May 25, 2025 • Season of Easter 9:00 and 11:30 am





WELCOME TO ZION

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

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

HOW WE WORSHIP

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

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

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

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

THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

"Christ died for our sins," 1st Corinthians reminds us. But the good news of God doesn't dwell in the tomb. The good news is that God's power was shown fully in raising Christ from the dead. The good news is that God's great love for us was also shown fully in raising Christ from the dead. Because Jesus lives, we also live.

We are now in the Season of Easter - a whole season in our church year is dedicated to remembering and celebrating the Resurrection of Our Lord. "Alleluia! Christ is Risen!" He is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

ON THE COVER

God's Hand and the Holy Spirit

From Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=56826. Original source: https://www.flickr.com/photos/bastacosi/1547659026/- Jean Bean.

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

Air on the G String by J. S. Bach, arranged by Holcombe

The Fiesta Flutes Robert Rubio, Director

WELCOME

Pastor Kathi Inglis Johnson

Please rise, as you are able, when directed.

INVOCATION

We worship today in the name of the Father, and of the ♥ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

OPENING DIALOGUE

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth praise God's name. The heavens proclaim God's righteousness; and all the peoples behold God's glory.

Rejoice in the LORD,

and give thanks to God's holy name! Alleluia!

Based on Psalm 67 and Psalm 97



Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt. Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional; arr. John Roberts, 1807–1876

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. Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, 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: Acts 16:9-15

Lydia

Spark Children's Bible Page 532

⁹During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." ¹⁰When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

¹¹We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹²and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. ¹³On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

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

PSALM 67

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



O God, be gracious and bless us and let your face shed its light upon us. So will your ways be known upon earth and all nations learn your saving help. R.

Let the nations be glad and exult for you rule the world with justice.

With fairness you rule the peoples, you guide the nations on earth. R.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. May God still give us blessing till the ends of the earth stand in awe. R.

Psalm Refrain © 1969, 1981, ICEL. All Rights Reserved
Psalm Verses © 1963, 1993, The Grail, GIA Publications, Inc., agent.
Music Copyright © 2001 by GIA Publications, Inc. All Rights Reserved

SECOND READING: Revelation 21:10, 22-2:5

¹⁰And in the spirit [one of the angels] carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

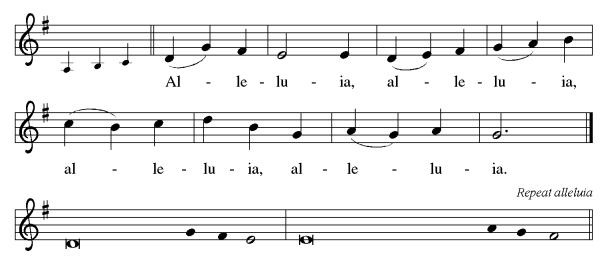
²²I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. ²⁶People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

^{22:1}Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ²through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; ⁴they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

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

Please rise, as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e-ter-nal life.

GOSPEL: John 14:23-29

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

²³Jesus answered [Judas (not Iscariot),] "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

²⁵"I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. ²⁸You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. ²⁹And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe."

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

Please be seated.

SERMON Pastor Dan Heim

HYMN OF THE DAY

Come Down, O Love Divine



Text: Bianco da Siena, d. 1434; tr. Richard F. Littledale, 1833–1890 Music: DOWN AMPNEY, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958 Outside USA: Music from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906.

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

On this day of resurrection joy, let us offer our prayers for ourselves, our neighbors, and our world.

Each petition ends: God of grace,

Response: Hear our prayer.

We offer to you these petitions and those we carry in our hearts, trusting in your abundant and ever-present mercy.

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

Let There Be Peace on Earth by Miller/Jackson, arranged by Rubio

The Fiesta Flutes Robert Rubio, Director

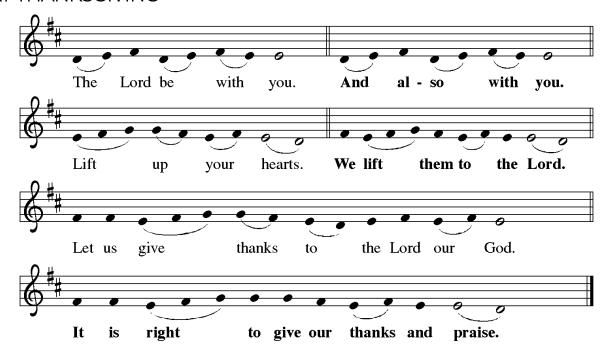
Please rise, as you are able. The ushers bring the offering forward for the Offering Prayer.

OFFERING PRAYER

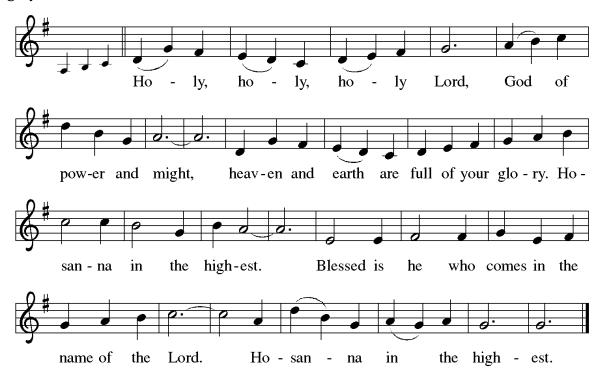
Let us pray. God of good gifts,

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



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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age: the promise to Israel, the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the words of the prophets; and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son, who proclaimed the good news in word and deed and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

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.

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray, ₱ your Holy Spirit, that we who share in Christ's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, 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

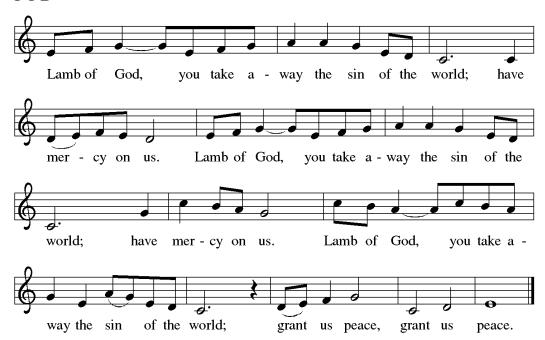
These are the gifts of God for you, the beloved people of God.

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



God.

Shall We Gather at the River COMMUNION HYMN gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have trod, Shall we On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver spray, ev - 'ry bur - den down; Ere we reach the shin-ing riv - er, we lay Soon we'll reach the shin-ing riv - er, soon our pil-grim-age will cease; with its crys-tal tide for-ev-er flow-ing by the throne of we will walk and wor-ship ev-er, all the hap-py gold-en grace our spir-its will de-liv-er, and pro-vide a robe and God? day. robe and crown. soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the mel - o - dy peace. Refrain Yes, we'll gath-er at the riv-er, the beau-ti-ful, the beau-ti-ful

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899 Music: HANSON PLACE, Robert Lowry

gath-er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne

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. Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us out in peace.

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ♣ give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN on next page

DISMISSAL

Go in peace and share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Morning Has Broken arranged by Rice/Young

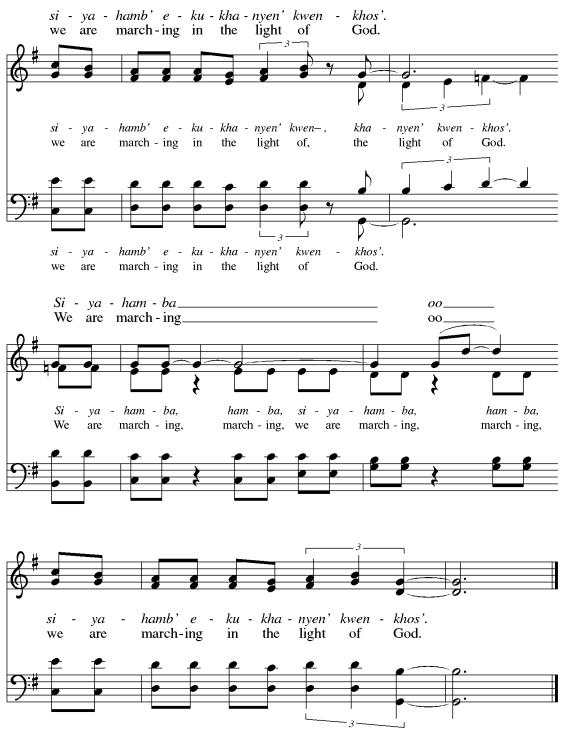
The Fiesta Flutes Robert Rubio, Director

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.

Verse 2 – We are PRAYING in the Light of God. Verse 3 – We are SINGING in the Light of God.





Text: South African traditional; tr. Freedom Is Coming, 1984 Music: SIYAHAMBA, South African traditional; arr. Freedom Is Coming Tr. and arr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

THIS WEEK AT ZION

Scan QR code for this month's calendar



Sunday, May 25

Habitat for Humanity Fundraiser 8:30 Gazebo
Worship in person 9am Sanctuary
Luke by the Chapters w/Pr. Al 10:15 Ministry Center 1

Worship in person and YouTube@ZionSanAntonio 11:30 Sanctuary & online

Monday, May 26—Memorial Day

Church Campus Closed for Memorial Day

Tuesday, May 27

Exercise Group 9am Church 2
Staff Meeting 11am Breakroom
Zion Bunco Group 1pm Fellowship Hall
Handbell Choir 6:30 Sanctuary
Warriors Anonymous 7pm Church 2

Wednesday, May 28

Crafty Bunch 9am 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, May 29

Quilting for Lutheran World Relief9:30Fellowship HallWeight Watchers9:30Church 2Fiesta Flutes Concert7:30Sanctuary

Saturday, May 31

Weight Watchers 8:30 Church 2

Sunday, June 1

Habitat for Humanity Fundraiser

Worship in person

Luke by the Chapters w/Pr. Al

Worship in person and
YouTube@ZionSanAntonio

8:30 Gazebo

9am Sanctuary

10:15 Ministry Center 1

Sanctuary & online

Worship Support

Altar Guild

Mary Jo Goldenbaum Chris & Don Jones Belynda McKenzie Susan & Joe Noonan, Kathy Null Linda & Roy Tschirhart

Lay Reader

9:00 Paul Goldenbaum

11:30 Jerry Nelson

Cantor

Celeste Mussey

Communion Servers

9:00 Bonnie & Brinkley Harrell

11:30 Rachel Cannady Matt Iwanicki

Livestream

David Umlang

Sound

Scott Van Doren

Ushers

9:00 Carmen Nickle
Jan & Bill Pinkerton
Karen Stoldt
Llynniece Swanston
Rachel Williams

11:30 LeShea Clabough Kevin McGee Paul Spehr Laura Walsh

Music Rehearsals

Handbells

Tuesday 6:30pm Sanctuary Balcony

Chancel (Adults)

Wednesday 7:15pm Sanctuary

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

Simple communion worship services in Zion's historic chapel.

Could you benefit from attending a Grief Class Series?

If you would like to know more about our next Grief Share series, please provide a note for Pastor Al using the Connection Card in the pew rack, or email Pastor Al at ajensen@zion.org.

Submitting Announcements

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

"The Gospel of Luke, by the Chapters" Bible Study Sundays, 10:15am Ministry Center 1



Join Pastor Al for Chapter 2 of Luke's Gospel. Some questions to explore: Was Jesus born in a cave? What exactly are "swaddling cloths?" How come newer versions of the Bible no longer read "there was no place in the inn?" What did Joseph and Mary offer as a sacrifice at the Temple when Jesus was presented? And why this sacrifice? Why should Simeon's prophecy about Jesus cause us to truly celebrate?



Blessed Change for Christian Assistance Ministries (CAM) in the Narthex

Zion is collecting your Blessed Change for Christian Assistance Ministries (CAM) as they prepare for increased needs for the summer months. Look for the water well in the narthex and drop in your loose change,

or use this QR code to get to Zion's donations web page.

Weekday Bible Study Series: Book of Acts Next One: May 22, 9:30am, Ministry Center 1

This summer series follows the work of the Holy Spirit as it transforms and empowers Jesus' disciples and followers in the creation of the early Christian church. The study is led by Pastor Eileen Spehr on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month. All are welcome, no matter your level of bible experience.

folding money and checks,



Scan the QR code to learn more about WELCA and WELCA-WOZ current discussion topics, blog posts and events, or email WOZ@ZionSA.org. Hope to see you at inperson events and check out WELCA online website https://www.womenoftheelca.org/.



WELCA-WOZ info

Joint WELCA-WOZ and LMM Monthly Meeting Monday, June 2, 6:30pm

in Fellowship Hall and Family Life Center 6:30 dinner and joint mtg in the Fellowship Hall and

separate discussions in the Fellowship Hall and Family Life Center 101. Bring your elementary age kids – we can accommodate them.

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: May 29

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.

STAFF CONTACT

Day Off

Monday

Pr. Kathi Inglis Johnson 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

Music Director

rmikulski@ZionSA.org

Sammy Mikulski

Monday

Theatre Director

theatre@ZionSA.org

2025 COUNCIL

Bud Halstead

President

Karen Umlang

Treasurer

Vice President

Chris Jones

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

OFFICE CONTACT



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



210-688-3090



zion@zionsa.org



Website zionsa.org



Facebook zionsa



Instagram @zionsatx



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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

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Social media vectors created by myriammira - freepik.com



Men's Fellowship Dinner—New Location! Third Monday, June 16, 6:30pm

All men are invited to meet at Twin Bros Burgers, 13247 Bandera Rd. Hot food, cold drinks, warm friends (new and otherwise), thoughtful study, upcoming events and whatever ideas for Men's Ministry you bring along!! Friends invited...bring some! Contact us at lmm@zionsa.org if you need more details.

LMM Habitat for Humanity Fundraiser

Join Lutheran Men in Mission in our quest to help fund and build homes for those in need by participating in our next Habitat for Humanity fundraiser!



We will be in the Gazebo May 25 and June 1 selling square footage of the

house we plan to help build in the fall! In addition, feel free to donate anytime to habitat; just by writing "habitat" on your giving envelope.

Men's Monthly Manna (MMM)

Next one: Saturday, June 14, 8am

Fellowship Hall

"Gilligan's Island and the Seven Deadly Sins" Bible



Study—in June, we'll look at The Skipper and the deadly sin he depicted (according to the show's creator, Sherwood Schwartz). Join Pastor Al as we will discuss the 'deadly sin' and the virtue we are to pursue instead.

Zion Bunco Group

4th Tuesday, May 27, 1:00pm, Fellowship Hall

Zion Bunco Group ordinarily meets on the fourth Monday of the month for a rousing game of Bunco and fellowship. (This month, they meet on May 27 because of Memorial Day.) For info contact Shirley Homeier-McBrayer through the church office.

Game Group

1st & 3rd Mondays, 12:30pm, Fellowship Hall Next one: June 2

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

Dinner Out at Julianna's Unique Dining (Road Trip!)

Thursday, June 5, 6:30pm

The Dinner Out group will get together at Julianna's Unique Dining, 1339 Country Road 4516 (within the Alsatian Golf Club), Castroville TX 78009. We would like to eat on their wonderful patio—please dress accordingly.

Come early for socializing; dinner seating is at 6:30pm. RSVP by June 1 to Dave or Doris Newman. Call the church office if you need their contact information.

Zion Zippers 50+ Fellowship Monday, June 9 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!

This month, Diane Stewart will lead us in a game, "The Secret's Out". Come join the fun! Contact Kathy Newman through the church office if you have a question or suggestion for a guest speaker or activity.

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

Zion is a Stephen Ministry Church!

If you - or someone you know - are going through a difficult time, contact any of our Stephen Leaders about Stephen Ministry. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to provide you with focused, confidential, one-to-one Christian care and to help you experience the healing power of Christ's love in your life.

To find out more about Stephen Ministry for you or someone you know, talk with one of our Stephen Ministry Leaders: 210-688-3090.



Junior Master Gardener Program

Beginning in August 2025, Zion Lutheran Church will offer a 10-month Junior Master Gardener (JMG) course for 10 youth who will be in grades 3-5 this coming school year. The JMG course is written and supported by TAMU at College Station and is used both nationally and internationally.

The teacher will be Bill Swantner. Bill Swantner is a member of Zion, a retired ELCA pastor, and an active TAMU AgriLife Extension certified Master Gardener since 2017. He has been Bexar County Master Gardener of the Year, recognized by the state as a Master Gardener of the Year, is certified in numerous areas of horticulture, and has given close to 200 presentations on various aspects of horticulture in the Bexar County area. He has also studied with the faculty and staff of TAMU, Cornell University and the New York Botanical Garden.

The purpose of the course is to give the youth the best horticulture education through presentations and in practice in Zion's Youth Demonstration garden. The youth will be exposed to everything gardening, from flowers to vegetables to trees- all on Zion's property.

There will be an informational meeting on June 8 at 10:15am in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited to see and hear about the upcoming JMG program at Zion.



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



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,



Camp Hope Registration

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!

MAY 25, 2025 SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



The Holy Spirit will teach Jesus' followers.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	John 14:23-29	The sending of the Counselor
Monday	Acts 16:9-15	Paul travels to Macedonia
Tuesday	Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5	River of life
Wednesday	Numbers 6:22-27	Blessing for the people
Thursday	Acts 1:1-11	Jesus is taken up to heaven
Friday	Hebrews 12:14-17	Life in peace
Saturday	Psalm 67	Tell the nations to praise God
Sunday	John 17:20-26	Jesus prays for his disciples

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"Jesus answered him, "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them." John 14:23 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Ever-present God, your love and peace never end; we thank you for your promise to be with us always, through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Come Holy Spirit, on us to rest, our table to grace, and our food to bless. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God's face shine upon you. (Psalm 67:1)



MAY 25, 2025 HYMN OF THE WEEK

l've Got Peace Like a River



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 is one of your favorite teachers?
- Jesus said the Holy Spirit would teach his followers. How do think that would happen?

DEVOTIONS



Read: John 14:23-29.

Jesus promises that he and his Heavenly Father will make a home with Jesus' disciples. That home is based on a love between Jesus, his Father, and the followers of Jesus. Disciples of Jesus do not simply receive a message from Jesus as though they are learning a lesson in school. Jesus' message teaches followers about a love relationship with Jesus that gives them the Heavenly Father and leads them into the world with peace and hope, not fear and anxiety. Jesus' disciples were understandably worried because they have just learned that Jesus is leaving them. Jesus' response to their fears and anxieties is that they will receive the Holy Spirit who will teach them all they need to know, everything that Jesus has taught them. It is a way to promise an ongoing relationship with Jesus. When we feel lost or alone, Jesus' words are a love letter that brings us comfort and confidence as his followers.

Discuss: How can Jesus comfort you and give you peace when you feel lost or alone? Pray: Gracious God, we thank you for your loving presence that promises us peace and confidence in place of our fears and anxieties through 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 help a person when they feel afraid or troubled?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Numbers 6:24-26 is a traditional benediction many recognize: "The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace." Psalm 67 is very similar. A Benediction is a prayer offering God's help and protection. Benediction means "good word" and is also called a blessing. This week practice a ritual blessing every night before closing your eyes.

Say: May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us. (Psalm 67:1)

