

Zion Lutheran Church  
925 5th Avenue - Rockford, Illinois

February 9, 2025 at 9:15am

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

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY



ELCA

by Chris Tomlin

PRELUDE

“How Great Is Our God”

WELCOME

## GATHERING

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

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

**Amen.**

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin. Merciful God,

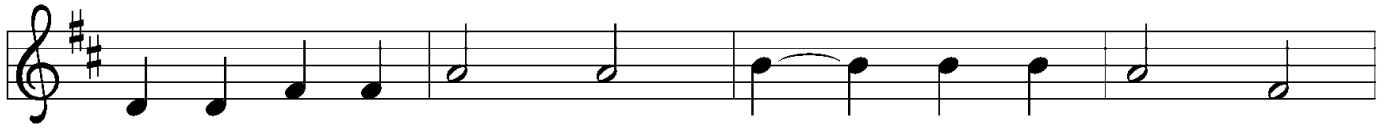
**you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ’s ways. Amen.**

God proclaims these words of assurance: “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine.” In ✝ Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.

**Amen.**

# GATHERING SONG "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!"

Red Hymnal #413



1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God Al - might - y!  
2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,  
3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,  
4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!



Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.  
cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;  
though the eye of sin - ful - ness thy glo - ry may not see,  
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!  
cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,  
on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!



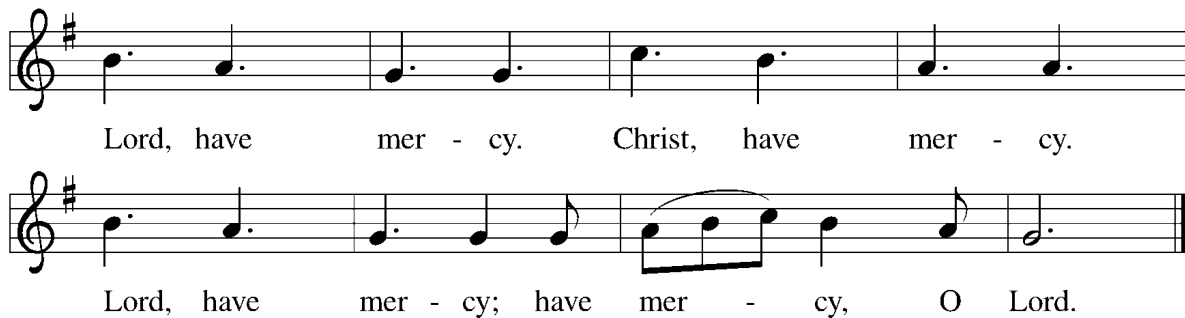
God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!  
which wert and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.  
per - fect in pow'r, in love and pu - ri - ty.  
God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

## 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.**

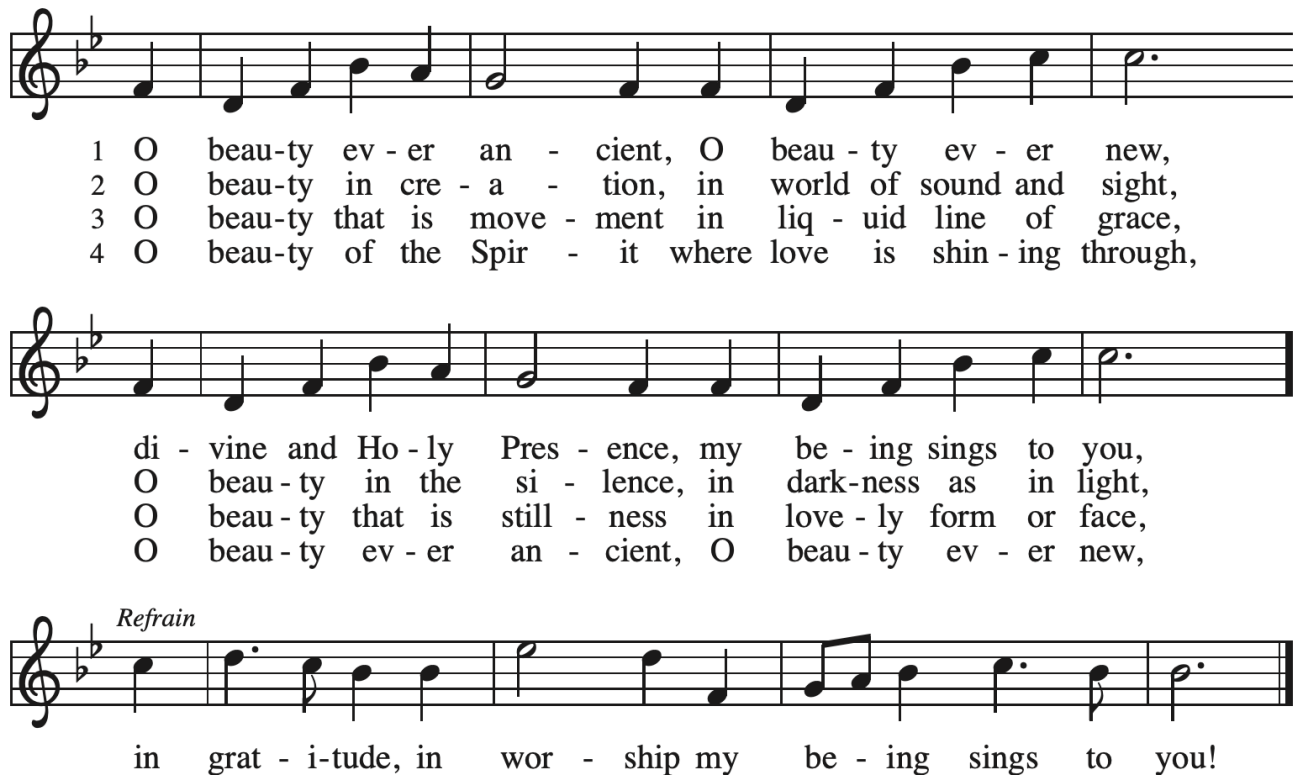
KYRIE (Kyrie eleison means "Lord, have mercy") Red Hymnal #154



Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy; have mer - cy, O Lord.

SONG OF PRAISE "O Beauty Ever Ancient" (from ACS #1100)



1 O beau-ty ev - er an - cient, O beau - ty ev - er new,  
2 O beau-ty in cre - a - tion, in world of sound and sight,  
3 O beau-ty that is move - ment in liq - uid line of grace,  
4 O beau-ty of the Spir - it where love is shin - ing through,

di - vine and Ho - ly Pres - ence, my be - ing sings to you,  
O beau - ty in the si - lence, in dark-ness as in light,  
O beau - ty that is still - ness in love - ly form or face,  
O beau - ty ev - er an - cient, O beau - ty ev - er new,

*Refrain*  
in grat - i-tude, in wor - ship my be - ing sings to you!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. Most holy God, the earth is filled with your glory, and before you angels and saints stand in awe. Enlarge our vision to see your power at work in the world, and by your grace make us heralds of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

# CHURCH COUNCIL INSTALLATION

## THE WORD

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

### FIRST READING Isaiah 6:1-13

<sup>1</sup> In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup> Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. <sup>3</sup> And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory." <sup>4</sup> The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. <sup>5</sup> And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!" <sup>6</sup> Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. <sup>7</sup> The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." <sup>8</sup> Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!" <sup>9</sup> And he said, "Go and say to this people: 'Keep listening, but do not comprehend; keep looking, but do not understand.'" <sup>10</sup> Make the mind of this people dull, and stop their ears, and shut their eyes, so that they may not look with their eyes, and listen with their ears, and comprehend with their minds, and turn and be healed." <sup>11</sup> Then I said, "How long, O Lord?" And he said: "Until cities lie waste without inhabitant, and houses without people, and the land is utterly desolate; <sup>12</sup> until the LORD sends everyone far away, and vast is the emptiness in the midst of the land. <sup>13</sup> Even if a tenth part remain in it, it will be burned again, like a terebinth or an oak whose stump remains standing when it is felled." The holy seed is its stump.

God's word of light.

**Guide us O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart;  
before the gods I will sing your praise.

<sup>2</sup> **I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name,  
because of your steadfast love and faithfulness;  
for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.**

<sup>3</sup> When I called, you answered me;  
you increased my strength within me.

<sup>4</sup> **All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD,  
when they have heard the words of your mouth.**

<sup>5</sup> They will sing of the ways of the LORD,  
that great is the glory of the LORD.

<sup>6</sup> **The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly,  
perceiving the haughty from afar.**

<sup>7</sup> Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;  
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your  
right hand shall save me.

<sup>8</sup> **You will make good your purpose for me;  
O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the  
works of your hands.**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

<sup>1</sup> Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I  
proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, <sup>2</sup>  
through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the  
message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in  
vain. <sup>3</sup> For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had  
received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, <sup>4</sup>  
and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in  
accordance with the scriptures, <sup>5</sup> and that he appeared to Cephas, then  
to the twelve. <sup>6</sup> Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers  
and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have  
died. <sup>7</sup> Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. <sup>8</sup> Last of all,

as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. <sup>9</sup> For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. <sup>10</sup> But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. <sup>11</sup> Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

God’s word of light.

**Guide us O Lord.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION “Celtic Alleluia”

Red Hymnal #174

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 5th Chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Luke 5:1-11

<sup>1</sup> Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, <sup>2</sup> he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. <sup>3</sup> He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. <sup>4</sup> When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, “Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.” <sup>5</sup> Simon answered, “Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.” <sup>6</sup> When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. <sup>7</sup> So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both

boats, so that they began to sink. <sup>8</sup> But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" <sup>9</sup> For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; <sup>10</sup> and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." <sup>11</sup> When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

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

SERMON

Student Pastor Rachel Perkins-Gama

SERMON SONG

"Here I Am Lord"

Red Hymnal #310



1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.  
 2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.  
 3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.  
 I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.  
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.  
 I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.  
 Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"  
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"  
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

## 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 CHURCH

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs. Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## MUSIC & OFFERING

“Revelation Song”

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.







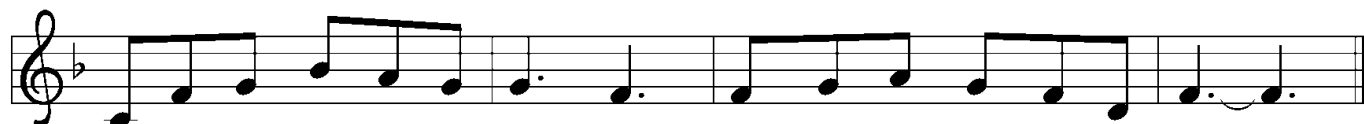
Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

### THE MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

#### PRAYER

Let us pray. 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 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.**

*Please come forward for communion today up front. 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. Dispose of them in the lobby.*

COMMUNION SONGS      "You Are Holy"      Red Hymnal #525

You are holy, you are whole.

You are always ever more  
than we ever understand.

You are always at hand.

Blessed are you coming near.

Blessed are you coming here  
to your church in wine and bread,  
raised from soil, raised from dead.

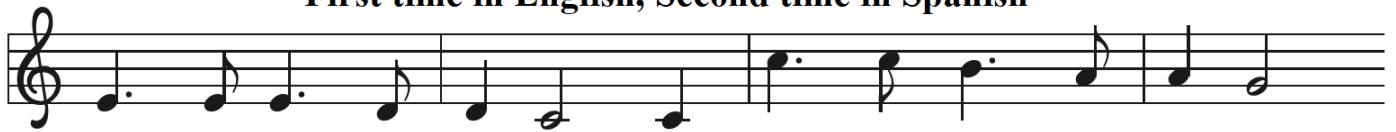
You are holy, you are wholeness,  
you are present. Let the cosmos praise you, Lord!

Sing hosanna in the highest! Sing hosanna!

Sing hosanna to our God!

“ Holy, Holy, Holy—Santo, Santo, Santo” (from ACS #1089)

First time in English, Second time in Spanish



*San - to, san - to, san - to, oh Dios del u - ni - ver - so:*  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of might and mer - cy,



*. . . lle-nos es-tán el cie - lo y la tie - rra de tu glo - ria.*  
your glo - ry fills all heav-en and earth. . . You are ho - ly, God.



*Ben - di - to el que vie - ne en nom - bre del Se - ñor. . .*  
. . . Bless - ed be the Sav - ior, the one who comes in your name.



*Ho - san - na en el cie - lo. San - to\_e-res, oh Dios.*  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. You are ho - ly, God.

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

**Amen.**

Let us pray: Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ’s resurrection, you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son’s resurrection that we may show your glory to all the world. Through Christ, our risen Lord.

**Amen.**

## BLESSING

The Spirit of the triune God ✝ bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

**Amen.**

## THE SENDING

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

SENDING SONG      "I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me"      Red Hymnal #860



1 I'm so glad I'm so glad  
2 Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me. Sa - tan had me bound,  
3 When I was in trou - ble, When I was in trou - ble,



Je - sus lift - ed me. I'm so glad  
Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me,  
When I was in trou - ble,



sing - ing glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Je - sus lift - ed me.

## SENDING

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

**Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

"I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me"

Zion Combo

## WORSHIP LEADER'S

Communion Assistant: Ann Harkabus  
Fellowship:  
Media:  
Music: Jodi Beach, Tom Marken, & Jim McDowel  
Readers: Pam Bitner  
Sound: Deangelo Brunson  
Usher: Charlie Dahlberg & Kamyra Brunson

## BAG FLUFFING

FOR CORNUCOPIA FOOD PANTRY

Fourth Monday at 1:00pm

Zion Lutheran Church – Youth Center!

Cornucopia



**WORSHIP LEADERS** Would you like to be a Communion Assistant, Reader, Sound, Usher, Greeter or Worship Host? You could have the assignment on the first, second, third or fourth Sunday of each month at the 9:15am worship service. Please let the church office know if you are available, interested or have a question.

**WOZ-- Cornucopia Food Pantry & Save the Date:** During February we are requesting donations of **Canned Fruit or Soup** for distribution at the Pantry. There is a great need for these items! A grocery cart is in the Narthex for donations, or you can bring them to the church office. Thank you so much for your help! There is a group of women that send Christmas cards to our area assisted living facilities. This year they sent out 3000 cards to residents! They are asking to collect more cards for next year. If you have any unused cards with envelopes, would you please bring them to church. Just leave them in the Narthex or the church office. Please watch the weekly bulletin and Grapevine for WOZ activities. Thanks so much! The WOZ board

**MONDAY MORNING BOOK STUDY** at Zion, 9:30am in the Nursery. The Books "A is for Alabaster", a devotional that anyone can order.

**WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY** at Stockholm Inn, 8:00am—feel free to join these groups

**COUNCIL OFFICERS** —The Church Council elected Kris Sommer to a third term. The Constitution states that an officer can only serve two consecutive terms in the same position. If there is no objection, she will serve a third term. If you have any questions, please let a member of Council know. The other officers: Mike Beert as Treasurer, Tom Habing as Vice President and Bonnie Dahlberg as Secretary.



**Zion's Future Midtown Mission:** On January 28, 2025, the Zion Church Council created a Long Range Planning process called: "Zion's Future Midtown Mission to discern the future of the facilities, the fire alarm system, continuing resolution on property purchase, the assets and liabilities of the properties, and partnering with the Midtown Lutheran Parish churches." After discussion, the motion passed unanimously. This was in response to the Annual Meeting action items. At the February Council Meeting: discuss the timeline, process and team members. If you would like to serve on this task force, please let Pastor or Kris Sommer know of your interest.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

You can volunteer  
as little as 2 hours a month  
Pantry is Open on Tuesdays and Thursdays,  
and the Third Saturday of each month from 9am to 11am.  
Contact Peggy King at Cornucopia, 815.962.1380.

**Cornucopia**



**Food Pantry**

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



- ◇ The ELCA, Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Bishop Stacie Fidler, Pastor Thomas, Student Pastor Rachel Perkins, 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.
- ◇ Pastor Cosmas Mujungu of Sepuka Parish (Tanzania)
- ◇ Pastor Selvakumar and Arcot Lutheran Church in India and Pastor Mytch Dorvilier in Senegal.
- ◇ For the Northern Illinois Synod; North Conference churches; Midtown Lutheran Parish, faculty and students of Rockford Lutheran Schools, Rockford Area Lutheran Ministries.
- ◇ For those who grieve the loss of loved ones.
- ◇ For healing: Eloise Anderson, David Bates, Phyllis Brynteson, Colette Buchert, Linda Callahan, Yolanda Churchill, Jim Duhigg, Jolyn Hess, Megan Libey, Deb Tolodxi, Neal Tolodxi, Linda Reinhardt, Betty Jo Rodey, Wayne Spitzer, Carrie Steder, Jeannie Thomas, Brian Veitch, Mary Wedel, and Gary Wegner, Jr.

If you have a prayer request or a prayer of thanksgiving to share, please notify Pastor Mike or Student Pastor Rachel. 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.

### PROGRAMS AND MINISTRIES THIS WEEK

Sunday	9:15am	Worship Fourth Sunday After Epiphany Council Member Installation at Worship
Monday	9:30am	Book Study—Multipurpose Room
Wednesday	8:00am	Book Study—Stockholm Inn
	4:00pm	WOW—Fellowship Hall
Saturday	1:00pm	Ruthie's Kitchen
Sunday	9:15am	Worship Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

### UPCOMING

February 11	8:30am	RVC English as a second language resumes
February 12	8:00am	Grapevine Articles Due
	11:00am	Mission Team—Multipurpose Room
February 16	10:30am	Forum: Alzheimer Association—Fellowship Hall
February 18	3:00pm	Zion Outreach Board — Multipurpose Room
February 23	10:30am	Forum: Reconciled in Christ Synod and Congregation led by Pastor Thomas
March 2	10:30am	Forum: Funeral Preparation with Olson Funeral Home
March 9	10:30am	Forum: Burmese Ministry with Pastor Uk

### OUR WORSHIP SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE

<https://www.facebook.com/zionlutheranrockford>

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

Please subscribe to the Zion YouTube channel



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

^ <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/articles/come-let-us-adore-him-advent-candle-lighting-liturgy-2024>