

Sunday Worship
November 23, 2025



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
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WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP CELEBRATION!

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

INTRODUCTION

Jeremiah's promise of the execution of "justice and righteousness in the land" finds ironic fulfillment in the execution of Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. It appears utterly contradictory that a king should be crucified with a criminal. This victory appears for all the world as humiliating defeat. Yet through the gate of death Jesus opens the door to paradise.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Christ is the King

Arr: Organ

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

In holy baptism the triune God delivers us from the forces of evil, puts our sinful self to death, gives us new birth, adopts us as children, and makes us members of the body of Christ, the church.

PRESENTATION

The Holy Spirit calls and invites us to receive God's grace. Sponsors present those to be baptized, and we promise our support.

P: People of God, do you promise to support Griffin and pray for him in his new life in Christ?

C: **We do.**

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Only by God's grace can we renounce the forces of evil and the power of sin. With the whole church, we confess our faith in the triune God.

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

C: **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C: **I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
C: **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

With thanksgiving, God's saving deeds are remembered.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

P: Holy God, holy and merciful...one God, now and forever. **Amen**

BAPTISM

Dying with Christ in baptism, the child of God is raised to new life through water and the Word.

P: Griffin Michael, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

C: **Blessed be God, the source of all life, the word of salvation, the spirit of mercy.**

PRAYER FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT – SIGN OF THE CROSS

Additional signs proclaim the meaning of baptism. We pray that the gift of the Holy Spirit sustains the baptized. The baptized are marked with the cross of Christ forever.

WELCOME

The baptized are called to follow Jesus, the light of the world. We welcome new companions in the mission of God.

P: Let us welcome the newly baptized.

C: **We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

HYMN Red Hymnal #213

You Belong to Christ

GREETING / PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray . . .

C: **O God, our true life, to serve You is freedom, and to know You is unending joy. We worship You, we glorify You, we give thanks to You for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

HYMN OF PRAISE Red Hymnal Page 204 - from Luke 2:14



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



1 Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



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



2 Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of



God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us; you are



seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



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



3 For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly



Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.



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

THE WORD

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 23:1-6

R: ¹Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. ²Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. ³Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD. ⁵The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 46

R: ¹God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

C: ²Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;

R: ³though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

C: ⁴There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

R: ⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken; God shall help it at the break of day.

C: ⁶The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth melts away.

R: ⁷The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

C: ⁸Come now, regard the works of the LORD, what desolations God has brought upon the earth;

R: ⁹behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world; who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

C: ¹⁰"Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."

R: ¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

SECOND READING: Colossians 1:11-20

R: ¹¹May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. ¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

R: The Word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Red Hymnal #124

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,

HOLY GOSPEL

P: The Gospel according to **Luke 23:33-43**

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

³³When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" ³⁶The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, ³⁷and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

³⁹One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?" ⁴¹And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we

deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴²Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." ⁴³He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON Pastor Jaren Summers

HYMN Purple hymnal #954 *You Lord are Both Lamb and Shepherd*

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

APOSTLE'S CREED

P: Let us confess our faith.

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again; He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS *(Response after each petition)*

P: Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer . . .

OFFERING—Invitation—God's Work Continues

OFFERTORY SONG #674 *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy:
bread is broken, the wine is poured, Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around:
loaves abound!

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around:
loaves abound!

COMMUNION PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

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

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to You, almighty and merciful God...(The pastor continues with the proper preface for the day)...And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

SANCTUS Red hymnal page 130

S130

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

WORDS OF INSTITUTION - from 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

BLESSING

P: Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

HYMN Purple hymnal #1091

Hallelujah! Sing Praise to Your Creator

DISMISSAL

P: What is the mission of Zion Lutheran Church?

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

P: Go in Peace, Share the Harvest

C: Thanks be to God

POSTLUDE

The Head that Once Was Crowned

Arr. Hobby

*The altar flowers are given to the honor and glory of God
by Randy & Debbie Turner in memory of their daughter Leslie.*

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

In Helpful Service

Pastor Jaren Summers

Reader Julia Helke

Communion Assist Chuck Drake

Ushers Dale & Ginger Schaefer

Greeters Jill & John Greer

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ZION CHRISTMAS DECORATING PARTY is Tuesday, November 25 at 4:00 pm.

We'll be setting up the Christmas tree in the sanctuary, the tree in the entry, candles and greenery in the windows and two creches. If anyone is interested, we can go out to dinner afterward. We'll need about 6-8 people, but the more the merrier! Please see the sign-up in the fellowship hallway.

2026 CALENDARS are available in the Narthex. The cost is \$15. There is an envelope on the table for the money. Proceeds go to youth gathering fund.

MISSION OF THE MONTH: ADOPT-A-FAMILY

All of the ornaments for requested items have been taken. Please return the gifts under the tree by **November 30th**. The gifts for children should not be wrapped as the parents enjoy doing that for their children. Contact Deb Keppel with questions.

A FLOWER CHART for 2026 has been posted. The cost is \$45 for 2 bouquets again. Please indicate what they are in celebration or memory of and the colors you want. We can only chose colors, not the type of flower.

WOMEN OF ZION CHRISTMAS DINNER: Thursday, December 4th, 6:00 pm
Information and sign up sheets are posted in the fellowship hallway. Deadline to sign up is 11/30. The envelope for payment is on the table in the work room.

CHEER PLATES are being put together on Monday, December 15th at 10:00 am. There is a sign up sheet in the fellowship hallway to donate food, assemble the plates and deliver them.

CHRISTMAS PARTY - December 7th after service. Pizza, crafts, gingerbread house competition, break out room. Sign up in the fellowship hallway.

THIS WEEK AT ZION

Sunday, November 23	5:30 pm	Skating/Pizza Party
Monday, November 24	10:30 am 3:30 pm	Mission Quilts TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)
Tuesday, November 25	10:00 am 8:00 pm 4:00 pm	Mission Quilts AA Church Decorating Party
Wednesday, November 26	NO Choir Rehearsal	
Thursday, November 27	Happy Thanksgiving - Office Closed	
Friday, November 28	Office Closed	
Sunday, November 30	No Sunday School Storypoint (Randall) Outreach	

Staff

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