

WELCOME TO ZION'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
The Fourth Sunday of Lent March 30, 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, 7:00 Worship

**(Congregation please stand as able)*

Welcome and Announcements and Prelude

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

***P:** Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **C: Amen.**

***P:** Religious leaders brought to Jesus a woman caught in sin. They wanted to stone her to death, as the law allowed. Jesus invited anyone who was without sin to be the first to throw a stone at her. No one could, for we are all in bondage to sin. We now confess our sin as ones who like to throw stones ourselves:

You are invited to sit or kneel for confession

P: We throw stones,

C: When we are hurting, afraid, tired, or grieving.

P: And God weeps.

C: Forgive us, Lord. Turn our stonethrowing into stonecatching.

P: We throw stones of silencing

C: When we quiet the voices of those in pain and refuse to listen to others.

P: And God weeps.

C: Forgive us, Lord. Turn our stonethrowing into stonecatching.

P: We throw stones of blame and fear

C: When we assume the worst in others while expecting everyone else to offer us grace.

P: And God weeps.

C: Forgive us, Lord. Turn our stonethrowing into stonecatching.

P: We throw stones of greed

C: when we hoard for ourselves, failing to trust God's abundance and to heed God's call to share.

P: And God weeps.

C: Forgive us, Lord. Turn our stonethrowing into stonecatching.

P: We throw stones.

C: And those stones pile up and roll in front of the tomb.

P: And God weeps.

C: And so do we. As we wait for Easter, we long to be stonecatchers in Jesus's name. Amen.

P: Jesus said to the woman, "I do not condemn you. Go on your way, and from now on do not sin again." In the name of Jesus, your sins are forgiven, go in peace to share this grace with others. Amen.

***GATHERING HYMN:** LBW 499 *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

You are invited to face the rear of the sanctuary and turn towards the cross as it passes.

1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Tune my heart to sing thy grace;
 2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer, Hith - er by thy help I'm come;
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or Dai - ly I'm con - strained to be;

Streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, Call for songs of loud - est praise.
 And I hope, by thy good plea - sure, Safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
 Let that grace now like a fet - ter Bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee.

While the hope of end - less glo - ry Fills my heart with joy and love,
 Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, Wan - d'ring from the fold of God;
 Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; Prone to leave the God I love.

Teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; May I still thy good - ness prove.
 He, to res - cue me from dan - ger, In - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
 Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; Seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735-1790 Tune: J Wyeth, Repository of Sacred Music, Part II, 1813

NETTLETON 8 7 8 7 D

***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.

***KYRIE**

A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **B** Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the Church of God,
 and for the uni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord. **B** Lord, have mer - cy.

A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,
 let us pray to the Lord. **G** Lord, have mer - cy.
A Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. **G A** - men

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Joshua 5:9-12 (pg. 171 in pew Bible)

The Lord said to Joshua, ‘Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.’ And so that place is called Gilgal to this day. While the Israelites were encamped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

After the Reading: Reader: The Word of the Lord. **Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 32 (pg. 440 in your pew Bible, next) (read responsively)

Leader: Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

Congregation: Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

L: While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long.

C: For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

L: Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said,

C: ‘I will confess my transgressions to the Lord’, and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

L: Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.

C: You are a hiding-place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.

L: I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

C: Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you.

L: Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.

C: Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 (pg. 940 in pew Bible)

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

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

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

Love, love, love, that's what it's all about. 'Cause God loves us we love each other, mother, father, sister, brother...everybody sing and SHOUT! 'Cause that's what it's all about. It's about love, love, love. It's about love, love, love.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



***GOSPEL:** Luke 15:1-3,11b-32 (pg. 850 in pew Bible)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel According to St. Luke, the 15th Chapter. **Congregation: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now all the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, 'This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he told them this parable: Then Jesus said, 'There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, "Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me." So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and travelled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, "How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.' " So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son." But the father said to his slaves, "Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!" And they began to celebrate. 'Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, "Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound." Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, "Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!" Then the father said to him, "Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found." '

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

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY:** ELW 641 *All Are Welcome*



- 1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
- 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
- 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and
- 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and

live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where
stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and

hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the

vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we
Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in
strang - er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an

Refrain

Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
claim the faith of Je - sus:
Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
end to fear and dan - ger:

all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: Marty Haugen Text and music © 1994 GIA Publications, Inc.

TWO OAKS
96 86 87 10 and refrain

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, "Lord in your mercy," respond: **Hear our Prayer**)

(after hearing the final prayer petition, "Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life." respond: **Amen**)

***SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE**

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

CHOIR ANTHEM

OFFERING AND 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, our regular electronic offering service, offering one-time and regular options.



***OFFERTORY HYMN**



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir-it with- in me. Cast me
not a - way from your pres-ence, and take not your Ho- ly Spir - it from me. Re- store
un - to me the joy of your sal-va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: J. A. Freylinghausen, 1670-1739

*

OFFERTORY PRAYER:

P: Blessed are you,

C: O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, being stonecatchers for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

***HOLY COMMUNION & SENDING**

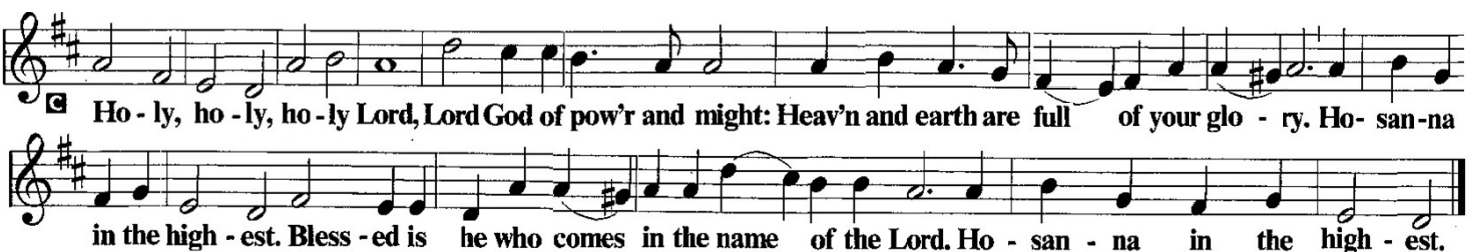
*P: The Lord be with you **C: And also with you.**

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. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. 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, Lord God of pow'r and might: Heav'n 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.

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age. Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations. 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. With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: O God of resurrection and new life; Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

C: Amen.

***INVITATION TO THE LORD'S PRAYER**

P: Let us pray using the words Jesus taught us:

Our Fa-ther in heav-en, hal-lowed be your name, your king-dom come, your will be done,
 on earth as in heav-en. Give us to-day our dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins as we for-give
 those who sin a- gainst us. Save us from the time of tri-al and de-liv-er us from e-vil.
 For the king-dom, the pow'r, and the glo-ry are yours, now and for-ev-er. A-men

***INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE**

P: All who are hungry, come, the feast of grace is spread.

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: #448 *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*
 (green book) #385 *What Wondrous Love Is This*
 #214 *Come, Let Us Eat*

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

P: Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

***BENEDICTION**

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

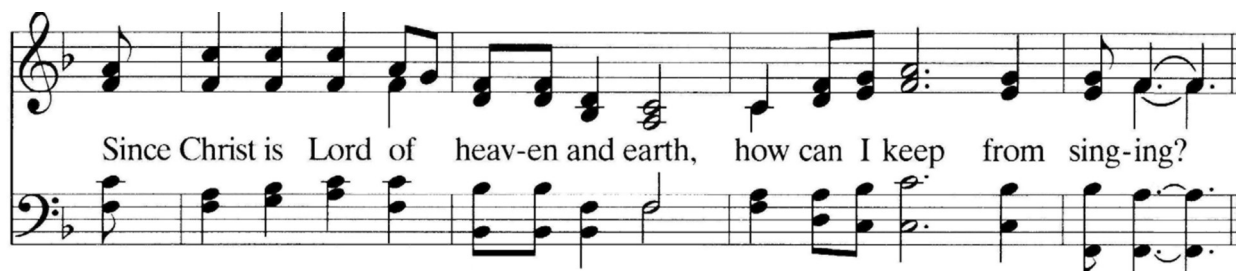
***SENDING HYMN:** WOV 781 *My Life Flows On in Endless Song*

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 My life flows on in end-less song; a - bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion,
 2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu-sic ring - ing.
 3 What though my joys and com-forts die? The Lord my Sav-ior liv - eth.
 4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev - er spring-ing!

I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.
 It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?
 What though the dark - ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.
 All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

Refrain
 No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.



Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899 Music: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899, alt. HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING 8 7 8 7 and refrain

***DISMISSAL**

L: Go in peace. Turn from stonethrowing to stonecatching, in Jesus name.

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: Pat Keefer, Kay, Jamie, Emily, Joan Gerhart, Tina Rager, Maryellen, hurricane and fire victims and all victims of violence.

This Week at Zions:

April 2, Wednesday @ 9:00 am Quilting

April 2, Wednesday @ 5:30 community meal, 6:15 pm Rejoicing Spirits worship, 7:00 pm Lenten Worship, 7:30 adult choir rehearsal

Next Week at Zions:

Apr. 9, Wednesday @ 9:00 am Quilting

Apr. 9, Wednesday @ 5:30 community meal, 6:15 pm Rejoicing Spirits worship, 7:00 pm Lenten Worship, 7:30 adult choir rehearsal

Lent Mid-Week Worship: The Spiritual Practices of Stone-Catchers We invite you to a time of prayer, reflection, scripture, and song at 7 PM on Wednesdays April 2 and 9 in the sanctuary. Together we will explore the spiritual practices that help us catch stones as the ground us in God's grace: this week's focus is hospitality.

Holy Week Worship Schedule:

Sunday, April 13: Palm Sunday worship begins at 10:30 AM in the Jonestown square and sanctuary (and livestreamed)

Wednesday, April 16: Rejoicing Spirit worship at 6:15 PM

Thursday, April 17: Maundy Thursday Dinner Church at 5:30 PM -- *Sign ups appreciated online or on the bulletin board. Also looking for some people to bring soup.*

Friday, April 18: Good Friday Tenebrae Worship at 7 PM (and livestreamed)

Saturday, April 19: Easter Egg Hunt at 10:00 AM at the cemetery

Sunday, April 20: Easter Worship at 6:30 AM and 10:30 AM in sanctuary (10:30 also livestreamed)

Lent project: Mission Ministry is collecting items for flood buckets for Lutheran Disaster Response. Buckets are distributed after floods or hurricanes to help people clean up. To help, please pick up a sticky note (or several!) from the display in the Gathering Area which names a specific item that is needed, purchase and return the item to Zion's by April 13. You can also make a financial contribution using the envelopes in the pews. We will use these funds, together with a Thrivent Action Team to purchase the more obscure items needed for the buckets. THANK YOU for your support!

The photo directory is now 'live' on the app or website! Instruction sheets for logging on can be found in the Gathering Area. If you're having trouble, please contact Debbie Long at 717 269-6050. We hope to have print copies next month.

Highlights from February's Council meeting are sent out via email after the meeting. Copies are then available in the Gathering Area.

It's time to register for Summer Camp! Brochures are available in the window sills in the Gathering Area, or at www.LutheranCamping.org Zion's offers a \$290 scholarship for one week of camp, which can be combined with scholarships from the Camping Corporation. Our scholarship forms are available on our website, or on the small bulletin board in the Gathering Area. Register by April 5th for the greatest discounts!

Are you a Thrivent member? Have you directed your Thrivent Choice dollars yet? Eligible Thrivent members have until TOMORROW (March 31) to direct their Thrivent Choice dollars. Be sure to log into your account TODAY to see if you have any dollars to direct. Of course, Zion's would be glad to receive such funds, but, really, we just hope you'll direct them somewhere so they don't get lost! Questions? See Jim Gill or Pastor Caitlin.

SAVE THE DATE: Zion's Egg Hunt is back after a long hiatus on Saturday, April 19. More details to follow!

Serving at Zion's	Today	Next Sunday
Lector	Stephanie Livingston	Terry Ludwig
Prayer	Ann Kulp	Seth Kurtz
Children's sermon	Noel Strattan	Stephanie Livingston
Comm. Assts.	Kelly Rittle, Linda Wenrich	Ed & Elaine Ludwig
Greeter	Cathy Houser	Ed Ludwig
Acolyte	Izaak McQuaide	Gracie Bucks
Crucifer	Xander McQuaide	Rob McQuaide
Altar Guild	Bucks family	Strattan/Wenrich
Elevette	Tom Frey	Steve Bucks
Ushers	Georgetta Wolfe, Mike Long	Luke Hiester, Linda Toth

MUSICIAN: Maryann Guldin
 SOUND: Houser family
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