

# ***Zion Lutheran Church***



***11 a.m. Traditional Worship  
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany  
February 8, 2026***

***As a people of God, we share Christ's love, grow in faith, and serve others.***

# Sunday 11:00 a.m. Worship Service

*\*Denotes Congregation is to stand, if able*

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRELUDE** *Partita on "Slane" (Lord of all hopefulness)* -D. Pinkham

Kirk Denton, organ

## \*CONFESION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters.

**Amen**

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Mighty God, lover of justice,

**you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in † Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace.

**Amen.**

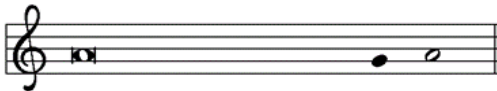
## \*HYMN

*Word of God, Come Down on Earth*

ELW 510

## \*APOSTOLIC GREETING (℣ And also with you.)

## \*KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



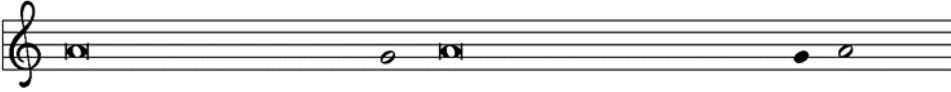
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



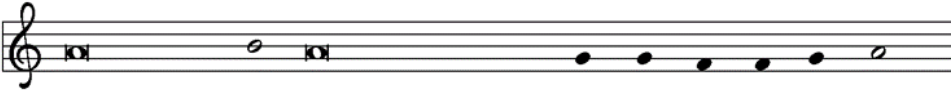
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

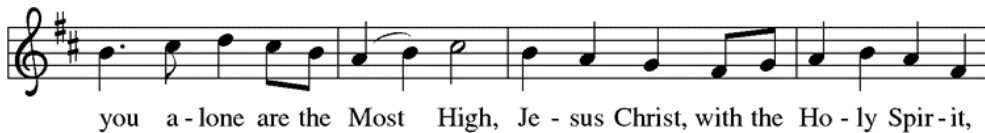
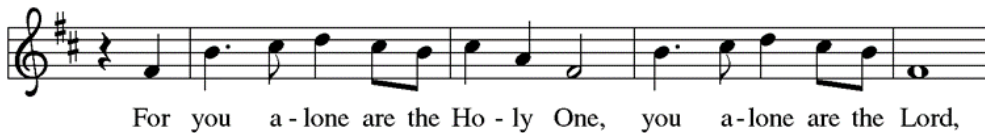
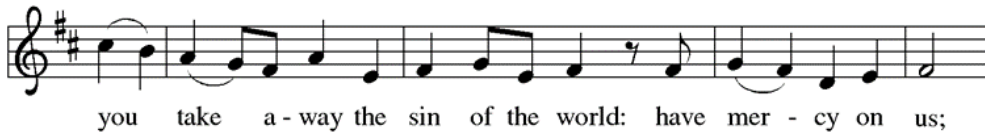
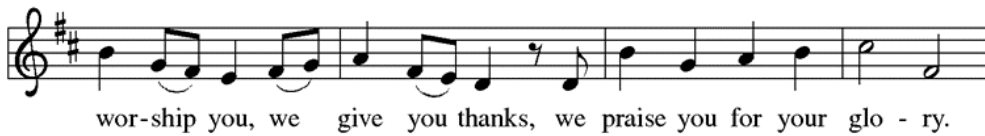
### \*CANTICLE OF PRAISE



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY (📖 Amen.)**

**FIRST READING (📖 Thanks be to God.)**

Isaiah 58:1-12

**SECOND READING (📖 Thanks be to God.)**

1 Corinthians 2:1-16

**\*GOSPEL VERSE**



**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the 5th chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**\*GOSPEL READING**

Matthew 5:13-20

*(After the reading of the Gospel)*

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**\*HYMN**

*Christ, Be Our Light*

ELW 715

**\*APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 INTERCESSION**

Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

**\*PEACE (☩ And also with you.)**

## OFFERING

*Thank you all for the gifts of time, talent, and treasures you give to support the mission at Zion. We cannot do our work without your participation in all three areas. To give financially, please give either online or in the offering plate that the ushers will pass in between pews. You can also scan the QR code to be taken to our online giving portal.*

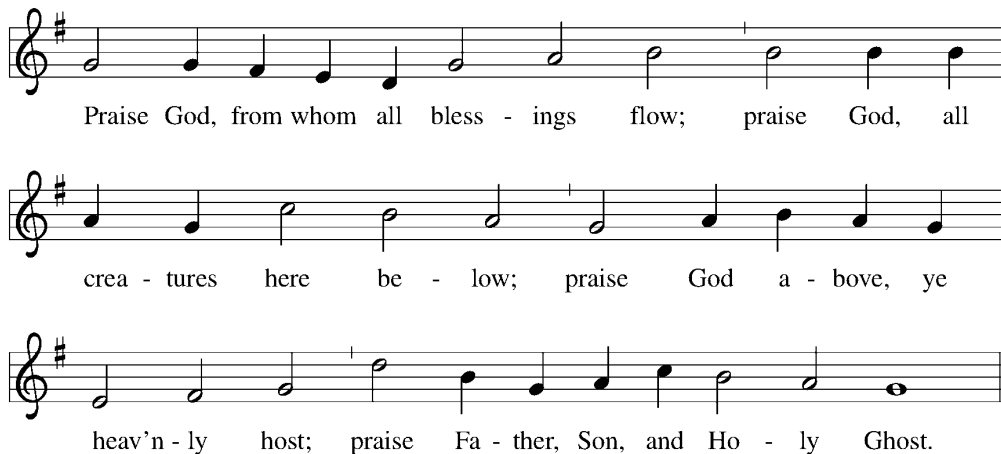


## CHOIR ANTHEM

Offertory - John Ness Beck

Worship Choir  
ELW 885

## \*OFFERTORY CANTICLE



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all  
crea - tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye  
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

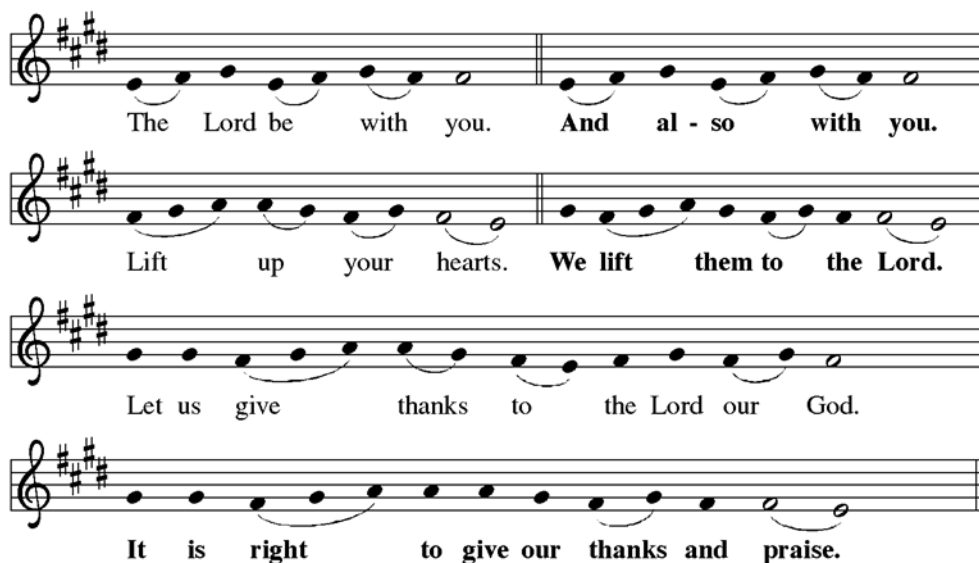
Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711, alt.

Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

## \*OFFERTORY PRAYER (📖 Amen.)

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

### \*SURSUM CORDA



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

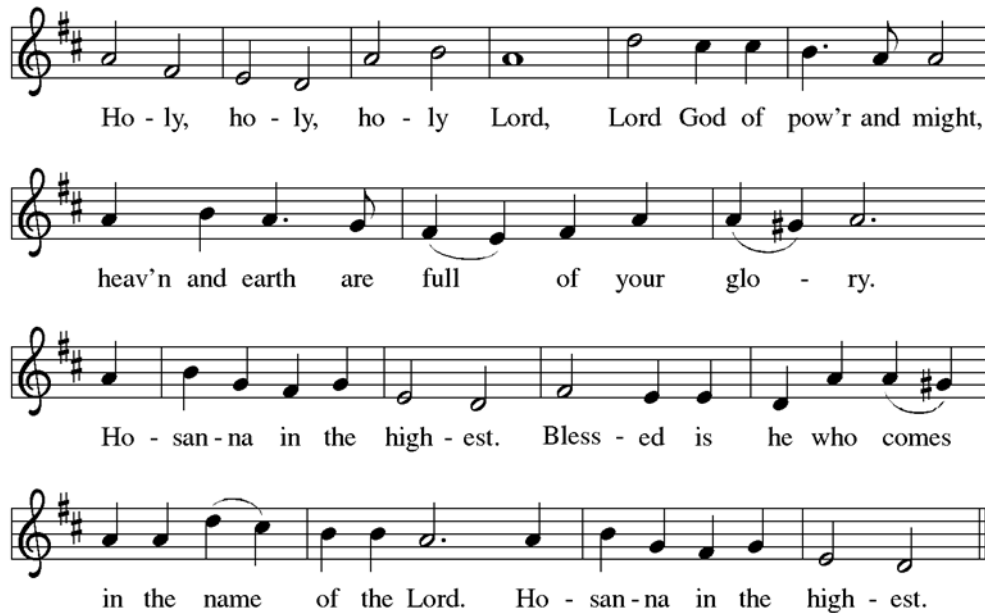
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

### \*PROPER PREFACE

It is indeed...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### \*SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,

heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

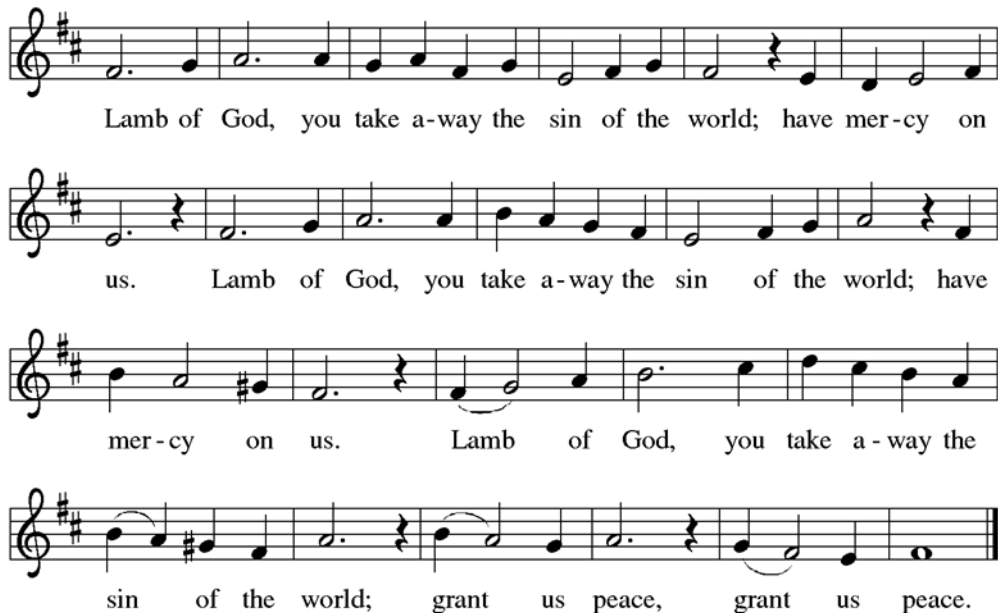
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

**\*LORD'S PRAYER**

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.

**\*FRACTION SENTENCE**

**AGNUS DEI**



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

**DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT**

*All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion this day. During communion distribution, an usher will invite your pew row to come forward. If you need the pastor to bring you communion, please let an usher know. There is a gluten free and grape juice option available if you need this. Return your empty glass to the baskets. Children and those not ready to receive communion this day may receive a blessing.*

**COMMUNION MUSIC** Choral Fantasia on “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” Kirk Denton, organ  
– C. Hubert H. Parry

**\*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING** (℣ Amen.)

**\*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER** (℣ Amen.)

**\*BENEDICTION** (℣ Amen.)

**\*HYMN**

*Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies*

ELW 553



**\*DISMISSAL**

The worship has ended. Now the service begins. As we go out into the world, let us remember our mission.

**As a people of God, we share Christ's love, grow in faith, and serve others.**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

*Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus*  
– Carson Cooman

Kirk Denton, organ

**Servants in God's House**

**February 8, 2026**

**11 a.m. Traditional Worship**

Lee Ropp (Greeter)  
Bruce McIntosh (Acolyte)  
Bob Rockwell (Asst Minister)  
Gene Appleby (Lector)  
Kenneth Basler (Head Usher)  
Jim Huckleberry (Sanctuary Usher)  
Linda Sanders (Comm Asst)  
Doug Davis (Sound System & Livestream)

**Servants in God's House**

**February 15, 2026**

**11 a.m. Traditional Worship**

Nancy Bybel (Greeter)  
Clinton Appleby (Acolyte)  
Clinton Appleby (Asst Minister)  
Sharon Finley (Lector)  
Wayne Ahalt (Head Usher)  
Ted Bybel (Sanctuary Usher)  
Shirley Ferguson (Comm Asst)  
9 am (Sound System & Livestream)

## **Our Mission**

As a people of God,  
we share Christ's love,  
grow in faith, and  
serve others



## **Our Vision**

Zion aspires to be a  
church where all are  
welcomed and loved;  
God's purpose for each of  
us is found; and lives are  
transformed.

## **2026 Ministry Priorities**

### **Leadership**

Called by the Spirit to be transformed as God's loving people, the Council will continue to discern where God is calling Zion in its defining of vision. We will be open to new ways and opportunities God is calling us to serve beyond our building in sharing Christ's love. We will support one another in our ministries as we share cherished traditions and try new things.

### **Communication**

Celebrating new tools we have learned to communicate information, we will hone and plan strategies to more effectively use them to share what God is doing at Zion. We will use these tools and new avenues to share how God's love is nurturing and changing us.

### **Relationship Building**

With Jesus as our example and guide, we will grow in building relationships with one another and those beyond our building through practicing welcome and invitation. We rejoice and celebrate our generational diversity. We will practice grace and understanding as we make mistakes. We will focus on serving one another in love, especially those in need and who are often forgotten.



The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Lynn Palmer, loving wife, mother, and grandmother by Don Palmer and family.

The coffee and donuts are sponsored by Sharon Boyer in memory of Lois Boyer



### **Zion Prayer List 2-8-2026**

Requests remain on the prayer list for 30 days unless requested otherwise.

Wes Keller, Linda Wiles, Mike Lingertot, Kieffer Crummitt, Sr., Heather Pendleton, Bridget Ely, Jim Hoover, Robert Berkey, Brittany Mushuda, Lynn Schenkelberg, Karen Summers, Carrie Basler, Peggy Kinna, Dianne Shafer, Tim Shafer, Benedict Phelps, Mary Fymer, Colin Sweigert, Ronnie Jessen, Beth Reed, Jo Ahalt, Diana Fath, Pat McIntosh, Shirley Hyssong, Ronnie Kinna, Dave Gouker, Richard Brandenburg, Vicki Ringwelski, J. Richard Staples, The Gunsallus Family, Samn Huffer, Eric Kinna, Linda Stottlemeyer, Anita, Gary, Bruce Albright, Marty Appleby, Judith Smith, Jackie Bello, Trish Tollefson, Addison Hopson, Kevin Kinna, Deb Kahihikolo

*Please be sure the church is notified if you are hospitalized and if you wish to be placed on the prayer list or would like visitation.*



**Zion Lutheran Church**

**107 West Main Street**

**Middletown, MD 21769**

**301-371-6500**

**Website: [www.zionmiddletown.org](http://www.zionmiddletown.org)**

*For emergency pastoral care or to schedule  
an appointment, please call the church office  
for additional information.*

**The Rev. Diane Day—Co-Pastor**

ext. 202, [pastordiane@zionmiddletown.org](mailto:pastordiane@zionmiddletown.org)

**The Rev. Matt Day—Co-Pastor**

ext. 209, [pastormatt@zionmiddletown.org](mailto:pastormatt@zionmiddletown.org)

**Deb Reichelt – Office Business Manager**

ext. 204, [treasurer@zionmiddletown.org](mailto:treasurer@zionmiddletown.org)

**Kaye Derr-Financial Secretary**

[financialsecretary@zionmiddletown.org](mailto:financialsecretary@zionmiddletown.org)

**Matt Puziss - Director Contemporary Worship Team**

[mattpuziss@gmail.com](mailto:mattpuziss@gmail.com)

**Katelyn McClinton- Director of Traditional Music Ministry**

[katelynmccclinton@gmail.com](mailto:katelynmccclinton@gmail.com)

**Kirk Denton- Organist**

[kirk.denton@rhosymedre.com](mailto:kirk.denton@rhosymedre.com)

**Emily Hopson – Children's Choir Director**

[emilyfulton1031@gmail.com](mailto:emilyfulton1031@gmail.com)