

Zion Lutheran Church

A Member Congregation of Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC)
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MARCH – APRIL 2025 NEWSLETTER including LENT & EASTER INFORMATION

Dear Members & Friends of Zion,

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

¹⁶ *Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. – Hebrews 4:16*

All year round, Zion is blessed to be gathered in-person and online together before God's throne of grace in prayer on Sunday mornings and on Wednesdays at noon. In the past, Zion held evening services during Lent and Holy Week.

In his *Commentary on the Lutheran Book of Worship*, Philip Pfatteicher writes: "Vespers (evening prayer) is the key to understanding the entire office (services for daily prayer). For it is the beginning as well as the ending of the daily cycle. In such a pattern night serves as a preparation for the following day and every night becomes a vigil, awaiting the celebration of the resurrection with the rising of the sun and awaiting as well the dawn of the great and final day." This year, a home resource for evening prayer is provided at the end of this newsletter. A Gospel reading from a daily lectionary is also included. A recording of an evening prayer service will be available at Zion's website; at the time for the Scripture reading, you will be invited to pause the recording to read the listed passage or one of your own choosing.

Whether with others or on our own, we are united with Christian sisters and brothers when we are pray. The invitation is to add evening prayer or prayer at another time of day; continuing in your own tradition, using or adapting the resource provided or another form of Christian prayer.

When citing Lenten disciplines (prayer, fasting, and almsgiving), prayer is often first on the list. Intentional times of holy conversation with God—listening for His guidance—help us to faithfully discern that from which we should abstain (fast) and ways in which we should give more intentionally of our time, talents, and treasure (almsgiving).

Sweet hour of prayer! sweet hour of prayer! That calls me from a world of care,
And bids me at my Father's throne Make all my wants and wishes known.

In seasons of distress and grief, My soul has often found relief,
And oft escaped the tempter's snare, By thy return, sweet hour of prayer!

Sweet hour of prayer! sweet hour of prayer! Thy wings shall my petition bear
To Him whose truth and faithfulness Engage the waiting soul to bless.

And since He bids me seek His face, Believe His Word and trust His grace,
I'll cast on Him my every care, And wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer!

-Sweet Hour of Prayer verses 1 & 3; William W. Walford

The Lord bless and keep us on our Lenten journeys,
Pastor Karin

ASH WEDNESDAY, March 5

7:00-8:30am Early Ashes & Healing Prayer at the Chapel entrance (in-person only)

Ash Wednesday Communion Service including Imposition of Ashes

12:10pm in the Chapel at Zion (In-Person)

Online via Zoom & YouTube Live (details at end of newsletter)

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. -Psalm 51:10

Please join us for this special worship service which marks the beginning of the prayerful season of Lent. *There is no lunch fellowship on Ash Wednesday.*

LENTEN LUNCH

Sunday, March 16, following 10:15am Worship:

We are looking forward to gathering for soup & bread lunch and for conversation supporting one another on our Lenten journeys. Presentations about local & global outreach opportunities (listed below) will be included. There will be a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall.

Prayerfully Giving in LENT 2025

All are invited to prayerfully discern outreach and mission efforts to which you would like to commit time, talent, and treasure as part of the Lenten discipline of alms-giving. **Items for the collections listed below should be placed on the counter in the church office.**

Hospice of Central PA Carolyn's House, hospice residence, provides space for 24-hour hospice care to individuals who are unable to remain at the place they call home. HCP offers hospice services at Carolyn's House when personal choices or medical needs make other settings difficult. Zion member, Raydel, was blessed to be a resident there. HCP encourages in-kind gifts that enable them to care for patients and their families at Carolyn's House, their 24-hour hospice residence. If you want to make a gift in-kind that is truly needed please choose Bounty® paper towels (individually wrapped), Puff's® tissues, Tide® High Efficiency detergent, Bounce® dryer sheets, New nightgowns in XXL and XXXL, individually wrapped granola bars, chips, nuts, crackers and snacks for visiting family members, magazine subscriptions for visiting family members, flat sheets and pillow cases (twin) in lilac, rose, yellow, peach, green and blue (as the rooms are named), men's and women's body washes, body lotion, tooth brushes and travel size deodorants and toothpaste. Please know that HCP's gift acceptance policy does not allow them to accept gifts of furniture, artwork and décor. Thank you for helping to uphold these policies. **Zion will be collecting in-kind donations for Carolyn's House during Lent.**

Zion continues to collect non-perishable food items for the Harrisburg University Food Pantry. Another local giving opportunity available to the Zion community is to contribute to the **Zion WOW (Worship On Wednesday) offering/fund which is designated for local outreach agencies (examples include: Bethesda Mission, Christian Churches United, Downtown Daily Bread).** Offering envelopes are available on which you can write "WOW" to designate giving to this fund. You may also write WOW in the memo line or include a note with your offering.

An opportunity to support global Christian outreach to children is through support of **Operation Christmas Child**. Like WOW, this opportunity to give to others continues year-round. ***Giving to Operation Christmas Child is organized by Judy Atticks (not through offerings to Zion). Please contact Judy directly [717-564-0798] regarding financial contributions and gifts of items.***

WOW (Worship On Wednesday) 12:10pm
LENT Worship Series: "Prayers of the Passion"

March 12, Lent 1:	Let This Cup Pass
March 19, Lent 2:	Why Have You Forsaken Me?
March 26, Lent 3:	Father, Forgive Them
April 2, Lent 4:	Jesus, Remember Me (1 st Wed. COMMUNION)
April 9, Lent 5:	Into Your Hands
April 16, Holy Wednesday:	Simon, I Have Prayed for You

FULL LENT - HOLY WEEK – EASTER SUNDAY SCHEDULE & INFORMATION

Separate Article in this Newsletter

Worship at Bethesda Mission Men's Shelter on 2nd Sunday at 7:00pm

March 9, April 13, May 11

Pastor Karin and Todd Pejack and volunteers from Zion and St. Timothy Lutheran Church in Camp Hill bring a monthly worship service of Holy Communion & Healing Prayer to the Men's Shelter. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Pastor Karin or Todd.

Prayer List

Ministries in Zion's Building: Agape Ministries, Faith Empowerment Worship Center, Helping Individuals Succeed (mentoring ministry led by Pr. Derrick James)

Missionaries: Ruth C. in Romania; Randy & Christy S. with TWR, stationed in Cyprus; Kimi; Hannah; All involved with Operation Christmas Child

Homebound Members: Irv & Nancy E., Nancy K., Bill & Janet S.

Members & friends of Zion with need of prayer for physical and/or spiritual healing (upcoming surgery/procedure/tests; recovery from recent illness or surgery/procedure/tests):

Ricky, Rachel N., Bill & Janet, Mike & Susie, Carol, Jeanette & Larry B., Todd W., Bud W., Peggy, Nancy, Saylor family, Yolanda, Harriet, Paulette, Kellen, Matt, Sharon, Ron, Jeff, John, Johnnie, Chuck, Phil, Dawn, Beth, Diane, Aimee, Connor & Anna, Anita, Gary, Don, Eleanor, Brent

If you have asked that someone be placed on our prayer list, please call or email the church office to let us know when prayers have been answered or the need has changed.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Please contact the church office with additions and corrections.

March Birthdays: Rick S. 03/09; Savannah W. 03/11; Nancy E. 03/18; Ricky P. 03/27

April Birthdays: 4/03 Erica J.; Norma S. 04/08; Reggie W. 04/16; Wendy D. 04/17; Nick M. 04/18; Todd P. 04/18; 4/25 Summer Hoke; Joey S. 04/29; Sean W. 04/30; Larry B. 04/30

April Anniversaries: Tuong & Xuan T. 04/25; Rick & Stephanie S. 04/30

May Birthdays: Catherine G. 05/28; Emma D. 05/30; Sam P. 05/30

May Anniversaries: Bob & Wanda H. 05/01; Larry & Jeanette B. 05/05; Bill & Janet S. 05/23

Zoom Council Meetings: Mondays, March 24 & May 5 at 6:30pm

Please pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance for all who are serving in leadership. Zoom invitations will be emailed from the Church Office. A combined April/May meeting will be scheduled to approve documents for the Annual Meeting, Sunday, June 6.

Winter Weather Cancellations of In-Person Worship

Online and phone worship will always be available on Zoom/YouTube! The best ways to check if in-person services are cancelled are to go to the website or to call the church office. The greeting on the answering machine will let you know if the service has been cancelled.

Daylight Saving Time – Sunday, March 9 – Set Your Clock AHEAD One Hour

CHURCH OFFICE INFORMATION:

Office Hours are by APPOINTMENT ONLY. We send **group emails** to provide updates. If you are not receiving the emails and would like to add your email address to this communication, please email the **church office (office@zionharrisburg.org)**. The **voicemail greeting for the church office (717-234-4064)** and the **church website (www.zionharrisburg.org)** provide current information. The church office voicemail and email (information above) are checked regularly. For urgent matters, please contact Pastor Karin by her cell phone. **Pastor Karin is available by phone, text, and/or email. She will schedule meetings in-person and/or online via Zoom.** For members coming to work at Zion, we encourage calling ahead to confirm entry to the office and to check on the parking situation when you plan to arrive.

Church Offering We thank all who continue to generously support ministry at Zion. In the building, contributions can be placed in the offering boxes located in the main entrance. Contributions can also be mailed to the church office (address listed on the first page of the newsletter).

PARKING

WOW SERVICE WEDNESDAYS: Zion's small lot; street parking around Zion's building is metered and enforced 9am-5pm, Monday through Saturday. Parking on the sidewalks around the church is not permitted, and vehicles parked on the sidewalk will be ticketed. For other weekday parking options, contact the church office. **ON SUNDAYS,** STREET PARKING IS FREE & THERE IS FREE VALIDATED PARKING IN THE CHESTNUT STREET GARAGE. ZION PROVIDES A VALIDATION TICKET. For more information, contact the church office.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

We plan to provide time for sharing prayer concerns and brief greetings online and in-person BEFORE the start of worship services and programs.

Sunday (Communion on 1st and 3rd Sundays and Festivals)

9:00am **Sunday School** (in-person only) 9:45am **Fellowship** (in-person only)

10:15am **Worship Service** (in-person & online)

Wednesday (Communion on the 1st Wednesday)

12:10pm **WOW, Worship On Wednesday** (in-person & online)

12:35pm **Lunch Fellowship** (in-person only)

Weekly Schedule & Zoom/YouTube Information

The Meeting ID and Passcode to attend our weekly online worship services on Zoom is listed below. The online links are available on the church website. **To join by phone, dial 1 646 558 8656. Use the Meeting ID & Passcode listed below:**

Sunday 10:15am: Worship Service

Meeting ID: 816 5895 6443

Passcode: 847172

Wednesday 12:10pm: WOW (Worship On Wednesday), concludes at 12:35pm

Meeting ID: 895 4667 5525

Passcode: 849793

YouTube Broadcast Worship

We will be broadcasting worship on our YouTube channel using YouTube Live. The content of worship will be the same as attending via Zoom, however YouTube offers some differences, including:

- Anonymity - Watching the worship service through YouTube is a similar experience to watching a video on your computer. Unlike participating via Zoom, there is no way for us to see or hear you during the service. Joining Worship this way is completely anonymous.
- More accessible - Many devices such as Smart TVs and DVD players, Roku, tablets, and some cable boxes now come with the YouTube app built in. Just look for the YouTube Logo on your device. **How to join via YouTube:** At worship time, open the YouTube app or go to [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com). Search for Zion Lutheran Church Harrisburg and select the result with a photo of the church as the icon. On our main page there will be an alert that we are "Live," allowing you to join. We will start broadcasting when worship starts.

2025 LENT - HOLY WEEK - EASTER SUNDAY SCHEDULE

in-person & online unless otherwise indicated.

March 5 Ash Wednesday

7:00-8:30am Early Ashes & Healing Prayer at the Chapel entrance (in-person only)

12:10pm Service including Imposition of Ashes & Communion

Regular Online Information for WOW, Service concludes 12:50pm, No Lunch

March 12 – April 9 Wednesdays 12:10pm WOW Lenten Services

Regular Schedule and Information for WOW Worship Service & Lunch Fellowship

April 13 Palm Sunday 10:15am Service of Word & Sacrament

Regular Schedule and Information for Sunday School & Worship Service

April 16 WOW on Holy Wednesday 12:10pm Conclusion of Lenten Series

Regular Schedule and Information for WOW Worship Service & Lunch Fellowship

April 17 Maundy Thursday 12:10pm Service of Word & Sacrament

In-person, Online or by Phone on Zoom, Streaming on YouTube Live

Communion will be offered in-person and for those attending online or by phone

Zoom Information: Meeting ID: 837 5248 0693

Passcode: 428677

April 18 Good Friday 12:10pm Traditional Tenebrae Worship Service

In-person, Online or by Phone on Zoom, Streaming on YouTube Live

Zoom Information: Meeting ID: 886 9574 2069

Passcode: 417150

April 20 Easter Sunday

7:15am Sunrise Service (In-person only)

at Zion outside facing the lawn in front of the train station

Brief Service with Communion. If the weather is bad, service meets in Fellowship Hall

9:00am Easter Breakfast (In-person only)

******To help us plan for this event, please call or email the church office to sign-up***

10:15am Worship Service of Word & Sacrament

Regular Schedule and Information for Sunday Worship Service

******An order form for EASTER FLOWERS is included in this mailing and is available at Zion.***

Journey with Jesus in Luke's Gospel During Holy Week

Palm Sunday	04/13	Luke 19:1-40	Holy Monday	04/14	Luke 19:41-20:8
Holy Tuesday	04/15	Luke 20:9-21:4	Holy Wednesday	04/16	Luke 21:5-38
Maundy Thursday	04/17	Luke 22	Good Friday	04/18	Luke 23:1-49
Holy Saturday	04/19	Luke 23:50-56	Easter Sunday	04/20	Luke 24:1-49

LOOKING AHEAD:

April 16 (Wednesday): 12:10pm WOW Series on Luke begins

Based on LUKE: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts, and Outlaws by Adam Hamilton

Regular Schedule and Information for WOW Worship Service & Lunch Fellowship

May 29 (Thursday): 7:15pm Himmelfahrt/Ascension German Service with English translation

6:15pm Coffee & Cake

Evening Prayer Service for 2025 Lent & Holy Week *for individuals & small groups*

L: Jesus Christ is the Light of the world.

C: The light that no darkness can overcome. (cf. John 8:12, 1:5)

L: Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening. **C: And the day is almost over.** (Luke 24:29)

L: Let Your light scatter the darkness. **C: And illumine Your Church.** (cf. John 12:46)

L: For even the darkness is not dark to You. **C: The night is bright as the day.** (Psalm 139:12)

L: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

L: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who led your people Israel by a pillar of fire by day and a pillar of fire by night: Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ; may your Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for you are merciful, and you love your whole creation, and we, your creatures, glorify you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Psalm 141:1-4a, 8

¹ O LORD, I call upon you; hasten to me! Give ear to my voice when I call to you!

² **Let my prayer be counted as incense before you, and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice!**

³ Set a guard, O LORD, over my mouth; keep watch over the door of my lips!

⁴ **Do not let my heart incline to any evil, to busy myself with wicked deeds**

⁸ But my eyes are toward you, O GOD, my Lord; in you I seek refuge; leave me not defenseless!

L: Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before you, O Lord, and let your loving-kindness descend upon us, that with purified minds we may sing your praise with the Church on earth and the whole heavenly host and may glorify you forever and ever. **C: Amen.**

Scripture Reading *followed by a time of silence for reflection*

Ash Wed. **W:** Lk 18:9-14; **Th:** Jn 1:29-34; **F:** Jn 1:35-42; **Sa:** Jn 1:43-51

1 Lent **Su:** Mk 2:18-22; **M:** Jn 2:1-12; **Tu:** Jn 2:13-22; **W:** Jn 2:23-3:15; **Th:** Jn 3:16-21; **F:** Jn 3:22-36; **Sa:** Jn 4:1-26

2 Lent **Su:** Mk 3:31-4:9; **M:** Jn 4:27-42; **Tu:** Jn 4:43-54; **W:** Jn 5:1-18; **Th:** Jn 5:19-29; **F:** Jn 5:30-47; **Sa:** Jn 7:1-13

3 Lent **Su:** Mk 5:1-20; **M:** Jn 7:14-36; **Tu:** Jn 7:37-52; **W:** Jn 8:12-20; **Th:** Jn 8:21-32; **F:** Jn 8:33-47; **Sa:** Jn 8:47-59

4 Lent **Su:** Mk 8:11-21; **M:** Jn 6:1-15; **Tu:** Jn 6:16-27; **W:** Jn 6:27-40; **Th:** Jn 6:41-51; **F:** Jn 6:52-59; **Sa:** Jn 6:60-71

5 Lent **Su:** Mk 8:31-9:1; **M:** Jn 9:1-17; **Tu:** Jn 9:18-41; **W:** Jn 10:1-18; **Th:** Jn 10:19-42; **F:** Jn 11:1-27; **Sa:** Jn 11:28-44

Palm Sunday **04/13** Luke 19:1-40 **Holy Monday** **04/14** Luke 19:41-20:8

Holy Tuesday **04/15** Luke 20:9-21:4 **Holy Wednesday** **04/16** Luke 21:5-38

Maundy Thursday **04/17** Luke 22 **Good Friday** **04/18** Luke 23:1-49

Holy Saturday **04/19** Luke 23:50-56 **Easter Sunday** **04/20** Luke 24:1-49

L: In many and various ways God spoke to his people of old by the prophets.

C: But now in these last days he has spoken to us by his son.

Luke 1:46-55 The Song of Mary *Magnificat*

**“My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.**

For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown

strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;

he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate;

he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty.

**He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, as he spoke to our fathers,
to Abraham and to his offspring forever.”**

**C: Glory to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is
now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Prayers – (offering prayers: personal to global; in thanksgiving, for healing, for guidance...)

Prayers conclude with the response below:

L: Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our
whole life to Christ, our Lord. **C: To you, O Lord.**

L: O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works: Give to us,
your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey
your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may
live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, God forever. **C: Amen.**

L: Lord, 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.**

L: Let us bless the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

L: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless us, and
preserve us. **C: Amen.**

Adapted from the following sources: *Lutheran Book of Worship; For All the Saints: A Prayer Book For & By
the Church, Vol. 1; and Evening Prayer - Vespers Service* © 2015, Sola Publishing (www.solapublishing.org),
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