

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

In our Hearts and Prayers: our homebound and shut-ins, our Fredericksburg community, our nation, and the military.

The February Special Concern is the Needs Council Food 4 Kids Program.

The WELCA will collect Personal Care Kit items for Lutheran World Relief this month. Items needed for 1 kit are: 1 light weight dark colored bath towel (20x40), 1 adult toothbrush, 2/3 bars of soap, 1 sturdy comb, 1 metal nail clipper.

Ash Wednesday is March 5. Worship times to be determined. No meal will be served.

World Day of Prayer sponsored by Holy Ghost Lutheran Church is on Friday, March 7 at 11am.

Attention dads, grandfathers, uncles, godfathers, coaches, mentors: Holy Ghost will be hosting "Raising a Modern-Day Knight" seminar on Saturday, March 8 from 9am – 2:30pm. \$15 each. Breakfast, snacks and lunch will be provided. RSVP to 830-997-2288.

Several Sundays are open if you wish to give Altar Flowers in March or April.

Thank you for your contributions of \$1,760 given last week. **Attendance** – 62

ASSISTANT & LECTOR – Greg Oehler & Jim O'Neal

USHERS – Perry & Cris Strackbein, Dan & Judy McGookey, Donna Oehler, Sandy Schmitzinsky, Karen Snowden (Acolyte – Kneese)

MINISTRIES FOR THE WEEK

TODAY – Feb 23 10:15am Adult SS – Adult SS Rm & Youth SS – Fell Hall

MON – Feb 24 5:00pm *Line Dancing – The Hub*
6:30pm **Adult Bible Study – Conf Rm (or by Zoom)**

TUES – Feb 25 5:30pm Choir Practice – Choir Rm

WED – Feb 26 9:00am **Laborers of Love – Arhelger House**
5:00pm Confirmation – Elijah's Cave
5:30pm **Game Day – Fell Hall**

SUN – Mar 2 9:00am **Worship with Communion**
(Live on YouTube at 9am & Radio Broadcast at 10:30am)
10:15am Adult SS – Adult SS Rm
10:15am Youth SS – Fell Hall



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Fredericksburg, Texas

7th Sunday after Epiphany – February 23, 2025

Video on Zion's YouTube Channel at 9:00AM

(go to www.zion-lutheran.com/youtube)

Broadcast on KNAF (910AM) at 10:30AM

Pastor – Rev. Jonathan Mollenkopf
Pianist – Sheri Robinson
Choir Director – Rhonda Behrends

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Zion Lutheran Church
Fredericksburg, Texas
Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

February 23, 2025

P=Presider **R=Responses** *Please stand, as you are able

Our Mission Statement – *We Share the Joy. We Worship, Love and Serve.*

GATHERING

BELLS

WELCOME *(Please register your attendance in the books at the end of the row where you are seated, tear it out, and place it in the offering plate.)*

(Please prepare your heart and mind for worship)

PRELUDE *“They’ll Know We Are Christians”* by Our Love by Peter Scholtes; based on John 13:35
“O How He Loves You and Me” by Kurt Kaiser

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

R 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,

R 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 lovingkindness. 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.

R Amen

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

R Amen

SENDING

*BENEDICTION

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

R Amen

***SENDING HYMN** *“Savior, Again to Your Dear Name”* **HYMN NO. 534**

**Savior, again to your dear name we raise
with one accord our parting hymn of praise;
once more we bless you ere our worship cease,
then, lowly bending, wait your word of peace.**

**Grant us your peace upon our homeward way;
with you began, with you shall end the day;
guard all the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
that in this house have called upon your name.**

**Grant us your peace, Lord, through the coming night;
for us transform its darkness into light.
Keep us from harm and danger till the dawn;
your evening presence promise to your own.**

**Grant us your peace throughout our earthly life,
our balm in sorrow, and our stay in strife;
then, when your voice shall bid our conflict cease,
call us, O Lord, to your eternal peace.**

Text: John Ellerton, 1826-1893, alt.

*DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Live in hope.

R Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“I Love Thee” ~Anonymous, Jeremiah Ingalls' Christian Harmony, 1805
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COMMUNION HYMN *"Lamb of God"*



1. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;
2. Lamb of God, you break the chains of ha-tred and fear;



have mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world:



grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

Text: ICET; Additional text and music by Marty Haugen, ©1990

COMMUNION HYMN *"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"* **HYMN NO. 656**

**Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
the unity of heart and mind is like to that above.**

**Before our Father's throne we pour our ardent prayers;
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.**

**We share our mutual woes, our mutual burdens bear,
and often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.**

**From sorrow, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;
and perfect love and friendship reign through all eternity.**

Text: John Fawcett, 1740-1817, alt.

"I Love You with the Love of the Lord" by Jim Gilbert

***BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION**

***GATHERING HYMN** *"All Creatures, Worship..."* (vs.1,2,4,6) **HYMN NO. 835**

**All creatures, worship God most high!
Sound ev'ry voice in earth and sky: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Sing, brother sun, in splendor bright;
sing, sister moon and stars of night:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Sing, brother wind; with clouds and rain
you grow the gifts of fruit and grain: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Dear sister water, useful, clear,
make music for your Lord to hear:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**All who for love of God forgive,
all who in pain and sorrow grieve: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ bears your burdens and your fears;
still make your song amid the tears:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**O sisters, brothers, take your part,
and worship God with humble heart: Alleluia! Alleluia!
All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Text: Francis of Assisi, 1182-1226; tr. Composite; Text © 1997 Augsburg Fortress

***GREETING**

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

R **And also with you.**

***KYRIE** (from the Greek word "Lord" – Sung)

HYMN NO. 157

A In peace, in peace, let us pray to the...

R Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

A For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all, let us pray to the...

R Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

A For your people here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your word, let us pray to the...

R Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

A Help, save, and defend us, O God.

R Amen

Text and Music: Marty Haugen; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

"Now the Feast and Celebration"

HYMN NO. 167

***Refrain: Now the feast and celebration, all of creation sings for joy
to the God of life and love and freedom;
praise and glory forevermore!***

**Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain,
whose blood has freed and united us to be one great people of God.**

Refrain

**Power and riches, wisdom and might,
all honor and glory to Christ forever. *Refrain***

**For God has come to dwell with us, to make us people of God;
to make all things new. *Refrain***

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P The Lord be with you.

R And also with you.

P Let us pray...O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

R Amen

P It is our duty and delight...join their unending hymn:

(Sung)

HYMN NO. 191 (Holy, Holy...)

R Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might; Heaven and earth are filled with your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who comes in your name. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest! Text and Music: Marty Haugen, 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

***EUCCHARISTIC ACCLAMATION** (Sung)

P Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come, come again.

R Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come, come again.

P Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

R Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P Amen. Come, Holy Spirit. Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

R Amen. Come, Holy Spirit. Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

R 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

***DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

All are welcome to share the body and blood of Jesus that are present in the bread and wine of communion. If you do not wish to participate, you may still come forward for a blessing. **If you desire a gluten free wafer and/or white grape juice, please hold up two fingers to the server.**



***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

***PEACE**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

R **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEAL

OFFERING

“When God Dips His Love in My Heart” by Cleavant Derricks

***OFFERING SONG**

“As the Grains of Wheat”

HYMN NO. 465

**Refrain: As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill
were gathered into one to become our bread;
so may all your people from all the ends of earth
be gathered into one in you.**

**As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,
may we share the presence of your love. Refrain**

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950; Text © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc.

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of five staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "The Lord be with you. And al - so with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give God thanks and praise." The score alternates between "Presider:" and "Congregation:" parts.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Love One Another” by H.R. Palmer

Rhonda Behrends, Robert Menking, Greg Oehler, Missy Roberts

WORD

FIRST READING

Genesis 45:3-11, 15

³ Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. ⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵ And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶ For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷ God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸ So it was not you who sent me here but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹ Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me; do not delay. ¹⁰ You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹ I will provide for you there, since there are five more years of famine to come, so that you and your household and all that you have will not come to poverty.’ ¹⁵ And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them, and after that his brothers talked with him.

L The Word of the Lord. **R** **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

³⁵ But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” ³⁶ Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷ And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸ But God gives it a body as he has chosen and to each kind of seed its own body. ⁴² So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³ It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. ⁴⁴ It is sown a physical body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵ Thus it is written, “The first man, Adam, became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶ But it is not the spiritual that is first but the physical and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷ The first man was from the earth, made of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸ As one of dust, so are those who are of the dust, and as one of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹ Just as we have borne the image of the one of dust, we will also bear the image of the one of heaven. ⁵⁰ What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

L The word of the Lord. **R** **Thanks be to God.**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Congregation:

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

Repeat optional

P The holy gospel according to St. Luke, the 6th Chapter.

R **Glory to you, O Lord.**

***GOSPEL Luke 6:27-38**

²⁷ "But I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you; ²⁸ bless those who curse you; pray for those who mistreat you. ²⁹ If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰ Give to everyone who asks of you, and if anyone takes away what is yours, do not ask for it back again. ³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you. ³² "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴ If you lend to those from whom you expect to receive payment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵ Instead, love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. ³⁷ "Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap, for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

P The gospel of the Lord.

R **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

Rev. Jonathan Mollenkopf

***HYMN OF THE DAY "In Christ There Is No East or West" HYMN NO. 650**

**In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but one community of love
throughout the whole wide earth.**

**In Christ shall true hearts ev'rywhere
their high communion find;
his service is the golden cord
close binding humankind.**

**Join hands, disciples of the faith,
whate'er your race may be.
All children of the living God
are surely kin to me.**

**In Christ now meet both east and west,
in him meet south and north;
all Christly souls are one in him
throughout the whole wide earth.**

Text: John Oxenham, 1852-1941, alt.

***THE APOSTLES' CREED**

A Let us confess our faith, the faith in which we baptize, in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

R **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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**