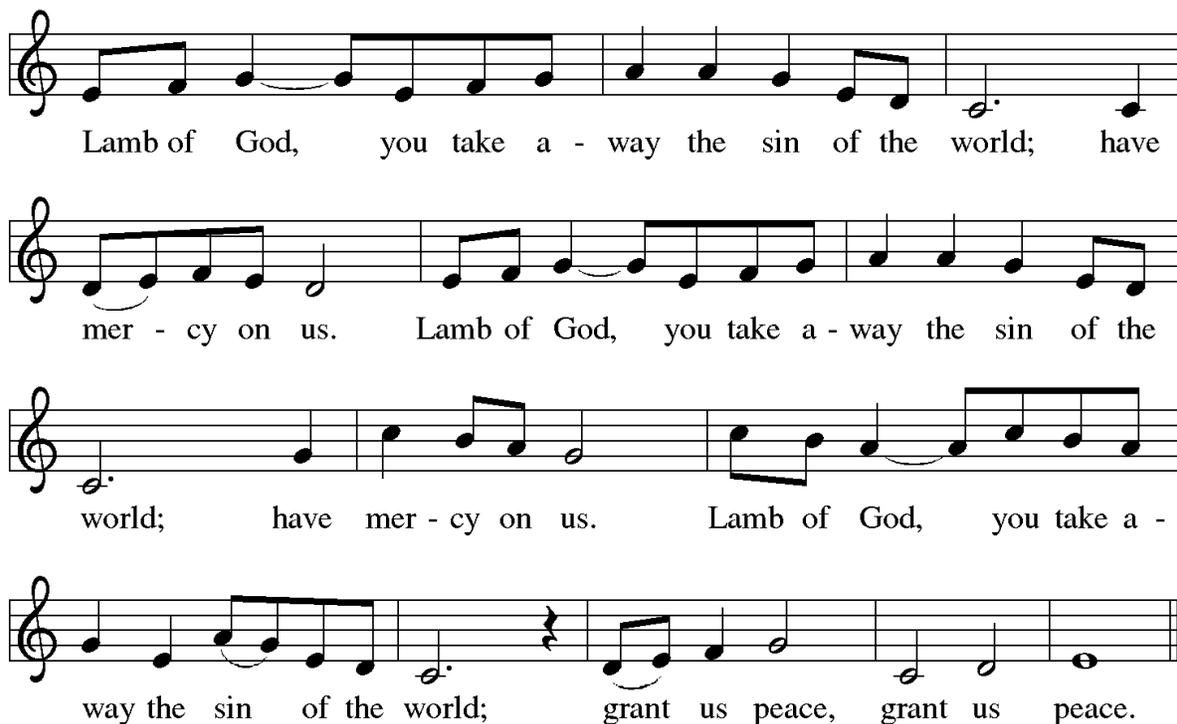
These are the gifts of God for you, the beloved people of God.

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 MUSIC

9:00

Life-giving Bread
by Ricky Manalo

Children's Choir

11:30

Out of the Depths
by Richard Frost

Youth Choir

COMMUNION HYMN

Let Us Break Bread Together

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;
3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

Refrain

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing

sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: BREAK BREAD TOGETHER, African American spiritual

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

O Dearest Jesus
setting by Balint Karosi

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



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

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: BAYLOR, Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933

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Worship Support

Altar Guild

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

Lay Reader

9:00 Kristyn Bova
11:30 Gail Clayworth

Cantor

Hayden Elkin

Communion Servers

9:00 Mary Jo Goldenbaum
Nicole Stender
11:30 Rachel Cannady
Jeff Williams

Livestream

Deb Hearn

Sound

Scott Van Doren

Ushers

9:00 Mary Jo Goldenbaum
Paul Goldenbaum
Dan Graham
Carmen Nickle
Carolyn Pfeiffer
Lorri Schoellkopf
Marc Schoellkopf
11:30 Mike DeHart
Paul Spehr
Laura Walsh

THIS WEEK AT ZION

Scan QR code for this month's calendar



Sunday, March 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

Monday, March 24

Grief Class	10:30	Ministry Center 8
Zion Bunco Group	1pm	Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, March 25

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

Wednesday, March 26

High School/Elementary Mentoring	7:15am	Nichols Elementary
Crafty Bunch	9:00	Ed Bldg Craft Room
Lenten Midweek Worship	1:00 & 6:30pm	Sanctuary
AA - Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting	7pm	Family Life Center 202
Al-Anon Meeting	7pm	Family Life Center 101
Chancel Choir Rehearsal	7:15pm	Sanctuary

Thursday, March 27

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

Friday, March 28

Memorial Service—Estelle Zimmerman	11am	Sanctuary
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Saturday, March 29

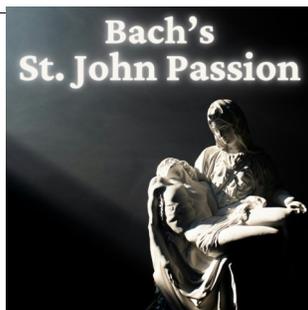
Weight Watchers	8:30am	Church 2
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Sunday, March 30

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

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!



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.)



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.



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

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

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.

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
Visitation Pastor
visitation@ZionSA.org

Suzie Wyatt
Administrator
swyatt@ZionSA.org

Rob Mikulski *Monday*
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Theatre Director
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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 Inglis Johnson	Sr. Pastor
Pr. Dan Heim	Associate Pastor
Pr. Al Jensen	Associate Pastor

WOZ Collection for Lutheran World Relief Kits Through Today

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

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 1/4 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)

Children, Youth & Families collecting items to Support Eagle Pass Frontera Ministries

Zion children, youth and families in Lent are collecting items to support the migration work being done by Eagle Pass Frontera Ministries. (Elementary class teacher Erica Macha's Feb. 23 Temple Talk described Zion's intergenerational trip to Eagle Pass.) Items can be dropped off throughout Lent at the table outside MC 3.

At-Home Lent Art, Scripture and Devotion

The season of Lent is to be experienced in its full 40 days, at home, school, work and at church. Each Sunday of Lent (beginning March 9) at the entrance to the Ministry Center you will find a table with take-home materials for a Lenten art practice creating an object to be added to the "Sacred Space" table centerpiece (created March 2, March 5, or at home). You'll also find a page with a Scripture reading and prompt for that week's devotion/discussion. Appropriate for singles, couples, families of all ages who are interested in the discipline of Lent!

Grief Class

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.

OFFICE CONTACT



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



210-688-3090



zion@zionsa.org



Website zionsa.org



Facebook zionsa



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9944 Leslie Road, 78254

SUBSCRIBE TO

- Weekly Z-Mail
- Prayer Chain

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

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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>

Submitting Announcements

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



Scan the QR code to learn more about WELCA and WELCA-WOZ current discussion topics and events, or send an e-mail to WOZ@zionsa.org.



WELCA-WOZ
info

WELCA 2025 Leadership Event

Saturday, April 5, 12-4pm on Zoom

Is your physical energy out of sync with your willingness to say, "Yes!" as a servant disciple and leader? Join us to explore what's next for us and how we accomplish what God is calling us to collectively and individually. Use the QR code above for more info.

WELCA-WOZ Bible Study

Second Tuesdays, Next one: April 8 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!

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: April 3

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.

Zion Zippers 50+ Fellowship

Monday, April 14 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!

Denice Hoggatt, a foster from the Guide Dogs of Texas, along with the Puppy Director of GDTX, Su Young Bae, will give a presentation about their mission. Volt, a 5-month-old puppy, will also be in attendance. Zion is privileged to host these speakers. It should prove to be a very informative and entertaining evening.

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

Dinner Out at Texas Star Inn

Thursday, April 3, 6:20pm

The Dinner Out group will get together at Texas Star Inn, 7621 Bandera Rd. Come early for socializing; dinner seating is at 6:30pm. RSVP by March 30 to Dave or Doris Newman. Call the church office if you need their contact information.

Game Group

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

Next one: April 7

Come for table games and daytime fellowship for all ages. Contact Shirley Homier-McBrayer through the church office if you have questions.

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.



LMM
LUTHERAN MEN IN MISSION AT
ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
San Antonio

Men's Fellowship Dinner

Third Monday, April 21 6:30pm

New Location—Texas Star Inn

All men are invited to meet at a new location—Texas Star Inn, 7621 Bandera Rd—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.



**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 for an application or check e-newsletters.



Camp Hope
Registration

**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 23, 2025
THIRD SUNDAY
IN LENT**



We are fed by God's love to bear good fruit.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 13:1-9	Parable of the fig tree
Monday	Isaiah 55:1-9	Abundant life
Tuesday	1 Corinthians 10:1-13	Warnings from Israel's history
Wednesday	John 15:1-11	Jesus the true vine
Thursday	Colossians 1:9-14	Paul thanks God for the Colossians
Friday	James 3:13-18	Two kinds of wisdom
Saturday	Psalms 63:1-8	Comfort in God's presence
Sunday	Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32	Parable of the forgiving father

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.

Psalm 63:3 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty God, feed us with your loving power so that our lives may reflect your love for others through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, for the food that feeds us, your love that strengthens us, and your call to love others that inspires us, we give you thanks in Jesus' name. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God surround you with love.



MARCH 23, 2025
HYMN OF THE WEEK
Beloved, God's Chosen



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 difference does it make if you practice something daily?
- What are some of your daily practices that strengthen your faith to live a life of loving service?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Luke 13:1-9.

We can be tempted to evaluate the successes or failures of others and sometimes speculate about their futures. In Luke 13, Jesus stops this speculation and turns our attention back to ourselves to look at our own lives. We are to live lives that reflect a God-centered life (repentance). Our lives are valued and are to bear the fruit of our loving God. In Jesus' parable of the fig tree, the unfruitful tree is not cut down immediately. For three years the tree is nurtured to bear fruit. A fourth year is even added to give it a chance to produce fruit. Our lives are to bear the fruit of God's love in Christ. We must be fed and cared for so that we may bear the fruit of a God-centered life. Our inspiration to be nurtured in faith is not the fear of being cut down but the love of God in Christ that feeds us and frees us to love God and our neighbor.

Discuss: What practices (like prayer, worship, reading Scripture, service, or other Christian traditions) help feed you so that you may bear the fruit of a God-centered life?

Pray: **Nurturing God, you feed us with the power of your love through Christ; help us that we may enjoy a life of repentance through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SERVICE



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you support and nurture the life of someone else?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Prayer is an important spiritual practice for Christians. During this Lenten season, take time to focus on the prayer Jesus taught us to pray, the Lord's Prayer (Luke 11:2-4). This third week in Lent we reflect on "Give us each day our daily bread" (v. 3). Add this verse to verses 2a and 2b from the first and second weeks in Lent by writing it around the outside of the cross drawn on the paper the first week. Take a moment to think or talk about what this verse means to you.

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

