

WELCOME TO ZION'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

4th Sunday after Epiphany

February 2, 2025

Zion's worship services are live-streamed and archived on YouTube. While the focus is always on the worship leaders and the sanctuary at large, your voice and image may be included as part of the recording. If you do not wish to appear on film, please sit in, or under, the balcony and ask an usher for communion to be brought to your seat. If you have any other questions, please speak with Pastor Caitlin. Thank you for your understanding and support in spreading the Gospel message!

Pastor Caitlin M. Kurtz
Every Week at Zions: @ 10:30 Worship, 9:15 Sunday School
Wednesday night activities 5:30 meal, 6:15 Rejoicing Spirits worship, 6:50 Bible Study

**(Congregation please stand as able)*

Welcome and Announcements and Prelude

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, our creator, our protector, and our wellspring of life. **C: Amen.**

P: Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection

P: Merciful God,

C: you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your loving kindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

P: God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God. **C: Amen.**

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN:** WOV 652 *Arise, Your Light Has Come!*

You are invited to face the back of the church for the opening hymn. As the cross is processed into the congregation you may continue to sing toward it.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Arise, Your Light Has Come!". It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The melody is written on a single staff, and the lyrics are printed below it. The lyrics are: "1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey; 2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door; 3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born, 4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun-tains burst in song!". The second system also has a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps. The melody continues on a single staff, and the lyrics are: "show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day. pro - claim the cap-tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor. bind up the bro - ken - heart-ed ones and com - fort those who mourn. Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong." The bass line is indicated by a bass clef and a key signature of two sharps, but the notes are not clearly visible.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947 Music: William H. Walter, 1825-1893 Text © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc. FESTAL SONG S M

***APOSTOLIC GREETING**

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.

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high-est; glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth. 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, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high-est; glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth. 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 seated at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer. Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high-est; glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth. 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, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high-est; glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

SCRIPTURE & SERMON

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and love; and that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 1:4-10 (pg. 609 in pew Bible)

Now the word of the Lord came to me saying, 'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.' Then I said, 'Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.' But the Lord said to me, 'Do not say, "I am only a boy"; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord.' Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the Lord said to me, 'Now I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.'

After the reading: **Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: 71:1-6 (pg. 463 in pew Bible, also below)

Leader: In you, O Lord, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame.

Congregation: In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; incline your ear to me and save me.

L: Be to me a rock of refuge, a strong fortress, to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress.

C: Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the grasp of the unjust and cruel.

L: For you, O Lord, are my hope, my trust, O Lord, from my youth.

C: Upon you I have leaned from my birth; it was you who took me from my mother's womb. My praise is continually of you.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 (pg. 934 in pew Bible)

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

After the reading: **Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON as the children come forward, please join in singing:

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? Al - le - lu - ia. You
have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

***GOSPEL:** Luke 4:21-30 (pg. 835 in pew Bible)

Before reading: P: The Holy Gospel According to St. Luke, the 4th Chapter. C: **Glory to you, O Lord.** Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.' All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, 'Is not this Joseph's son?' He said to them, 'Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, "Doctor, cure yourself!" And you will say, "Do here also in your home town the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum."' And he said, 'Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's home town. But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up for three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.' When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

After the reading: P: The Gospel of our Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON - The Politics of Love

***HYMN OF THE DAY:** ELW 705 *God of Grace and God of Glory*

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -
3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;
sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us
your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion

bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
 serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878–1969 Music: John Hughes, 1873–1932 CWM RHONDDA 87 87 877

OUR OFFERINGS: OUR TRUST, PRAYERS & GIFTS

***APOSTLES' CREED**

P: Let us confess our faith together, using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
 I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
 He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.
 He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
 He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.
 He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 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.**

Note: the word "catholic" here means the church around the world.

***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

(after hearing, "God, in your mercy," respond: **Hear our Prayer**)

(after hearing the final prayer petition, "We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people." respond: **Amen.**)

***SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

CHOIR ANTHEM

OFFERING WITH OFFERTORY

During this portion of the worship service, we offer to God a portion of what God has first given us, trusting that God will use these gifts to do God's work in the world. We offer thanks to God with financial gifts, song, and prayer. Or you can scan this QR code to go to our electronic giving website: <http://www.zionsjonestown.com/giving/>, where you can choose to give either through PayPal, or Simply Giving, which is our regular electronic offering service, offering both one-time, and regular, automatic options.



***POST OFFERING VERSE**

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds
 that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u-nite them with the
 prayers we of-fer now. Grace our ta-ble with your pres-ence, Lord, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

P: God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service; our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. **C: Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

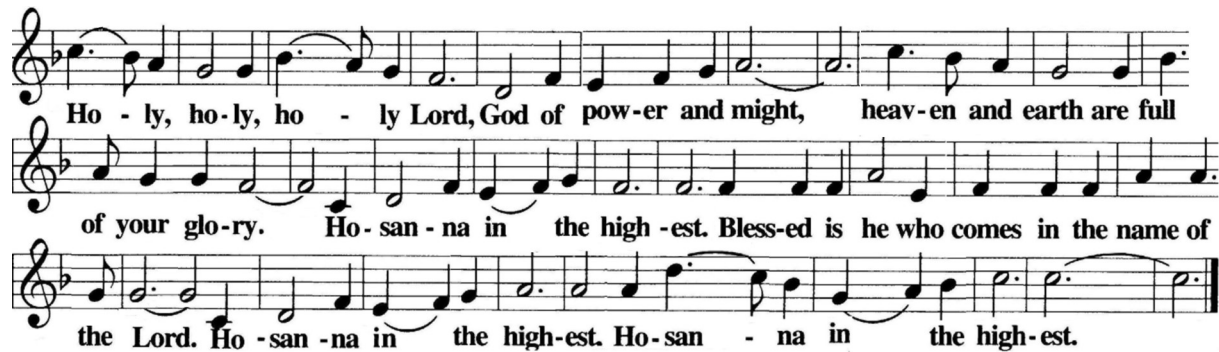
Please stand as you are able.

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, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so with the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn: ***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**



***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

P: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, in the beginning you formed the heavens and earth and created us in your likeness. You made us guardians of your good creation and left the earth in our care. All through our weary years and our silent tears, you did not abandon us to ourselves, but sought us out in love. When we were captives in Egypt, you did not abandon us.

When we wandered in the wilderness, you did not abandon us.

When we turned to false gods, you did not abandon us. Through your holy prophets you called us to return to your graciousness, to your mercy, and to your steadfast love.

In the crowning act of love you gave your only Son, that whoever believes in him will have eternal life. For you sent Jesus not to condemn the world, but to save the world from sin. Through his death on the cross, we who were once far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. **C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P: With this bread and cup, we remember Christ's life among us; his association with outcasts, his eating with sinners, his healing of the sick, his care for the poor.

Send, we pray, your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and wine, that we who share this meal may become a holy communion, the body of Christ in the world.

C: Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

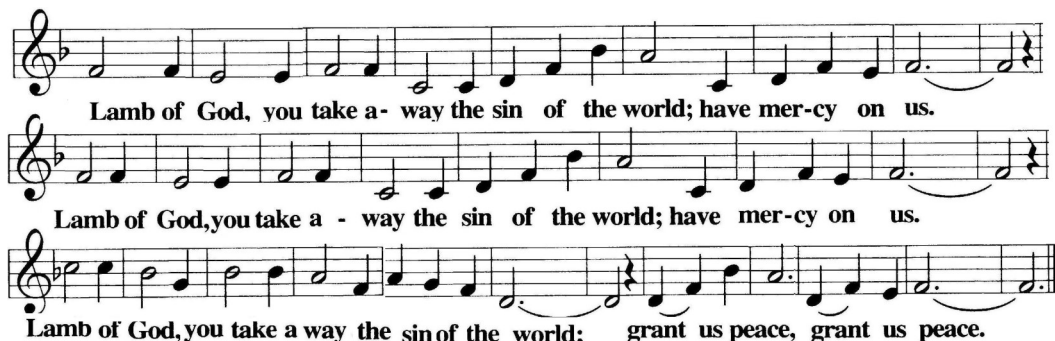
P: Let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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**

P: This joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

LAMB OF GOD



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

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

Lamb of God, you take a way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

At the ushers instruction, you are invited to come forward, pick up either a pre-filled grape juice cup, or empty communion cup, and kneel or stand at the communion railing. (gluten free wafers are available for those who need that accommodation, please let Pastor know when you are communing) Here, you will first receive the bread, and then either a blessing of your grape juice, or the wine poured into your glass. After consuming both elements, return to your seat by the side aisle, placing your empty glass in the tray.

*Those who are worshipping at home this morning are invited to **pray this prayer**, trusting that Christ's spiritual presence is with you at all times and places. If you would like Pastor Caitlin to bring communion to your home, call her at 717 865 3652 and she will be glad to do so.*

“Loving Jesus, since I cannot at this moment receive you in bread and wine according to your promise in the sacrament of Holy Communion, I ask you to come to me in Spirit. Feed me, for I am hungry; strengthen me, for I am weak; enliven and sanctify me with Your sacred Body and Blood. Deliver me from all sin and make me always obedient to Your commands. Let me never be separated from You, my Savior, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit live and reign one God forever and ever. Amen.”

COMMUNION HYMNS: # 35 *Hark, the Glad Sound!*
(green book) #315 *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*
#212 *Let Us Break Bread Together*

POST COMMUNION PRAYER AND SENDING OF COMMUNION

P: Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray. **C: Amen.**

P: In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

C: We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.

***BENEDICTION**

P: The Spirit of the triune God bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

C: Amen.

***SENDING HYMN:** ELW 836 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

As the cross is processed to the rear of the sanctuary as we sing, you are invited to turn towards it, symbolic of our desire to follow Christ out into the world.



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
 2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - lect thy rays,
 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
 stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;

Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
 teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1933 Music: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt. HYMN TO JOY 87 87 D

***DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. Live in hope.

C: Thanks be to God!

We're glad you're here! Whether today is your first day at Zion's, or your thousandth, we're glad you're here, and we look forward to worshipping with you. If you're new, or it's been a while, we invite you to fill out one of the "We're glad you're here" white envelopes located in the pew back to ensure our records are correct, and so we can connect with you further. Completed cards can be placed in the offering plate. Thank you, and welcome!

This week we especially remember in our prayers: Christine Techky, Andy Bomberger, hurricane victims and all victims of violence.

Welcome, Pastor John Teitman! Pastor Teitman serves as a hospital chaplain at the UVA hospital in Haymarket, VA and we are grateful for his worship leadership this morning. Pastor Caitlin is away for a few days and will return to the office on Wednesday.

SMILE - IT'S PICTURE TIME !! Zion's new picture directory is upon us! You can sign up for a photo time: Saturday, February 8 from 9-11 AM and Monday, February 10 from 4-6 PM ! These photos will help create our new photo directory so we can learn one another's names.

This Week at Zions:

Feb. 4, Tuesday @ 5:30 pm Preschool Open House

Feb. 5, Wednesday @ 9:00 am Quilting

Feb. 5, Wednesday @ 5:30 community meal, 6:15 pm Rejoicing Spirits worship, 6:50 Bible Study, 7:30 adult choir rehearsal

Next Week at Zions:

Feb. 9, Sunday @ 9:30 am Mens and Womens Bible Study

Feb. 10, Monday @ 6:30 pm Worship & Music meeting

Feb. 12, Wednesday @ 9:00 am Quilting

Feb. 12, Wednesday @ 5:30 community meal, 6:15 pm Rejoicing Spirits worship, 6:50 Bible study, 7:30 adult choir rehearsal

Feb. 15, Saturday @ 9:00 am Babies & Bibles will meet

Men's and Women's Bible studies will meet February 9 at 9:15 am. Donuts and coffee will be available.

Babies and Bibles: Saturday , February 15, at 9 AM Jesus says "Let the little children come unto me". Children ages birth through age four (and older siblings) are welcome to attend, with their adults.

Pastor Caitlin will be inducted into the Lebanon County Women's Hall of Fame for her leadership in the community on Wednesday, March 19 at 6:30 PM. All are welcome to attend and celebrate Pastor Caitlin's accomplishments! Friends and family tickets are available for purchase at eventcreate.com/e/lccwhalloffame until January 31, when they will go on sale for the general public.

Zion's Preschool registration opens to the public at our open house on Tues., Feb. 4, 5:30 to 7 pm. There are two class options: Tu/Th (for children who are at least 3 by September 1) and M/W/F (for children who are at least 4 by September 1). Both classes meet from 9 - 11:45 AM. For a registration packet, email zionspreschool@verizon.net .

It's not too late to join in the new Book/Bible study that meets on Wednesday nights at 6:50 PM. Together we are looking at unlikely people through whom God has worked to shine light and love in the world, together with parables that describe God's work in surprising places and ways. Extra copies of the book are available in the Gathering Area, for this week, read "Forward Out of Darkness Pt. 2 and Mark 4:19 and 4:26-29.

Our **homebound members** are an important part of our congregation! Check out February's Member to Remember, **Nancy Kleinfelter**, on the large bulletin board.

Homebound birthday upcoming: Feb. 26, Ingrid Erb, Cornwall Manor, Corson Hall, PO Box 125, 1 Boyd St., Cornwall, PA 17016.

Hersheypark: Order forms for discount Hersheypark tickets and parking passes are on the bulletin board. The tickets and passes are good for any one day from April 5, 2025 through January 4, 2026. Tickets are \$44.95 (regular price \$89.95) and parking passes are \$26.00 (regular price \$35.00). March 9th is the last day to order tickets. If you have any questions contact Janet Bird at jbird75@comcast.net or 717-865-5636.

Highlights from January's Council meeting are sent out via email after the meeting. Copies are then available at the small bulletin board in the Gathering Area.

You are invited to complete a Spiritual Gifts Inventory to learn more about the ways God has uniquely created YOU (more info in the sermon!) Paper copies, which you'll need to manually score, are available in the windowsills downstairs. Or, you can complete an online version using this QR code.



Christine Techky would like to thank Pastor Caitlin and congregation members who called, sent cards, and visited with delicious meals for her and her husband after Christine recently broke her ankle. The kindness of the people of Zion's is evident all year long but shines whenever somebody needs a little extra comfort.

Serving at Zion's	Today	Next Sunday
Lector	Noel Strattan	Matt Wolfe
Prayer	Tom Frey	Jean Fowler
Children's sermon	Nancy Ludwig	Stephanie Livingston
Comm. Assts.	Deb Long, Judy Merkel	Linda Toth, Linda Wenrich
Greeter		
Acolyte	Annabella Hess	Gracie Bucks
Crucifer	Xander McQuaide	Joanna Guldin-Noll
Altar Guild	Merkel family	Strattan/Wenrich
Elevette	Ann Kulp	Steve Bucks
Ushers - Feb	Luke Hiester, Rick Herr	

MUSICIAN: Maryann Guldin
SOUND: Houser family
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