

**January 28, 2024 - Fourth Sunday After Epiphany
Traditional Worship Service**



Zion
Evangelical
Lutheran
Church

*Zion matters to the
community by
showing the love of
Jesus Christ.*

**STAFFED CHILD
CARE**
Available during
worship service.
Infant thru
Kindergarten.

WIFI = Zion Guest
No password required

www.zion-nc.com

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Welcome from Presiding Minister (PM)

*Please stand as you are able
Turn to follow the cross as it processes through the worship space
Welcome Jesus into our presence*

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

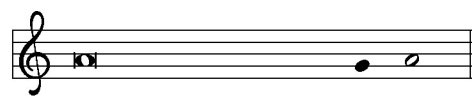
1 Oh, for a thou - sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem - er's praise,
2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim,
3 The name of Je - sus charms our fears and bids our sor - rows cease,
4 He speaks, and lis - t'ning to his voice, new life the dead re - ceive;

the glo - ries of my God and king, the tri - umphs of his grace!
to spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of your name.
sings mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.
the mourn - ful, bro - ken hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.

Congregation responses are in bold print

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.



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



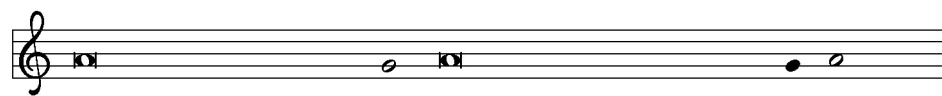
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



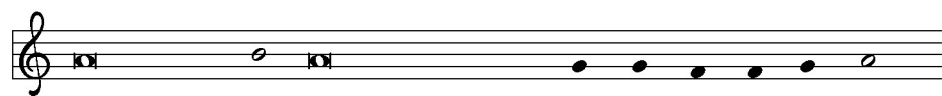
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. **A - men.**

Assisting minister

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

All

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.

PM: Let us pray.

Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated

A reading from Deuteronomy:

(Deuteronomy 18:15-20, Pew Bible,
Old Testament, page 136)

The reading concludes with:
Word of God, Word of Life
Thanks be to God

Psalm Paraphrase
(Read responsively
the indented lines)

Psalm 111
Paraphrased by Pastor William

Photo by dimitrisvetsikas1969 at Pixabay.com


God is the greatest!
My whole heart sings with joy,
sings with everyone who knows God.
God does wonderful deeds,
those with open eyes are amazed.
Honorable and mighty are God's actions,
mercy and grace abound for all.
God's power is revealed to God's people,
with God, promises are kept.
God's acts are merciful and truthful,
you can trust God's guarantees.
All that God creates is wonderful,
made to last forever.
God's people are freed from guilt,
freed to serve others.
Want to be wise? Know God.
Want to have peace? Trust God.
Rejoice in knowing God.

A reading from 1 Corinthians:


(1 Corinthians 8:1-13 Pew Bible, New Testament,
page 131)

The reading concludes with:
Word of God, Word of Life
Thanks be to God

Please stand as you are able



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

The holy gospel according to St. Mark
Glory to you, O Lord

(Mark 1:21-28, Pew Bible,
New Testament, page 27)

The reading concludes with:
The gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

Please be seated

Children’s Time with Pastor

Sermon

Please stand as you are able
There Is a Balm in Gilead

Refrain

There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed whole;

there is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul.

1 Some - times I feel dis - cour - aged and think my work's in vain,
2 If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, if you can - not pray like Paul,
3 Don't ev - er be dis - cour - aged, for Je - sus is your friend;

but then the Ho - ly Spir - it re - vives my soul a - gain.
you can tell the love of Je - sus and say, "He died for all."
and if you lack for knowl-edge, he'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

Refrain

Text: African American spiritual
Music: BALM IN GILEAD, African American spiritual

AM: As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence for personal prayer

Loving God, we pray that your example of teaching with confidence and authority builds up your church in love. May all church leaders and teachers honor your instruction and model your inclusive ways. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Renewing God, we pray for all of creation, that waterways flow clean and clear, natural spaces are protected, and our planet is healed. Let us commit to thoughtful care of the earth. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Justice-seeking God, we pray for those in government and community leadership, that they lead with honor and mindfulness. May they remember their covenants and be upright in their ways. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Compassionate God, we pray for all in need, especially those who have known rejection, any who struggle with long-term illness or chronic pain, those without access to safe housing or health care, and any who suffer. God of grace,
receive our prayer.


Still-speaking God, we pray for this and all congregations, for their artists and musicians, for their educators and caregivers, that all gifts are used to care for those in need and to live out your example of accompaniment, gospel witness, and love. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Thank you for the life of our birthday siblings,
Drew Keith and Ray LePelley

Eternal God, we remember all who have been teachers, mentors, and companions in the church and in our lives. We trust that all who have died rest in your loving care. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.
Amen.

The Offering of our tithes, gifts and sacrifices is gathered for the mission of Christ's church, including the care of those in need.

ELECTRONIC GIVING	
Scan QR code for mobile giving	
PC = https://onrealm.org/ZionLutheranChurchNC/give/now	
Smartphone = https://abundant.com/ZionLutheranChurch/MobileGiving	

AM: Let us enthusiastically pray our prayer of stewardship, Holy Lord,
I gladly return, for your work, a portion of your abundant provision to me. All that I have is yours alone, entrusted Lord, to my care. Amen.

PM: The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.
We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.
We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.
We thank you, O God.

Words of Institution - Please look up, Pastor will be speaking these words

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

We pray for the gift of your Spirit:

**in our gathering;
within this meal;
among your people;
throughout the world.**

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

Amen.

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.

At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Please be seated

The Lord's Supper (Communion) at this congregation is practiced as an open table – all are welcome.
Jesus said this is his body and blood given and shed for you;
come receive the loving grace God provides for you.

Those who do not commune may come forward for a blessing, for all are loved by God.

Children who commune at their home congregation are encouraged to commune here today too.

Gluten free wafers available. Request at time of receiving communion.

Communion Music: *Pastoral Scene*

By: W.A. Mozart and George Blake

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

AM: Let us pray,

Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever. Amen.

Please stand as you are able

PM: Let us enthusiastically commit to our mission as we pray,
Lord, my hope and strength comes from you. Open my eyes and heart to become the person you want me to be; a person who cares for the widows and orphans, feeds the hungry, clothes the naked, frees the oppressed, and visits the sick and imprisoned. Give me and this congregation a vision to make a difference in our community. Enliven me to spread the good news of your Son. I pray this all for Jesus’s sake. Amen.

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
Amen

*Turn to follow the cross as it processes through the Worship Space.
Then follow it out to join in God’s work.*

Jesus Shall Reign



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -
2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es
3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue dwell on his
4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - 'ners
5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar

ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from
throng to crown his head; his name like sweet per -
love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es
leap to lose their chains, the wea - ry find e -
hon - ors to our king; an - gels de - scend with

Continued on next page



shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
fume shall rise with ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.
ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.
songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

AM: Go in peace. You are God’s beloved.
Thanks be to God.

Please join in fellowship with a Coffee & Donut Social immediately following!

Postlude: *O For a Thousand Tongues* By: Carl G. Glazer and Marilyn Arison

Weekly News of Zion Lutheran Church




TAKE A CHANCE ON LOVE!
Equal Exchange Valentine’s Specials
Choose a \$5, \$10, or \$15 heart to reveal
what Equal Exchange purchase is inside.
Contact Cindy Bagocius for details!



1st & 3rd Tuesdays
12:00-2:00pm
Feb. 19– 5-7pm

SHARED
GOODS
PLACE
330.499.3909

Mark 1:21-28
Stewardship Moment from Pastor William



*Dwelling in a world
created with love and
entrusted to our care*

Stewardship in the Gospel
Jesus goes to church and encounters the evil spirit who is trying to keep Jesus out of the life of those seeking him. But Jesus stands up to the devil and casts him out, freeing the man for life; life with God, life of peace in times of trouble, and life lead to benefit others.

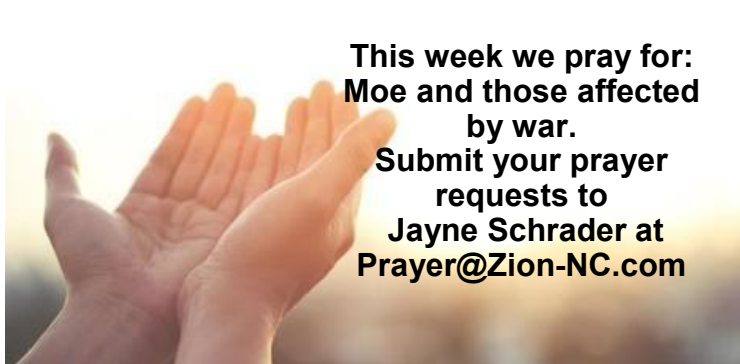
Stewardship in our Community
There are many in our community who need the kind of life Jesus came to provide. Too many long for meaning and purpose. Too many despair and worry. Too many are overcome by the challenges of life. Too many suffer loneliness and mourn the loss of loved ones. Jesus is counting on us to make a difference to those people.

Stewardship in practice
Followers of Jesus encounter all the same problems as the rest of the community, but followers know the comfort and peace of God with them. Let us lift up the downtrodden. Let us share the love of God with them. This week, use words of love, peace and kindness when speaking with and about others. Be the love of Christ in the world.



2023 Tax
Statements
are now
available on
request.
Stop in or call
the office if you
wish to receive a
statement.

Weekly News of Zion Lutheran Church Continued



This week we pray for:
Moe and those affected
by war.
Submit your prayer
requests to
Jayne Schrader at
Prayer@Zion-NC.com



The Diakonia Program

Courses for **lay people** who want
to be more
deeply rooted and
grounded in love.

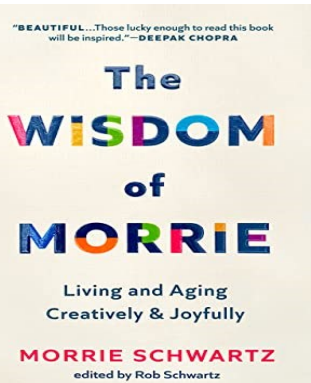
- ~ Intro to the New Testament
- ~ Living as a Christian in the World
- ~ Lutheran Creeds and Confessions

The courses run for 5 weeks. For more information visit:
<https://www.neos-elca.org/growing-in-faith.html>

Book Discussion

February 2 - 10am

Contact Linda
Weidenbach
for details



Mark 1:21-28
Gospel Message from Pr. William

Castle Church, Wittenberg Germany

Jesus goes to church on the Sabbath. But someone else is there too; the evil spirit. Wow, the Devil goes to church? Of course, where else can he spin his evil on a Sunday morning and have the most impact. Distracted at church? Upset about the music? Disgusted at the way some people dress? Frustrated that people act differently than you want? Dissatisfied with the sermon? Yup, say hello to the Devil. Oh, and you people that don't come to church because you have no use for God, the Devil is working on you too – we're in the same boat.

**NEW BIBLE STUDY
OPTIONS**

THURSDAY'S BEGINNING FEBRUARY 1

7-8 AM - SAMANTHA'S 6326 MARKET
9-10AM - ZOOM BIBLE DISCUSSION
12-1PM - ZION CHURCH LIBRARY
5:30-6:30PM - ZION CHURCH LIBRARY

**COME AND JOIN IN ONE OR ALL OF THE
CHOICES. SHARE INFO WITH YOUR
FRIENDS AND FAMILY**

Today's Worship Leaders

Assisting Minister: Linda Weidenbach
Acolyte: Ben Keith
Accompanist: Steve Moore
Audio/Visual Technicians: John Rhodes &
Chris Thompson
Chancel Guild: Connie Riffle and Harriett Bowers
Child Care Attendant: Amelia Milek
Presiding Minister: Rev. William C Weidenbach Jr.
Reader: Renee Keith
Trustees: Randy Elsass and Brian Milek
Flowers by: In glory of our Lord, and in honor of
our neighbors In glory of our Lord,

February 4, 2024 Worship Leaders

Assisting Minister: Cindy Bagocius
Acolyte: Scouts
Accompanist: Carol McKimm
Audio/Visual Technicians:
Chancel Guild: Corlene Coulter and Linda Smith
Child Care Attendant: Amelia Milek
Presiding Minister: Rev. William C.
Weidenbach Jr.
Reader: Scouts
Trustees: Rob Frock and Brian Milek
Flowers by: In Loving memory of Elaine M.
Fidler and Frances Mejstrik