



**ZION EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH, MONROE, MI**

*(Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod)*

**IN JESUS' NAME WE WELCOME YOU!**

**Fourth Sunday After the Epiphany**

**January 28, 2024**

**WELCOME TO ZION.** It is our hope and prayer that the message you hear today from God's Word will strengthen your faith and fill your heart with the peace only God can give and the joy we have in believing that JESUS CHRIST is our Savior from sin.

**Worship Focus:** Christ, as our prophet, brings us God's truth. Christ's love leads us to speak and use that truth lovingly.

*This is the Fourth Sunday in the season of Epiphany. The readings during the Epiphany season carry forward the emphasis in the readings for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, the theme of Jesus revealing himself to us as God and Savior. In Christmas and Epiphany our attention is on getting to know Jesus, who he is and how he works; thus there is not so much emphasis on our response beyond the response of faith, which itself is always seen as his work and not ours.*

**LITURGY: Service of Morning Praise**

*CW pg. 45*

**OUR FAMILY AT WORSHIP**

**BATHROOMS** are located in the back of church, just down the hall toward the school. Please ask an usher for help finding them.

**HEARING ASSISTANCE EQUIPMENT** is available as part of our sound system. Individual hand-held units are available. Please check with an usher if you would like a unit for today's worship service.

**VISITORS** are asked to please sign our fellowship registry in the back of church so that we will have a record of your visit. Thank you for joining us today!

For most of you, putting on perfume, cologne, or aftershave before coming to church is just routine. But for a growing number of us in the congregation, those smells will lead to nausea, headaches, shortness of breath, and migraines. We are asking if you could please re-evaluate your use of fragrances before you come to church, especially during the winter months when the enclosed heated space will magnify the effects of the fragrances. If you could wait until you get home from church to spritz on the smells, it would be greatly appreciated!

REDEEMER

353 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness



1 Praise the one who breaks the dark - ness With a  
 2 Praise the one who blessed the chil - dren With a  
 3 Let us praise the Word in - car - nate, Christ, who



lib - er - a - ting light; Praise the one who frees the  
 strong, yet gen - tle, word; Praise the one who drove out  
 suf - fered in our place; Je - sus died and rose vic -



pris - 'ners, Turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.  
 de - mons With the pierc - ing, two - edged sword.  
 to - rious That we may know God by grace.



Praise the one who preached the gos - pel, Heal - ing  
 Praise the one who brings cool wa - ter To the  
 Let us sing for joy and glad - ness, See - ing



ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Calm - ing storms and feed - ing  
 des - ert's burn - ing sand; From this well comes liv - ing  
 what our God has done; Let us praise the true Re -



thou - sands With the Fa - ther's word of peace.  
 wa - ter, Quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.  
 deem - er, Praise the one who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955, alt. © 1987 Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.  
 Used by permission.  
 Tune: BEACH SPRING (87 87 D) attr. Benjamin F. White, 1800–79.



**M:** O Lord, o - pen my lips.



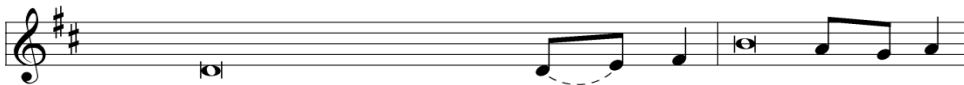
**C:** And my mouth shall de - clare your praise.



**M:** Has - ten to save me, O God.



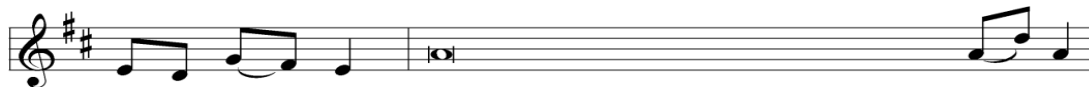
**C:** O Lord, come quick - ly to help me.



**M:** (Advent) Behold the \_\_\_\_\_ King comes: let us wor - ship him.  
 (Christmas) Unto us the \_\_\_\_\_ Christ is born: let us wor - ship him.  
 (Epiphany) The glory of Christ \_\_\_\_\_ is re - vealed: let us wor - ship him.  
 (Lent) Behold the \_\_\_\_\_ Lamb of God: let us wor - ship him.  
 (Easter) The Lord is \_\_\_\_\_ ris - en: let us wor - ship him.  
 (Pentecost) The Spirit of the Lord \_\_\_\_\_ fills the world: let us wor - ship him.  
 (General) Praise be to God, the Father,  
 the Son, and the Holy \_\_\_\_\_ Spir - it: let us wor - ship him.



**C:** Oh, come, let us sing to the Lord, let us make a joyful noise to the rock of



our sal - va - tion. Let us come into his presence with thanks - giv - ing,



let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise. For the Lord is a



great God and a great king a - bove all gods. The deep places of the earth are



in his hand; the heights of the hills are al - so his. The sea is his, for he



made it, and his hand formed the dry land. Oh, come, let us worship and



BE SEATED

## THE WORD

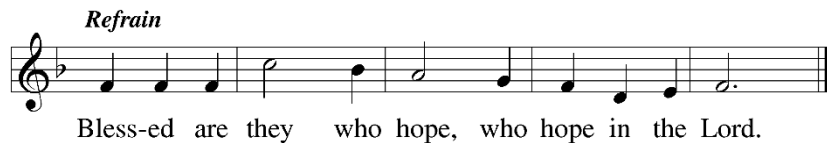
### FIRST LESSON

### Deuteronomy 18:15-20

<sup>15</sup>The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brother Israelites. Listen to him. <sup>16</sup>That is exactly what you asked from the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly. You said, “Do not let me hear the voice of the LORD my God anymore, and do not let me see this great fire again, or I will die.” <sup>17</sup>Then the LORD said to me, “They have done well by saying what they said. <sup>18</sup>I will raise up a prophet for them from among their brothers, like you, and I will put my words in his mouth, and he will speak to them everything that I command him. <sup>19</sup>Anyone who will not listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name, I myself will call him to account. <sup>20</sup>Any prophet who presumes to speak something in my name that I have not commanded him to speak or who speaks something in the name of other gods—that prophet shall die.” (EHV)

### PSALM 1

CW pg. 64



Blessed is the man

who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked\*  
or stand in the way of sinners.

But his delight is in the law of the LORD,\*  
and on his law he meditates day and night.

He is like a tree planted by streams of water,  
which yields its fruit in season\*  
and whose leaf does not wither.  
Whatever he does prospers.

*Refrain*

*Refrain*



Bless-ed are they who hope, who hope in the Lord.

*Psalm tone*



Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,\*  
nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.

For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,\*  
but the way of the wicked will perish.

**Glory be 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.**

*Refrain*

Refrain Tune: Robert J. Thompson. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL, www.giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

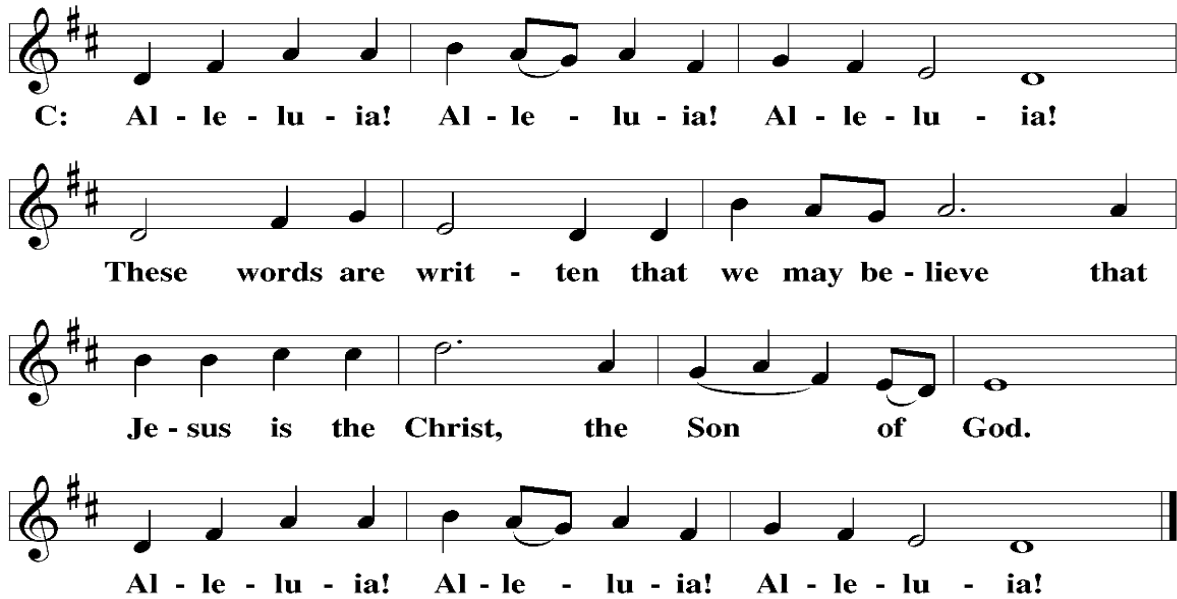
**Second Lesson**

**1 Corinthians 8:1-13**

8 Now concerning things sacrificed to idols, we know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. <sup>2</sup> If anyone supposes that he knows something, he does not yet know the way he ought to know. <sup>3</sup> But if anyone loves God, this person has been known by him. <sup>4</sup> So, concerning the eating of food from idol sacrifices, we know that an idol is not anything real in the world and that there is no God but one. <sup>5</sup> Indeed, even if there are so-called “gods,” whether in the heavens or on earth (as in fact there are many “gods” and many “lords”), <sup>6</sup> nevertheless for us there is one God—the Father, from whom all things exist and we exist for him—and one Lord—Jesus Christ, through whom all things exist and we exist through him. <sup>7</sup> However, that knowledge is not in everyone. Instead some, who are still affected by their former habit with the idol, eat the food as something sacrificed to an idol, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. <sup>8</sup> Food will not bring us closer to God. We do not lack anything if we do not eat, nor are we better off if we do. <sup>9</sup> And be careful that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. <sup>10</sup> For if someone sees you, a person who has knowledge, dining in an idol’s temple, will not the conscience of this man, weak as he is, be emboldened to eat food from an idol sacrifice? <sup>11</sup> You see, the weak person is being destroyed by your knowledge—the brother for whose sake Christ died! <sup>12</sup> And when you sin in this way against your brothers and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. <sup>13</sup> Therefore, if food causes my brother to sin, I will never eat meat again, so that I do not cause my brother to sin.  
(EHV)

**VERSE OF THE DAY**

P: Alleluia. The Spirit of the Lord is on me; he has anointed me to preach good news. Alleluia.  
(Luke 4:18a cf. NIV)



**C:** Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

**GOSPEL:**

**Mark 1:21-28**

<sup>21</sup> Then they went into Capernaum. On the next Sabbath day, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. <sup>22</sup> They were amazed at his teaching, because he was teaching them as one who has authority and not as the experts in the law. <sup>23</sup> Just then there was a man with an unclean spirit in their synagogue. It cried out, <sup>24</sup> “What do we have to do with you, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!” <sup>25</sup> Jesus rebuked the spirit, saying, “Be quiet! Come out of him!” <sup>26</sup> The unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions, and after crying out with a loud voice, it came out of him. <sup>27</sup> Everyone was so amazed that they began to discuss this with each other. They said, “What is this? A new teaching with authority! He even commands the unclean spirits, and they obey him!” <sup>28</sup> News about him spread quickly through all the region of Galilee.  
(EHV)

JUSTIFICATION

**395 Seek Where You May to Find a Way**



1 Seek where you may To find a way  
 2 Seek whom you may To be your stay;  
 3 Seek him a - lone, Who did a - tone,  
 4 My heart's de - light, My crown most bright,



That leads to your sal - va - tion. My heart is  
 None can re - deem his broth - er. All help - ers  
 Who did your souls de - liv - er; Oh, seek him  
 Je - sus, you are for - ev - er. Not wealth or



stilled; On Christ I build— He is the  
 failed; This man pre - vailed, The God - Man,  
 first, All you who thirst For grace that  
 pride Or aught be - side Our bond of



one foun - da - tion. His Word is sure; His  
 and none oth - er. The Ser - vant - Lord Our  
 fails you nev - er. In ev - 'ry need Seek  
 love shall sev - er. You are my Lord; Your



works en - dure. He will o'er - throw My  
 life re - stored. We're jus - ti - fied, For  
 him in - deed; To ev - 'ry heart He  
 pre - cious Word Shall be my guide What -



ev - 'ry foe; Through him I more than con - quer.  
 he has died, The guilt - less for the guilt - y.  
 will im - part His bless - ings with - out mea - sure.  
 e'er be - tide. Oh, teach me, Lord, to trust you!

Text: Georg Weissel, 1590–1635, abr.; tr. Arthur P. Voss, 1899–1955, alt.  
 Tune: SUCH, WER DA WILL (447 447 44 447) Johann Stobäus, 1580–1646, alt.

SERMON TITLE:

**In Church With Jesus**



**WE PRAISE YOU, O GOD**



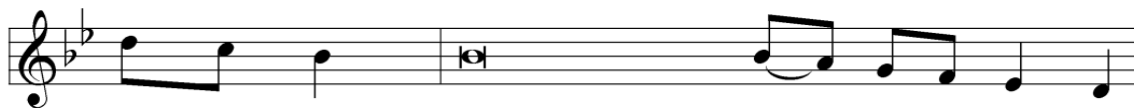
**C: We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord; all creation worships you,**



**Fa-ther ev - er - last - ing. To you all angels, all the pow'rs of heav'n,**



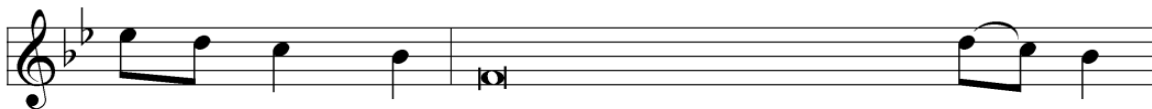
**cherubim and seraphim, sing in end-less praise: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of**



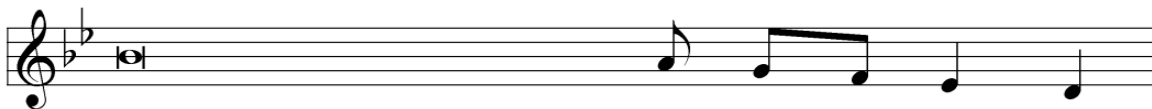
**heav'n - ly hosts, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry.**



**The glorious company of apostles praise you. The noble fellowship of**



**proph - ets praise you. The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.**



**Throughout the world the ho - ly Church ac - claims you:**



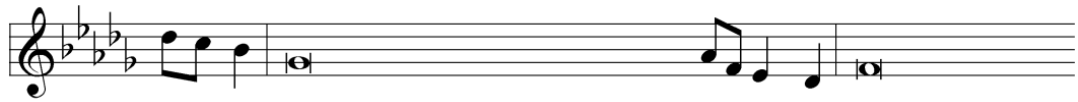
**Father of majesty unbounded, your glorious, true, and on - ly Son,**



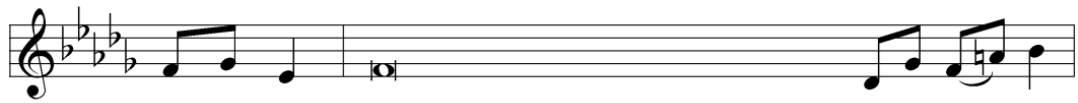
and the Holy Spirit, ad - vo - cate and guide. You, Christ, are the King of



glo - ry, the eternal Son of the Fa - ther. When you became man to



set us free, you humbled yourself to be born of a vir-gin. You overcame the



sting of death and opened the kingdom of heaven to all be-liev - ers.



You sit at the right hand of God in the glory of the Fa - ther.



We believe that you will come to be our judge.



Come then, Lord, and help your peo - ple, bought with the price of



your own blood, and bring us with your saints to glory ev - er - last - ing.

**OFFERING:** *The collection of the offering in the service is an opportunity for the members of Zion to give back to God a small portion of what he has given us in order to support the Gospel ministry of Zion Lutheran Church and School and of the WELS throughout the world. If you are a visitor today, while we appreciate an offering from you, please do not feel obligated to give.*

## LORD, HAVE MERCY

*Kyrie*



**M:** In the morning, O Lord, I call to you; be merciful to me and hear my prayer.



**C:** Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

## INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

### LORD'S PRAYER

**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.

### PRAYER FOR GRACE

**P:** O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger; and in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

**C:** Amen.



**M:** Let us praise the Lord.



**C:** Thanks be to God.

## BLESSING



**M:** The grace of our Lord + Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the fellowship of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



**C:** A - men.

CLOSE OF SERVICE

333

Abide, O Dearest Jesus



1 A - bide, O dear - est Je - sus, A - mong us  
 2 A - bide, O dear Re - deem - er, A - mong us  
 3 A - bide with heav'n - ly bright - ness A - mong us,  
 4 A - bide with rich - est bless - ings A - mong us,  
 5 A - bide with your pro - tec - tion A - mong us,



with your grace That Sa - tan may not  
 with your Word And thus now and here -  
 pre - cious Light; Your truth di - rect and  
 boun - teous Lord; Let us in grace and  
 Lord, our Strength, Lest world and Sa - tan



harm us Nor we to sin give place.  
 af - ter True peace and joy af - ford.  
 keep us From er - ror's gloom - y night.  
 wis - dom Grow dai - ly through your Word.  
 fell us And ov - er - come at length.

6 Abide, O faithful Savior,  
 Among us with your love;  
 Grant steadfastness and help us  
 To reach our home above.

Text: Josua Stegmann, 1588–1632; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.  
 Tune: CHRISTUS, DER IST MEIN LEBEN (76 76) Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615, alt.

Officiants

Accompanist: Kayla Liechty

Liturgist: Ken Vagt

Preacher: Pastor Greg Sitzman

## Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Pastor Greg Sitzman: 734-309-7877; [gsitzman@zionmonroe.org](mailto:gsitzman@zionmonroe.org)

Principal: Bryan Schneck: 907-331-7761; [bschneck@zionmonroe.org](mailto:bschneck@zionmonroe.org)

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**VOTER'S MEETING**— A call meeting is scheduled for today at 12:30 p.m. after the voter's meeting.

**ALTAR GUILD:** We are in desperate need of volunteers to help with Altar guild. It only takes about a half hour a week to take care of the candles and maybe an hour a week when there is communion. We only have a few months with volunteers, so please ladies and gentlemen, if you can spare some time to help out it would be greatly appreciated. If you have never done it before someone can teach you very quickly what to do. Thank you for considering to help.

**HELPING OUR CHURCH FAMILY:** Friends in Faith has a "Zion's Meal Train" program. The "Zion Meal Train" is a program that assists members of the Congregation with meals for situations such as surgeries/recovery, unexpected hospital stays, loss, birth of a child, etc. The meal train is open to all male and female members of the Congregation interested in providing meals for fellow members in need. We will be utilizing the official Meal Train website ([www.MealTrain.com](http://www.MealTrain.com)) to stay organized. When many friends provide support through a meal it means you may only have to volunteer once in a while to make a meal. The Meal Train program keeps schedules, as well as provides locations and dietary restrictions. If you are interested in volunteering to prepare an occasional meal as needed, please sign up in the west foyer or contact Melissa Freiny at 734-652-1638. Thank you in advance for considering to use your time and talents to support our church family.

### **Ushers Needed:**

Dear Members of Zion,

Zion is currently in need of ushers to be added to existing ushering teams. To be an usher you simply need to be a male or female, 7<sup>th</sup> grade or older and a member of WELS. Ushers typically arrive 20 - 30 minutes prior to service, make sure the hymn boards are updated, candles are lit, etc. There is a list of "usher duties" so don't worry about having to remember it all. We are simply looking for any confirmed member, male or female, willing to serve on an Ushering team. It's a great way to meet more of your Zion family and help our worship services run smoothly.

Willing and interested? Awesome! Please reach out to Rob Krueger, President of the Congregation, at 734-770-1149 or talk with Mark Kipf, Elders chairman at church.

Thank you for considering using your gift of Time!

Board of Stewardship

**Shut-In Visit Information:** To help Pastor Sitzman with ministering to our shut-ins, Ken Vagt has been called to serve our shut-ins with the Word and Sacrament. During those visits there is fellowship, then a devotion on God's Word followed by the offering of absolution and Holy Communion. If you are a shut-in or a family member of a shut-in, please contact Pastor Sitzman or Ken Vagt to schedule a visit with you or the family member on a monthly rotation.

## **MLS News:**

### **MLS JR CARDINAL WINTER POMS CLINIC**

Members of the MLS Poms team would like to invite girls from grades K-6 to their Winter Poms Clinic. The MLS Jr. Cardinal Poms Winter Clinic is scheduled for February 11, 2024! The clinic is for girls from K-5th grade in a WELS/ELS church or school. Each participant will be taught a routine that they will perform with the MLS poms team at halftime of the MLS varsity basketball game on Friday night, February 16, 2024.

The cost of the clinic is \$20 and includes a shirt and snack. Poms and hair bows can be added on if needed. To register, visit [www.mlsem.org](http://www.mlsem.org). Deadline to register is January 31 at midnight.

Questions? Please contact MLS Public Relations Coordinator, Michael Priebe at [mdp@mlsem.org](mailto:mdp@mlsem.org)

### **MLS CONCERT CHOIR AT THE SAGINAW SPIRIT**

The MLS Concert Choir will be performing the the American & Canadian National Anthem before puck drop at the January 28th Saginaw Spirit game against the Windsor Spitfires. Upper Level tickets are \$17. \$5 per ticket sold by using the link will be donated back to the Concert Choir. Purchase tickets at:

<https://www.saginawspirit.net/groupsales/>

USERNAME: MLSCHOIR128

PASSWORD: SPIRIT Or call 989-497-6507

### **MLS FOUNDATION DINNER & AUCTION**

Tickets are still available for our MLS Foundation Dinner & Auction. Our event will take place on Sunday, February, 18th at the Great Hall in Midland. Join us for an evening of fun, food, and entertainment to support Christian education at Michigan Lutheran Seminary. There will also be an online auction with separate items beginning on February 5th! Go to

<https://auctria.events/MLS2024> to get your tickets and to register for the online portion of our auction!

### **Coming up at Zion ....**

Sunday 9:00 a.m. Worship Service

10:30 a.m. Sunday School, Youth Group, and NO Adult Bible Class

10:30 a.m. Open Forum

11:30 a.m. Voters Meeting

12:30 p.m. Call Meeting

Tuesday 10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Class

5:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting

Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Worship Service (IC)

Sunday 9:00 a.m. Worship Service (IC/CC)

10:30 a.m. Sunday School, Youth Group, and Adult Bible Class

# January Volunteers

	Dec. 31	Jan. 3 & 7	Jan. 10 & 14	Jan. 17 & 21	Jan. 24 & 28	Jan. 31 & Feb. 4
Altar Guild			Kathy	Vanisacker		
Live Stream Helpers	Rob Krueger	Ryan Roth	Steve Sordahl	Miller Sordahl	William Robinson	Erich Freiny
Ushers	<u>Dec. 31</u> Tony Affholter Jeff Douglas Mark Fuerstenberg Ray Palmatier	<u>Jan. 3</u> Tony Affholter Jeff Douglas Mark Fuerstenberg Ray Palmatier  <u>Jan. 7</u> Dave Benge Alan Bober Mathewt Hill Joe Koch Jeremy Robinson Jacob Robinson William Robinson	<u>Jan. 10</u> Dave Benge Alan Bober Matthew Hill Joe Koch Jeremy Robinson Jacob Robinson William Robinson  <u>Jan. 14</u> Jake Burke Rich Heusman Jeff Heusman Juergen Koenig Matt McCormick Zach McCormick	<u>Jan. 17</u> Jake Burke Rich Heusman Jeff Heusman Juergen Koenig Matt McCormick Zach McCormick  <u>Jan. 21</u> Mark Kipf Keith McBee Joe Schmeling Russ Vitale	<u>Jan. 24</u> Mark Kipf Keith McBee Joe Schmeling Russ Vitale  <u>Jan. 28</u> Ray Chandonnet Erich Freiny Rob Krueger Zach Turner	<u>Jan. 31</u> Ray Chandonnet Erich Freiny Rob Krueger Zach Turner  <u>Feb. 4</u> Tony Affholter Jeff Douglas Mark Fuerstenberg Ray Palmatier
Communion Helpers		<u>Jan. 3</u> Mark Kipf  <u>Jan. 7</u> Erich Freiny Steve Sordahl		<u>Jan. 17</u> Ken Vagt  <u>Jan. 21</u> Jeremy Robinson Rob Krueger		<u>Jan. 31</u> Ken Vagt  <u>Feb. 4</u> Mark Kipf Jake Burke

February 17, 2024  
7:15 am – 3pm

Doubletree Hotel  
Bay City, MI

# ALIVE!

**Theme: A Battle for My Heart – The *Idols* We Never Knew We Had**

*Deuteronomy 6:5 Love the Lord Your God with All Your Heart*

**Keynote: *Guilt & Shame* and *Gospel* healing.**

*Rev. Peter A. Panitzke and Rev. Jeffrey A. Bonack*

**Registration Dates: *December 1 – January 31***



[www.menalive-balm.org/](http://www.menalive-balm.org/) menalivewels@gmail.com

*Men Alive is an annual event offered as spiritual balm for the soul under the auspices of B.A.L.M. Bay Area Lutheran Ministry  
1010 33<sup>rd</sup> Street Bay City, MI 48708  
General Business*



# FRIENDS IN FAITH

♡♡ Please Join Us ♡♡  
For Our Next  
Meeting

» ————— «  
SUNDAY FEBRUARY, 4TH  
11:30 AM  
» ————— «

Luncheon

Fellowship

All Women Invited





♥ Zion's Sweetheart ♥  
Daddy-Daughter Dance

Saturday, February 24th

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

In Zion's Gymnasium

*Dads, Grandpas, and Uncles come dance  
the night away with your Sweetheart...*

Your night includes dancing, dinner,  
sweet treats, glitter tattoos,  
and a take away photograph!



TICKETS ON SALE NOW

Suggested Donation

\$10 Per Couple

Each Additional Daughter is \$5

Please RSVP by 2-23-24

Tickets Sold at door as well

If you have any questions please contact

Melissa Freiny 734-652-1638

Marleise Gutschow 734-755-6844