



Second Sunday After Epiphany — Jan. 18, 2026 10 a.m. *Worship at Zion's Lutheran Church*

Welcome Friends and Guests: Today's gospel opens with further reflection on Jesus' baptism. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world and the one anointed by the Spirit. In the liturgy we see Christ revealed among us in word and meal. We go forth to invite others to come and worship the Holy One and to receive the gifts of grace and peace made known among us.

Serving this Sunday:

Worship – Pastors Lisa Rygiel, Julie Wersal & Charlotte Strecker-Baseler

Musicians – Connie Pallone & Sharon Sorenson

Ushers – T.M. Garner & Terri Watson

Communion – Kathy Humphrey & Jo Moss



Worship: In boundless diversity, we all are made in God's image! If you are visiting or new to our faith family, please sign our guest book and feel free to learn more about us. *Come back and worship each Sunday at 10 a.m.*

Communion: We celebrate open communion. This is Christ's table, all are welcome. You may come forward for the sacraments or cross your arms across your chest for a blessing. Our bread is gluten free and both wine and white grape juice (center of communion tray) are available.

Fellowship: Please join us after worship today for coffee and conversation. All are welcome!

Other Information: Large print bulletins are available from the ushers. Restrooms are in the Fellowship Hall adjoining the sanctuary; our ushers can direct you. For pastoral care, call Pastor Lisa at 719-846-7785 or send an email: zionsluth@gmail.com.

Additional information about Zion's can be found on our website at: zionsluth.org.

Zion's Lutheran is a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) community.

~Gathering~

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Gathering of Prayers & Call to Worship

Children of God, who has God called you to be? **A light to all the nations!**

When confusion, disunity, and misinformation threaten to undo us, who are you called to be? **A light to all the nations!**

When wars and rumors of wars in our communities and around the world overwhelm us, who are you called to be? **A light to all the nations!**

When the vulnerable are left without care or hope for flourishing, who are you called to be? **A light to all the nations!**

Come! Let us worship God, who gives us as a light of good news to all the nations! **We come to worship God, who calls us and equips us to reflect God's glory and abundant life into all the world. Amen.**

Confession & Forgiveness

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

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn: #314 Arise, Your Light Has Come!

Greeting

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


And also, with you.

Kyrie

Refrain



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the



2 That we may live out your im - passionate re - sponse to the



3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for



4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for



hun - gry and the poor; that



friends and fam - i - ly; for



wa - ter and the word; that you



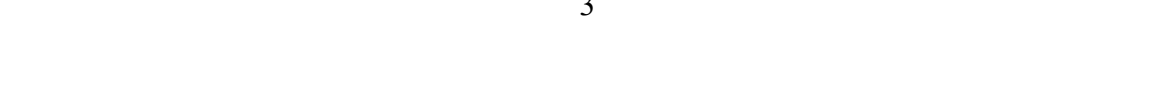
this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,



we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,



life and for love, for our work and our play,



nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,

Refrain



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Prayer of the Day

Guide our feet, Lord. Show us the light of grace when we would judge others too harshly. Warm our hearts with the glow of your love when we would spew icy words of spite. Illumine our souls with joyful delight when sadness tries to take over the day. Shine brightly on us today, Lord, until we reflect your glory as a witness to this world. **Amen.**

~Word~

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading: Isaiah 46:1-7

¹ Listen to me, O coastlands;

pay attention, you peoples from far away!

The Lord called me before I was born;

while I was in my mother's womb he named me.

² He made my mouth like a sharp sword;

in the shadow of his hand he hid me;

he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away.

³ And he said to me, "You are my servant,

Israel, in whom I will be glorified."

⁴ But I said, "I have labored in vain;

I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;

yet surely my cause is with the Lord

and my reward with my God."

⁵ And now the Lord says,

who formed me in the womb to be his servant,

to bring Jacob back to him,

and that Israel might be gathered to him,

for I am honored in the sight of the Lord,

and my God has become my strength —

⁶ he says,

"It is too light a thing that you should be my servant

to raise up the tribes of Jacob

and to restore the survivors of Israel;

I will give you as a light to the nations,

that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

⁷ Thus says the Lord,

the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,

to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations,

the slave of rulers, "Kings shall see and stand up;

princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,

because of the Lord, who is faithful,

the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsive Reading: Psalm 40:1-11

¹ I waited patiently upon the Lord, who stooped to me and heard my cry.

² **The Lord lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the miry clay,
and set my feet upon a high cliff, making my footing sure.**

³ The Lord put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God;
many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust in the Lord.

⁴ **Happy are they who trust in the Lord!**

They do not turn to enemies or to those who follow lies.

⁵ Great are the wonders you have done, O Lord my God! In your plans for us, none can be compared with you! Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! But they are more than I can count.

⁶ **Sacrifice and offering you do not desire; you have opened my ears: burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required.**

⁷ And so I said, "Here I am; I come. In the scroll of the book, it is written of me:

⁸ **'I love to do your will, O my God; your law is deep within me.'**"

⁹ I proclaimed righteousness in the great assembly;
I have not restrained my lips, O Lord, you know.

¹⁰ **I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness
and your deliverance; I have not concealed your steadfast love and truth from the great
assembly.**

¹¹ You are the Lord; do not withhold your compassion from me;
may your steadfast love and your truth continually keep me safe.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

¹ Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

² To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵ for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind ⁶ just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you ⁷ so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸ He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation



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

Gospel: John 1:29-42

The holy gospel according to John chapter one. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁹ [John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, “Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰ This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’ ³¹ I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.” ³² And John testified, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³ I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ ³⁴ And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One.” ³⁵ The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶ and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, “Look, here is the Lamb of God!” ³⁷ The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸ When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher), “where are you staying?” ³⁹ He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon. ⁴⁰ One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. ⁴¹ He first found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Anointed). ⁴² He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter).

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon: Pr. Lisa Rygiel

Hymn of the Day: #696 Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult

Apostles Creed

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.

Prayers of the People

Gracious God, gather the church into one great fellowship. Equip your people to work together for justice and peace, following the example of Martin Luther King Jr., renewer of society, whose birth we remember this week. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Creating God, sustain the web of life on this planet. Protect wild places, endangered species, and vulnerable habitats. Come to the aid of those affected by natural disasters and affected by drought and other threats. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Just God, you desire respect and equality for everyone. Raise up prophets who speak truth to the nations. Embolden leaders and those in authority to advocate for people in need or threatened with violence. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Healing God, you lift up those who are bowed by trouble, oppression, or illness especially today...Bring an end to social injustice and inequities of every kind, so that all people may have abundant life. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Abiding God, you are present with this congregation, we lift our church leaders to you. Grant them wisdom to see clearly and courage to act justly. Soften hearts, break down pride, and heal divisions. Help them to be peacemakers, showing Your grace and pointing us all to Christ, so that Your church may stand strong, glorify Your name, and represent Your peace to the world. Kindle in us all a desire to help one another. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Faithful God, you promise to be with us always. We remember with gratitude the faithful departed who now rest in you. Strengthen us to the end, that we may see you face to face. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

~Meal~

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering

As evident through all of creation, God has given freely to us as we freely give now.

You can give via check or cash, by mail to 510 Pine Street, or online at:

https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/1334741.

Offertory: #275 Angels, from the Realms of Glory, vs. 4

Offering Prayer

Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. **Amen.**

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also, 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 our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord...be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. **Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

God's love is wide. God's table is big. No one is excluded.

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

Our bread is gluten free & both wine and white grape juice are available.

God comes to us in worship and song. God also comes to us in silence and stillness.

Please use the time before and after you commune for silent contemplation.

Communion Hymn: #967 This is Christ's Body (blue hymnal)

Song of Thanksgiving



Communion Prayer

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

~Sending~

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Announcements & Special Blessings

Benediction

As we leave this place, remember: God, who chose you before your birth, who calls you and knows you by name, now sends you out into the world — to bring light to those in darkness, comfort to those who grieve, hope to those who despair.

And may the blessing of God, the love of Jesus Christ, and the presence of the Holy Spirit ☩ be among you and within you as you seek to do God's will. Amen.

Sending Hymn: #866 We Are Marching in the Light: Siyahama

Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God.**

~Announcements~

- ✚ **Fellowship:** Join us after worship in the Fellowship Hall for coffee and conversation.
- ✚ **Lutheran Basics/New Member Class:** At noon today, Pr. Lisa will conduct a class entitled Lutheran Basics for new members and anyone interested in understanding the basics of the Lutheran faith. Talk to Pr. Lisa for details.
- ✚ **Wednesday Book Club:** Pr. Lisa is leading a new Wednesday Book Club focusing upon *What if Jesus was Serious – A Visual Guide to the Teachings of Jesus We Love to Ignore*. The club meets at 10:30 Wednesdays in the Fellowship Hall.
- ✚ **Invitations from First United Methodist Church:**
 - *Women's Conference Invitation:* Feb. 6-7 – the Rev. Dr. Jan Everhart will lead a Women's Conference at First United Methodist Church in Raton. The topic is the Five Women in Jesus' Genealogy. Contact Pr. Jan E. or Pr. Lisa for registration information.
 - *Time of Prayer & Coffee:* Members of the Zion's family are invited to join our siblings in Christ from the Methodist church for a time of prayer and coffee at 10:30 a.m. each Thursday at Kangaroo Coffee, (in the Marketplace on Commercial Street).
- ✚ **National Day of Racial Healing:** The ELCA, in partnership with Augsburg Fortress, will observe the 2026 National Day of Racial Healing (NDORH) with a free evening program. From 5 to 7 p.m. Mountain time on Tuesday, Jan. 20. "Just Us Narratives: A Night of Centering Multiracial Voices Across the ELCA" Online and in person at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, Naperville, Ill. Space is limited, so please RSVP at <https://www.elca.org/org-events/2026-national-day-of-racial-healing>. This program will be recorded, and the video will be available on the [ELCA YouTube channel](#) at a later date.
- ✚ **The Way Ministry:** At 1 p.m. each Sunday, Zion's welcomes the Way ministry to our Fellowship Hall as they offer food and worship to the unhoused and others in need.
- ✚ **Save the Dates:**
 - Jan. 25 – RIC Sunday worship with special fellowship and lunch to follow – we are having hotdogs and hamburgers, please consider bringing a side dish or dessert.
 - Feb. 1 – Annual Congregational Meeting (after worship & potluck)

Congregational Annual Meeting: Zion's Lutheran Church will conduct its Annual Congregational Meeting at 11:30 a.m. on Feb. 1, 2026, in the Fellowship Hall following worship and our First Sunday Potluck. Participation is in person and via Zoom, with the online link to be provided the week prior to the meeting. This is an annual event where we report on finances, resources, as well as committee and congregational activities.

Voting members will be asked to review and vote on the budget for 2026 and to elect church council members. Our church council consists of 9 members, of which 3 come up for election each year, and serve 3-year terms. If there is a partial-term vacancy, we will vote for someone to finish out that term, as well. This year we will vote for three members to serve 3-year terms.

Voting members are defined as confirmed members of Zion's Lutheran who have communed in this congregation and contributed of record in the current or preceding calendar year. Voting members will receive copies of the proposed budget and agenda prior to the meeting via email. Paper copies also will be available on Jan. 25.

If you have any questions regarding this meeting, please contact Council President Mike McNeil or Pastor Lisa. If you are interested in, or want more information about, serving on the church council, feel free to talk to any of our current council members.

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Prayer of the Day: Written by Kwasi Kena, *The Africana Worship Book Year A* (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 2006), 84. Used with Permission.