

Sunday Worship
January 26, 2025
THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY



“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me”

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
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WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP CELEBRATION!

Thanks for coming to be with us at Zion Lutheran Church. If you are visiting with us for the first time, will you please fill out a visitor card, available in the pew rack in front of you, and drop it in the offering plate. Whether this is your first visit or you worship here regularly, we are delighted that you chose to share with us. We worship together on Saturday at 5:00 p.m. and Sunday at 10:00 a.m. If you have a “prayer request” or a “praise report”, please let the pastor know. God bless you on your journey of faith.

INTRODUCTION

God's glory is revealed in the reading of scripture. People stand at attention. People weep. People prostrate themselves in prayer. The unity of the church is another reflection of God's glory. Most gloriously, the promises of God are fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ. Gather round. Listen up. Glimpse the glory of God.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

O God, O Lord of Heaven and Earth

Arr. Manz

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, **+** one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

C: **Amen.**

P: Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,,

C: **You speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.**

P: God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In + Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.

C: Amen.

HYMN Red hymnal #886

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

GREETING / PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The grace of Jesus Christ our Savior, the reconciling love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray . . .

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

HYMN OF PRAISE Red hymnal #99

Glo - ry to God in the high -
est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.
Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and
Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,

Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the
right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.
For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a -
lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,
Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of
God the Fa - ther. A - - men.
Glo - ry to God in the high -
est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

CHANCEL CHOIR Director Bill Jones *Jude Benediction*
Music Arranged by: David Cook, Mark Hayes

THE WORD

FIRST READING: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

R: ¹All the people [of Israel] gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. ²Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law

before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. ³He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. ⁵And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. ⁶Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. ⁸So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. ⁹And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. ¹⁰Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 19

R: ¹The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.

C: ²**One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts knowledge to another.**

R: ³Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard,

C: ⁴**their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world, where God has pitched a tent for the sun.**

R: ⁵It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

C: ⁶**It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.**

R: ⁷The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

C: ⁸**The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.**

R: ⁹The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever; the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

C: ¹⁰**More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**

R: ¹¹By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.

C: ¹²**Who can detect one's own offenses? Cleanse me from my secret faults.**

R: ¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

C: ¹⁴**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

R: ¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. ¹⁴Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many members, yet one body. ²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." ²²On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; ²⁴whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, ²⁵that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. ²⁷Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. ²⁹Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ^{31a}But strive for the greater gifts.

R: The Word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Repeat alleluia
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

HOLY GOSPEL

P: The Gospel according to **Luke 4:14-21**

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: ¹⁴Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. ¹⁶When He came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: ¹⁸"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, ¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." ²⁰And He rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹Then He began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON Pastor Rebecca Grate

HYMN Red Hymnal #715

Christ Be Our Light

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

APOSTLE'S CREED

P: Let us confess our faith.

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 again 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.

PRAYERS *(Response after each petition)*

P: Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer . . .

OFFERING—Invitation—God's Work Continues

OFFERTORY SONG #113

Now Lord



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the



sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions



and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.



Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

COMMUNION PREFACE #107 & 108

Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

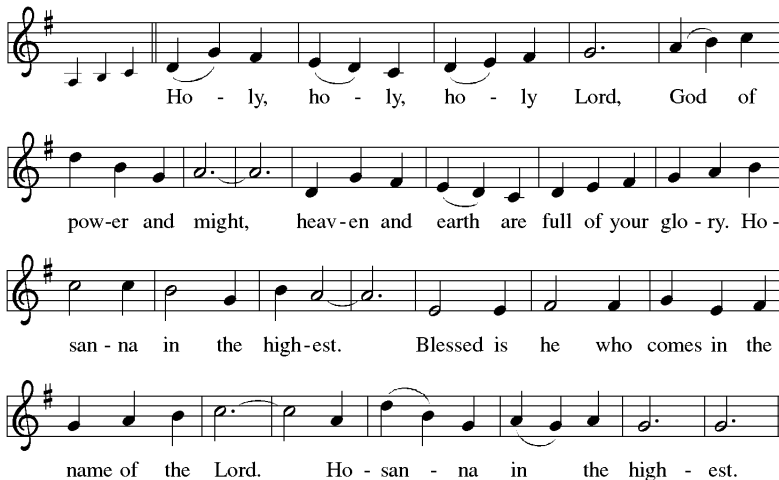
P: Lift up your hearts

C: **We lift them to the Lord**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise....we praise your name and join their unending hymn.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

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 TO COMMUNION *(All who confess Jesus as their Lord and Savior and believe in the real presence of Christ in the sacrament are invited to receive Holy Communion.)*

BLESSING

P: The Spirit of the triune God + bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

C: **Amen.**

HYMN Red hymnal #551

The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve

DISMISSAL

P: What is the mission of Zion Lutheran Church?

C: **The mission of Zion Lutheran Church is:
"Serving Christ through serving others."**

P: Go in peace. Live in hope.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Let Streams of Living Justice

Arr. Portman

*The altar flowers are given to the honor and glory of God
by Matt and Pam Sauls in memory of their parents.*

*Prayer concerns for Zion's prayer chain may be submitted
using a 'Prayer Request' card from the pew rack.*

In Helpful Service

Pastor	Rebecca Grate
Reader	Debbie Weprin
Communion Assist	Susie Gray
Ushers	Jeff & Jaque Mitchell
Greeter	Co Holley
Bell Ringer	Jessica Dorn

ATTENDANCE 1/18 & 19: 118

Sunday School: Adults 12, Kids 1

Unified Giving 1/18 & 19: \$12,307.00 (Includes a yearly giving lump sum)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRST COMMUNION CLASS is next Sunday, **February 2nd** during Sunday School. If your child wants to take their first communion, contact Jessica Dorn or Pastor Summers. Parents need to be present when their child takes first communion.

SUPER BOWL WATCH PARTY February 9th at 5:00 in the Fellowship Hall. We need 6 people to bring in soup to share. Hot dogs will also be served. Bring an appetizer or dessert to share. BYO table service and beverages. Ice & water will be available. The game will be on the big screen at 6:30. There is a sign up sheet in the fellowship hallway.

VIDEO VALENTINE NIGHT Sunday, February 16th, 5:00 pm. A fun fellowship evening for Women of Zion. Bring a snack to share and a valentine for a fabulous woman of Zion.

BIBLE & BREWS Beginning **February 18th** and continuing **every third Tuesday of the month**, Bible & Brews will meet at Chaffee's Brewhouse for diverse conversations and theological discussions in a relaxed setting. These gatherings are **open to everyone!** Chaffee's offers a selection of crafts beers, coffees, a variety of other alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, and they are now serving food.

MISSION OF THE MONTH: *BLESSING BAGS*

This month you are given the opportunity to make a blessing bag. This bag will include items that a homeless or person down on their luck could use.

Items included could be:

Scarf, hat, mittens, socks	Bottle of water
Travel sized lotion	Chapstick
Travel sized toothbrush/toothpaste	Comb/brush
For women – personal hygiene products	Hand sanitizer/hand wipes
Anything else you see fit	A card or note telling of Jesus' love
Small wrapped snacks (peanut butter or cheese crackers, protein bars, beef jerky)	

On the table in the narthex there is a box of gallon bags and samples of items you could include. Take a bag, fill it, and keep it in your car to hand out when you see someone in need. Or you could fill a bag and return it to the table for someone else to take. If you have any questions, see Linda Holt.

CLOTHESLINE MEETING February 4 at 10:30 at Zion for all clothesline workers. We are hosting the party in July and need to plan. If you are unable to attend, please call Sharon Byrd at 937-667-1003 and leave your name and phone number.

Staff

Jaren Summers, *Pastor*; Bill Jones & Susie Gray, *Choir Directors*;
Lori Sebastian, *Organist*; Jessica Dorn, *Christian Education Director*;
Annette Calicoat, *Office Admin*; Sue Rambeau, *Treasurer*;
Tina Putnam, *Custodian*

THIS WEEK AT ZION

Sunday, January 26	Randall Residence Outreach	
Monday, January 27	10:30 am	Mission Quilts
	3:30 pm	TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)
	6:30 pm	Scouts
Tuesday, January 28	10:00 am	Mission Quilts
	8:00 pm	AA Meeting
Wednesday, January 29	7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, February 2	9:00 am	First Communion Class