

January 18, 2026 – Second Sunday after Epiphany



WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

We are glad to be gathered with you. If you are visiting with us for the first time, please ask an usher to answer any questions you may have. Cameras are in use for livestreaming the worship service.

The altar flowers are given by Lou DiCriscio & Nova Ahrens in memory of Lou's father, Louis DiCriscio, Sr.

8:30 a.m.

Assisting Minister — Jeff Livingston
 Acolyte — Ana Jebesen
 Greeters — Rebecca Melick & Cindy Rupprecht
 Ushers — Michele & Todd Stevens
 Altar Guild — Cindy Rupprecht

11:00 a.m.

Assisting Minister — Leah Wintemute
 Acolyte — Grant McDonald
 Greeters — Mike & Anissa Mikiutiuk
 Ushers — David & Elizabeth Blackwood
 Altar Guild — Erin Brogan

Opening Hymn	<i>"O Morning Star, How Fair & Bright"</i>	ELW 308
Hymn of the Day	<i>"Jesus Calls Us; O'er the Tumult"</i>	ELW 696
Closing Hymn (11 a.m.)	<i>"In Christ Called to Baptize"</i>	ELW 575



January 11th Attendance

<u>8:30 a.m.</u>	<u>11:00 a.m.</u>
37	25



Annual Coffee Drive for Faith Kitchen – January & February

A Zion tradition continues! Join us in supporting our friends at Faith Kitchen during the cold winter months. Faith Kitchen serves 90+ meals each day and their patrons LOVE coffee! Please drop off your cans of coffee (no K-cups, please) at the CEB or church no later than February 28th. Thank you for your support.

Financial Summary YTD

INCOME

\$406,320

EXPENSES

-\$394,756

DIFFERENCE

+\$11,564



The 2026 **Annual Meeting of the Congregation** will be held at the CEB on February 1st at 11:00 a.m. The purpose of the meeting is to receive the 2025 Annual Report, approve the 2026 budget, and install 2026 council members.



Are you comfortable sharing your faith with others? Zion's Evangelism Committee is offering an opportunity for our members to attend a personal witnessing training session at the CEB on February 15th (note the change of date) from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Please contact the Parish Office to register for this event.



For those who elect NOT to receive their giving statements by email, a copy of your **2025 Contribution Statement** is available for pick up at the back of the church.



venmo

Scan the QR code to make a contribution to Zion via Venmo.



Mark your calendars for Zion's annual **Youth & Family bowling trip!** On the afternoon of Sunday, February 15, parents, kids, and mentors are invited to share a pizza lunch at the CEB before heading out to the Bowlero bowling alley in Green Brook for an afternoon of fun and fellowship! The cost of the event is 20\$ per person and it includes access to bowling lanes, bowling shoes, unlimited soft drinks, and an arcade card. Asking our families to cover their costs helps us continue to offer this event. However, if cost is a concern for your family, please don't hesitate to let Jaime know. Zion is committed to making this trip accessible to anyone who wants to go! Please sign up at the link emailed from the Parish Office no later than Wednesday, February 11 so that we can finalize our rental arrangements with Bowlero. Hope to see you there!

First Reading: Isaiah 49:1-7

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."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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:

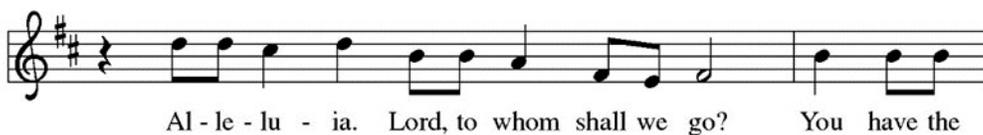
³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel: John 1:29-42

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).

<p>OFFERTORY ANTHEM <i>“Morning Star”</i> Bentall Boersma/Larson</p> <p>Draped across a midnight sky, a veil of stars, a shroud of silent night; hidden deep within the veil, an azure spark, a burst of glory bright. Emmanuel, Emmanuel, with Your brilliance mark the hour. Set us free from sin's dark pow'r, banish shadows of the night. Shatter darkness with Your light, Emmanuel. Rising out of Israel, a Morning Star to break into the night! Emmanuel, Emmanuel, with Your brilliance mark the hour. Set us free from sin's dark pow'r, banish shadows of the night. Shatter darkness with Your light, Emmanuel. Morning Star, Incarnate Word, bring Your light into our world, Emmanuel.</p>



	First Sunday	Second Sunday	Third Sunday	Fourth Sunday
January	1/4	1/11	1/18	1/25
Sunday School Theme: God's Family	All School Event: Baptism	Service Project: Birthday kits for Open Cupboard Food Pantry	Bible Lesson: The Lamb of God	Bible Lesson: The Disciples
Special Events				
February	2/1	2/8	2/15	2/22
Sunday School Theme: God's Light	NO SUNDAY SCHOOL (10am Single Service followed by Congregational Meeting)	Service Project: Luminaria bags	Bible Lesson: Transfiguration	Bible Lesson: The First Sin
Special Events			Winter Social: Bowling!	