

Historic Zion Lutheran Church

DIVINE SERVICE FOR INVOCABIT, THE 1ST SUNDAY IN LENT

9:00 am Sunday, February 22, 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] *When he calls to me, I will | an- swer him; || I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue | him and hon- or | him__ . || With long life I will | •satis- fy him || and | show him my sal- | •vation. •”*

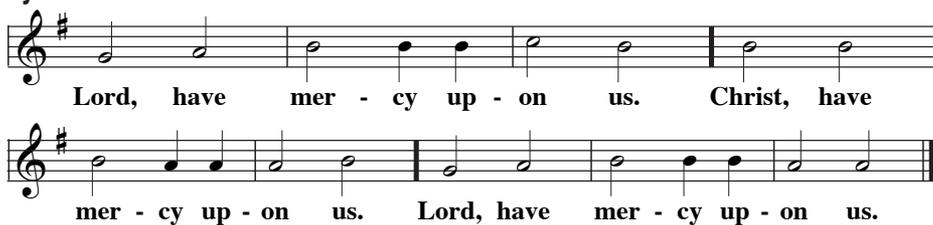
Verse 1: **Because you have made the Lord your | dwell- ing place || the Most | High, who is my | re- fuge || no evil shall be allowed to | be- fall you, || no | plague come near your | tent.**

Verse 2: *For he will command his angels con- | cern- ing you || to guard | you in all your | ways__ . || On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot a- | gainst a stone. || You will tread on the lion and the adder; the young lion and the serpent you will | tram- ple un- der- | foot.*

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

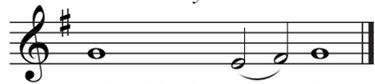
[Antiphon] **When he calls to me, I will | an- swer him; || I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue | him and hon- or | him__ . || With long life I will | •satis- fy him || and | show him my sal- | •vation. •”**

Kyrie



Salutation

The Lord be with you.



And with thy spir— it.

Collect for the First Sunday in Lent: *O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior, we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*



A ——— men!

Collect for Lent: *Merciful and everlasting God, who did not spare Your only Son, but delivered Him up for us all that He might bear our sins upon the cross, grant that our hearts may be so fixed with steadfast faith in Him that we may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*



A ——— men!

[Be Seated]

+ **The Office of the Word of God** +

Old Testament Reading..... **Genesis 3:1-21**

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

Epistle of the Day **Romans 5:12-19**

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

[Rise] **Tract**



[Deacon] *Put on the whole | •armor• of God, || that you may be able to stand against the | schemes__ of the | •devil•.*

All: **O** come, let us fix our | eyes on •Jesus•, || the founder and per- | fec- tor of our | faith__, || who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despis- | ing the shame || and is seated at the right hand | of the throne of | God.

Holy Gospel **St. Matthew 4:1-11**

[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..... A Mighty Fortress ... Burgundy Hymn 656**

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, 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 un - 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 Lent, Sanctus

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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
 Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry; Ho - san-na Ho - san-na, Ho -
 san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is He, Bless-ed is He, Bless-ed is He that
 com-eth in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na, Ho - san-na, Ho-san-na in the highest.

[*Kneel*] **Lord's Prayer**

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

For Thine is the kingdom and the power 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,



Stanzas 1 and 2 Stanza 3

have mer-cy up - on us. Grant us Thy Peace. A - - - men!

[Be Seated]

Distribution Hymns All Mankind Fell Burgundy Hymn 562
Christ, the Lord of Hosts, Burgundy Hymn 521

[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



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.



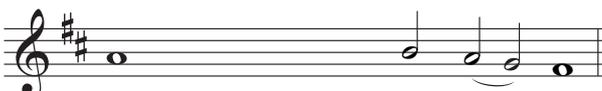
4. Glo— ry__ be to the
Father, and to__ the__ Son, and to the Ho- ly Ghost.



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

Post Communion Rite

As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup:



Ye do show the Lord's death till He__ come.

Prayer of Thanksgiving ... now and forever.



A ——— men.

The Lord be with you.



Bless we the Lord.



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.



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 O Christ, You Walked Burgundy Hymn 424

Postlude

Holy Week Schedule



Palm Sunday, March 29

Palm Sunday Divine Service, 9:00 a.m.



The Triduum: The Three Day Vigil



Part I: Holy Thursday, April 2

Divine Service 7:00 p.m.



Part II: Good Friday, April 3

Divine Service 7:00 p.m.



Part III: Holy Saturday, April 4

The Great Vigil of Easter

Divine Service 7:00 p.m.



The Feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord

Sunday, April 5

Easter Breakfast 7:45 a.m.

Festival Divine Service 9:00 a.m.

(No Sunday School and Adult Bible Class this Sunday)



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

Readings for the First Sunday in Lent

The Old Testament Reading is Genesis 3:1-21

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’” And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’” But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

The LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”

To the woman he said, “I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you.”

And to Adam he said, “Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, ‘You shall not eat of it,’ cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

The man called his wife’s name Eve, because she was the mother of all living. And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.

The Epistle is Romans 5:12-19

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned— for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come. But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many. And the free gift is not like the result of that one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brought justification. If, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ. Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

The Gospel is St. Matthew 4:1-11

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written,

"Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."

Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

"He will command his angels concerning you,' and

"On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone."

Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Then Jesus said to him, "Be gone, Satan! For it is written,

"You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve."

Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

Hymns for the First Sunday in Lent

LSB656 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Martin Luther

1. A mighty fortress is our God, A trusty shield and weapon;
He helps us free from ev'ry need That hath us now o'ertaken.
The old evil foe Now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might Are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal.
2. With might of ours can naught be done, Soon were our loss effected;
But for us fights the Valiant One, Whom God Himself elected.
Ask ye, Who is this? Jesus Christ it is,
Of Sabaoth Lord, And there's none other God;
He holds the field forever.
3. Though devils all the world should fill, All eager to devour us.
We tremble not, we fear no ill; They shall not overpower us.
This world's prince may still Scowl fierce as he will,
He can harm us none. He's judged; the deed is done;
One little word can fell him.
4. The Word they still shall let remain Nor any thanks have for it;
He's by our side upon the plain With His good gifts and Spirit.
And take they our life, Goods, fame, child, and wife,
Though these all be gone, Our vict'ry has been won;
The Kingdom ours remaineth.

LSB562 All Mankind Fell in Adam's Fall

Lazarus Spengler

1. All mankind fell in Adam's fall;
One common sin infects us all.
From one to all the curse descends,
And over all God's wrath impends.
2. Through all our pow'rs corruption creeps
And us in dreadful bondage keeps;
In guilt we draw our infant breath
And reap its fruits of woe and death.
3. From hearts depraved, to evil prone,
Flow thoughts and deeds of sin alone;
God's image lost, the darkened soul
Seeks not nor finds its heav'nly goal.

4. But Christ, the second Adam, came
To bear our sin and woe and shame,
To be our life, our light, our way,
Our only hope, our only stay.
5. As by one man all mankind fell
And, born in sin, was doomed to hell,
So by one Man, who took our place,
We all were justified by grace.
6. We thank You, Christ; new life is ours,
New light, new hope, new strength, new pow'rs.
This grace our ev'ry way attend
Until we reach our journey's end.

LSB521 Christ, the Lord of Hosts, Unshaken

Peter M. Prange

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1. Christ, the Lord of hosts, unshaken By the devil's seething rage,
Thwarts the plan of Satan's minions; Wins the strife from age to age;
Conquers sin and death forever; Slams them in their steely cage.
2. Michael fought the heav'nly battle, Godly angels by his side;
Warred against the ancient serpent, Foiled the beast, so full of pride,
Cast him earthbound with his angels; Now he prowls, unsatisfied.
3. Long on earth the battle rages, Since the serpent's first deceit;
Twisted God's command to Adam, Made forbidden fruit look sweet.
Then the curse of God was spoken: "You'll lie crushed beneath His feet!"
4. Jesus came, this word fulfilling, Trampled Satan, death defied;
Bore the brunt of our temptation, On the wretched tree He died.
Yet to life was raised victorious; By His life our life supplied.
5. Swift as lightning falls the tyrant From his heav'nly perch on high,
As the word of Jesus' vict'ry Floods the earth and fills the sky.
Wounded by a wound eternal Now his judgment has drawn nigh!
6. Jesus, send Your angel legions When the foe would us enslave.
Hold us fast when sin assaults us; Come, then, Lord, Your people save.
Overthrow at last the dragon; Send him to his fiery grave.

LSB424 O Christ, You Walked the Road

Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr.

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1. O Christ, You walked the road Our wand'ring feet must go.
You faced with us temptation's pow'r And fought our ancient foe.

2. No bread of earth alone Can fill our hung'ring hearts.
Lord, help us seek Your living Word, The food Your grace imparts.
3. No blinding sign we ask, No wonder from above.
Lord, help us place our trust alone In Your unswerving love.
4. When lures of easy gain With promise brightly shine,
Lord, help us seek Your kingdom first; Our wills with Yours align.
5. O Christ, You walked the road Our wand'ring feet must go.
Stay with us through temptation's hour To fight our ancient foe.

The first Sunday in Lent



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 Henry Williams, Jim Teasdale, Marty Thomas, Darryl Kirtz, Yolanda Turner, Carl Albersmeyer, Estella Ramirez, Dick Hollman, Art Litke, 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, the Hernandez family
- + 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 Yvonne & Rich Schwantz and family
- + In remembrance of the faithful departed, especially Loretta & Robert 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 Lent. The Cross Bowl and Altar Vases are given in loving memory of Loretta & Robert 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

February 22, 2026 thru February 28, 2026

SUN.	9:00 AM	Divine Service	Church
	10:45 AM	Adult Bible Class	Bauer Hall
	10:45 AM	Alternate Adult/Youth Bible Class	Conference Room
	3:00 PM	Concordia Nebraska Chamber Choir	St. Paul's Lutheran
MON.	5:30 PM	CEA Meeting	CLHS
TUES.	9:00 AM	Weekly Bible Study	Bauer Hall
	12 Noon	Administrative Council	Conference Room
WED.	9:30 AM	Men of Zion	Conference Room
	5:45 PM	Lenten Supper	Bauer Hall
	7:00 PM	Lenten Vespers	Church
THURS.			
FRI.			
SAT.	11:00 AM	Private Confession	Church

March 1, 2026

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

ZION ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

WEDNESDAYS IN LENT: Every Wednesday in Lent is a light supper at 5:45 PM with Vespers to follow at 7:00 PM. The Sacrament is offered in the Chapel after Vespers for those who desire it. This Wednesday, Pastor Bahr will proclaim the word of God. The Supper menu is listed in the Great Hall on the table. Come and observe Lent in humble repentance and forgiveness.

LWML started collecting items today, and then 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 has a table set up to receive the donated items; she will get them to the seminary. **Also**, the first Saturday of every month the ladies will be crafting inside of Bauer Hall 9AM-12PM feel free to join in.

MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE: Romans 5:8— “God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” Last week's verse was 1 John 1:8.

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. Sometimes we don't know the possibilities of things we could do, especially on our own. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can show you those gifting opportunities. Contact Mark Muehl at 260-241-4845 or mark.muehl@lfnd.org.

JOIN RIGHT TO LIFE OF NORTHEAST INDIANA: Sidewalk Advocates for Life training will take place in the RLNI conference room at 3106 Lake Ave, March 11, 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. If you are interested, please send an email to: Jordyn@ichooselife.org or Chase@ichooselife.org.

LSUS is looking for people to host an after-school club. You can pick any grade level to work with; you choose the topic and how many students can attend. But you can't choose Tuesday to do it. That day is reserved for the teachers. If you do choose to host a club, you are responsible for all materials needed for your club. Contact Danielle Ramsey at dramsey@lsusfw.org to schedule your club.

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.

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 4:1-11
Mark 3:1-19
Mark 3:20-35
Mark 4:1-20
Mark 4:21-41
Mark 5:1-20
Mark 5:21-43

DAILY LECTIONARY

The First Sunday in Lent
Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday
Saturday

Evening Prayer

Genesis 3:1-9
Genesis 6:1–7:5
Genesis 7:11–8:12
Genesis 8:13–9:17
Genesis 11:27–12:20
Genesis 13:1-18
Genesis 15:1-21

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 Second Sunday in Lent

Gensis 12:1-9

Romans 4:1-8, 13-17

John 3:1-17



What Doctor Luther Says:

About the Ministry of Angels to Us

[W]e Christians learn for our consolation that the angels ascend and descend and that we are not forsaken by God, for we believe that we are the fellow citizens and companions of the dear angels in heaven. We preach Christ and are happy in the knowledge that He is our Savior, and we sing a Gloria in excelsis Deo to Him. We are witnesses of the wonderful help God gives us and of the presence and assistance of the dear angels, who deliver us from many troubles. We are indebted to the angels for this kindness. They stand guard over us, as we read in Ps. 34:7: “The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear Him, and delivers them.” And in Ps. 91:11-12: “For He will give His angels charge of you to guard you in all your ways. On their hands will they bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.” We often experience that Christians are so well protected that no devil and no tyrant is mighty and powerful enough to harm them. They are safe until the arrival of the hour fixed by God for every Christian.

In our own day the pope was unable to carry out his designs on us. Thank God, we were able to preach here in Wittenberg for many years, though many a crafty and spiteful plot was concocted against us and those who wished our death lacked neither cleverness nor power. They lack the power, however, to oppose a single angel about us. He is so mighty and clever that he can undo and destroy all the schemes of our adversaries. In fact, they cannot harm us before the hour when they are given leave to kill us. And then only this sack of maggots [footnote: “*Madensack* is a frequent term for the body”] is involved. We will not suffer any loss. And in spite of all they will have to let Christendom endure until the end.

Luther's Works, 22:206-7.

Summary of meeting of the Council of Elders, January 8,
2026

The following summary is being provided in accordance with the congregation's bylaws, §VIII)

Attendance:

Elders present: R. Lammert (chairman), A. Litke (secretary), F. Jackson, W. Krause, J. Teasdale.

Elder absent: T. Muehl, K. Vlot.

Pastor present: Pr. Punke.

Pastor Punke led the elders in a devotion by continuing the reading of Article V of the Apology of the Augsburg Confession.

In his report Pastor Punke informed the elders about two new members received by transfer and about a recent baptism. He reported on health and other issues among the members and friends of Zion, on his recording a Good Friday sermon for Worship Anew, on the recent Advent/Christmas services, and on the Sunday morning Bible classes. Pastor Punke also reported on work for recovery from the lightning strike damage (close to being finished), on office computer upgrades, and on LSUS and CLHS.

The elders reviewed Pillar 1, Goal #1: "In the current quarter of the calendar year, Zion will experience a 10% increase in average worship attendance over the same quarter of the previous year." The statistics for worship attendance in December 2025 were not yet available. In the February meeting, the elders will review the last quarter of 2025, as well as the whole of 2025, comparing each with the equivalent timeframe from 2024.

The elders reviewed Pillar 2, Goal #1: "The elders will sponsor at least annually an opportunity for providing resources and training for members to gain confidence in inviting neighbors to Zion." If sufficient church members sign up for the workshop, the six weekly sessions of the *Every One His Witness* workshop will begin on January 17 and continue thorough February 21, with Pastor Punke as the workshop leader.

The elders reviewed Pillar 2, Goal #4: “The Council of Elders will work through an ad hoc committee with the Administrative Council and Education Council to determine whether to proceed and how to proceed to respond to the results of the CADDs survey, with a report by January 31, 2026.” Frank Jackson reported that the ad hoc committee is close to issuing its final report, and should be finished by the end of January. One particular area the committee is reviewing is ministry to families, and trying to determine what resources are available to the congregation in this area.

Frank Jackson reported on the CPR training. The previously available free training is no longer an option. Frank will work with the Administrative Council in funding the training.

The elders considered an overture proposed by John Pless concerning the Siberian Evangelical Lutheran Church (an LCMS partner church), which he asked that the congregation present to the summer synodical convention. The elders moved to recommend the overture to the congregational assembly, asking Pastor Punke to work with John to make several clarifications in the proposed overture.

The meeting was closed by praying the Office of Compline.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard A. Lammert, Chairman

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.





COME CREATE

THE LADIES OF ZION WILL BE HOLDING CRAFTING SATURDAY'S STARTING **MARCH 7, 2026 AT 9AM-12PM. DO YOU HAVE A CRAFT IDEA TO SHARE? DO YOU WANT TO GET TOGETHER AND LEARN SOMETHING NEW? WOULD YOU LIKE TO HANG OUT WITH THE LADIES HERE AT ZION INSIDE OF BAUER HALL. BRING A PROJECT TO WORK ON AND A SNACK TO SHARE. COFFEE, LEMONADE, AND DOUGHNUTS WILL BE PROVIDED. ONCE AGAIN, EVERYONE IS WELCOME WHETHER YOU HAVE A PROJECT OR NOT! BRING A FRIEND, TOO!**

LSUS NOTES

Praying for You!



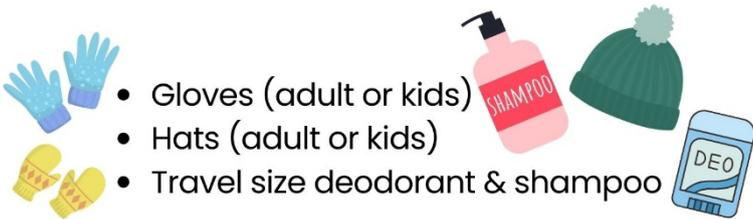
Please pray for these students/staff:

Alayah	Charli
Aiko	Noe
Yanuell	Alex
May	Mia
Avah	Mrs. Reynolds

Chapel Partner Group Project Challenge

During the month of February, LSUS students are asked to bring in items for the Charis' House/Rescue Mission. Chapel partner groups are competing to see who can bring in the the most items by the end of February. The winners will receive a fun reward!

You can help us collect items as well! Please bring these NEW items to your church or the school.



- Gloves (adult or kids)
- Hats (adult or kids)
- Travel size deodorant & shampoo

These items, along with our chapel offerings, will be given to the Charis's House/Rescue Mission in our chapel service on Feb. 26th.

Thanks for showing Jesus to others in need!

A green chalkboard-style advertisement for the LSUS Apparel Store. At the top, the text "LSUS APPAREL STORE" is written in white, with "NOW OPEN" in large, colorful letters below it. The store's logo, a red cross inside a circular emblem, is on either side. A URL is provided: <https://lutheransouthunity.itemorder.com/shop/home>. Below the URL, it says "CHECK OUT WHAT'S AVAILABLE FOR YOUR STUDENT AND FOR YOU. ALL ORDERS WILL BE PROCESSED AFTER THE STORE CLOSSES." A row of seven clothing items is shown: a white t-shirt, a red t-shirt, a black t-shirt, a white long-sleeve shirt, a red t-shirt, a black jacket, and a white t-shirt. At the bottom, it states "THE STORE WILL CLOSE AT MIDNIGHT ON FEBRUARY 28TH." The entire ad is framed by a decorative border of colorful pencils.

Encouragement Found in Scriptures:

Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. — 1 Corinthians 13:4-7



Join us...

SUNDAY, FEB. 22 AT 3 PM

CONCORDIA NEBRASKA
UNIVERSITY CHAMBER CHOIR

with the
CLHS Chamber Choir

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
1126 S. Barr St. | Fort Wayne, IN 46802 | 260-423-2496

Reception to follow in the Gathering Space.



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!

**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

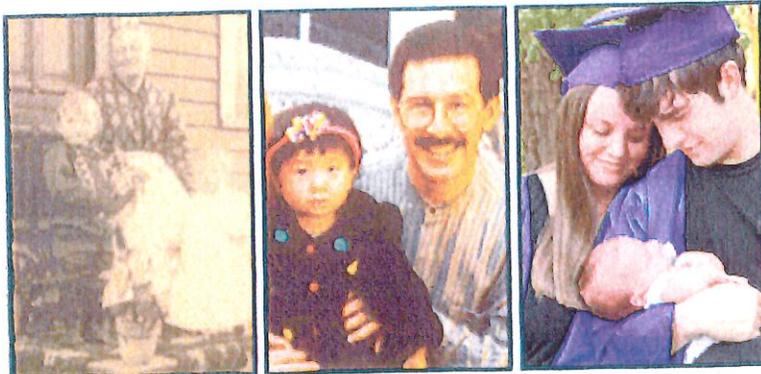




Help you need.
Hope you can trust.

Save the Date!

2026 Annual Celebration



The Mission Goes On

125 years. Faithful Still.

Celebrate 125 Years with Us!

Join us as we celebrate 125 years of a mission rooted in faith and sustained by the love and support of people like you. A chance to remember how God has led us, witness the work happening now, and be encouraged for what comes next. We hope you'll be with us, because the mission goes on, and your presence helps carry it forward.

Thursday March 5, 2026 | 5:30 - 7:30 PM
Pearl Arts Center | 234 Pearl Street

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.