

WELCOME TO ZION'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

6th Sunday after Epiphany

February 16, 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 766 *We Come to the Hungry Feast*

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.

1 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a word of peace.
2 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a world re - leased
3 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry that the hun - ger cease,

To hun - gry hearts un - sat - is - fied the love of God is
from hun - gry folk of ev - 'ry kind, the poor in bod - y,
and know - ing, though we eat our fill, the hun - ger will stay

not de - nied.
 poor in mind. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
 with us still.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943 Music: Ray Makeever, b. 1943

HUNGRY FEAST 77889

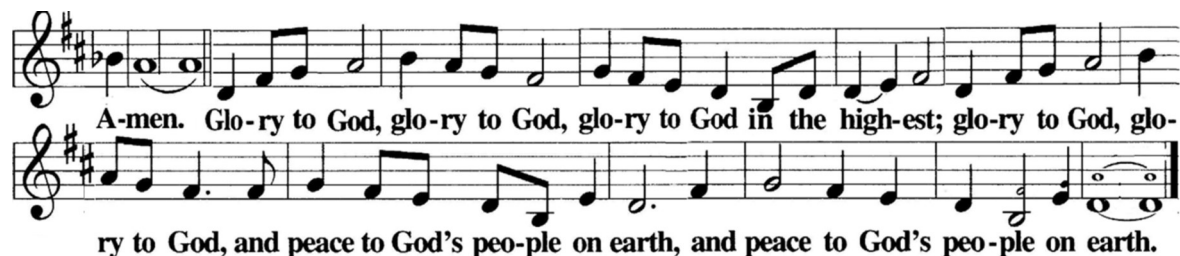
***APOSTOLIC GREETING**

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 seat-
 ed 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.



SCRIPTURE & SERMON

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 17:5-10 (pg. 628 in pew Bible)

Thus says the Lord: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the Lord. They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse—who can understand it? I the Lord test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

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

PSALM: 1 (pg. 424 in pew Bible, also below)

Leader: Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;

Congregation: but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night.

L: They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

C: The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

L: Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgement, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

C: for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:12-20 (pg. 935 in pew Bible)

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

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

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***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 6:17-26 (pg. 838 in pew Bible)

Before reading: P: The Holy Gospel According to St. Luke, the 6th Chapter. C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. Then he looked up at his disciples and said: 'Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. 'Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. 'Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. 'Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. 'But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. 'Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. 'Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. 'Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

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

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY:** ELW 725 *When the Poor Ones*

1 When the poor ones, who have noth - ing, still are giv - ing;
2 When com - pas - sion gives the suf - f'ring con - so - la - tion;
3 When our spir - its, like a chal - ice, brim with glad - ness;
4 When the good - ness poured from heav - en fills our dwell - ings;

when the thirst - y pass the cup, wa - ter to share;
when ex - spect - ing brings to birth hope that was lost;
when our voic - es, full and clear, sing out the truth;
when the na - tions work to change war in - to peace;

when the wound - ed of - fer oth - ers strength and heal - ing:
when we choose love, not the ha - tred all a - round us:
when our long - ings, free from en - vy, seek the hum - ble:
when the strang - er is ac - cept - ed as our neigh - bor:

Refrain

We see God, here by our side, walk - ing our way;

we see God, here by our side, walk - ing our way.

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.**

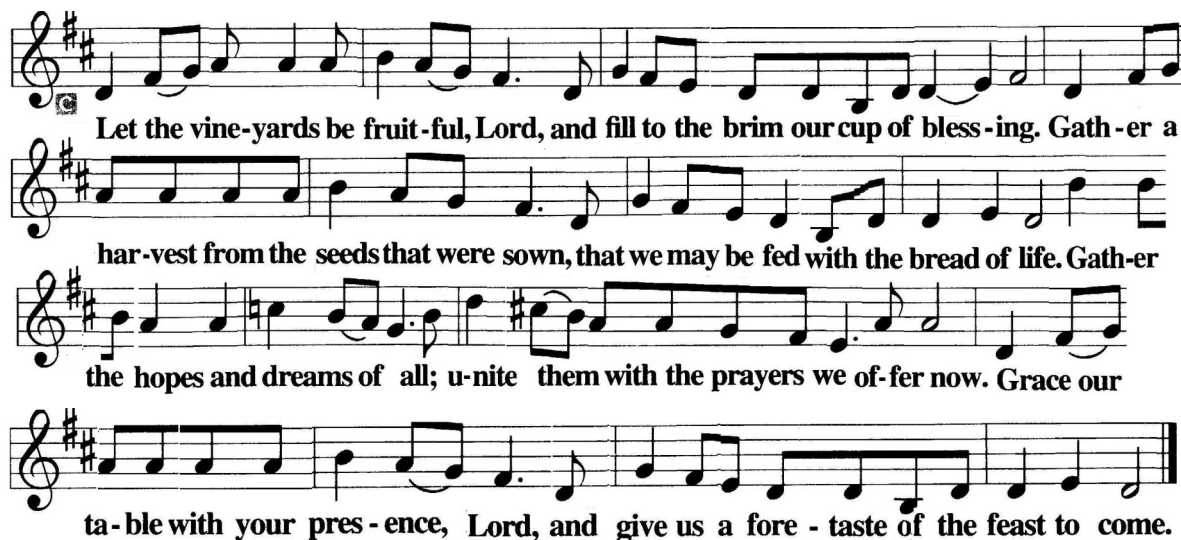
CHOIR ANTHEM

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

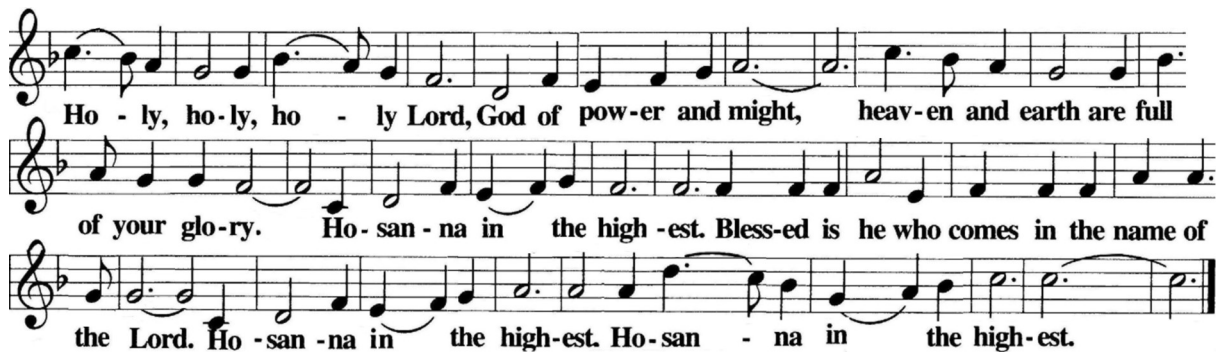
Please stand as you are able.

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**



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**

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**

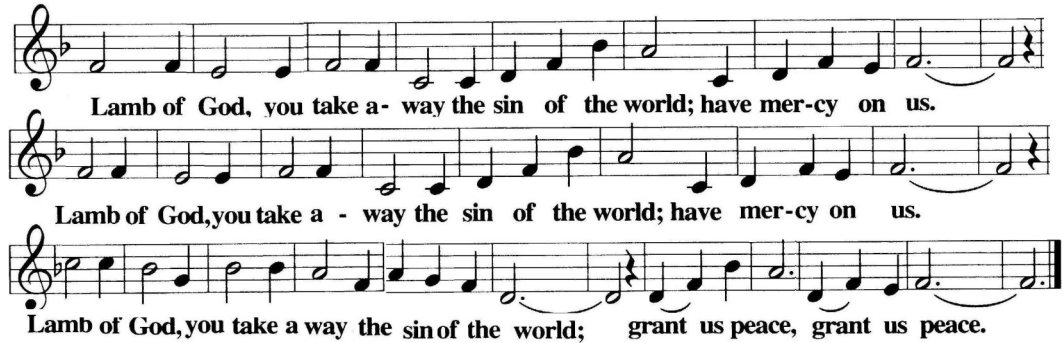
P: Let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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: #763 *Let Justice Flow like Streams*
 (blue book) #700 *I Received the Living God*
 #771 *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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.**

***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 726 *Light Dawns on a Weary World*

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 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to
2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find
3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea - tures, once for -

see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a
bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a
loam, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a

wea - ry world: the prom - ised day of jus - tice comes.
wea - ry world: the prom - ised feast of plen - ty comes.
wea - ry world: the prom - ised green of E - den comes.

Refrain
The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;
the hills and moun - tains shall break forth with sing - ing!
We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,
as all the world in won - der ech - oes sha - lom.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953 Text © 2002 GIA Publications, Inc.
Music: William P. Rowan, b. 1951 Music © 2000 William P. Rowan, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. 766 78 and refrain

TEMPLE OF PEACE

***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 worshiping 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: Bob, Jessica Harris, Anna Mae, Ken Hess, Andy Bomberger, hurricane and fire victims and all victims of violence.

This Week at Zions:

Feb. 17, Monday @ 6:30 pm Church Council meeting

Feb. 19, Wednesday @ 9:00 am Quilting

Feb. 19, 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. 24, Monday @ 6:30 pm Mission Ministry meeting

Feb. 26 ,Wednesday @ 9:00 am Quilting

Feb. 26, Wednesday @ 5:30 community meal, 6:15 pm Rejoicing Spirits worship, 6:50 Bible study, 7:30 adult choir rehearsal

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! Tickets are available for purchase at eventcreate.com/e/lccwhalloffame.

The season of Lent begins on Wednesday March 5. To help prepare for this contemplative time, the Christian Ed team invites you to a "Lent Event" on Sunday, March 2 at 9:15 AM. Together we will explore the universal themes and practices of Lent, as well as Zion's particular focus on "Stonemasonry". This is an opportunity for people of all ages to dive deep, and learn something new; we hope you'll attend even if you don't usually go to Sunday School.

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 "Go for Broke" (187-224) and Luke 10:25-27.

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.

Emergency Text/Call Service: We "got" to use our new text/call system last Sunday! If we have a number on file for you, you should have received a call around 8:50 am letting you know that 9:15 am activities were canceled, and worship was on. **If you didn't, and would like to receive these notifications** please let the office or Pastor Caitlin know so we can look into it. In the future, we will try to send these notifications a bit earlier, and will be able to text those who chose that option (and calls for those who didn't). If you add our church number 717-865-2848 to your phone list, it should show up as "Zion's Church" (or whatever you save us as)

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.



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.

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.

Did you know? Our congregation has a Facebook page! If you are on Facebook, simply search "Zion's Evangelical Lutheran Church" and then be sure to 'like' our page. We use our main page to share upcoming events, photos from previous events, stories from the broader church, and words of encouragement. Women of the congregation are also invited to join our "Women of Zion's" Facebook group, where prayer requests are shared, together with requests for help, and, sometimes, articles of interest. This group is open to all women associated with the congregation, but is considered by Facebook to be a 'closed' group--to be added, please email pastorckurtz@gmail.com.

Serving at Zion's		Today	Next Sunday
Lector		Sharon Houser	Tracy Hoy
Prayer		Joanna Guldin-Noll	Lois Hiester
Children's sermon		Terry Ludwig	Christine Techky
Comm. Assts.		Linda Wenrich, Elaine Ludwig	Kelly Rittle, Noel Strattan
Greeter		Elaine Ludwig	
Acolyte		Daryl Root	Greyson McQuaide
Crucifer		Rob McQuaide	Madison Hess
Altar Guild		Bucks family	Merkel family
Elevette		Noel Strattan	Tom Frey
Ushers - Feb	Luke Hiester, Rick Herr		

MUSICIAN: Maryann Guldin	VIDEOGRAPHER: James Cascarino
SOUND: Houser family	PASTOR: Caitlin M. Kurtz
ZION'S OFFICE: 717-865-2848	PASTOR'S OFFICE: 717-865-3652
zions@comcast.net	pastorckurtz@gmail.com

Mission Ministry is collecting food items for JOY during the month of February. The items can be dropped off in the gathering area. Needed Items: Canned Fruits: Pineapple, Pear, Peaches, Fruit Cocktail, Canned Red Beets, Canned chicken, Progresso & Campbells Chunky Soups, Canned Yams, Dinty Moore Beef Stew, Manwich, Ramen, Knorr Pasta Sides, Instant Potatoes: All flavors, Spaghetti Sauce, Dry Pasta - all varieties, Macaroni & Cheese, Spam, Canned Ham, Ketchup & Mustard, Assorted Canned vegetables, Assorted Condiments and Cooking oils (any). Thank you for your generosity.