

MATTHEW 25



Whatever you do for the least...

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

15342 Jeraldo Drive

Victorville, California 92394

Church: 760-245-9725

School: 760-243-3074

www.zionvv.org

*Zion Lutheran Church — A Joyous Oasis Sharing Life Through Christ
(Large-print bulletins are available from the ushers)*

WELCOME TO ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH! If you are visiting with us, we thank God you are here and pray that God's Word will speak to your heart today. If you are looking for a church home, we hope Zion can meet your needs. Please introduce yourself to the pastor.

HOLY COMMUNION is God's gift for his baptized people. In this Meal we receive the true body and blood of Jesus to assure us of forgiveness and to strengthen our faith. We invite confirmed Lutherans and those who have been instructed in the meaning of the Sacrament to commune. Please talk with the Pastor if you have questions. (You may want to use the "Christian Questions," *LW* hymnal p. 306, or the prayers on p. 128.) The light-colored glasses in the middle of the tray are for those who cannot drink alcohol.

ALL WORSHIPERS are asked to sign the *Friendship Register* and check the appropriate boxes. Return the book to the end of the pew and learn the names of those with whom you are worshiping. ***(First time visitors are asked to fill out a yellow Welcome card in the pew rack and place it into the offering plate. We are happy you are here!)***

SUNDAY SCHOOL – Sunday School and Bible Classes for all ages meet in the Fellowship Hall at 10:30 am.

ARE YOU PLANNING A TRIP? Don't forget to plan for church as well. If you are traveling to Sarasota, FL you can worship at Good Shepherd LC at 9:15 am. Check out their website goodshepherdsarasota.org. Call our church office for information on your destination. If there is a particular church you would like us to pray for, please let us know.

ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES are available at the sound booth. For assistance, please contact an usher.

PORTALS OF PRAYER – Portals of Prayer for the next quarter are available in the Narthex. Pick one up to use in your personal and family devotions.

OUR DAILY BREAD DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS: The December-February Our Daily Bread devotional booklets will be available in the Narthex this Sunday.

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

January 26, 2025

**WE ARE ONE CHRISTIAN FAMILY LED BY GOD'S WORD AND THE
HOLY SPIRIT INTO LOVING SERVICE.**

**Our values are
Bible Based Preaching, Spiritual Growth, Great Commission
(Go, Make Disciples...)**

PRELUDE

GREETING

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you

C: And also with you.

OPENING HYMN "Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear" LW 197

**Lord, open now my heart to hear,
And through your Word
to me draw near,
Preserve that Word in purity
That I your child and heir may be.**

**Your Word it is that heals my heart,
That makes me whole in ev'ry part;
Your Word of joy within me sings,
True peace and blessedness it brings.**

**To God the Father, God the Son,
To God the Spirit, three in one,
Honor and praise forever be
Now and through all eternity!**

INVOCATION

(ref. Matthew 18:20)

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. *(1 John 1:8)*

C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *(1 John 1:9)*

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father. *(ref. Ps 32:5)*

C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for you and for his sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word I announce the grace of God to you: your sin is forgiven in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *(Ref. Matt. 18:18; John 20:22-23)*

C: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE "This Is the Feast Of Victory" LW page 182-183 *(Rev.5:11-13)*

P: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

**C*: Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.
Power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor
and blessing and glory are his.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia
Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all
creation: Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the
Lamb forever. Amen
This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was
slain has begun his reign. Alleluia, alleluia.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray...

C: Amen

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Psalm 95:1-7

O come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! 2 Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! 3 For the LORD is a great God and a great King above all gods. 4 In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also. 5 The sea is his, for he made it, and the dry land, which his hands have formed. 6 O come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker! 7 For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Ephesians 3:14-21

I kneel before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. 16 I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, 18 may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, 19 and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. 20 Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA VERSE (stand)

(John 6:68)

**C: Alleluia Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 25:31-46

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. 32 All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33 He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. 34 "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. 35 For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a

stranger and you invited me in, 36 I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' 37 "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? 38 When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? 39 When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' 40 "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' 41 "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. 42 For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, 43 I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.' 44 "They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?' 45 "He will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.' 46 "Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY "A Time to Serve"

**Jesus hears his children crying.
Sees them hungry, lost, and dying;
Who will comfort all their sorrows?
Who will brighten their tomorrows?**

**When we aid the poor and lonely,,
We're not caring for them only;
When our love some suff'ring eases,
We have done the same for Jesus.**

**When we join our Savior's service,
He will strengthen and preserve us;
He will guide our daily living,
And He'll bless the love we're giving.**

**Jesus pleads with us to reach them
With our gifts of love, and teach them
That the kindness we are giving
Is the Christian's way of living**

**Rise and follow! He will lead us;
Heed the cries of those who need us!
And when life has ended for us
Heaven's glories lie before us.**

SERMON

CONFESSION OF FAITH APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH - concluding with

P: Lord in your mercy...

C: Hear our prayer.

OFFERTORY

**C: Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence, And take not your Holy Spirit
From me. Restore to me The joy of your salvation and uphold me with
your free Spirit.**

THE SERVICE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift your hearts and hands in praise

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: It is truly good, right, and helpful... evermore praising you and singing:

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYERS AND THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Lord Jesus, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C: 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.

P: Our Lord on the night he was betrayed . . .

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

AGNUS DEI

**C: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

**C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev'ryone what he has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving.
Alleluia, alleluia.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION

(Numbers 6:24-26)

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen

CLOSING HYMN "Praise and Thanks and Adoration" LW 387

**Praise and thanks and adoration,
Son of God, to you we give,
For you chose to serve creation,
Died that Adam's heirs might live.**

**Dear Lord Jesus, guide my way;
Faithful let me day by day
Follow where your steps are leading,
Find adventure, joys exceeding!**

**Hold me ever in your keeping,
Comfort me in pain and strife;
Through my laughter and my weeping
Lift me to a nobler life.**

**Draw my fervent love to you;
Constant faith and hope renew
In your birth, your life and Passion,
In your death and resurrection.**

Silent prayer

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

SERVING TODAY

Duty Lay Minister: Sun: Guy Cox
Acolyte: Sun: Jose Rodriguez
Readers: Sun: Lori Knapp
Altar Care: Sat: Caroline Peterson
Sun: Laurie Henry/Marlene Henry
Song Leaders: Wendy Waiwood
Sound Technicians:
Rob Waiwood
Meaghan Imes
Zack Bottom
Counters: Lisa Reimers/Chris Peterson

THIS WEEK AT ZION *January 26, 2025*

Sunday Epiphany 3
Worship 9:00 am
Live Stream YouTube *zionvvlive* 9:00 am
Sunday School 10:30 am
Monday
Confirmation 4:00 pm
Wednesday
School Chapel 9:15 am
Ladies Bible Study 12:30 pm
Thursday
Adult Information Class 7:00pm
Saturday
Devotion Communion Service 6:00 pm

Altar Flowers are given by the Guest Family in celebration of Karen's birthday.

Remember Your Zion Family in Prayer

Healing: Conni Morrison, Jean Patterson, Lerma Bockhorn,
Ruth Reynolds, Calvin Cullipo, Jonah Dimas, Joann Asta, Matt Donner

For our Homebound: Bob Dunnerman, Elmer Lenz

Anniversaries:

Birthdays: Karen Guest, Lisa Portiss, Johanna Allen, Tristina Rodriguez

Food For The Poor, according to the Chronicle of Philanthropy, is one of the largest international relief organizations in the United States. Since its inception, FFP has provided more than \$17 billion in aid and has built more than 117,000 homes for the destitute. This Sunday Pastor Gerry Kovac will share with us the story of this ministry through a message entitled, "Being The Hands, The Feet and The Heart of Jesus in Today's World". You will be invited to participate in this ministry through a special offering.

NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK – This week Zion will be celebrating with 1,800 preschools, elementary schools and high schools across our country the public opportunity we have to proclaim and celebrate God's work among us in schools of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. We thank God for the opportunity to provide excellent academic preparation for the children we serve. We are most grateful for the opportunity to share Jesus' amazing love with children and their families

SUNDAY SCHOOL & ADULT BIBLE CLASS: Join us at 10:30am this Sunday for Sunday School and Adult Bible Class. The Adult Class is studying the Book of Daniel.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY: Join us this Wednesday at 12:30 pm for our Ladies Bible Study. The current study is based on the study entitled: 'The No Homework Women's Bible Study: Group Hug'.

2025 FLOWER CHART: The Flower Chart for 2025 is posted in the Narthex. Information and Instructions are posted above the Flower Chart.

THE COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD is collecting canned or dry milk, dry cereal, razors and shaving cream during the month of January. Please place your donations in one of the collection baskets in the narthex. Thank you for your help!

ADULT INFORMATION CLASS: Everyone is invited to join us for Adult information class on Thursday's at 7:00pm in the Zion Room.

