

Historic Zion Lutheran Church

DIVINE SERVICE FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

9:00 am Sunday, February 1, 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.

Introit of the Day



[Antiphon] *Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel | of the •wicked•, || nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits | in the seat of | •scoffers•; || but his delight is in the law | of the Lord, || and on his law he | •medi- tates day and | night.*

Verse 1: **He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its | sea-__ son, || and its leaf | does not with-__ | er. || In all that he does, he | pros-__ pers. || The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that | the wind drives a- | way.**

Verse 2: *Therefore the wicked will not stand in the | judg-__ ment, || nor sinners in the congre- | ga- tion of the | •righteous•; || for the Lord knows the way | of the •righteous•, || but the way of the | •wicked• will per-__ | ish.*

Gloria: **Glory be to the Father and | to the Son: || and | to the Ho- ly | •Spirit•; || As it was in the be- | •ginning•, is now, || and will | be for- •ever•. A- | men!**

[Antiphon] *Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel | of the •wicked•, || nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits | in the seat of | •scoffers•; || but his delight is in the law | of the Lord, || and on his law he | •medi- tates day and | night.*

Kyrie



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



Chri - ste__ e - lei - son. Christ have mer - cy.



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

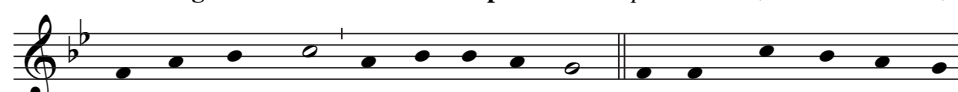
Gloria in Excelsis



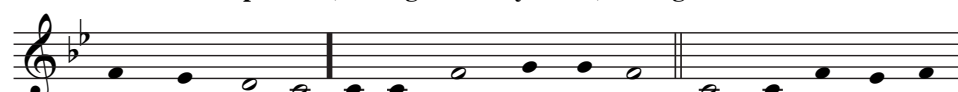
Glo - ry to God in the high - est. And on earth peace,



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



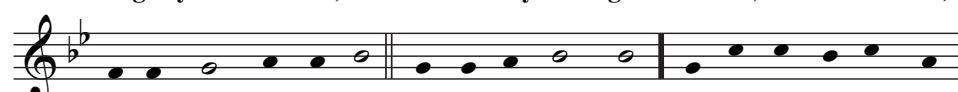
we wor-ship Thee, we glo - ri - fy Thee, we give thanks to Thee for



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.

Salutation

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spir— it.

Collect for the Fourth Sunday after Epiphany: *Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now*

A ——— men!

[Be Seated]

+ The Office of the Word of God +

Old Testament Reading..... Micah 6:1-8

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

Epistle of the Day 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

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

[Rise] **Alleluia Sequence**

[Deacon] *Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." Alleluia!*

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Holy Gospel St. Matthew 5:1-12

[The Gospel is announced.]

[The Gospel is proclaimed.]

Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord!

Praise be to Thee, O Christ!

Confession of Faith (The Nicene Creed)

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!

[Be Seated] Hymn of the Day..... Son of God Burgundy Hymn 842

Sermon

[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

Choral Voluntary

[Rise] Offertory HymnCreate 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.

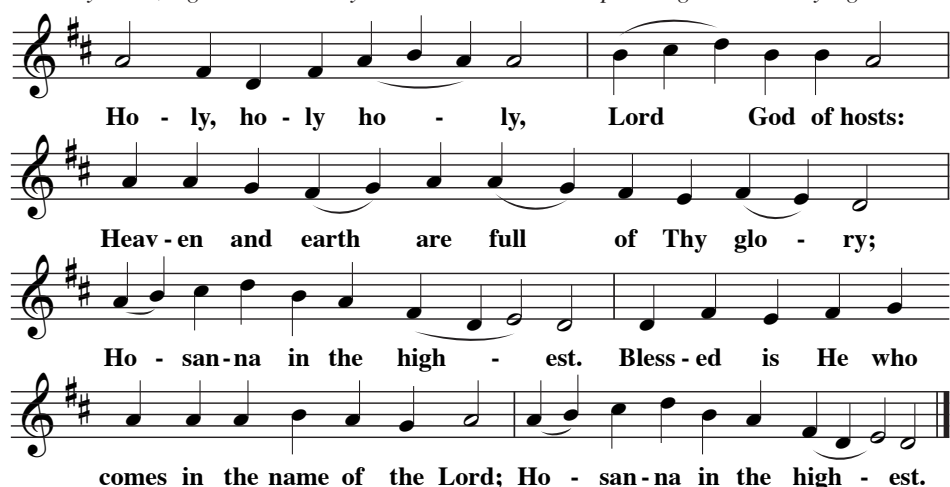
+ The Office of the Sacrament of the Altar +

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 Epiphany, Sanctus

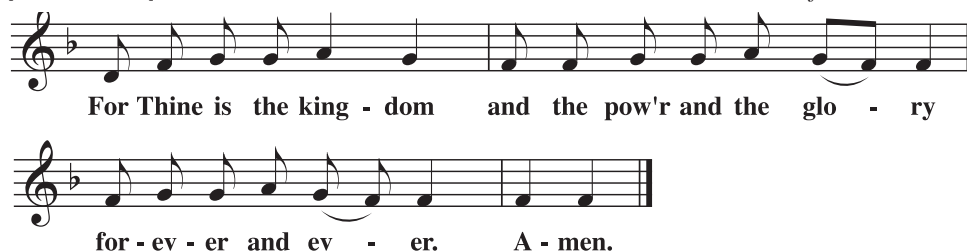
It is truly meet, right and salutary ever more praising You and saying:



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.*



For Thine is the king - dom and the pow'r and the glo - ry
for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

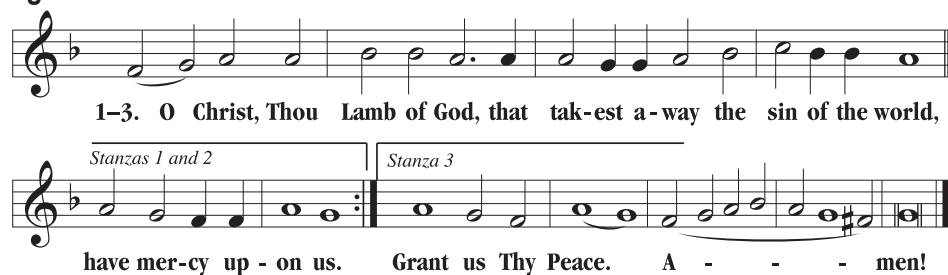
Words of Institution, Pax Domini

The peace of the Lord be with you always!



A - men.

Agnus Dei



1-3. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world,
have mer-cy up - on us. Grant us Thy Peace. A - - - men!

[Be Seated]

Distribution Hymns The Death of Jesus Burgundy Hymn 634

[All sing stanzas 1 & 2; Women alone sing stanzas 3 & 5;
Men alone sing stanzas 4 & 6; All sing stanzas 7 & 8.]

From God the Father Burgundy Hymn 401

[Rise for stanza 6.]

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



1. Lord now— lettest Thou Thy
servant, de— part— in — peace, ac— cord— ing to Thy Word.

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



3. a Light to light— en the Gen— tiles and the Glo— ry of Thy peo— ple Is - - - ra— el.



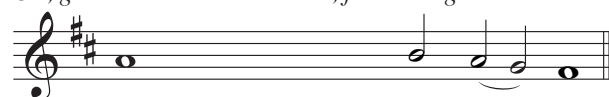
4. Glo— ry__ be to the
Father, and to__ the__ Son, and to the Ho— ly Ghost.



5. As it__ was in the
beginning, is
now, and e— ver shall be, world with— out end. A— men.

Post Communion Rite

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



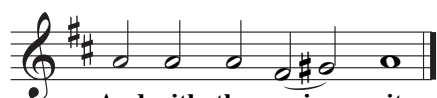
And His mercy endureth for — ev — er.

Prayer of Thanksgiving ... now and forever.



A — men.

The Lord be with you.



And with thy spir — rit.

Bless we the Lord.



Thanks be to God.

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.



A — men, A — men, A — men.

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 Hail, O Source Burgundy Hymn 409

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. Psalm Tone for Introit and Alleluia Verse: from The Anglican Chant Psalter, copyright © 1987 by The Church Hymnal Corporation; used by permission.

Readings for the Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

The Old Testament Reading is Micah 6:1-8

Hear what the LORD says:

Arise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice.

Hear, you mountains, the indictment of the LORD,
and you enduring foundations of the earth,
for the Lord has an indictment against his people,
and he will contend with Israel.

“O my people, what have I done to you?
How have I wearied you? Answer me!

For I brought you up from the land of Egypt
and redeemed you from the house of slavery,
and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.

O my people, remember what Balak king of Moab devised,
and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him,
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.”

“With what shall I come before the LORD,
and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?

Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

He has told you, O man, what is good;
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

The Epistle is 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God

through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption. Therefore, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

The Gospel is St. Matthew 5:1-12

Seeing the crowds, [Jesus] went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Hymns for the Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

LSB842 Son of God, Eternal Savior

Somerset T. C. Lowry

1. Son of God, eternal Savior, Source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us Hallows all our human race,
You our Head, who, throned in glory, For Your own will ever plead:
Fill us with Your love and pity, Heal our wrongs, and help our need.
2. As You, Lord, have lived for others, So may we for others live.
Freely have Your gifts been granted; Freely may Your servants give.
Yours the gold and Yours the silver, Yours the wealth of land and sea;
We but stewards of Your bounty Held in solemn trust will be.
3. Come, O Christ, and reign among us, King of Love and Prince of Peace;
Hush the storm of strife and passion, Bid its cruel discords cease.
By Your patient years of toiling, By Your silent hours of pain,
Quench our fevered thirst of pleasure, Stem our selfish greed of gain.
4. Son of God, eternal Savior, Source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us Hallows all our human race:
By your praying, by Your willing, That Your people should be one,
Grant, O grant our hope's fruition; Here on earth Your will be done.

LSB634 The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord

Haquin Spengel

1. The death of Jesus Christ, our Lord, We celebrate with one accord;
It is our comfort in distress, Our heart's sweet joy and happiness.
2. He blotted out with His own blood The judgment that against us stood;
For us He full atonement made, And all our debt He fully paid.
- W 3. That this forever true shall be He gives a solemn guarantee:
In this His holy Supper here We taste His love so sweet, so near.
- M 4. His Word proclaims and we believe That in this Supper we receive
His very body, as He said, His very blood for sinners shed.
- W 5. We dare not ask how this can be, But simply hold the mystery
And trust this word where life begins; "Given and shed for all your sins."
- M 6. They who this word do not believe This food unworthily receive,
Salvation here will never find—May we this warning keep in mind!
7. But blest is each believing guest Who in these promises finds rest;
For Jesus shall in love remain With all who here His grace obtain.

8. Help us sincerely to believe That we may worthily receive
Your Supper and in You find rest. Amen! They who believe are blest.

LSB401 From God the Father, Virgin-Born

Latin, c. 5th-10th cent.

1. From God the Father, virgin-born To us the only Son came down;
By death the font to consecrate, The faithful to regenerate.
 2. Beginning from His home on high, In human flesh He came to die;
Creation by His death restored, And shed new joys of life abroad.
 3. Glide on, O glorious Sun, and bring The gift of healing on Your wing;
To eve'ry dull and clouded sense The clearness of Your light dispense.
 4. Abide with us, O Lord, we pray; The gloom of darkness chase away;
Your work of healing, Lord, begin, And take away the stain of sin.
 5. Lord, once You came to earth's domain And, we believe, shall come again;
Be with us on the battlefield, From ev'ry harm Your people shield.
- △ 6. To You, O Lord, all glory be For this Your blest epiphany;
To God, whom all His hosts adore, And Holy Spirit evermore.

LSB409 Hail, O Source of Every Blessing

Basil Woodd

1. Hail, O Source of ev'ry blessing, Father of our human race!
Gentiles now, Your grace possessing, In Your courts obtain a place.
Grateful now, we fall before You, In Your Church rejoice to live,
See Your glory and adore You, Thankful for the grace You give.
2. Once far off but now invited, We approach Your sacred throne,
In Your covenant united, Reconciled, redeemed, made one.
Now revealed to Eastern sages, See the Star of Mercy shine,
Myst'ry hid in former ages, Myst'ry great of love Divine.
3. Hail, O all-inviting Savior! Gentiles now their off'ings bring,
In Your temples seek Your favor, Jesus Christ, our Lord and King.
May we, body, soul, and spirit, Live devoted to Your praise,
Glorious realms of bliss inherit, Grateful anthems ever raise.

The 4th 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, Yokie Turner, Carl Albersmeyer, Jim Teasdale, Estella Ramirez, Dick Hollman, Art Litke, Henry Williams, Debra Busche, 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 and 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, especially Vicki and the family of Rev. Jeff Geisler
- + In remembrance of the faithful departed, including Rev. Jeff Geisler
- + 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 Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany. The Cross Bowl is given to the glory of God. 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

February 1, 2026 thru February 7, 2026

SUN.	9:00 AM	Divine Service	Church
	10:45 AM	Congregational Assembly	Bauer Hall
MON.			
TUES.	9:00 AM	Weekly Bible Study	Bauer Hall
	7:15 PM	Bach Collegium Rehearsal	Bauer Hall
WED.	9:30 AM	Men of Zion	Conference Room
	5:30 PM	Wednesday Divine Service	Church
THURS.	7:00 PM	Council of Elders Meeting	Conference Room
FRI.			
SAT.	10:00 AM	LWML Cleaning	Basement
	10:00 AM	CPR Training	Bauer Hall
	11:00 AM	Private Confession	Church

February 8, 2026

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

ZION ANNOUNCEMENTS

NO EDUCATION HOUR today after Divine Service. We are having our Congregational Assembly, postponed from last Sunday. Please attend. You will hear reports from pastor, treasurer, trustee, councils, and LSUS. Items of business include making nominations for Synod President, First Vice-President and Regional Vice-President, offering up an overture to the Synod convention, and electing our congregational lay elector (for Synod President).

THANK YOU to everyone that took the time to join in on the Right to Life Rally and March.

CPR & FIRST AID: Frank Jackson has set up a training date and time, February 7, 2026 at 10 AM in Bauer Hall. He has contacted those who need to attend.

LWML will be cleaning the basement on February 7th and the 21st, 10AM-Noon. If you would like to help, please contact Melvia. Also, starting in February 22nd, on the third Sunday of each month, you can bring in your gently used clothes, shoes, and household items to be donated to the Seminary Clothing Co-op. Melvia will have a table set up to receive the donated items and get them to the seminary.

MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE: 2 Timothy 2:13— “If we are faithless, He remains faithful—for He cannot deny Himself.” Last week’s verse was Leviticus 19:18.

WE LIVE IN AN “I CAN DO IT MYSELF” CULTURE. Sometimes we might be tempted to think a Christian estate plan is just a collection of documents (will, trust, POA). However, we need to look deeper into the factors influencing a good plan. An automated will or trust generator may not be able to capture family nuances pertaining to inheritance. Hiring legal counsel to make sure these issues are addressed is wise. To prepare for working with an attorney, your Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can help. Contact Mark Muehl at 260-241-4845 or mark.muehl@lfind.org.

JOIN RIGHT TO LIFE OF NORTHEAST INDIANA, our state and local legislators, and other voices for life at the 24th Annual Legislative Forum, next Saturday, February 7, 9:00–11:00 AM, at Parkview Field (doors open at 8:15 AM). Attendees should follow posted signage to the Suite Level Lounge. This free event offers a unique opportunity to hear directly from state legislators and pro-life leaders about current legislative efforts and policies affecting the sanctity of human life. RSVP at www.ichooselife.org/forum. Also, **Sidewalk Advocates for Life training** will take place in the RLNI conference room at 3106 Lake Ave, February 10, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Learn how to approach people outside our local abortion referral facility peacefully, prayerfully, and lovingly, and redirect them to life-affirming alternatives in our community.

CLHS’S FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT invites you to experience the beauty of the sacred choral music performed during the 2026 A Cappella Choir Tour (February 5-8). The tour’s capstone is a special home performance on **Monday, February 9 at 7:00 p.m. in Kramer Chapel on the campus of Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne**. Join us for an evening of inspiring music and help us celebrate the joy of choral worship. All concerts are free to attend and open to the public.

BACH COLLEGIUM FORT WAYNE presents its second concert of the season — *He Puts Down the Mighty & Exalts the Humble* — on February 15, 4:00 PM. This concert is being performed in the Indiana Tech Multi-Flex Theater in the Snyder Academic Center. It features three J. S. Bach cantatas and two acapella choral works by Igor Stravinsky and Serge Rachmaninoff.

CLHS is blessed to be experiencing significant enrollment growth resulting in the need to add a number of new full-time teaching positions for the 2026–2027 school year. This exciting growth allows us to expand our faculty and continue providing an exceptional, faith-filled education for our students. We invite passionate educators to consider joining our growing team. Please help us spread the word by sharing these opportunities with others who may be a great fit. To learn more about the available positions or to apply, visit our employment page at clhscadets.com/apps/pages/employment.

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 5:1-12

Titus 1:1-2:6

Titus 2:7-3:15

John 1:1-18

John 1:19-34

John 1:35-51

John 2:1-12

DAILY LECTIONARY

The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Evening Prayer

Micah 6:1-8

Zechariah 12:1-13:9

Zechariah 14:1-21

Job 1:1-22

Job 2:1-3:10

Job 3:11-26

Job 4:1-21

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 Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Isaiah 58:3-9a

1 Corinthians 2:1-16

Matthew 5:13-20



What Doctor Luther Says:

About Doing God-Commanded Works, Not Self-Devised

Now see how much a man has to do if he wants to do good works, for there are piles of them around, surrounding him on all sides, and, unfortunately, because of his blindness he leaves them lying there and seeks out and runs after others of his own high thinking and delight. No man can speak strongly enough against these and no man can adequately guard himself against them. The prophets had to contend with all this and were put to death because they rejected such self-devised works and preached only God's commandments. As one of them, Jeremiah 7 [:21-23], says, "Thus does the God of Israel say to you, 'Take away your offerings and put them together with all your gifts, and eat your sacrifice and meat yourselves, for I have commanded you nothing concerning those things. But I have commanded you this: "You shall heed my voice (that is, not what seems right and good to you but what I bid you and walk in the way which I have commanded you.)"' And Deuteronomy 12 [:8, 32], "You shall not do what is right and good in your eyes, but what your God has commanded you."

These and countless similar passages of Scripture are spoken to tear men away not only from their sins but from the works which they think good and right, and to turn men to the plain meaning of God's commandment so that they shall diligently observe this only and always. As it is written in Exodus 13 [:9], "You shall let my commandments be to you as a sign in your hand and an example before your eyes"; and Psalm 1 [:2], "A godly man meditates upon God's law day and night." For we have more than enough to do, too much in fact, just to satisfy God's commandments. He has given us such commandments so that if we understand them aright, we dare not be idle for a moment. We could well forget all other works.

Luther's Works, 44:45-6.

ZION LADIES OF LWML



SECOND-HAND

CLOTHING DONATION

**STARTING
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2026
EVERY 3RD SUNDAY OF THE
MONTH**

DROP-OFF POINT:
TABLE IN GREAT HALL

**ALL DONATIONS
WILL GO TO CTSFW
SEMINARY STUDENTS**

**PLEASE DONATE
CLOTHES THAT
ARE...**

CLEAN & FRESH

Recently washed, free of
odors.

GENTLY WORN

No major stains, tears, or
fading.

FULLY FUNCTIONAL

Zippers, buttons, and snaps
must work.



LSUS NOTES

Praying for You!

Please pray for these students/staff:

Cece	Noah
Deondrick	Abigail
Ja'Maire	Laydia
Angel	Jaylyn
Le'Ana	



Honor Roll Pastry Breakfast

The PTO was proud to host an Honor Roll Pastry Breakfast to celebrate students who achieved Honor Roll status during the first and/or second quarter. This special event recognized their hard work, dedication, and commitment to academic excellence. Students enjoyed a variety of pastries while being acknowledged for their accomplishments, and the PTO was happy to provide a warm, encouraging environment to honor their success. Congratulations to all of our Honor Roll students—we are so proud of you!



Encouragement Found in Scriptures:

For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil. — 1 Peter 3:1

Gov. Braun Opt-in to the Federal Scholarship Tax Credit Program!

On July 4, President Trump signed "The One Big Beautiful Bill" into law. One aspect of this bill includes a Federal Scholarship Tax Credit (FSTC) program that is modeled after successful state tax credit scholarship programs throughout our country, including Indiana. On January 22, Gov. Braun opted-in to the FSTC, making it possible for non-public schools in Indiana to participate in the program!

Program Details

- The bill allows for a 100% Federal Tax Credit for donations from individuals to Scholarship Granting Organizations, just like our Lutheran SGO.
- There is a \$1,700 maximum Federal Tax Credit per taxpayer per year.
- Donors can designate their gift to be used for scholarships at the school of their choice.
- Businesses are not allowed to claim this credit.
- There is no sunset date on this legislation. It is permanent.
- There is no aggregate tax cap. The \$1,700 maximum Federal Tax Credit is available to every taxpayer in our country.
- There is a five-year rollover on this tax credit.
- Scholarship recipients must come from families earning under 300% of the Median Local Income.
- The U.S. Treasury Department is working on determining the final rules that will govern the FSTC.
- **The FSTC begins on January 1, 2027. FSTC donations cannot be given prior to this date.**
- Please consider saving money now to include the FSTC in your 2027 giving plan!

The Lutheran SGO will be ready to
manage the FSTC when it goes live
on January 1, 2027!

For More Information, Contact:

Scott Schumacher
Executive Director
scott@lutheransgo.org
812) 344-4724



FEBRUARY EVENT SCHEDULE

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

3
FEB 2026

BRIDGE BOWLING BASH

7 PM GEORGETOWN BOWLING
6770 E STATE BLVD FT WAYNE
\$10/PERSON INCLUDES SHOE
RENTAL & 3 HRS OF BOWLING

10
FEB 2026

MEETUP - COUNTRY HERITAGE SINGO SOCIAL TAYLOR & FRIENDS AND WOMEN OF R&B

5:45 PM 0185 COUNTRY ROAD 68 LAOTTO

17
FEB 2026

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

7 PM THE HOLY CROSS YOUTH CENTER
3420 N ANTHONY BLVD

24
FEB 2026

LENTEN EXPERIENCE WITH PASTOR CHAD

7 PM THE GREENHAUS
3504 N. ANTHONY BLVD
FOLLOWED BY FELLOWSHIP &
FUN!

LIFE NEWS—FEBRUARY 2026



**LUTHERANS
FOR LIFE**

lutheransforlife.org



Life Newsbytes

Approximately 10,000 people, many of them young adults and families, gathered in Paris, France, on January 18 for the annual March for Life to publicly oppose abortion. The participants also spoke up against euthanasia amid ongoing bioethical debates in France. The peaceful demonstration began at Place Vauban in front of the Invalides palace and proceeded through the streets of the capital. Organizers described a family-friendly, resolute atmosphere, with participants carrying signs promoting life and a banner reading “Treat and support, never suppress.” The march came two years after France became the first country in the world to enshrine abortion as a constitutional right in 2024. That amendment, incorporated on March 8, 2024, followed a 780-72 vote in a joint session of parliament. Pro-life advocates viewed the change as elevating abortion to a protected status, shifting it from a once-criminal act to a fundamental right. This year’s event also highlighted opposition to pending Senate discussions on legislation that would legalize euthanasia and assisted suicide, which organizers framed as a “licence to kill.” Marie-Lys Pellissier, the 24-year-old spokeswoman for the March for Life in France, said, “It is the only moment in the year when we can publicly express our opposition to abortion and euthanasia and propose concrete solutions.” (Read more: tinyurl.com/59ekc4ky)

Speaking up For Life

“All life is sacred. Your life is sacred. Every life has infinite worth and eternal value. Your life matters—from conception to natural death to eternity. The psalmist declares: ‘I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are Your works; my soul knows it very well’ (Psalm 139:14).” *Rev. Robert Mohns, Lutheran Church—Canada*

“We may not be trained healers, but we have been trained through our own experiences and God’s Word to bring comfort. Be brave, reach out, and know the Lord is by your side. Pray for His guidance in what you say and do so you will bring needed comfort. We have a message of hope!” *Virginia Flo, Lutherans For Life*

“I love reminding them that the first diagnosis is, ‘It’s a baby,’ and no other diagnosis ever negates diagnosis number one. The baby is inherently valuable and worthy of our love.” *Dr. Robin Pierucci*

“Handmade by the one true God and designed in His image, we are inherently valuable, not only for this life but for all of eternity.” *Michelle Bauman, Y4Life*



Order LFL
Resources



at cph.org

FEARFULLY AND WONDERFULLY MADE

BY REV. DR. ARIC FENSKE



"I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well" (Psalm 139:14).

This inspired Word of God is our theme for this year's commemoration of Life Sunday. This verse is one of the pillars on which our understanding of the sanctity of life is built. On the one hand, using this verse as our theme causes me to be a bit sad for the very fact that we have to commemorate Life Sunday yet again. It is a recognition that many of God's children, who are all fearfully and wonderfully made by Him, are still being ignored, abused, devalued, and destroyed. And, with a sigh, I suppose this will continue to be the case until the day that Jesus returns to free us from this vale of tears.



On the other hand, this verse should also fill us with both awe and hope. After all, David himself tells us that these are words of praise! In acknowledging that we are God's wonderful creation, we are also acknowledging that we are God's precious possession. In fact, that's what the beginning of Psalm 139 teaches us. David reminds us throughout this psalm that there is nowhere we can go where God is not looking after us and providing for us.

May that knowledge fill us all with comfort and joy as we consider our own daily lives and our continual effort to fight for the lives of the most vulnerable among us. God is not ignorant of our suffering or of the senseless violence that is brought upon His children. And He who created all does not just sit quietly on the sidelines to watch it happen. Our recent celebration of the birth of Jesus is all the reminder we need of that.

Our God acts to defend and protect His people. And our theme verse reminds us of one of the ways in which He does that. He fearfully and wonderfully creates *us*. Our heavenly Father has created us with ears to hear the cries of His people, mouths to speak His praises and defend our brothers and sisters, and hands and feet with which we can serve and protect them.

I am grateful that God has wonderfully and fearfully created you. And I am grateful that He continues to use you to love and serve His children. I pray that the words of our theme verse this year will both comfort and encourage you as you partner with us in 2026 to be Gospel-motivated voices for life in this world of sin and death.

Praise indeed be to the Father, Son, and Spirit, who has fearfully and wonderfully made each of us.

**WORSHIP ANEW ENGAGES AND
EQUIPS AGING ADULTS WITH
RESOURCES TO LIVE A FULL AND
ABUNDANT LIFE IN JESUS CHRIST.**



How does our ministry support

Aging Adults?

Our Worship Program

Worship Anew provides a weekly traditional service that is available all over the country on television stations, as well as online (through our website, TV app, and YouTube) and via DVD subscription, allowing viewers to watch their favorite sermons again. Our regular rotation of Lutheran pastors allows viewers to hear a message centered on God's Word and personalized for their stage of life.

Care Ministry

Our Care Ministry puts love into action. Our care package program provides an opportunity to do something for aging adults who are hurting, as well as those who are caring for them. By providing physical and spiritual resources, these care packages remind them they are loved and not suffering alone.

Hope-Full Living Devotion

Hope-Full Living is a daily devotion written for seniors, by seniors. The devotion is released quarterly. Every devotional is large print. You can also read or listen to the daily devotions on our app or online.

More ministry opportunities include:

Broadcaster Magazine


Website & App

Scan to watch a
video about our
ministry

**Watch Worship Anew locally on
WPTA 21.2 (NBC) at 7:00 AM Sundays &
WPTA 21.3 (MyNet) at 8:00 AM Sundays**

Learn more at WorshipAnew.org





Join us for our famous all
you can eat Fish Fry Dinner.

Suburban
Bethlehem
Lutheran's
66th Annual



Fish Fry

&
Bake
Sale



Saturday Feb. 14

6318 West California Road

Fort Wayne, IN

Enter door 10

4:00 PM - 7:00PM

\$15

Adult

\$7

Children
4-12
years

Free

Children
3 & Under

*Dinner includes :
all you can eat fish,
potato salad, baked
beans, and dinner
rolls with a drink*

**You may also
purchase
carry-out.**

The Bach Institute AT VALPARAISO UNIVERSITY

SPRING 2026 OUTREACH TOUR

VALPARAISO UNIVERSITY CHORALE & CHAMBER ORCHESTRA



March 6, 2026 | 7:00 p.m. Concert | Holy Cross Lutheran Church and School
3425 Crescent Ave, Fort Wayne
with Concordia Lutheran High School A Cappella and Holy Cross Angelis & Junior Choirs
Free and open to the public.