

Day of Pentecost
Sunday, May 19, 2024



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Reverend Martha McCreight – *Pastor*
Mr. Andrew Sabol – *Director of Music Ministries*
Mrs. Julie Nieser – *Administrative Secretary*
Dr. Stanley E. Yoder – *Cantor Emeritus*
11609 Frankstown Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15235
412-242-2626

www.zionpennhills.org

www.facebook.com/zionpennhills

PRELUDE:

Sonata II
Bel Suono Ensemble

Domenico Scarlatti

PROCESSIONAL READING OF ACTS 2:1-21

A reading from the book of Acts.

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: ‘In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: ELW 401 Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading

The assembly stands.

v. 1 sung by the choir in Swahili

v. 2-5 sung by all

NJOO KWETU,
ROHO MWEMA

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Mighty God, you breathe life into our bones, and your Spirit brings truth to the world. Send us this Spirit, transform us by your truth, and give us language to proclaim your gospel, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 37:1-14

read in Italian and German

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord."

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 104

setting by Tony Alonso



Lord, send out your Spir - it, and re - new the face of the
earth. En - ví - a tu Es - pí - ri - tu, en - ví - a tu Es -
pí - ri - tu, y nue - va la faz de la tie - rra.

The verses are sung by the cantor alternating English and Spanish.

1. Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, how great you are, clothed in majesty and honor, wrapped in light as with a robe!
2. You set the earth on its foundation, immovable from age to age. You wrapped it with the depths like a cloak; the waters stood higher than the mountains.
3. You make springs gush forth in the valleys; they flow in between the hills. There the birds of heaven build their nests; from the branches they sing their song.
4. From your dwelling you water the mountains; by your works the earth has its fill. You make the grass grow for the cattle and plants to serve mankind's need, that he may bring forth bread from the earth.
5. How many are your works, O Lord! In wisdom you have made them all. The earth is full of your creatures. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:22-27

read in French

We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

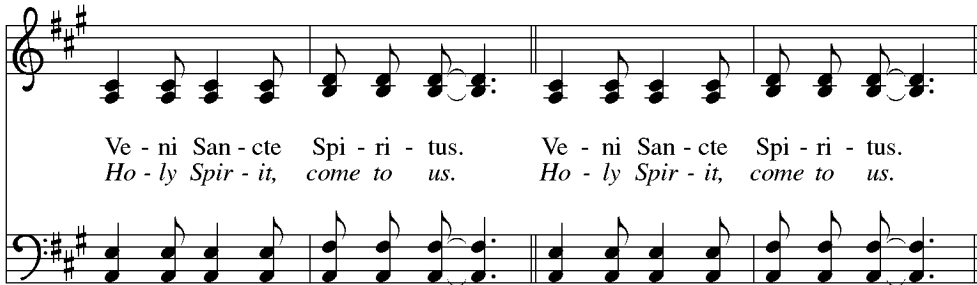
Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

Ostinato (repeated continuously)



Ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus. Ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus.
Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us. Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us.

GOSPEL: John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said,] “When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

“I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: about sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason, I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

CHILDRENS MESSAGE: THANKING OF SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: ACS 944

O Spirit All-Embracing

THAXTED

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

...and to this let us say:

Hear us, Lord.

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace

The assembly is seated.

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: “Let Songs of Praises Fill the Sky” J. S. Bach
adapted from the cantata Lobe den Herrn, meine Seele, BWV 143 by E. Klammer

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Let songs of praises fill the sky:
Christ, our ascended Lord,
Sends down his Spirit from on high
According to His Word.
All hail the day of Pentecost,
The coming of the Holy Ghost! | 2. Come, Holy Spirit, from above
With your celestial fire;
Come and with flames of zeal and love
Our hearts and tongues inspire.
Be this our day of Pentecost,
The coming of the Holy Ghost! |
|--|---|

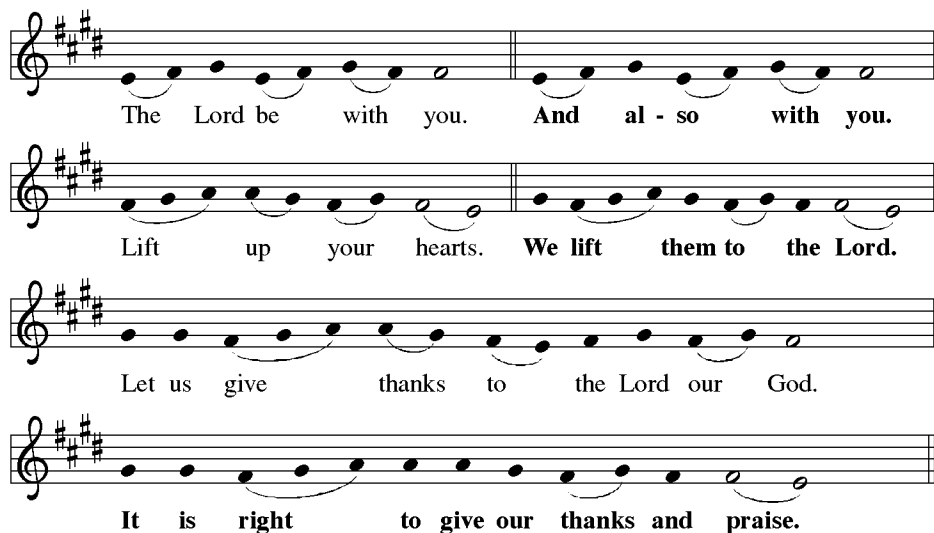
OFFERING PRAYER

The assembly stands.

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.

DIALOGUE

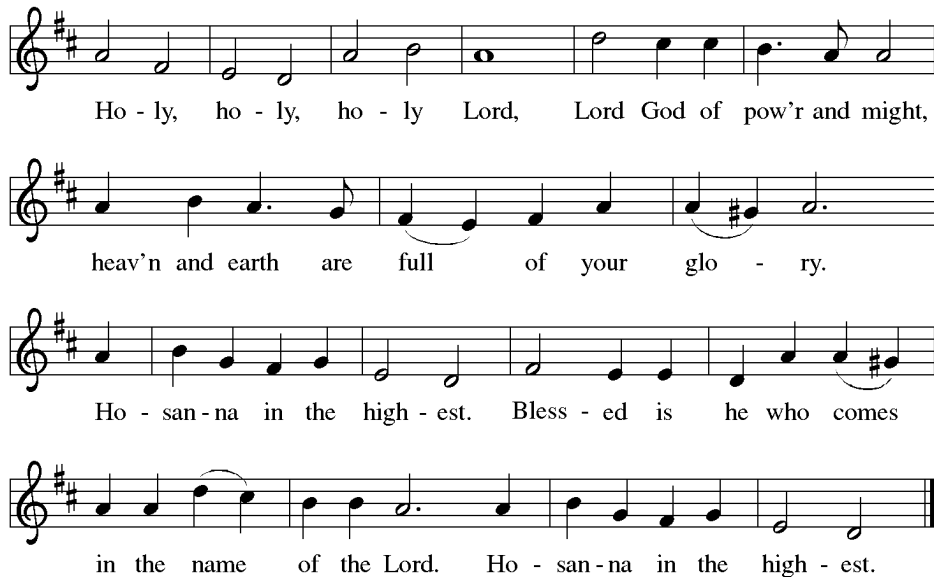


The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord 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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

The assembly is seated.

COMMUNION

All who believe and are baptized are welcome at the table Jesus Christ sets for us. You will be dismissed section by section by an usher to come forward to the bottom of the chancel steps. As you come forward, on either side of the front pew is a tray of empty glasses (for wine) or a filled glass (with grape juice). Please take one before you come forward. You will then receive a piece of bread and then the assisting minister will distribute the wine. If you wish to only receive a blessing, please motion to the pastor. Gluten Free wafers are available and can be given by motioning to the pastor. For those in need of assistance, please let the ushers know, and we will commune you in your pew.

COMMUNION SONGS

ELW 402

Eternal Spirit of the Living Christ

ADORO TE DEVOTE

ELW 407

O Living Breath of God

VÅRVINDAR FRISKA

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

The assembly stands.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG: ELW 400 God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind CWM RHONDDA

DISMISSAL

The worship has ended. Now the service begins.

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE:

Bourrée J. S. Bach/arr. G. Lewin
from Unaccompanied Cello Suite No. 3, BWV 1009
Bel Suono Ensemble

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Welcome to All Visitors: We welcome you to Worship at Zion Lutheran Church this morning. Bulletins may be found from one of the ushers or on the table in the back of the Narthex. Families and Children are welcome to worship – please feel free to worship from your pews or to make use of our Prayground Space at the back of the sanctuary along with provided coloring materials and special children’s bulletins.

Sunday School/Confirmation: During the months of September – May, we offer Sunday School and Confirmation for children and youth after worship as well as Adult Study time in our Gerhard Lounge. You and/or your family are welcome to drop-in and join us at any time.

We hold a Hospitality time after worship throughout the year in our Gathering Space with goodies provided by volunteers from the congregation. Please feel free to stay after worship and partake in this time as you get to know more about the life of Zion Lutheran Church

We hope your worship here is fruitful and fulfills what you may need in your spiritual life this morning. If you would like to speak more with Pastor Martha, you can reach her over email pastormartha@zionpennhills.org or by calling the office 412-242-2626.

The Bel Suono Ensemble joins us today to enhance the music of our Pentecost service. Bel Suono is a woodwind chamber group from the Pittsburgh area comprised of professional musicians Louise Daniels, oboe; Nolan Petote, clarinet; and Steve Ehrin, bassoon. Our own Mary Sabol will join them on flute this morning.

Recognition of All Sunday School/Confirmation Teachers and End of Year Party: We will be recognizing all of our Sunday School and Confirmation Teachers during worship today. Following worship, we will hold an end of the year party for all Sunday school and Confirmation students in the Gathering Space. Thank you to all who have given of your time and energy to educate our children and youth here at Zion!

Community Service Sunday TODAY: For all those interested, we will leave church after worship today to head to our section of Jefferson Road to clean it up. PennDOT has provided vests for us to wear and garbage bags for us to use. Thanks in advance to all of you helping to beautify our section of Penn Hills!

Blood Pressure Screenings TODAY: We will be checking blood pressures after worship today in the Gerhard Lounge. Any and all are welcome to stop by and have your reading checked by one of the nurses here at Zion.

Mental Health May: May is Mental Health month. Please see literature about mental health in the rack by the Gerhard Lounge. Also, there is a Mental Health May calendar on the kiosk listing ways you can improve your mental health.

Zion Book Club: We will meet on **Monday, May 20th** at 1:00pm in the Gerhard Lounge and over Zoom to discuss the book, “Remarkably Bright Creatures” by Shelly Van Pelt. Everyone welcome!

Annual Congregation Meeting – June 2nd: Our annual Congregation meeting will be on Sunday, June 2nd immediately after worship. All names of nominees to serve on council should be given to the Nominating Committee – Marc Schuler, Chris Dippold and Rhonda Pope. All those who are voting members of Zion, please plan to stay after worship for this meeting. Thank you!

Annual Committee Reports: Please submit your annual report to Julie no later than **May 24th**. **Please remember to sign your report.** Thank you.

Graham Standish May Update: Members of the working group met with Graham on Tuesday May 7th at Zion. Our phase of working with Graham has now moved into the “Active” phase of our work together, whereby Graham has members of the working group visit different churches which are deemed as “diverse, growing, and young.”

Members of the working group were tasked with visiting a worship service at Amplify Church (Downtown Pittsburgh) and then shared their thoughts and perspectives at our May gathering, i.e. what we liked, didn’t like, did we notice God’s presence, etc. Members of the working group will next be visiting a worship service at Bidwell Presbyterian Church – Northside before our meeting in June.

Recognition of all 2024 Graduates: If you are graduating from high school, college, graduate school, etc., please notify Julie at our Church office (julie@zionpennhills.org) or 412-242-2626 with your date of graduation, degree, and name of school by **May 19th** for inclusion in our Zion Newsletter and Prayers of Intercession.

Parish Life Committee Updates – May 2024: Hard to believe, but Summer (while it feels it’s already here) is just around the corner! With that, Parish Life will see some changes to our weekly hospitality hour during the summer months. With summer comes vacation season, and well, less folks on Sunday’s. This gives the Parish Life team an opportunity to regroup and take a much-needed break!

Our last full Sunday Hospitality Hour will be Today, May 19, 2024 (Pentecost Sunday). We’ll share a joint Hospitality Hour with our friends from Christian Education as they celebrate the year end of Sunday School & Confirmation classes. We will continue to celebrate birthdays the first Sunday of each month, however.

Those dates will be:

Sunday, June 2 nd	Sunday, August 4th
Sunday, July 7 th	Sunday, September 1st

We will resume normal Hospitality Hour on Sunday, September 8, 2024.

As always, we’re grateful for those who participate by bringing both sweet & savory goodies to share. If you would like to bring something, simply just add your name to the calendar in the Gathering Space. Any and all snacks & treats are welcome, and it helps the Parish Life folks know what we need from one week to the next!

Should you have any questions please feel free to reach out.

Respectfully –
Parish Life Committee

Anniversary Offering: The designation of the Anniversary Offering will go towards signage which has been approved by Council.

Lutherlyn Campership for Summer 2024: Is your child or grandchild interested in attending Lutherlyn this summer? Did you know that Zion has camperships available to help offset the cost of attending? If interested, please see Pastor Martha.

Food Pantry:

I'll send little reminders throughout the year

To please get products for the Food Pantry and spread some cheer.

But it seems I'm out of poems that make the message more fun.

So for now, these little rhymes are done!

Thank you! 😊 Zion Lutheran Food Pantry Leadership

Good Shepherd Ministry: This week our cards are for Nancy Fabel, Wanda Kojcsa, Elouise Brooky, Jean Pletcher, and Sandra Short. Please take a moment to sign the cards and share a smile with those unable to join us for worship. Also remember them in your prayers this week.

OREMUS: If there is someone that we can prayerfully take off of the prayer chain, please let the Church office know. If you or someone you know (who is not on the OREMUS) is in need of a pastoral visit, please let Pastor Martha know at 406-565-3592. Thank you.

OREMUS

Rehab Facility:

Evelyn Lamm (Concordia, Monroeville, Room 110)

Nancy Fabel (Rosebrook Living Facility, Sarver, PA, Room 116)

Paul and Mary Lou Feathers (Presbyterian Homes, Oakmont, Room 204)

Prayers Requested for: John Carter, Jenny Fabrizi, Sandra Short, Marion Ertel, Amy Santoriello, Mary Jane Anthony, Patricia Lamorte (wife of Tony), Marge Lamorte (mother of Tony Lamorte), Josh Cummings (nephew of Tony Lamorte), Gary Bunch (husband of Cheryl Bunch), Wayne Stumpf, Tom Brett (father-in-law of Steven D'Ambrosio), Natalie Kuehn & family, Joe Nepsa & family, Pari Bailey (friend of Pastor Martha), Mary Rex (friend of Kathy Gaberson), Katie Ritenour (cousin of Debbie Marks), Sandy Hutchins (friend of Diane Santoriello), Darnell Pope (brother of Sandra Short), Michael Ladonne (friend of Audri Erfort), Ron Jeroski (friend of Charlotte

Murray), Steve Bell (brother of Rhonda Pope), Chris Vuocolo (nephew of Mary Lou D’Ambrosio), Beth Rall, Sarah, Tom & Carolyn Schuler, Marsha Balaban, Betsy Heston, Marylene Gingras-Roi (friends of Barbara Stolp), Lynn Santoriello (sister-in-law of Diane Santoriello), Rachel Faulkner, Denise Capobianco (friend of Sandra Short), Patrick Taylor, Bonnie Hanssen (mother-in-law of Pastor Martha), and for the family and friends of Robert Beresky.

ZION EVENTS THIS WEEK

Sunday, May 19: 9:30 –In person, Livestream on Facebook
 10:45 –Sunday School/Confirmation End of Year Party-
 Gathering Space
 10:45 – Blood Pressure Screening
 10:45 – Jefferson Road clean up
 2-4 – EAYC Concert – Sanctuary

Monday, May 20: 1:00 – Zion Book Club – G. Lounge

Wednesday, May 22: 1:00 – Zion Bible Study – G. Lounge and Zoom
 7:00 – Worship & Music

Zion Lutheran Church Budgeted Finances as of April 30th:

Offering Income: \$72,305.24
 Other Income:* \$20,598.31
 Total Income: \$92,903.55
 Total Expense: \$91,647.31
 Net: \$ 1,256.24

*Thomas Child Care and Learning Center and other groups who use our facilities.

BREAD SCHEDULE FOR MAY 2024

May 19: Jeannette Christensen
 May 26: Pat Hauser

USHER SCHEDULE FOR MAY 2024

Sunday, May 19, 2024	Ray Rall	Mike Patchen
Sunday, May 26, 2024	Marc Schuler	Joe Balaban