

Zion Lutheran Church  
925 5th Avenue - Rockford, Illinois  
March 8, 2026 at 9:15am

[www.facebook.com/zionlutheranrockford](http://www.facebook.com/zionlutheranrockford)



## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

PRELUDE      “You Are My Hiding Place”      arr. By Mark Hayes

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*The Holy Spirit calls and gathers us together  
as the people of God*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and  
blots out all offenses. Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

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\* Pattern of Worship—resource from ELW pages 91-93

**WORSHIP SERVICES ONLINE**

[https://www.facebook.com/  
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[www.youtube.com/zionrockford](http://www.youtube.com/zionrockford)

Please subscribe to the Zion YouTube  
channel

<https://twitter.com/ZionRockford>



For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:  
Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:  
Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering  
the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for  
disdaining the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting  
signs of your healing and hope in the world: Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for  
disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life: Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through  
faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the  
righteousness of Christ. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your  
sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from  
the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and  
gives you life and peace.

**Amen.**

SONG OF WELCOME

“Hine ma tov”



1  
Hi-ne ma tov u-mah na - im she-vet a - chim gam ya - chad.



2  
Hi - ne ma tov she-vet a - chim gam ya - chad.



3  
Hi-ne ma tov u-mah na - im she-vet a - chim gam ya - chad.

GATHERING SONG “The Lord’s My Shepherd”

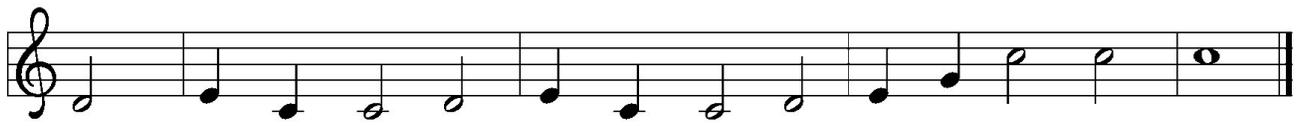
Red Hymnal #778



1 The Lord’s my shep-herd; I’ll not want. He makes me down to lie  
2 My soul he doth re - store a - gain, and me to walk doth make  
3 Yea, though I walk in death’s dark vale, yet will I fear no ill;  
4 My ta - ble thou hast rich - ly spread in pres-ence of my foes;  
5 Good-ness and mer - cy all my life shall sure - ly fol - low me,



in pas-tures green; he lead-eth me the qui-et wa-ters by.  
with - in the paths of righ-teous-ness, e’en for his own name’s sake;  
for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com-fort still;  
my head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.  
and in God’s house for - ev - er - more my dwell-ing-place shall be;



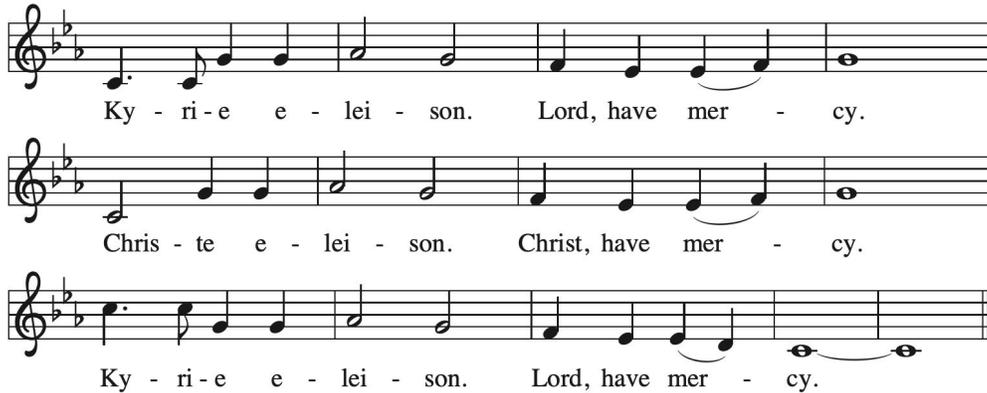
He lead-eth me, he lead-eth me the qui-et wa-ters by.  
with - in the paths of righ-teous-ness, e’en for his own name’s sake.  
for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com-fort still.  
My head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.  
and in God’s house for - ev - er - more my dwell-ing-place shall be.

## GREETING

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

**And also with you.**

## KYRIE



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.  
Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.  
Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

## SONG OF PRAISE "Sometimes Our Only Song Is Weeping"



1 Some-times our on - ly song is weep - ing; our on - ly  
2 Some-times we catch the faint-est hum - ming, a far - off  
sound is gasp - ing breath. Some-times it seems that God is  
tune our hearts know well. Some-times we sense the Spir - it  
sleep - ing while our brief lives are bound in death.  
com - ing. Our song re - turns; our voic - es swell.  
Who hears the song our sor - rows swal - low and of - fers  
The Spir - it sings though we are shak - en, and Christ has  
hope to calm our fears? When all our words seem frail and  
shared our heart - felt cries. Re - stored, our wea - ry souls a -  
hol - low, God heeds the prayers with - in our tears.  
wak - en to join God's song that nev - er dies.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

### **And also with you.**

Let us pray. Merciful God, grant us courage when we are facing difficult decision and quench our thirst of your mercy that flows to all creation. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth. We seek your guidance for such a time as this, and we call on your name to hear our prayers.

**Amen.**

## THE WORD

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

### FIRST READING Esther 4:10-17

<sup>1</sup> Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews.

<sup>2</sup> He <sup>10</sup> Then Esther spoke to Hathach and gave him a message for Mordecai: <sup>11</sup> “All the king’s servants and the people of the king’s provinces know that, if any man or woman goes to the king inside the inner court without being called, there is but one law: to be put to death. Only if the king holds out the golden scepter to someone may that person live. I myself have not been called to come in to the king for thirty days.” <sup>12</sup> When they told Mordecai what Esther had said, <sup>13</sup> Mordecai told them to reply to Esther, “Do not think that in the king’s palace you will escape any more than all the other Jews. <sup>14</sup> For if you keep silent at this time, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father’s family will perish. Who knows? Perhaps you have come to royal dignity for just such a time as this.” <sup>15</sup> Then Esther said in reply to Mordecai, <sup>16</sup> “Go, gather all the Jews to be found in Susa, and hold a fast on my behalf, and neither eat nor drink for three days, night or day. I and my maids will also fast as you do. After that I will go to the king, though it is against the law, and if I perish, I perish.” <sup>17</sup> Mordecai then went away and did everything as Esther had ordered him.

### REFLECTION

Rabbi Binah Wing, *Temple Beth-El Synagogue*

## PSALM 95

<sup>1</sup> Come, let us sing to the LORD;

let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

<sup>2</sup> **Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving  
and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.**

<sup>3</sup> For you, LORD, are a great God,  
and a great ruler above all gods.

<sup>4</sup> **In your hand are the caverns of the earth;  
the heights of the hills are also yours.**

<sup>5</sup> The sea is yours, for you made it,  
and your hands have molded the dry land.

<sup>6</sup> **Come, let us worship and bow down,  
let us kneel before the LORD our maker.**

<sup>7</sup> For the LORD is our God,  
and we are the people of God's pasture  
and the sheep of God's hand.

Oh, that today you would hear God's voice!

<sup>8</sup> **"Harden not your hearts,  
as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert.**

<sup>9</sup> There your ancestors tested me,  
they put me to the test,  
though they had seen my works.

<sup>10</sup> **Forty years I loathed that generation, saying,  
'The heart of this people goes astray;  
they do not know my ways.'**

<sup>11</sup> Indeed I swore in my anger,  
'They shall never come to my rest.' "

SECOND READING: Romans 5:1-11

<sup>1</sup> Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup> through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. <sup>3</sup> And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, <sup>4</sup> and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup> and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. <sup>6</sup> For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. <sup>8</sup> But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup> Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. <sup>10</sup> For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. <sup>11</sup> But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Word of love. Word of trust. **Guide us as we journey.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION "Let Your Steadfast Love"



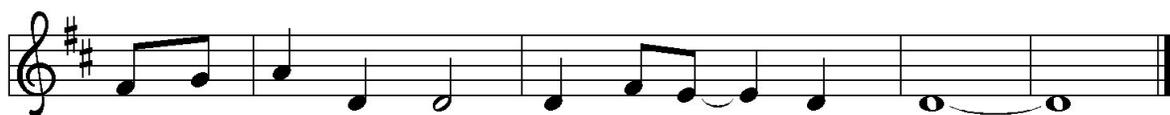
Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.



Save us as you prom-ised; we will trust your word.



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 4th Chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: John 4:5-42

<sup>5</sup> [Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph.<sup>6</sup> Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.<sup>7</sup> A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink."<sup>8</sup> (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.)<sup>9</sup> The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.)<sup>10</sup> Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."<sup>11</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?"<sup>12</sup> Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?"<sup>13</sup> Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again,<sup>14</sup> but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."<sup>15</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."<sup>16</sup> Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back."<sup>17</sup> The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband,'<sup>18</sup> for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!"<sup>19</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet."<sup>20</sup> Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem."<sup>21</sup> Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem."<sup>22</sup> You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews."<sup>23</sup> But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the

Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. <sup>24</sup> God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” <sup>25</sup> The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.” <sup>26</sup> Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.” <sup>27</sup> Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?” <sup>28</sup> Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, <sup>29</sup> “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?” <sup>30</sup> They left the city and were on their way to him. <sup>31</sup> Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.” <sup>32</sup> But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” <sup>33</sup> So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?” <sup>34</sup> Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. <sup>35</sup> Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. <sup>36</sup> The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. <sup>37</sup> For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ <sup>38</sup> I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.” <sup>39</sup> Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” <sup>40</sup> So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. <sup>41</sup> And many more believed because of his word. <sup>42</sup> They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.” The gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Michael Thomas

## SERMON SONG "When We Are Tested"



1 When we are test - ed and wres - tle a - lone,  
2 When in the des - ert we cry for re - lief,  
3 When we are tempt - ed to bar - ter our souls,  
4 When we have strug - gled and searched through the night,



fam - ished for bread when the world of - fers stone,  
plead - ing for paths marked by cer - tain be - lief,  
trad - ing the truth for the pow'r to con - trol,  
sort - ing and sift - ing the wrong from the right,



nour - ish us, God, by your word and your way,  
lift us to love you be - yond sign and test,  
teach us to wor - ship and praise on - ly you,  
Sav - ior, sur - round us with cir - cles of care,



food that sus - tains us by night and by day.  
trust - ing your pres - ence, our on - ly true rest.  
seek - ing your will in the work that we do.  
an - gels of heal - ing, of hope, and of prayer.

## 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

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

**Amen.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## MUSIC OFFERING & OFFERING "You Are My Hiding Place" Soloist: Jodi Beach

Offering envelopes are available in the pews at your seat to designate gifts toward the ministries of Zion. The Offering Box is by the prayer table. You can also go online at [www.zionrockford.com](http://www.zionrockford.com) or you can click on the QR code.



## TABLE BLESSING "This Is Christ's Body"



This is Christ's bod - y, bro - ken and blest. Feed us with



mer-cy and love. We are Christ's bod - y,



bro - ken and blest. Heal us and make us one.

**THE MEAL** - *God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

PRAYER

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

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 God thanks and praise.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.**

Please come to the front for communion today.

Receive the wafer with an open hand.

The cups of wine are red and juice is in the center and the juice is clear.

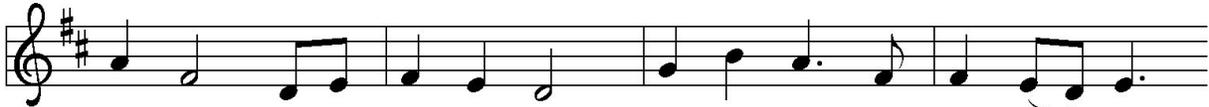
There are individual communion cups at the prayer table by the piano.

Dispose of them in the lobby.

COMMUNION

“We Come to the Hungry Feast”

Red Hymnal #479



1 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a word of peace.  
 2 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a world re - leased  
 3 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry that the hun - ger cease,



To hun - gry hearts un - sat - is - fied the love of God is  
 from hun - gry folk of ev - 'ry kind, the poor in bod - y,  
 and know - ing, though we eat our fill, the hun - ger will stay



not de - nied. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.  
 poor in mind. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.  
 with us; still we come, we come to the hun - gry feast.

“Beneath the Cross of Jesus” Red Hymnal #338



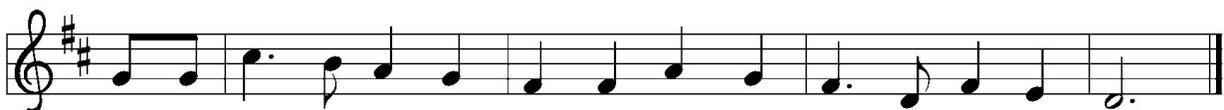
1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;  
 2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see  
 3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;



the shad - ow of a might - y rock with - in a wea - ry land,  
 the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me.  
 I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;



a home with - in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,  
 And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:  
 con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,



from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and bur - dens of the day.  
 the . . . won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.  
 my . . . sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen.**

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray: God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

#### BLESSING

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, ✝ bless you now and always.

**Amen.**

#### THE SENDING

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

SENDING SONG      "Canticle of the Turning"      Red Hymnal #638  
(song on next page)

#### SENDING

Go in peace. Believe the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### POSTLUDE

"Yigdal (The God of Abraham Praise)"



**WOZ NEWS**—We’ve been busy planning our Spring programs. Our first one is a fan favorite, Bunco! This will be on St. Patrick’s Day, March 17th, 1:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Add April 21st at 1:00pm to your calendar. This will be an interesting program by Jeff Dahlberg. May 19th is our annual salad luncheon at Noon in the Fellowship Hall. Our June date is the 16th with the program TBD. And don’t forget we are collecting canned fruit for Cornucopia Food Pantry during March. Thanks—the WOZ Board.

## 2026 Midtown Midweek Lenten at Noon

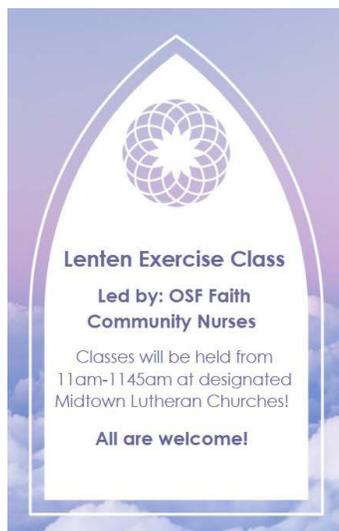
# Conversations With Jesus

EXERCISE CLASS BEFORE WORSHIP & SIMPLE LUNCH AFTER WORSHIP

March 11 at Zion Lutheran Church at Noon  
 Preacher: Pastor Frank Langhoff

March 18 2 at Emmanuel Lutheran Church at Noon  
 Preacher: Pastor Leslie Aska

March 25 at First Lutheran Church at Noon  
 Preacher: Pastor Bill Dahlberg



# CONVERSATIONS WITH JESUS

LENT 2026



**JOIN ZION CLASS**  
 March 15, 2026

10:30am in Library

JOIN PASTOR MIKE IN A CONVERSATION  
 ABOUT ZION’S MISSION, VALUES & MINISTRIES

## Good Friday Swedish Service

Friday, April 3, 2026 at Noon  
 Zion Lutheran Church  
 925 Fifth Avenue – Rockford, IL



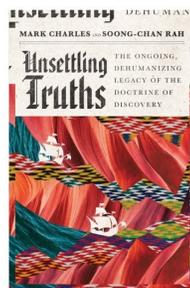
- Good Friday/Långfredagen Service at noon
- Liturgy bulletin all spoken in Swedish
- Swedish Community Choir
- Jodi Beach, Special Music
- Loose offering: Ruthie’s Kitchen
  - Sermon in English
- Holy Communion liturgy in Swedish



Zion Lutheran Church  
 925 Fifth Avenue • Rockford, IL 61104  
 Office: 815.964.4609  
[www.zionrockford.com](http://www.zionrockford.com)



Swedish Historical Society  
 404 South 3rd Street  
 Rockford, IL 61104  
 Office: 815.963.5559  
[www.swedishhistorical.org](http://www.swedishhistorical.org)



**ZION FORUM**  
 March 22, 2026

10:30am in Fellowship Hall

**A CONVERSATION ABOUT THE  
 MARK CHARLES BOOK  
 “UNSETTLING TRUTHS”**

# BAG FLUFFING

FOR CORNUCOPIA FOOD PANTRY

Fourth Monday at 1:00pm

Held at Zion Lutheran Church!

Cornucopia



Food Pantry



## PRAYER CORNER! WE ASK YOU TO PRAY FOR:



- ◇ The ELCA, Presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry, Bishop Stacie Fidler, Pastor Thomas, Pastor Emeritus Denver Bitner, the Zion Church Council, Pastor Caleb Uk of the Burmese congregation; the Zion Staff, Zion Outreach Board, Staff and Programs of Patriots Gateway Center, Katie's Cup and Zion Development Corporation.
- ◇ Senior Pastor Ndeshifose Akyoo, Assisting Pastor Evan Kiula, and Assisting Pastor Yohanna Samson Ntui of Sepuka Parish (Tanzania)
- ◇ Bishop Peter Paul Thomas and Pastor Selvakumar of Arcot Lutheran Church in India and Pastor Mytch Dorvilier.
- ◇ For the Northern Illinois Synod; North Conference churches; Midtown Lutheran Parish, faculty and students of Rockford Lutheran Schools.
- ◇ For those who grieve the loss of loved ones.
- ◇ For healing: Colette Buchert, Norm Buchert, Linda Callahan, Marjorie Carlson, Yolanda Churchill, Charlie Dahlberg, Jeff Dahlberg, Norma Daugherty, Karen Eiseman, John Hoyt, Gary Johnson, Greg Johnson, Leola LeGault, Jim McDowell, Les Morgan, Betty Jo Rodey, Wayne Spitzer, Carrie Steder, Kamara Thomas, Deb Tolodxi, Brian Veitch, Nancy Warden, Danielle Wegner, Gary Wegner, Jr., and Gary Zeien.

If you have a prayer request or a prayer of thanksgiving to share, please notify Pastor Mike. The prayer room is upstairs to the left of the sanctuary and is available during office hours and on Sunday before and after worship services. If you would like a ribbon to show support for pride or the African American communities, they are located in a basket in the lobby/narthex. If you would like a Zion yard sign to display they are in the lobby/narthex.

# Women's Group!

March 9, 2026  
Monday at 3:00-5:00pm  
At Stockholm Inn

Join us for a new small group for women!  
Any woman interested can attend or  
email us of your interest at [zionrockford@gmail.com](mailto:zionrockford@gmail.com)!  
Call Zion at 815-964-4609 for the address!



# BUNCO

Women of Zion

March 17, 2026

1:00-3:00pm

Zion Lutheran Church



## PALM SUNDAY BREAKFAST

\$12 Adults \$8 Children (under 12)

**Sunday, March 29 at 10:30AM-1:00pm**

Sponsored by the Multicultural Team of Zion Lutheran Church

Held at Zion Lutheran Church

925 Fifth Avenue – Rockford, IL 61104

Proceeds benefit the Multicultural Committee

# “WE THE PEOPLE”

*A Civil Rights Conference*

Speaker: Mark Charles  
Common Memory Tour



Saturday, April 18, 2026 - from 9:00am-3:00pm

Held at Patriots Gateway Community Center

615 S. Fifth Street – Rockford, IL

Cost: \$25.00 (includes lunch)

Sponsored by Zion Lutheran Church



## *Easter Spring Garden*

Remember or honor your loved ones and help us beautify Zion's Sanctuary by sponsoring flowers for the Spring Garden. Or, you may prefer to make a donation in lieu of flowers.

If you would like to contribute to our Spring Garden, please fill out the bottom portion of this insert, enclose your check made payable to Zion Lutheran Church and mail to the Church office, 925 5th Avenue, Rockford, IL, 61104,

no later than Monday, March 23rd (*firm deadline*).

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### **EASTER SPRING GARDEN**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Happy Easter to: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Plants: Tulip: \_\_\_\_\_ Daffodil: \_\_\_\_\_

Hyacinth: \_\_\_\_\_ (\$15.00 each plant)

Amount Paid: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

In lieu of flowers, I would like to donate monies to:

Cornucopia Food Pantry \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Ruthie's Kitchen \$ \_\_\_\_\_

World Hunger Relief Appeal or ELCA \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Other (please specify) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## PROGRAMS AND MINISTRIES THIS WEEK

Sunday	9:15am	Worship
	10:30am	Forum with Rabbi Binah Wing: "What is Purim?"
	11:00am	Burmese Worship Service—Chapel
	1:00pm	New Life Worship Service-Conrad Room
Monday	9:30am	Book Study—Multipurpose Room
	3:00pm	Women's Circle at Stockholm Inn
Tuesday	8am-Noon	RVC ESL Class—Marander Room (Tuesday-Thursday, 2-10 to 4-30-26)
Wed.	8:00am	Bible Study—Stockholm Inn
	Noon	Lenten Worship—Zion Lutheran Church
Saturday	1:00pm	Ruthie's Kitchen
Sunday	9:15am	Worship
	10:30am	Fellowship & "Join Zion Class" with Pastor in Library
	11:00am	Burmese Worship Service—Chapel
	1:00pm	New Life Worship Service-Conrad Room

## UPCOMING

March 17	1:00pm	WOZ Bunco
March 29	10:30am	Palm Sunday Breakfast
April 2	Noon	Maundy Thursday Worship
April 3	Noon	Swedish Good Friday Worship Service
	7:00pm	Good Friday Music Tenebrae Service
April 4	9:00am	Cars and Coffee—RPS Parking Lot
	3:00pm	Easter Egg Hunt in Gateway Park
April 18	9am-3pm	Civil Rights Conference "We The People" - Patriots Gateway Center
June 12-13	8:00am	Synod Assembly—Augustana College

## WORSHIP LEADER'S TODAY

Presiding Minister	Pastor Michael Thomas
Altar Guild	Kris Sommer
Assisting Minister	Student Deaconess Janice Forrest
Communion Asst:	Laurie Pellant and
Fellowship:	Multicultural
Musician:	Jodi Beach, Jim McDowel, and Rachel Handlin
Reader:	Pastor Denver Bitner
Usher:	