

Historic Zion Lutheran Church

DIVINE SERVICE FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

9:00 am Sunday, January 11, 2026

RECEIVING OF THE LORD'S SUPPER AT ZION

As intended by Christ and as practiced by the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church throughout her history, "Closed Communion" is observed in this congregation, in which the Lord's Supper is distributed only to those:

- (a) who have been **baptized** in the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit;
- (b) who have been **instructed** in the truth of Holy Scripture as taught in the Lutheran Confessions, who have been **confirmed** in this Lutheran faith, and who now confess the same doctrines that are taught in this congregation, holding membership in a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod;
- (c) who **believe that in this sacrament the real body and blood of Christ are truly distributed to them and orally received by them**, bestowing on them the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation;
- (d) who **sincerely repent** of all their sins, and desire to receive God's forgiveness in this holy meal.

Guests at our services, before receiving the sacrament, are requested to affirm these facts with one of our pastors. Thank you for honoring our practice. If you are looking for a church home, would like to be a member of Zion, or would like to learn more about the Christian Faith, please speak to one of our pastors about our membership classes.

✠ = *appropriate to make the baptismal sign of the cross*
When "rise" or "kneel" is indicated, it is appropriate to sit if needed

Greeting And Announcements: *The Lord be with you!* **And also with you!**

[Rise] **Invocation**

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen!

The Office of Confession of Sins and Absolution

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father; beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

[Kneel]

Our help is in the name of the Lord Who made heaven and earth.
I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord. And You forgave the
iniquity of my sin.

O almighty God, merciful Father; I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen!

The Congregation rises, turns towards the entrance of the nave, and faces the Cross of Christ, the reminder of Christ's promise to come and dwell among His people as they are gathered in His name.

Entrance Hymn All Who Believe Burgundy Hymn 601

Kyrie



Chri - ste — e - lei - son. Christ have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e — e - lei - son. Lord, — have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis

Glo - ry to God in the high - est. And on earth peace,

a - mong men with whom He is pleased. We praise Thee, we bless Thee,

we wor-ship Thee, we glo - ri - fy Thee, we give thanks to Thee for

Thy great glo - ry. O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God, the Fa - ther Al -

migh - ty. O Lord, the on - ly be - got - ten Son, Je - sus Christ,

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther, who ta - kest a - way the

sin of the world, have mer - cy on us. Thou who ta - kest a - way the sin of the world,

re - ceive our prayer. Thou who sit - test at the right hand of God

the Father, have mer - cy on us. For Thou on - ly art ho - ly. Thou on - ly

art the Lord, Thou on - ly O Christ with the Ho - ly Spi - rit,

art most high in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.

A - - - - men.

The Lord be with you.



Collect for the First Sunday after Epiphany: *Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized in His name faithful in their calling as Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*



+ The Office of the Word of God +

[After the reading] *This is the word of the Lord.* **Thanks be to God.**

[After the reading] *This is the word of the Lord.* **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia Sequence We Know That Christ Is Raised ... Burgundy Hymn 603

[The Gospel is announced.]



Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord!

[*The Gospel is proclaimed.*]



Praise be to Thee, O Christ!

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven

[Bow] **And was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, And was made man;**

And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven, And sits at the right hand of the Father; And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; Whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe in one Holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, And I look for the resurrection of the dead, And the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen!

Hymn of the Day To Jordan Came Burgundy Hymn 406

[All sing stanzas 1 & 2; Men alone sing stanza 3; Women alone sing stanza 4; All sing stanzas 5, 6, & 7.]

+ Page 3 +

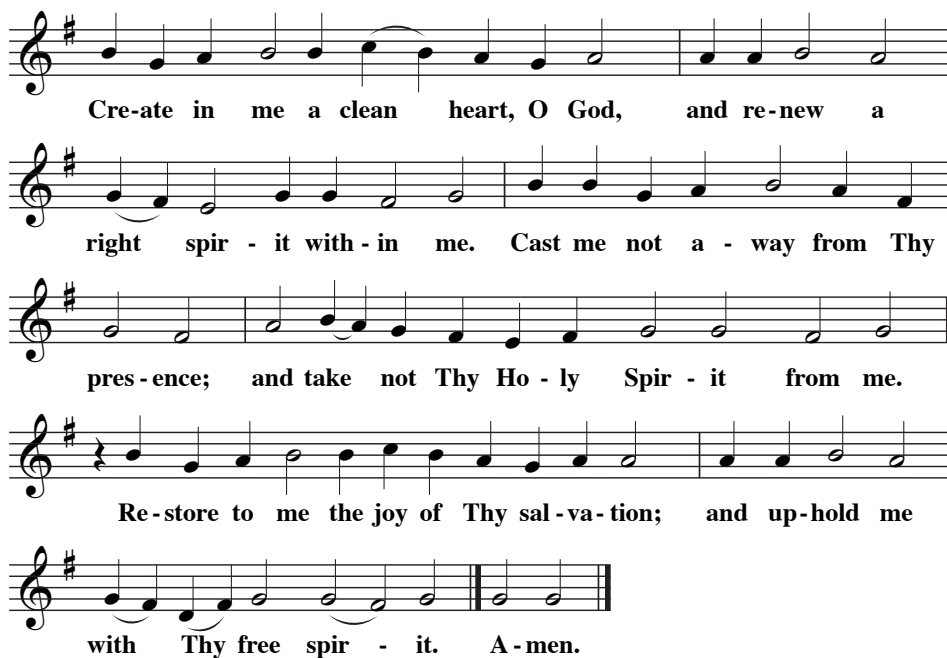
[Rise] **Prayer of the Church**

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs: [After each petition]:..., Lord, in Your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

[After the final prayer]:..., one God, now and forever **Amen.**

[Be Seated] **Offerings, Voluntary**

[Rise] **Offertory Hymn Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God**



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a
right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from Thy
pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it from me.
Re-store to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion; and up - hold me
with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

+ **The Office of the Sacrament of the Altar** +

Preface

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.



And with thy spir - it. We lift them up un-to the Lord.

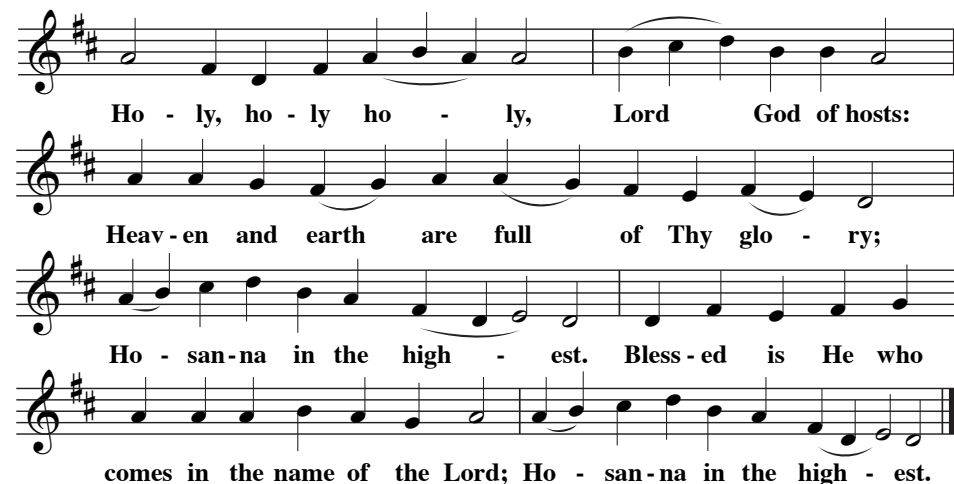
Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.



It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface for the Baptism of our Lord, Sanctus

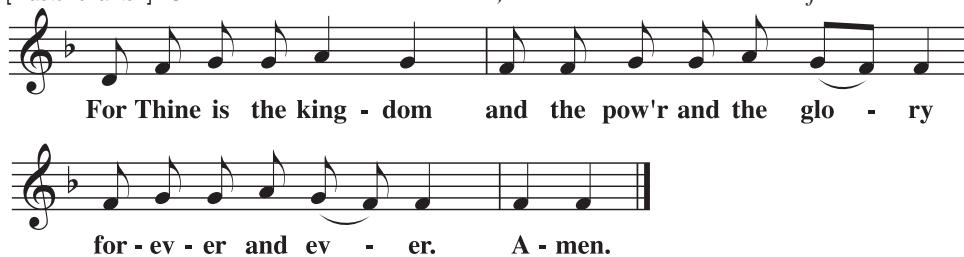
It is truly meet, right and salutary ever more praising You and saying:



Ho - ly, ho - ly ho - ly, Lord God of hosts:
Heav - en and earth are full of Thy 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.

[Kneel] **Lord's Prayer**

[Pastor chants:] *Our Father who art in heaven; but deliver us from evil.*

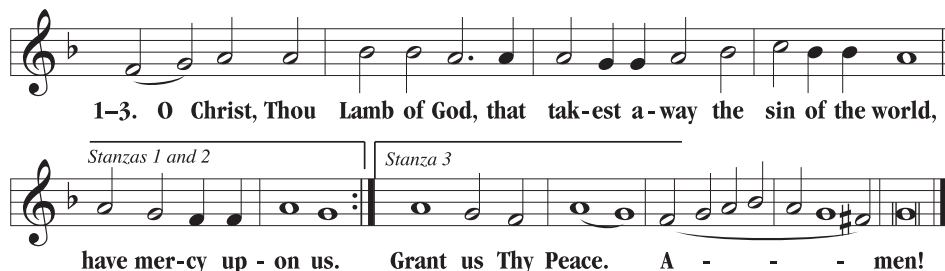


Words of Institution, Pax Domini

The peace of the Lord be with you always!



Agnus Dei



[Be Seated]

Distribution Hymns **God's Own Child** **Burgundy Hymn 594**

Jesus, Once with Sinners Burgundy Hymn 404

[Rise] **Eucharistic Benediction**

The Body and Blood of your Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting! ✠ Depart in Peace! Amen!

Post-Communion Canticle **The Nunc Dimittis**



2. For mine__ eyes have seen
Thy Salvation,
which Thou hast pre— pared__ be— fore the face of all__ people.



Post Communion Rite

Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.

Musical notation for the Post Communion Rite. The melody is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of a half note G, followed by a quarter note A, a quarter note B, and a half note G. The lyrics "And His mercy endureth for – ev — er." are written below the notes, with a long dash under "ev" and a long dash under "er".

Prayer of Thanksgiving ... now and forever.

Musical notation for the Prayer of Thanksgiving. The melody is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of a half note G, followed by a quarter note A, a quarter note B, and a half note G. The lyrics "A — men." are written below the notes, with a long dash under "A".

The Lord be with you.

Musical notation for the Lord be with you. The melody is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of a half note G, followed by a quarter note A, a quarter note B, and a half note G. The lyrics "And with thy spir — rit." are written below the notes, with a long dash under "spir" and a long dash under "rit".

Bless we the Lord.

Musical notation for Bless we the Lord. The melody is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of a half note G, followed by a quarter note A, a quarter note B, and a half note G. The lyrics "Thanks be to God." are written below the notes.

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

Musical notation for the Benediction. The melody is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of a half note G, followed by a quarter note A, a quarter note B, and a half note G. The lyrics "A - men, A - men, A - men." are written below the notes.

During the Recessional, the Congregation turns and faces the Processional Cross, the symbol of Christ's promise to remain with and lead His people as they now go and live in the world in His name.

Recessional Hymn All Christians Who Burgundy Hymn 596

Postlude

Liturgical texts and musical settings: from Lutheran Service Book, copyright © 2006 by Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission. License #000012381. Liturgical Setting: Matthäus Greitter, 1525; adapted by Wilhelm Loehe in 1844 for Congregations of the Lutheran Confession.

Readings for the First Sunday after the Epiphany

The Baptism of our Lord

The Old Testament Reading is Isaiah 42:1-9

Behold my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my Spirit upon him;
 he will bring forth justice to the nations.
He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice,
 or make it heard in the street;
a bruised reed he will not break,
 and a faintly burning wick he will not quench;
 he will faithfully bring forth justice.
He will not grow faint or be discouraged
 till he has established justice in the earth;
 and the coastlands wait for his law.

Thus says God, the LORD,
 who created the heavens and stretched them out,
 who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people on it
 and spirit to those who walk in it:
“I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness;
 I will take you by the hand and keep you;
I will give you as a covenant for the people,
 a light for the nations,
 to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
 from the prison those who sit in darkness.
I am the LORD; that is my name;
 my glory I give to no other,
 nor my praise to carved idols.
Behold, the former things have come to pass,
 and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth
 I tell you of them.”

The Epistle is Romans 6:1-11

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? Do

you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. For one who has died has been set free from sin. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

The Gospel is St. Matthew 3:13-17

Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; and behold, a voice from heaven said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”

Hymns for the First Sunday after the Epiphany

The Baptism of our Lord

LSB601 All Who Believe and Are Baptized

Thomas Hansen Kingo

1. All who believe and are baptized Shall see the Lord's salvation;
Baptized into the death of Christ, They are a new creation.
Through Christ's redemption they shall stand
Among the glorious, heav'nly band Of ev'ry tribe and nation.
2. With one accord, O God, we pray: Grant us Your Holy Spirit.
Help us in our infirmity Through Jesus' blood and merit.
Grant us to grow in grace each day
That by this sacrament we may Eternal life inherit.

LSB603 We Know That Christ Is Raised

John B. Geyer

Text: © John B. Geyer; Used by permission. LSBHymnLicense.net #100012381.

1. We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
Embraced by death, He broke its fearful hold;
And our despair He turned to blazing joy. Alleluia!
2. We share by water in His saving death.
Reborn, we share with Him an Easter life
As living members of a living Christ. Alleluia!
3. The Father's splendor clothes the Son with life.
The Spirit's power shakes the Church of God.
Baptized, we live with God the Three in One. Alleluia!

LSB406 To Jordan Came the Christ, our Lord

Martin Luther

Text: © 1976 Elizabeth Quitmeyer; Used by permission. LSBHymnLicense.net #100012381.

1. To Jordan came the Christ, Our Lord, To do His Father's pleasure;
Baptized by John, the Father's Word Was given us to treasure.
This heav'nly washing now shall be A cleansing from transgression
And by His blood and agony Release from death's oppression.
A new life now awaits us.
2. O hear and mark the message well, For God Himself has spoken.
Let faith, not doubt, among us dwell And so receive this token.
Our Lord here with His Word endows Pure water, freely flowing.
God's Holy Spirit here avows Our kinship while bestowing
The Baptism of His blessing.

- M 3. These truths on Jordan's banks were shown By mighty word and wonder.
The Father's voice from heaven came down, Which we do well to ponder:
"This man is My beloved Son, In whom My heart has pleasure.
Him you must hear and Him alone, And trust in fullest measure
The word that He has spoken."
- W 4. There stood the Son of God in love, His grace to us extending;
The Holy Spirit like a dove Upon the scene descending;
The triune God assuring us, With promises compelling,
That in our Baptism He will thus Among us find a dwelling
To comfort and sustain us.
5. To His disciples spoke the Lord, "Go out to ev'ry nation,
And bring to them the living Word And this My invitation:
Let ev'ryone abandon sin And come in true contrition
To be baptized and thereby win Full pardon and remission
And heav'nly bliss inherit."
6. But woe to those who cast aside This grace so freely given;
They shall in sin and shame abide And to despair be driven.
For born in sin, their works must fail, Their striving saves them never;
Their pious acts do not avail, And they are lost forever.
Eternal death their portion.
7. All that the mortal eye beholds Is water as we pour it.
Before the eye of faith unfolds The pow'r of Jesus' merit.
For here it sees the crimson flood To all our ills bring healing.
The wonders of His precious blood The love of God revealing,
Assuring His own pardon.

LSB594 God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It

Erdmann Neumeister

Text: © 1991 Robert E. Voelker; Used by permission. LSBHymnLicense.net #100012381.

1. God's own child, I gladly say it: I am baptized into Christ!
He, because I could not pay it, gave my full redemption price.
Do I need earth's treasures many? I have one worth more than any
That brought me salvation free, Lasting to eternity!
2. Sin, disturb my soul no longer: I am baptized into Christ!
I have comfort even stronger: Jesus' cleansing sacrifice.
Should a guilty conscience seize me, since my baptism did release me
In a dear forgiving flood, sprinkling me with Jesus' blood?
3. Satan, hear this proclamation: I am baptized into Christ!
Drop your ugly accusation; I am not so soon enticed.

Now that to the font I've traveled, all your might has come unraveled,
And, against your tyranny, God, my Lord, unites with me!

4. Death, you cannot end my gladness: I am baptized into Christ!
When I die, I leave all sadness to inherit paradise!
Though I lie in dust and ashes faith's assurance brightly flashes:
Baptism has the strength divine to make life immortal mine.
5. There is nothing worth comparing to this lifelong comfort sure!
Open-eyed my grave is staring: Even there I'll sleep secure.
Though my flesh awaits its raising, still my soul continues praising:
I am baptized into Christ; I'm a child of paradise!

LSB404 Jesus, Once with Sinners Numbered

Stephen P. Starke

Text: © 1999 Stephen P. Starke; admin. Concordia Publishing House; Used by permission.
LSBHymnLicense.net #100012381.

1. Jesus, once with sinners numbered, Had no blemish of His own;
In the waters of the Jordan His true worth and work were shown:
Heaven opened and the Spirit There descended like a dove,
As the Father's voice resounded, "Hear My Son, the One I love."
2. John confessed Him as the Savior—"Look, the sinless Lamb of God!"
Yet he dared not loose the sandals Of the One God's love had shod.
Oh, how fair the feet of Jesus, Bringing news of peace to us,
Christ, the herald of salvation, Preaching mercy from the cross:
3. This the baptism that our Savior Greatly longed to undergo;
This the crimson cleansing needed So the world God's love might know;
This the mission of Messiah As He stepped from Jordan's stream,
He, the chosen and anointed Son of God, sent to redeem.
4. Jesus, once with sinners numbered, Full obedience was Your path;
You, by death, have consecrated Water in this saving bath:
Dying to the sin of Adam, Rising to a life of grace;
We are counted with the righteous, Over us the cross You trace.

LSB596 All Christians Who Have Been Baptized

Paul Gerhardt

Text: © 2004 Concordia Publishing House; Used by permission. LSBHymnLicense.net #100012381.

1. All Christians who have been baptized, Who know the God of heaven,
And in whose daily life is prized The name of Christ once given:
Consider now what God has done, The gifts He gives to ev'ryone
Baptized into Christ Jesus!

2. You were before your day of birth, Indeed, from your conception,
Condemned and lost with all the earth, None good, without exception.
For like your parents' flesh and blood, Turned inward from the highest good,
You constantly denied Him.
3. But all of that was washed away—Immersed and drowned forever.
The water of your Baptism day Restored again whatever
Old Adam and his sin destroyed And all our sinful selves employed
According to our nature.
4. In Baptism we now put on Christ— Our shame is fully covered
With all that He once sacrificed And freely for us suffered.
For here the flood of His own blood Now makes us holy, right, and good
Before our heav'nly Father.
5. O Christian, firmly hold this gift And give God thanks forever!
It gives the power to uplift In all that you endeavor.
When nothing else revives your soul, Your Baptism stands and makes you whole
And then in death completes you.
6. So use it well! You are made new—In Christ a new creation!
As faithful Christians, live and do Within your own vocation,
Until that day when you possess His glorious robe of righteousness
Bestowed on you forever!

The 1st Sunday after the Epiphany



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

2313 Hanna Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46803 | 260-744-1389
pastor@zionfw.org, church@zionfw.org | website: www.zionfw.org

Zion Lutheran Church is the body of Christ at Hanna and Creighton in Fort Wayne, Indiana that:

- Receives Christ's gifts in Word and Sacraments; and
- Responds to God's love in Christ by
 - Reaching out to those who do not know His love; and
 - Revealing His love in acts of kindness and mercy.

The Pastoral Ministry at Zion

Senior Pastor:

Rev. Douglas D. Punke, MDiv (341-5397)

Field Workers:

Nathaniel Demlow, Joshua Fuchs

The Teaching Staff at Lutheran South Unity

Principal:

Amber Bahr (744-0459; www.lsusfw.org)

Teachers:

Yvonne Schwantz (8th, MS ELA), Michael Cullen (7th, MS Science),
Chase Mertz (6th, MS Social Studies), Danielle Ramsey (5th), Abbey Kohler (4th),
Rachel Wiegman (3rd), John Fink (2nd), Hannah Fink (1st), Michelle Madden (K),
Natalie Reynolds (Art), Elisa Sawall (Music), Lee Buxton (PE), Cathie Wakeland (Literacy Coach),
Arianna Blake (LSEM), Melissa White (FWCS) & Sarah Wheaton (EACS) (Title I Tutors)

The Support Staff

Organist and Director of Parish Music:

Michael Hollman, MM

Church Office Manager:

Melvia Culpher

PRAYERS FOR TODAY

- + For the church, especially those bearing the cross of persecution, including Bishop Juhana Pohjola and Dr. Päivi Räsänen (case being decided by the Finnish Supreme Court)
- + For those who serve our Lord at home and abroad, especially our teachers as they start of another academic year, our fieldworkers Nate Demlow and Josh Fuchs
- + For our nation; for our leaders; for our military, including James Hall & Thaddeus Cody
- + For our schools, especially Lutheran South Unity School, Concordia Lutheran High School, and Concordia Theological Seminary.
- + For those who travel
- + For the aged and the homebound
- + For those who are on hospice care or nearing death, especially Bob Ockree
- + For the ill, distressed, and those suffering affliction, including Marty Thomas, Darryl Kirtz, Jim Teasdale, Estella Ramirez, Dick Hollman, Art Litke, Henry Williams, Debra Busche, Carl Albersmeyer, Bill Weinrich, Dwight Bieberich, Jimmy Coffey, Al McFeter, Mike Ming, Earl Marcel Sisson, Elaine Seifert, Joe Harrison, Louisa Porter, Gary Phillips, David Groth, Gary Castle, Ron Rastl, Robert & Jenny Hobby
- + For God's blessing on all godly marriages
- + For the gift of life and for length of days, for pregnant mothers Hannah Fink, Rachel Wiegman, and Gabrielle Voss
- + For the gift of rebirth by water and the Spirit
- + For those who mourn the death of loved ones
- + In remembrance of the faithful departed, especially Caroline & Albert Manth
- + For our communicants and for a fruitful use of the most Blessed Sacrament of our Lord's Body and Blood

IN THE SERVICE TODAY

Today is the Divine Service for the First Sunday after the Epiphany. The Cross Bowl and Altars Vases are given in loving memory of Caroline & Albert Manth by Jennifer Manth. Please complete an attendance communion card, including the names of all children, and indicate if you are communing. Non-members, please read the back of the card.

CALENDAR

January 11, 2025 thru January 17, 2026

SUN.	9:00 AM	Divine Service	Church
	10:45 AM	Class on Ephesians	Bauer Hall
	10:45 AM	Class on Lutheran Identity	Conference Room
MON.	5:00 PM	LSA Board Meeting	LSUS
TUES.	9:00 AM	Weekly Bible Study	Bauer Hall
	9:30 AM	FW South Circuit	Peace Lutheran
WED.	9:30 AM	Men of Zion	Conference Room
	5:30 PM	Wednesday Divine Service	Church
THURS.	10:30 AM	Book of Concord study	Conference Room
FRI.			
SAT.	11:00 AM	Private Confession	Church
	1:30 PM	Everyone His Witness seminar	Conference Room

January 18, 2025

SUN.	9:00 AM	Divine Service	Church
	10:45 AM	Education Hour	Various
	10:45 AM	LWML meeting	Narthex

ZION ANNOUNCEMENTS

EDUCATION HOUR: Josh Fuchs continues with the class on Lutheran Identity in the Conference Room. And the Adult Class continues in Bauer Hall with St. Paul's letter to the Ephesians led by Pastor Punke and our field workers.

THANK YOU to the saints of Zion for your generous gifts to Pastor and all the staff. And thank you for all the cards and other expressions of love during the holy Christmas season.

THANKS to everyone who attended the LSUS Parent game night. Working on bridging the gap between parent, teachers, and churches is important.

LADIES: LWML is holding a meeting after Divine Service on January 18th. For now, we'll meet in the Narthex. Please come so that you can help plan out 2026 calendar of events for our service.

GIVING STATEMENTS FOR 2025 are at Julie's Scrip table for you pick up. The statements will be mailed out on the 25th of January if you haven't picked yours up yet.

THE FLOWER CHART FOR 2026 is filling up fast. Please mark those special days you would like to adorn our altar with flowers in the Cross Bowl and/or Altar Vases. Thanks.

PUT IT ON YOUR CALENDARS ... Zion's semi-annual Congregational Assembly will be held at 10:45 AM on Sunday, January 25th. You will hear reports from the pastor, treasurer, trustee, councils, and LSUS. Items of business include making nominations for Synod President, First Vice-President, and Regional Vice-President, offering up overtures to the Synod Convention, and electing our congregational lay elector (for Synod President). Plan to attend.

MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE: Ephesians 1:7—"In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace." Last week's verse was Psalm 37:23-24.

WE LIVE IN AN "I CAN DO IT MYSELF" CULTURE that has been cultivated by our access to technology. Yet the question is, "Do I need help to create my Christian estate plan?" This month we consider that your estate plan represents the biggest collection of decisions with far more impact than any other decisions in life. But what is the value of meeting with an LCMS Gift Planning Counselor if I already plan on meeting with an attorney? The answer is that your counselor can assist you in getting organized, thinking through your goals, becoming specific about the goals, and encouraging you to spend time considering who you might choose for a personal representative, trustee or the one named in your power of attorney documents. This decision should be carefully made, not rushed. Prayer should be included. Your LCMS Gift Planning Counselor can help you get started now. Contact Mark Muehl at 260-241-4845 or mark.muehl@lfnd.org.

THE ANNUAL RALLY AND MARCH FOR LIFE are Saturday, January 31, 2026 at Parkview Field, 1301 Ewing St, Fort Wayne. The doors open at 12:00 PM; the Rally is 12:30–1:00 PM; and the March begins at 1:00 PM. Go to www.ichooselife.org/march for more info. We have a 2 ft by 5 ft banner if anyone is willing to walk with it during the rally. Also **RLNI** is leading a trip for high school and college-age students to the National March for Life in Washington DC, January 21st–24th, 2026, where they can grow in their understanding of the pro-life movement, explore the nation's capital, and stand with hundreds of thousands of others who believe every life deserves protection. Pray for the success of this trip.

VENDORS WANTED! The St. John-Emmanuel Lutheran School 7th/8th grade classes are sponsoring a spring craft show on Saturday, March 7, 2026, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the gym at Emmanuel (Soest) to raise funds for their Washington, DC Trip. Craft booth pricing and registration form available at <https://bit.ly/SJECraft>. Direct questions to Mr. Jesse Muehler by email to jessem@stjohn-emmanuel.com or call the school office at (260) 639-0123.

For the family of God's Priestly People at Zion

God calls His own people a "Royal Priesthood." God makes us kings and queens, princes and princesses who are bound together by the Holy Spirit in Baptism for the Christian benefit of each other. Priests **PRAY** — They talk to God about their neighbor! Priests **TEACH** — They talk to their neighbor about God! Priests **OFFER SACRIFICES** — They offer to God the sacrifice of broken and contrite hearts; they offer their bodies and work as holy services to God for their neighbors. Join in this priestly work of prayer with your fellow members.

Morning Prayer

Matthew 3:13-17

Romans 3:19-31

Romans 4:1-25

Romans 5:1-21

Romans 6:1-23

Romans 7:1-20

Romans 7:21-8:17

DAILY LECTIONARY

The First Sunday after the Epiphany

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Evening Prayer

Isaiah 42:1-9

Ezekiel 34:1-24

Ezekiel 36:13-28

Ezekiel 36:33-37:14

Ezekiel 37:15-28

Ezekiel 38:1-23

Ezekiel 39:1-10, 17-29

THE DAILY PETITIONS OF THE CHURCH

[Daily] **O Lord, have mercy upon us. O Christ, have mercy upon us. O Lord, have mercy upon us.** Let us pray:

[S] For the joy of the Resurrection among us; for true and godly worship throughout the world; for diligent preaching and hearing of God's Word of Law and Gospel; for our pastors; for the teachers and students of our Sunday School; for our Bible Class leaders and their students; for our catechumens; Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**

[M] For workers; for the unemployed; for farmers; for seasonable weather; for businesses small and large; for our leaders, federal, state and local; for the economic welfare of the nations on earth; for peace in our world; Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**

[T] For the tempted; for the addicted and despairing; for the tortured and oppressed; for the lonely; for the sick, the hospitalized, and the needy; Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**

[W] For fathers, mothers, and families; for those adults who must rear their children alone; the teachers and students of Lutheran South Unity School and Concordia Lutheran High School; Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**

[T] For the Church and her pastors; for the training of ministers of the Word; for missionaries of the Church; for the leaders of the Church, including Matthew, our synod president, and Richard, our district president; for those who have not heard the Gospel; for the fruitful use of the blessed Sacrament of the Lord's Body and Blood; Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**

[F] For the preaching of the Cross; for those persecuted for the sake of Gospel; the confession of the orthodox Lutheran faith in our community; Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**

[Sat] For faithfulness unto life's earthly end; for the revival of those who have withered in the faith or fallen away; for the dying; Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**

[Daily] **The Our Father**

TO PREPARE FOR NEXT SUNDAY

The Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Isaiah 49:1-7

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

John 1:29-42a



What Doctor Luther Says:

About Listening to the Beloved Son

Christ says, “All things have been delivered to me,” that is, to me, to me you must be obedient. If you have my Word, then stick to it, and pay no attention to anybody who teaches and commands you differently. I will rule, protect, and save you well. Let the pope, emperor, the mighty, and the learned be wise; but don’t you follow them, even though they were a thousand times wiser than they are. Don’t you do what even an angel in heaven dare not do, take over the sovereignty and the power of being wise yourself or exercising power and rule in God’s government. And yet these poor, miserable people, the pope, emperor, kings, and all sectarians, do not hesitate to arrogate this to themselves. But God has set his Son at his right hand and said in Ps. 2 [:7], “You are my son”; I have made the whole world and all nations your possession; hear him, you kings and lords, if you would be wise; do homage to him as your Lord; and know that what he says to you I am saying to you.

This we Christians should learn and acknowledge, even though the world does not want to do it, and we should be grateful to God that he has so richly blessed us and granted that we ourselves are able to hear him, just as Christ himself here gives joyful thanks to his heavenly Father.

Luther’s Works, 51:390.

EVERY ONE HIS WITNESS

LUTHERAN EVANGELISM®



Learn how to naturally and genuinely share the Gospel with your friends and neighbors who have not heard the Good News. After this program, you will be more effective witnesses of Jesus in your everyday life!

LSUS NOTES

Praying for You!

Please pray for these students/staff:

Kindergarten	5 th Grade
1st Grade	6 th Grade
2nd Grade	7 th Grade
3rd Grade	8 th Grade
4th Grade	Faculty & Staff



PHOENIX SPORTS CORNER



WEEK OF JAN. 12TH - JAN. 17TH



GAMES:

Monday, Jan. 12th vs. St. Paul

4:30pm JV/5:45pm Varsity @ Bethlehem

Wednesday, Jan. 14th vs. St. Peters FW

4:30pm JV/ 5:45pm Varsity @ St. Peters FW

Thursday, Jan. 15th vs. Central

4:30pm Varsity @ Bethlehem

We encourage all church members to come out and show your support for our basketball and cheerleading teams as they wrap up an exciting season! Your presence and encouragement make a meaningful difference to our student-athletes as they compete and represent our community. Let's fill the stands with Phoenix pride and positive energy. Be on the lookout for tournament times and locations.

Lets go LSUS Phoenix!

Symposia Series

MUSIC EVENTS

Tuesday, January 20 | Kramer Chapel

5:00 p.m. Vespers and Organ Recital

Dr. Craig Sproat, Concordia University Wisconsin

Wednesday, January 21 | Kramer Chapel

5:00 p.m. Hymn Festival

Seminary Schola Cantorum

Thursday, January 22 | Kramer Chapel

5:00 p.m. Epiphany Evening Prayer with the Kantorei

Seminary Kantorei



These events are free and open to the public.

CTSFW.EDU/SYMPOSIA

Livestream at ctsfw.edu/daily-chapel.

Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne

6600 N. Clinton St.



JANUARY EVENT SCHEDULE

FACEBOOK: BRIDGE 20/30 GROUP FT. WAYNE | INSTAGRAM: THEBRIDGE2030

6
JAN 2026

LINE DANCING LESSONS - ALL TYPES

7 PM THE FORT WAYNE BALLROOM
COMPANY - 3127 CARROLL RD
\$5/PERSON- CHECK IN AT
6:45 PM

13
JAN 2026

THE PORCH NIGHT: SERIES ON VANITY: A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF ECCLESIASTES

7 PM HOLY CROSS YOUTH CENTER
3420 N. ANTHONY BLVD

20
JAN 2026

DEVOTION ANCHOR NIGH WITH BRIAN LOESEL FOLLOWED BY CARDS & GAMES

7 PM THE GARDEN
3308 N ANTHONY BLVD

27
JAN 2026

MEETUP - RACK & HELEN'S TRIVIA | TACO TUESDAY

7 PM T525 BROADWAY STREET
NEW HAVEN