

Historic Zion Lutheran Church

DIVINE SERVICE FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

9:00 am Sunday, January 18, 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] *Let the words | of my mouth || and the medi- | ta- tion of my | heart || be acceptable
| in your sight, || O Lord, my | rock and my re- | •deemer•.*

Verse 1: **The heavens declare the | •glory• of God, || and the sky above pro- | claims
his hand- i- | work. || Day to day | pours out speech, || and night to | night
re- veals__ | •knowledge•.**

Verse 2: *There is no speech, nor | are there words, || whose | voice__ is not | heard. || Their
measuring line goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end | of the
world. || In them he has set a | tent__for the | sun.*

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] *Let the words | of my mouth || and the medi- | ta- tion of my | heart || be
acceptable | in your sight, || O Lord, my | rock and my re- | •deemer•.*

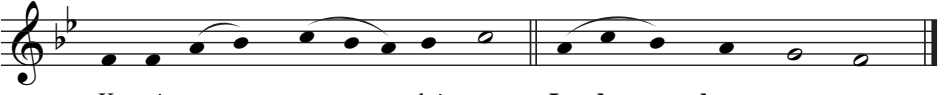
Kyrie



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 takest a-way the sin of the world,

+ Page 3 +

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..... The Only Son Burgundy Hymn 402
[Rise for stanza 4.]

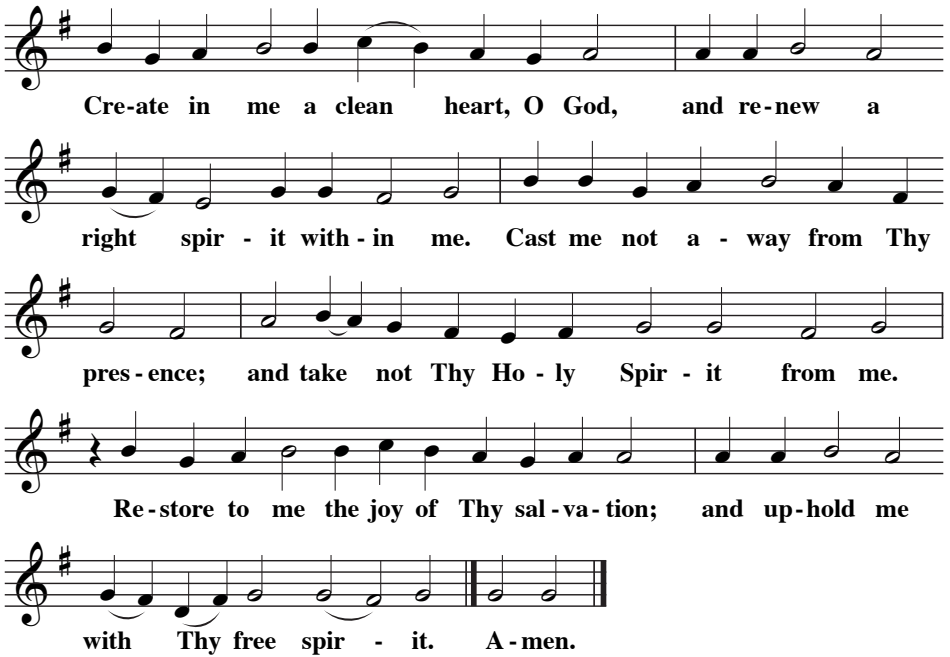
Sermon

[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



+ The Office of the Sacrament of the Altar +

Preface

The Lord be with you.



Lift up your hearts.

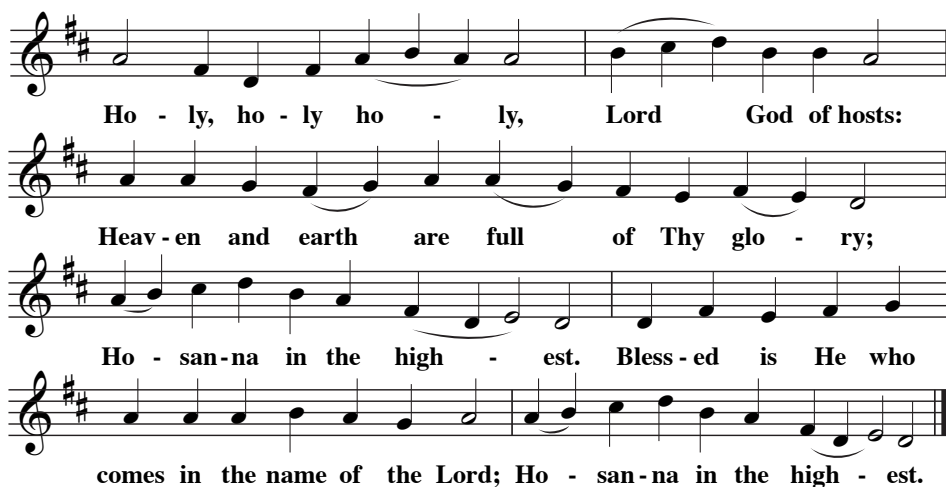


Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.



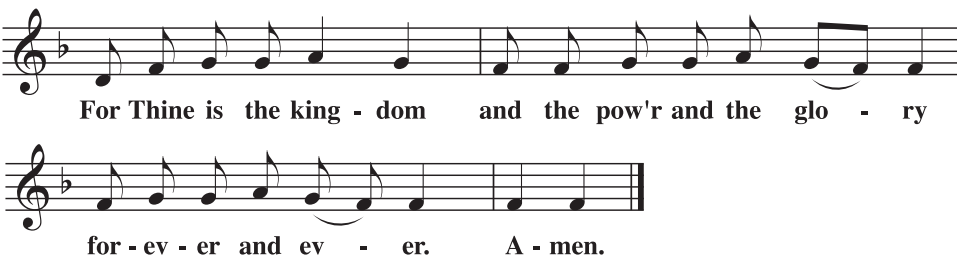
Proper Preface for Epiphany, Sanctus

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



[Kneel] Lord's Prayer

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

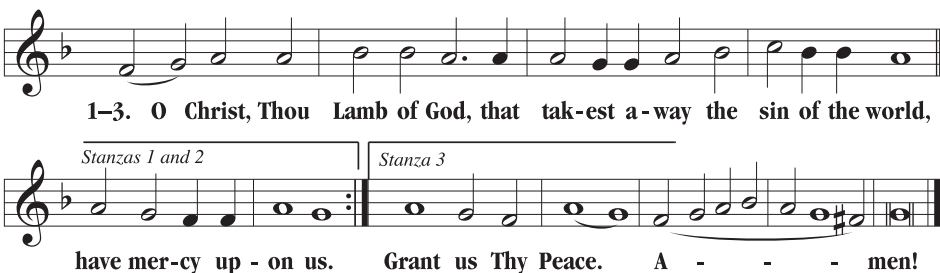


Words of Institution, Pax Domini

The peace of the Lord be with you always!



Agnus Dei



[Be Seated]

Distribution Hymns Mark How the Lamb Burgundy Hymn 600

O God of God, O Light of Light Burgundy Hymn 810

[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.



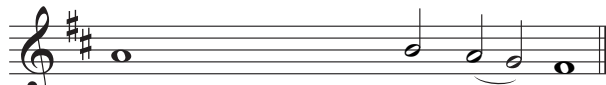
4. Glo— ry__ be to the
Father, and to__ the __ Son, and to the Ho- ly Ghost.



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

Post Communion Rite

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 Christ Is the World's Burgundy Hymn 539

Postlude

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Readings for the Second Sunday after the Epiphany

The Old Testament Reading is Isaiah 49:1-7

Listen to me, O coastlands,
and give attention, you peoples from afar.
The LORD called me from the womb,
from the body of my mother he named my name.
He made my mouth like a sharp sword;
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow;
in his quiver he hid me away.
And he said to me, “You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will be glorified.”
But I said, “I have labored in vain;
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
yet surely my right is with the LORD,
and my recompense with my God.”
And now the LORD says,
he who formed me from the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him;
and that Israel might be gathered to him—
for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD,
and my God has become my strength—
he says:
“It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
to raise up the tribes of Jacob
and to bring back the preserved of Israel;
I will make you as a light for the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”
Thus says the LORD,
the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nation,
the servant of rulers:
“Kings shall see and arise;
princes, and they shall prostrate themselves;
because of the LORD, who is faithful,
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

The Epistle is 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes,

To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge—even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you—so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Gospel is St. John 1:29-42a

The next day [John] saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.’ I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel.” And John bore witness: “I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.”

The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God!” The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, “What are you seeking?” And they said to him, “Rabbi” (which means Teacher), “where are you staying?” He said to them, “Come and you will see.” So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which means Christ). He brought him to Jesus.

Hymns for the Second Sunday after the Epiphany

LSB402 The Only Son from Heaven

Elisabeth Cruciger

1. The only Son from heaven, Foretold by ancient seers,
By God the Father given, In human form appears.
No sphere His light confining, No star so brightly shining
As He, our Morning Star.
2. O time of God appointed, O bright and holy morn!
He comes, the King anointed, The Christ, the virgin-born,
Grim death to vanquish for us, To open heav'n before us
And bring us life again.
3. O Lord, our hearts awaken To know and love You more,
In faith to stand unshaken, In Spirit to adore,
That we, through this world moving, Each glimpse of heaven proving,
May reap its fullness there.
- △ 4. O Father, here before You With God the Holy Ghost
And Jesus, we adore You, O pride of angel host:
Before You mortals lowly Cry, "Holy, holy, holy,
O blessed Trinity!"

LSB600 Mark How the Lamb of God's Self-Offering

Carl P. Daw, Jr.

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1. Mark how the Lamb of God's self-off'ring
Our human sinfulness takes on
In the birth-waters of the Jordan
As Jesus is baptized by John.
Hear how the voice from heaven thunders,
"Lo, this is My beloved Son."
See how in dove-like form the Spirit
Descends on God's Anointed One.
2. From this assurance of God's favor
Jesus goes to the wilderness,
There to endure a time of testing
That readied Him to teach and bless.
So we, by water and the Spirit
Baptized into Christ's ministry,
Are often led to paths of service
Through mazes of adversity.

3. Grant us, O God, the strength and courage
To live the faith our lips declare;
Bless us in our baptismal calling;
Christ's royal priesthood help us share.
Turn us from ev'ry false allegiance,
That we may trust in Christ alone:
Raise up in us a chosen people
Transformed by love to be Your own.

LSB810 O God of God, O Light of Light

John Julian

1. O God of God, O Light of Light,
O Prince of Peace and King of kings:
To You in heaven's glory bright
The song of praise forever rings.
To Him who sits upon the throne,
The Lamb once slain but raised again,
Be all the glory He has won,
All thanks and praise! Amen, amen.
2. For deep in the prophets' sacred page,
And grand in poets' winged word,
Slowly in type, from age to age
The nations saw their coming Lord;
Till through the deep Judean night
Rang out the song, "Good will to men!"
Sung once by first-born sons of light,
It echoes now, "Good will!" Amen.
3. That life of truth, those deeds of love,
That death so steeped in hate and scorn—
These all are past, and now above
He reigns, our King once crowned with thorn.
Lift up your heads, O mighty gates!
So sang that host beyond our ken.
Lift up your heads, your King awaits.
We lift them up. Amen, amen.

4. Then raise to Christ a mighty song,
And shout His name, His mercies tell!
Sing, heav'nly host, your praise prolong,
And all on earth, your anthem swell!
All hail, O Lamb for sinners slain!
Forever let the song ascend!
Worthy the Lamb, enthroned to reign,
All glory, pow'r! Amen, amen.

LSB539 Christ Is the World's Redeemer

attr. Columba

1. Christ is the world's Redeemer, The lover of the pure,
The font of heav'nly wisdom, Our trust and hope secure,
The armor of His soldiers, The Lord of earth and sky,
Our health while we are living, Our life when we shall die.
2. Christ has our host surrounded With clouds of martyrs bright,
Who wave their palms in triumph And fire us for the fight.
This Christ the cross ascended To save a world undone
And, suff'ring for the sinful, Our full redemption won.
3. Down in the realm of darkness He strode in victory,
And at the hour appointed He rose triumphantly.
And now, to heav'n ascended, He sits upon the throne
Whence He had ne'er departed, His Father's and His own.
- △ 4. Glory to God the Father, The unbegotten One,
All honor be to Jesus, His sole begotten Son,
And to the Holy Spirit—The perfect Trinity.
Let all the worlds give answer: Amen! So let it be.

The 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

2313 Hanna Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46803 | 260-744-1389

pastor@zionfw.org, church@zionfw.org | website: www.zionfw.org

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

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

The Pastoral Ministry at Zion

Senior Pastor:

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

Field Workers:

Nathaniel Demlow, Joshua Fuchs

The Teaching Staff at Lutheran South Unity

Principal:

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

Teachers:

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

The Support Staff

Organist and Director of Parish Music:

Michael Hollman, MM

Church Office Manager:

Melvia Culpher

PRAYERS FOR TODAY

- + For the church, especially those bearing the cross of persecution, including Bishop Juhana Pohjola and Dr. Päivi Räsänen (case being decided by the Finnish Supreme Court)
- + For those who serve our Lord at home and abroad, especially our teachers as they start of another academic year, our fieldworkers Nate Demlow and Josh Fuchs
- + For our nation; for our leaders; for our military, including James Hall & Thaddeus Cody
- + For our schools, especially Lutheran South Unity School, Concordia Lutheran High School, and Concordia Theological Seminary.
- + For those who travel
- + For the aged and the homebound
- + For those who are on hospice care or nearing death, especially Bob Ockree
- + For the ill, distressed, and those suffering affliction, including Marty Thomas, Darryl Kirtz, Jim Teasdale, Estella Ramirez, Dick Hollman, Art Litke, Henry Williams, Debra Busche, Carl Albersmeyer, Bill Weinrich, Dwight Bieberich, Jimmy Coffey, Al McFeter, Mike Ming, Earl Marcel Sisson, Elaine Seifert, Joe Harrison, Louisa Porter, Gary Phillips, David Groth, Gary Castle, Ron Rastl, Robert & Jenny Hobby
- + For God's blessing on all godly marriages
- + For the gift of life and for length of days, especially George Lange and Jacob Houser, 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
- + In remembrance of the faithful departed
- + 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 Second Sunday after the Epiphany. The Cross Bowl is given by Lois Lange in thanksgiving to God for George Lange's 91 years of blessings. The Altar Vases are given in celebration of Jacob Houser's 22nd birthday by Connie & Steve Houser. Please complete an attendance communion card, including the names of all children, and indicate if you are communing. Non-members, please read the back of the card.

CALENDAR

January 18, 2025 thru January 24, 2026

SUN.	9:00 AM	Divine Service	Church
	10:45 AM	Class on Ephesians	Bauer Hall
	10:45 AM	Class on Lutheran Identity	Conference Room
MON.		No School — Martin Luther King Holiday	
TUES.	9:00 AM	Weekly Bible Study	Bauer Hall
WED.	5:30 PM	Wednesday Divine Service	Church
THURS.	10:30 AM	Book of Concord	Conference Room
FRI.			
SAT.	11:00 AM	Private Confession	Church
	1:30 PM	Everyone His Witness	Conference Room

January 25, 2025

SUN.	9:00 AM	Divine Service	Church
	10:45 AM	Congregational Assembly	Bauer Hall
		No classes this Sunday	

ZION ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

GIVING STATEMENTS will be mailed out after the 25th of January if you haven't picked yours up by then.

LWML will meet today in the Narthex after Divine Service has cleared out.

LSUS: the 3-5 grade choir will be here at Zion next Sunday, January 25th. Let's welcome them, their families, and their teachers here warmly.

ZION'S CONGREGATIONAL ASSEMBLY (one of two annually) will be held at 10:45 AM, next Sunday. You will hear reports from the pastor, treasurer, trustee, councils, and LSUS. Items of business include making nominations for Synod President, First Vice-President, and Regional Vice-President, offering up an overture to the Synod Convention (copies are available in the narthex), and electing our congregational lay elector (for Synod President). Plan to attend.

SYMPOSIA WEEK at the Seminary begins this Tuesday and includes some music events for the public. See the bulletin insert for more information about the musical offerings. The theme of the Exegetical Symposium (begins 8:45 AM Tuesday) is "Holiness, Sacrifice, and Worship: Leviticus for Today's Royal Priesthood." The theme of the Confessional Symposium (begins 1:15 PM Wednesday) is "Baptism: The Water That Unites and Divides." For more information on these symposia, visit ctsfw.regfox.com/2026-symposia-series.

MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE: 1 John 2:2—"He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world." Last week's verse was Ephesians 1:7

WE LIVE IN AN "I CAN DO IT MYSELF" CULTURE that has been cultivated by our access to technology. Yet the question is, "Do I need help to create my Christian estate plan?" This month we consider that your estate plan represents the biggest collection of decisions with far more impact than any other decisions in life. If you are planning gifts to family, it is a wise idea to discuss these with family, imparting Godly encouragement for faithful stewardship. A ministry gift might include a discussion with current ministry leaders. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can help facilitate these discussions. Contact Mark Muehl at 260-241-4845 or mark.muehl@lfnf.org.

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

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.

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

John 1:29-42a

Romans 9:1-18

Romans 9:19-33

Romans 10:1-21

Romans 11:1-24

Romans 11:25-12:13

Romans 12:14-13:14

DAILY LECTIONARY

The Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Evening Prayer

Isaiah 49:1-7

Ezekiel 44:1-16, 23-29

Ezekiel 47:1-14, 21-23

Joel 1:1-20

Joel 2:1-17

Joel 2:18-32

Joel 3:1-21

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 Third Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 9:1-4

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Matthew 4:12-25



What Doctor Luther Says:

About God's Proper and Alien Works

"The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork" [Ps. 19:1]. ...

[The work of God] is nothing else but to create righteousness, peace, mercy, truth, patience, kindness, joy, and health, inasmuch as the righteous, truthful, peaceful, kind, joyful, healthy, patient, merciful cannot do otherwise than act according to His nature. Therefore God creates righteous, peaceful, patient, merciful, truthful, kind, joyful, wise, healthy men. These are his handiwork, or his creations, as Ps. 111 [:3] says, "Full of honor and majesty is his work." That is to say, praise and comeliness, or glory and brightness is the work of God. It is praiseworthy and very beautiful, without any blemish whatsoever, as Ps. 96 [:6] says, "Honor and beauty are before him; strength and majesty are in his sanctuary," that is, in his church. The acts of God are therefore the righteous and the Christians; they are his new creation. The new works, however, are the righteousness, truths, etc., which he performs in his acts ...

But He cannot come to this his proper work unless he undertakes a work that is alien and contrary to himself, as Isa. 28 [:21] says: An alien work is his that he may work his own work. His alien work, however, is to make men sinners, unrighteous, liars, miserable, foolish, lost. Not that he actually makes them such himself, but that the pride of men, although they are such, will not let them become or be such, so much so that God makes use of a greater disturbance, indeed, he uses this work solely to show them that they are such, in order that they may become in their own eyes, what they are in God's eyes. Therefore, since he can make just only those who are not just, he is compelled to perform an alien work in order to make them sinners, before he performs his proper work of justification.

Luther's Works, 51:17-19.

LSUS NOTES

Praying for You!

Please pray for these students/staff:

Za’Niah	Sierra
Zaelyn	CJ
Kyu Kyu	TraShawn
Anastasia	Daylen
Benicio	Faculty & Staff



Cookies, Calculations, & Fifth Grade Fun!



Fifth graders put their math skills to the test with their favorite project—doubling a sugar cookie recipe and making the dough themselves! Mrs. Ramsey baked the cookies, and students enjoyed tasting them the next day. Did they do the math correctly? Did anyone mix up sugar and salt? You’ll have to ask a 5th grader to find out!

A Warm LSUS Welcome for Pastor A.!



We warmly welcome Pastor Dr. Thomas Ahlersmeyer to the LSUS family as he begins his ministry at Mount Calvary Lutheran Church, one of our associated churches. He brings 46 years of faithful service and experience with a deep commitment to sharing the Gospel and caring for God’s people. His ministry experience spans rural, suburban

and urban congregations, as well as leadership roles in education and administration.

Pastor A. and his wife, Janet, have been married for 46 years and are blessed with six children (one of which is our very own, Pastor Ben!) and ten grandchildren. We look forward to this exciting new chapter and pray God's blessings on Pastor. A. as he serves the Mount Calvary congregation and our Lutheran school community. His leadership and heart for ministry will be a wonderful blessing to us all.



Encouragement Found in Scriptures:

And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.

— Matthew 2: 9-11



I praise you, for I am
Fearfully
and
Wonderfully
Made.



Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. But even the hairs of your head are all numbered.

Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.

Matthew 10:29-31

Jesus speaks these comforting words to us to remind us that we have nothing to fear, not even death itself. God, in His divine omniscience, knows all the details of our lives. And, because He loves us, He uses that omniscience to guard us and keep us safely in His kingdom. After all, if God guards and keeps even the sparrows, how much more will He keep you, who are of more value than the sparrows?!

But this comforting word from Jesus also raises the question, why are you of more value than the sparrows? The answer to that question is the foundation for our understanding of the sanctity of all human life. We are all of more value than the sparrows because we have each been **“fearfully and wonderfully made”** (Psalm 139:14) in the image of God.

Unlike the rest of creation—like the sparrows—which God spoke into existence and upholds with His mighty Word, mankind was wonderfully **“made and fashioned”** by the hands of God (Psalm 119:73) from the **“dust of the ground”** (Genesis 2:7).

Even now, God continues to show great care in making each human being, **“knitting”** every one of us together in our mother’s womb (Psalm 139:13). Therefore, from the moment of conception when God knits us together until the moment of our death, at every stage and in every condition in between, each person is precious to God. We are each so precious that God was willing to send His only-begotten Son to bear the **“sin of the world”** (John 1:29) and invite us all into His eternal kingdom.

As we are each valuable in the eyes of God, we can receive every single neighbor as a gift from the Lord regardless of their size, abilities, impairments, or age. Likewise, as we have been called and redeemed by Christ, we act as precious gifts—loving, defending, and protecting each one of them.



For we are all **Fearfully and Wonderfully Made.**



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FOR LIFE

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Symposia Series

MUSIC EVENTS

Tuesday, January 20 | Kramer Chapel

5:00 p.m. Vespers and Organ Recital

Dr. Craig Sproat, Concordia University Wisconsin

Wednesday, January 21 | Kramer Chapel

5:00 p.m. Hymn Festival

Seminary Schola Cantorum

Thursday, January 22 | Kramer Chapel

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

Seminary Kantorei



These events are free and open to the public.

CTSFW.EDU/SYMPOSIA

Livestream at ctsfw.edu/daily-chapel.

Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne

6600 N. Clinton St.

**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.**





JANUARY EVENT SCHEDULE

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

6
JAN 2026

LINE DANCING LESSONS - ALL TYPES

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

13
JAN 2026

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

7 PM HOLY CROSS YOUTH CENTER
3420 N. ANTHONY BLVD

20
JAN 2026

DEVOTION ANCHOR NIGH WITH BRIAN LOESEL FOLLOWED BY CARDS & GAMES

7 PM THE GARDEN
3308 N ANTHONY BLVD

27
JAN 2026

MEETUP - RACK & HELEN'S TRIVIA | TACO TUESDAY

7 PM T525 BROADWAY STREET
NEW HAVEN