

**Welcome to Zion's Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**Palm Sunday                      Pastor Caitlin M. Kurtz                      April 13, 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!*

**PROCESSION WITH PALMS**

*(Procession begins in the town square with a reading from Luke 19:28-40)*

Reader: After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, "Why are you untying it?" just say this: "The Lord needs it."' So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, 'Why are you untying the colt?' They said, 'The Lord needs it.'

\*HYMN: #108 "*All Glory, Laud, and Honor*" (verse 1)

*Refrain: All glory, laud and honor.  
To you, redeemer, king,  
To whom the lips of children  
Made sweet hosannas ring.*

1. You are the king of Israel  
And David's royal Son,  
Now in the Lord's name coming,  
Our King and Blessed One. *(Refrain)*

Reader: Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying, 'Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!' Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, 'Teacher, order your disciples to stop.' He answered, 'I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.'

\*HYMN: #108 "*All Glory, Laud, and Honor*" (verses 2 & 3)

*Refrain: All glory, laud and honor. To you, redeemer, king, To whom the lips of children  
Made sweet hosannas ring.*

2. The company of angels  
Are praising you on high;  
Creation and all mortals  
In chorus make reply. *(Refrain)*

3. The multitude of pilgrims  
With palms before you went.  
Our praise and prayer and anthems  
Before you we present. *(Refrain)*

*(In front of Zions)*

**BLESSING OF PALMS**

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

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P: We praise and thank you, O God, for the great acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your son, Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day he entered the Holy City of Jerusalem in triumph, and was acclaimed Son of David and King of kings by those who scattered their garments and branches of palm in his path. We ask that you bless these branches and those who bear them, and grant that we may ever hail him as our Lord and King and follow him with perfect confidence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen**

*Processing into sanctuary*

\*HYMN: #108 "*All Glory, Laud, and Honor*" (verses 4 & 5)

*Refrain: All glory, laud and honor. To you, redeemer, king, To whom the lips of children  
Made sweet hosannas ring.*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 4. To you, before your Passion,<br>They sang their hymns of praise.<br>To you, now high exulted,<br>Our melody we raise. <i>(Refrain)</i> | 5. Their praises you accepted;<br>Accept the prayers we bring,<br>Great Author of all goodness,<br>Our good and gracious King. <i>(Refrain)</i> |
|---|---|

**\*ACCLAMATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. **C: Hosanna in the highest.**

P: Let us pray. Sovereign God, you have established your rule in the human heart through the servanthood of Jesus Christ. By your Spirit, keep us in the joyful procession of those who with their tongues confess Jesus as Lord and with their lives praise him as Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**YOUTH CHOIR ANTHEM**

**SCRIPTURE & PREACHING**

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a (pg. 594 in pew Bible)

The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he awakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backwards. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

Reader: Word of God, Word of Life **Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading: Philippians 2:5-11 (pg. 954 in pew Bibles)

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Reader: Word of God, Word of Life **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.

**HOMILY**

**PASSION READING:** Luke 23:1-49 *New Living Translation*

P: The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to St. Luke. (no response)

*When indicated, the congregation is invited to read the bolded parts of crowd, piano and organ sides.*

*Narrator: Then the entire council took Jesus to Pilate, the Roman governor.*

**Crowd: This man has been leading our people astray by telling them not to pay their taxes to the Roman government and by claiming he is the Messiah, a king.**

*N: So Pilate asked him,*

*Pilate: Are you the king of the Jews?*

*Jesus: You have said it.*

*N: Pilate turned to the leading priests and to the crowd and said,*

*Pilate: I find nothing wrong with this man!*

*N: Then they became insistent.*

**Crowd: But he is causing riots by his teaching wherever he goes—all over Judea, from Galilee to Jerusalem!**

Pilate: Oh, is he a Galilean?

*N: When they said that he was, Pilate sent him to Herod Antipas, because Galilee was under Herod's jurisdiction, and Herod happened to be in Jerusalem at the time. Herod was delighted at the opportunity to see Jesus, because he had heard about him and had been hoping for a long time to see him perform a miracle. He asked Jesus question after question, but Jesus refused to answer. Meanwhile, the leading priests and the teachers of religious law stood there shouting their accusations. Then Herod and his soldiers began mocking and ridiculing Jesus. Finally, they put a royal robe on him and sent him back to Pilate. (Herod and Pilate, who had been enemies before, became friends that day.) Then Pilate called together the leading priests and other religious leaders, along with the people, and he announced his verdict.*

Pilate: You brought this man to me, accusing him of leading a revolt. I have examined him thoroughly on this point in your presence and find him innocent. Herod came to the same conclusion and sent him back to us. Nothing this man has done calls for the death penalty. So I will have him flogged, and then I will release him.

*N: Then a mighty roar rose from the crowd, and with one voice they shouted,*

**Crowd: Kill him, and release Barabbas to us!**

*N: Barabbas was in prison for taking part in an insurrection in Jerusalem against the government, and for murder. Pilate argued with them, because he wanted to release Jesus. But they kept shouting,*

**Crowd: Crucify him! Crucify him!**

*N: For the third time Pilate demanded,*

Pilate: Why? What crime has he committed? I have found no reason to sentence him to death. So I will have him flogged, and then I will release him.

*N: But the mob shouted louder and louder, demanding that Jesus be crucified, and their voices prevailed. So Pilate sentenced Jesus to die as they demanded. As they had requested, he released Barabbas, the man in prison for insurrection and murder. But he turned Jesus over to them to do as they wished. As they led Jesus away, a man named Simon, who was from Cyrene, happened to be coming in from the countryside. The soldiers seized him and put the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus. A large crowd trailed behind, including many grief-stricken women. But Jesus turned and said to them,*

Jesus: Daughters of Jerusalem, don't weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For the days are coming when they will say, 'Fortunate indeed are the women who are childless, the wombs that have not borne a child and the breasts that have never nursed. People will beg the mountains, 'Fall on us,' and plead with the hills, 'Bury us.' For if these things are done when the tree is green, what will happen when it is dry?'

*N: Two others, both criminals, were led out to be executed with him. When they came to a place called The Skull, they nailed him to the cross. And the criminals were also crucified—one on his right and one on his left.*

Jesus: Father, forgive them, for they don't know what they are doing.

*N: And the soldiers gambled for his clothes by throwing dice. The crowd watched and the leaders scoffed.*

**Piano side: He saved others, let him save himself if he is really God's Messiah, the Chosen One.**

*N: The soldiers mocked him, too, by offering him a drink of sour wine. They called out to him,*

**Organ side: If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!**

*N: A sign was fastened above him with these words: "This is the King of the Jews." One of the criminals hanging beside him scoffed,*

**Piano side: So you're the Messiah, are you? Prove it by saving yourself—and us, too, while you're at it!**

*N: But the other criminal protested,*

**Organ side: Don't you fear God even when you have been sentenced to die? We deserve to die for our crimes, but this man hasn't done anything wrong. Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom.**

N: And Jesus replied,

Jesus: I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise.

N: By this time it was about noon, and darkness fell across the whole land until three o'clock. The light from the sun was gone. And suddenly, the curtain in the sanctuary of the Temple was torn down the middle. Then Jesus shouted,

Jesus: Father, I entrust my spirit into your hands!

N: And with those words Jesus breathed his last. When the Roman officer overseeing the execution saw what had happened, he worshiped God and said,

**Crowd: Surely this man was innocent.**

N: And when all the crowd that came to see the crucifixion saw what had happened, they went home in deep sorrow. But Jesus' friends, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance watching.

\*HYMN OF THE DAY WOV 661 *My Song Is Love Unknown* v.1,4,5 & 6

1 My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to  
4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and  
5 They rise and needs will have my dear Lord made a -

me, love to the love - less shown that they might love - ly  
spite? He made the lame to run, he gave the blind their  
way; a mur - der - er they save, the prince of life they

be. Oh, who am I that for my sake  
sight. Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at these  
slay. Yet cheer - ful he to suff - 'ring goes

my Lord should take frail flesh and die?  
them - selves dis - please and 'gainst him rise.  
that he his foes from thence might free.

Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624-1683 Music: John Ireland, 1879-1962 Music © 1924 John Ireland, admin. The John Ireland Trust LOVE UNKNOWN 66664444

6 In life no house, no home  
my Lord on earth might have;  
in death no friendly tomb

but what a stranger gave.  
What may I say? Heav'n was his home  
but mine the tomb wherein he lay.

## \*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


## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### 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, which is our regular electronic offering service, offering both one-time, and regular, automatic options.



### \*OFFERING 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

### \*OFFERING 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.**

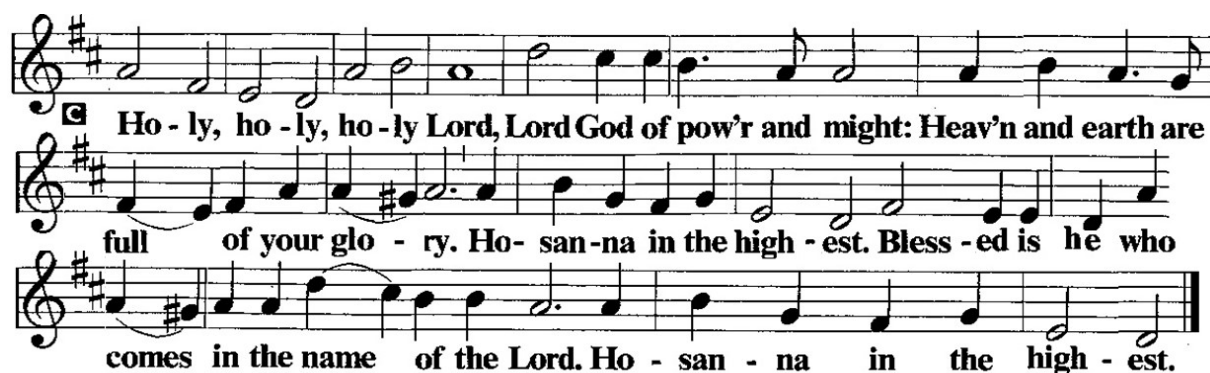
P: Lift up your hearts.      **C: We lift them to God.**

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; whose suffering and death gave salvation to all. You gather your people around the tree of the cross, transforming death into life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**\*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**



#### \*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: 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.

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

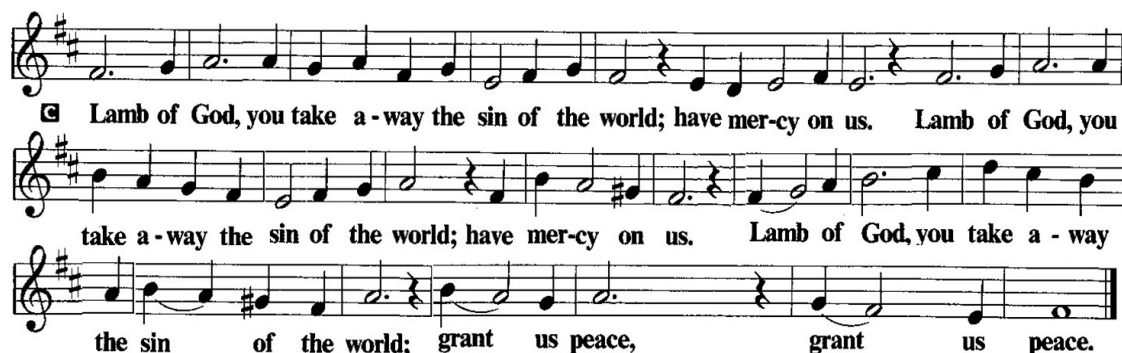
P: Let us pray using the words Jesus taught us:



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

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

#### LAMB OF GOD (Based on Gospel of John 1:29)



*This is the Lord's table where all are welcome. 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: #306 *Chief of Sinners though I Be*  
(green book) #272 *Abide with Me*  
#126 *Where Charity and Love Prevail*

**\*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: As we leave from this place, we go with the blessing of: God, who so loved the world that He gave His only Son, Jesus, who died and rose to give you eternal life, and the Holy Spirit, who promises to be with us all along life's journey. **Amen.**

**\*SENDING HYMN:** LBW 117 *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* (next page)

1 O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, With grief and shame weighed down,  
2 How art thou pale with an - guish, With sore a - buse and scorn;  
3 What lan - guage shall I bor - row To thank thee, dear - est friend,  
4 Lord, be my con - so - la - tion; Shield me when I must die;

Now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed With thorns, thine on - ly crown;  
How does that vis - age lan - guish Which once was bright as morn!  
For this thy dy - ing sor - row, Thy pit - y with - out end?  
Re - mind me of thy Pas - sion When my last hour draws nigh.

O sa - cred head, what glo - ry, What bliss till now was thine!  
Thy grief and bit - ter Pas - sion Were all for sin - ners' gain;  
Oh, make me thine for - ev - er, And, should I faint - ing be,  
These eyes, new faith re - ceiv - ing, From thee shall nev - er move;

Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.  
Mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, But thine the dead - ly pain.  
Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er Out - live my love to thee.  
For he who dies be - liev - ing Dies safe - ly in thy love.

© Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091-1153; Paul Gerhardt, 1607-1676; tr. composite, alt.  
Tune: Hans L. Hassler, 1564-1612

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\*DISMISSAL L: Go in peace. Serve in love. 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:** Jan, Gary, Wendy, Halley, Jeremy and family, Randy & Diane, Pat Keefer, Kay, Jamie, Emily, hurricane and fire victims and all victims of violence.

#### **This Week (Holy Week) at Zions:**

Apr. 15, Tuesday @ 10:00 am Preschool Event  
Apr. 16, Wednesday @ 9:00 am Quilting, 10:00 am Preschool Event  
Apr. 16, Wednesday @ 5:30 community meal, 6:15 pm Rejoicing Spirits worship, 7:30 adult choir rehearsal  
Apr. 17, Thursday @ 5:30 pm Maundy Thursday Dinner Church -- *Sign ups appreciated online or on the bulletin board. Also looking for some people to bring soup.*  
Apr. 17, Friday @ 11:30 am Cross Walk, @7:00 pm Good Friday Tenebrae Worship (and livestreamed)  
Apr. 19, Saturday @ 10:00 am Easter Egg Hunt in the cemetery  
Sunday, April 20: Easter Worship at 6:30 AM and 10:30 AM in sanctuary (10:30 also livestreamed)

**Lent project due today:** Mission Ministry has collected items for flood buckets for Lutheran Disaster Response. Buckets are distributed after floods or hurricanes to help people clean up. 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!

**Daytime Good Friday worship:** The NL Ministerium invites you to a **Cross Walk** beginning at 11:30 AM at the Clothing Closet, and walking towards Jonestown UMC, stopping to pray and read scripture along the way. **At noon, a Good Friday worship service begins** at Jonestown UMC which will last three hours and is designed for you to come and go as you wish. The three hour time frame mirrors the three hours during which the whole world was believed to be dark on the day that Jesus died.



**Youth Service Camp coming to Zion's this summer!** Youth who have completed 6th through 12th grade are invited to participate in a week of service, learning (and fun) June 16 to 20, based at Zion's. We'll gather each morning to serve in our congregation and community, share Bible study over lunch, and then head out for an activity in the afternoon. At the end of the week, participants will receive money to use for a service project or to contribute to a non-profit of their choice (with thanks to the Touching Tomorrow Endowment!) More information and registration links on our website.

**Help needed for Youth Service Camp!** Of course, to make this great week of service learning possible, we need adult help! If you're able to provide a meal for our time together, donate a Thrivent Action Team card, help transport youth whose parents are working, or provide transportation for one of our afternoon activities *please let Pastor Caitlin know*. Thank you!

**It's time to register for Summer Camp!** Brochures and scholarship forms are available by the small bulletin board Gathering Area, or at [www.LutheranCamping.org](http://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.

**Know someone who could use a prayer shawl or lap blanket?** Thanks to the generosity of our knitters, we have some to share! See Jean Fowler if you'd like to select a prayer shawl, lap blanket, or baby blanket to share with a friend. One small way we can share God's love and hope with others.

**Our congregation is proudly waving Eco-Palms** in partnership with Lutheran World Relief. We are helping palm harvesters in Latin America, their families and communities find pathways out of poverty. ECO-PALMS are ecologically friendly, and provide economic opportunities and sustainable income. Fair prices for quality palms encourage sustainable harvesting, meaning better income long into the future. Eco-Palms are sorted and packed within the harvesting community, extending income opportunities to even more people. Let us proudly wave our Eco-Palms, giving thanks to God and inviting palm harvesters, their families and communities to our celebration!

MUSICIAN: Maryann Guldin	VIDEOGRAPHER: James Cascarino
SOUND: Houser family	PASTOR: Caitlin M. Kurtz
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zions@comcast.net	pastorckurtz@gmail.com

Serving at Zion's	Today	Next Sunday
Lector	Kris Hoffer	Dawn: Nancy Ludwig 10:30: Christine Techky
Prayer	Stephanie Livingston	Dawn: Deb Long 10:30: Ed Ludwig
Children's sermon	Terry Ludwig	Pastor Caitlin
Comm. Assts.	Deb Long Kelly Rittle	Dawn: Deb Long, Noel Strattan 10:30: Kelly Rittle, Linda Wenrich
Greeter	Cathy Houser Stephanie Livingston	
Acolyte	Derek & Michael Wolfe	Dawn: Nolan & Jacob Anspach 10:30: Izaac & Greyson McQuaide
Crucifer	MacKenzie Hess	Dawn: Daryl Hess 10:30: Logan Livingston
Altar Guild	Merkel family	Dawn: Strattan/Wenrich 10:30: Bucks family
Elevette	Kadance Kugler	Dawn: Noel Strattan 10:30: Tom Frey
Ushers	Luke Hiester, Linda Toth	Mike Long, Rob McQuaide