

ZION LUTHERAN March 16-17, 2024

We invite you to join us during the season of Lent for our **“Wounds of Jesus”** sermon series each Wednesday. We will be focusing our hearts on the many wounds of Jesus.

March 20 – The Wound of Abandonment

March 28 – Maundy Thursday – A Meal for the Wounded

March 29 – Good Friday

MARCH LOCAL MISSION – ZION FOOD PANTRY

Zion’s Pantry encourages you to remember March 23, 2024, as Double Match Day at Meijer’s on Pine. For every \$10 donated on that day, Meijer’s matches it twice for a total contribution of \$30. Zion’s Pantry receives gift certificates for special drives from the Bay County Emergency Food Pantry Network. The goal of the Network is to organize referrals, distribute funding sources and coordinate service throughout Bay County. The *Simply Give* program helps provide needed items for each of their 11 pantries with most proceeds used for one of our 4 major food distributions per year. Please put this date on your calendar.

CHRISTIAN GIVING—RESPONDING TO GOD’S GOODNESS

Our offerings are always a response to what God gives us: God’s everlasting love and life for us shown to us in the life, death, and resurrection of his Son Jesus. We can never outgive God because He gave us His best gift—the full and free salvation as Jesus died on the cross and then rose from the grave assuring us of life forever with Him in heaven. As we give our gifts of love to the King of love, we pray that the Lord uses our sacrificial and generous gifts to His glory and the good of His church here at Zion as we are CONNECTED to Christ and to each other.

2ND GRADE SCHOOL TEACHER—Please share names of possible teacher candidates with the church office as our Call Committee works on trying to find her replacement as we ask the Lord of the harvest to continue to provide for the needs of our school.

EASTER SUNDAY BREAKFAST...

Hop on in for Easter Breakfast March 31, in Ministry Room A between 8:15 and 9:15 on Easter Sunday. Stop in for a bite to eat or just a coffee before or after church and celebrate with fellow Zion members and guests the glorious Resurrection of Christ!! If you can help out that morning with serving and or cleanup, please let me know, call or text Kay at 989.751.0855. Thank you. This is a free event for all who attend.

DATES TO REMEMBER...

PIANO RECITAL Saturday, March 16, 2 p.m.

ROCK PRACTICE, Saturdays, 3:30 p.m.

SATURDAY EVENING WORSHIP, 5 p.m.

SUNDAY, March 19, Easter Food Deadline.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS, 8:30 a.m., Ministry Room A.

ROCK, Monday, March 18, 5 p.m.

MEN'S CHORUS, Monday, March 18, 6 p.m.

LADIES TEA & COFFEE CHOIR, Tuesday, March 19, 11 a.m., Ministry Room A.

ORCHESTRA, Tuesday, March 19, 6 p.m.

TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY, March 19, 6 p.m., Nursery.

CHAPEL, Wednesday, March 20, 8:15 a.m., Sanctuary.

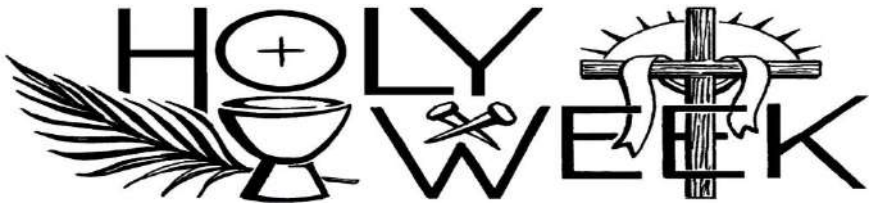
HANDBELLS, Wednesday, March 20, 6 p.m.

HYMN SING, Wednesday, March 20, 6:45 p.m.

LENT WORSHIP SERVICE, Wednesday, March 20, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY, March 21, 10-11:30 a.m., Ministry Room A.

CALL COMMITTEE PRINCIPAL UPDATE – We are still searching for our full-time School Principal. We thank the members of the congregation for all your prayers. From the District's first group of candidates, we thought we found our principal until he informed us that he and his wife accepted a dual call in Texas. We have an interview scheduled with a candidate from our second group of candidates. As always, we are hopeful and prayerful that this is the one who God has selected for us. We have received an additional six candidate names for our third group of candidates. We will be reaching out to them next. If you have any ideas, suggestions or leads, please give the church office a call so that we can get those names to our Call Committee.



Invite your family and friends to join us for our Holy Week and Easter worship services—see the insert for the days and times.

AREA HAPPENINGS...

Come take a peek at Valley Lutheran. Is high school right around the corner? Or thinking ahead to your child's future? Any and all interested families (students included!) are invited to come take a *Peek at Valley* on Monday, March 25th. These one hour guided tours provide a peek into the Valley Lutheran experience and what sets Valley apart. Please let us know you're coming and pick an arrival time at www.vlhs.com/takeapeek. Contact Amy Cooper, Director of Communications and Admissions at acooper@vlhs.com with any questions.

CAMP STAFF SOUGHT FOR CAMP CONCORDIA

Camp Concordia, Gowen is hiring summer camp staff. They need male and female cabin leaders (counselors), head cook (food service coordinator), kitchen assistants, health officer, maintenance staff, and waterfront staff. For more information and to apply, [click here](#).

ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN—MICHIGAN

Orphan Grain Train is a recognized service organization (RSO) of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. This Christian humanitarian network has 27 branches across the United States from California to Maryland and from North Dakota to Texas. The Michigan Branch has operated for five years out of the Michigan Thumb. At Sebewaing an 8,000 sq. ft. work and warehouse Center receives and processes humanitarian goods for distribution internationally. Wherever disaster relief is needed in our country, Orphan Grain Train also responds. Orphan Grain Train—Michigan has made numerous international shipments of clothing, medical supplies, and more to Kyrgyzstan, Panama, Moldova, the Republic of Georgia, Latvia, Malawi, Lithuania, Ukraine, and South Sudan—and always with the message of God's love in Christ. For more information visit www.ogt.org/ or contact Orphan Grain Train—Michigan Branch Manager, Pastor David Reed, 989-600-2264.

DESIGNATE THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS® by March 31, 2024.

Dear Thrivent Members, did you know that Zion Lutheran Church and School received \$4,427.00 in Thrivent Choice Dollars last year? It's a quick and easy way to support Zion, but you must make the designation every year. Be sure to designate your 2023 Choice Dollars by March 31, 2024. Visit <https://www.thrivent.com/about-us/membership/thrivent-choice> for details and instructions to designate. Or call 800-847-4836 and state "Thrivent Choice" at the prompt. Remember that you need to request your dollars go to Zion Lutheran Church or School. Thank you for supporting us!

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, GIFTS, AND MEMORIALS...

In memorandum of Ben & Alice Sigelko and Theron Barcia, from Fay Barcia...\$1,000 Soar in 2024-General Fund.

Gifts received: \$220.00 IRA Distributions-General Fund; \$10,150 Soar in 2024-General Fund.

PREVIOUS WEEKS ATTENDANCE:

Saturday (82), Sunday (49), Wednesday (37)

This Weekend – March 16-17 – Fifth Sunday in Lent

Sunday Worship Setting: Divine Service 3, pg. 184

Readings: 2 Corinthians 3:15-18; John 18:33-40

Hymns: 430, 849, 424, 725, 729, 349

Next Weekend – March 23-24 – Palm Sunday

Sunday Worship Setting: Divine Service 3, pg. 184

Readings: Philippians 2:5-11; John 12:12-19

Hymns: LSB 442, 441, 637, 425, 440, 443

AVAILABLE AT THE WELCOME CENTER:

- Portals of Prayer devotionals for January-March
- **NEW** Portals of Prayer devotionals for April-June
- Our Daily Bread devotionals for March-May
- March Wonderful Times (Div. on Aging)
- Cougar Newsletter

ACCESSING FACEBOOK STREAMING SERVICES. You can access the streaming service site at <https://www.facebook.com/zionbaycity>.

ACCESSING YOUTUBE STREAMING SERVICES. To access the service from YouTube, go to <https://youtu.be/c7Wvx6h96XA>, select the PLAYLISTS tab, select Church to find the Live-Stream and hit SUBSCRIBE to add this site.

Zion Lutheran Church

510 W. Ivy St., Bay City, Michigan 48706; 989-894-2611

Worship: Saturday 5pm; Sunday 9:30am; Wednesday 7pm

Pastor Phillip Baerwolf, pbaerwolf@zionbaycity.org, 989.284.0500

Bulletin submission deadline: Wednesdays, 10 a.m.



**Zion's Weekly
Prayer Concerns
March 16-22, 2024**

Those ill, hospitalized (or recently hospitalized), seeking medical treatment or with long term needs...

Erma Thomas, Kate Wagner, Ken Franz, Amy Nuffer, Pauline King, and those with struggles who suffer silently.

For those celebrating Anniversaries...

Mark & Anne Chambers celebrating 4 yrs. on March 17

Janine & Cliff Reese celebrating 13 yrs. on March 19

For those celebrating Birthdays...

Julie Glumm-3/16

Arlen Ruthruff-3/16

David Powers-3/18

Hannah Fry-3/22

Kay Nagel-3/22

For this week's homebound/nursing home patients ...

Tilly Arnold, Ardythe Biskupski, Michael Creer, and Rebecca Freudenburg.

Pray:

- for the Holy Spirit to cause your faith to soar on wings like eagles—ask the Holy Spirit to help you to love God's Word—ask the Holy Spirit to renew your spirit so that your worship of Jesus may be even more genuine and sincere.
- for those who lead and shepherd our educational and childcare ministries at Zion. Ask our gracious God to give them wisdom and skill as we work together to plan for the future and all that God will enable us to do here at Zion in the years to come.

May our prayer be that of the psalmist who teaches us to pray:

I said, "Oh that I had the wings of a dove! I would fly away and be at rest – I would flee far away and stay in the desert; I would hurry to my place of shelter, far from the tempest and storm." But I call to God, and the Lord saves me. Psalm 55



The Sacrament of Holy Communion Our Understanding and Practice

We celebrate the Lord's Supper in our worship, firmly believing that Jesus' words, "*This Is My Body...This Is My Blood*" mean what they say. Therefore, Communion is more than a "memorial" or a "representation" of Jesus. Rather, we believe that with the bread and wine of Holy Communion, Christ gives us His true body and blood in a miraculous way through this sacrament. Because of this promise in the Bible that Jesus is truly present, we have confidence that God forgives our sins and likewise strengthens our faith.

Since Scripture instructs us to examine ourselves before receiving Holy Communion, please sincerely reflect on these questions:

1. Am I truly sorry for my sins?
2. Do I believe that Jesus Christ is my Savior from sin because He gave His life on the cross for me personally?
3. Am I depending on Him, and not my own goodness, as the only way to heaven?
4. Do I firmly believe that Jesus gives His actual body and blood to me in this sacrament?
5. Do I expect to receive God's gift of forgiveness through this meal?
6. Do I sincerely intend, with the help of God, not to return to a life of sin but to live to Jesus' glory?

All who have been instructed about the meaning of communion in the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod and who confess these statements of belief are welcome to receive communion.

The Bible tells us that those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm. Therefore, any who are not yet instructed, who are in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod are asked to speak with the pastor prior to receiving this sacrament.

All adults and children not taking part in communion are encouraged to come forward to receive a blessing from the pastor. Please indicate this by simply refraining from receiving the bread and wine.

Gluten free wafers and non-alcoholic wine are available for those desiring this option for reasons of health or conscience.