

# Life & Growth at Zion

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT



March 21-22, 2026



## Welcome to Worship!

Information for guests & visitors, including our beliefs and procedures for Holy Communion as a congregation of the LCMS, can be found on the cards in the back of each pew. If you have any questions please reach out to our pastors or the church office using the contact information found on the last page of this newsletter. Blessings on your time in worship!

## *As We Gather...*

Lent is a time when God prepares His people to celebrate the Paschal Feast, the resurrection of Jesus, with sincerity and truth. In the Reading from Ezekiel 37, we see the power of the Word that transforms dry bones into living flesh with the breath of the Spirit. This same Spirit lives in us and will raise us at the Last Day, which is exactly what we hear from Paul in the Reading from Romans 8. The Spirit who raised Christ will also give life to us. Having received the Spirit in Baptism, we join with Martha in confessing boldly that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, who comes to us today in His Word and Sacrament and will come again to call us out of our graves.

## **Week at a Glance**

### **Saturday, March 21**

- 5:00pm: Worship

### **Sunday, March 22**

- 8:30am: Worship  
w/ Holy Communion
- 9:30am: Sunday School
- 9:40am: LEM Presentation
- 10:45am: Creative Worship

### **Monday, March 23**

- 11:00am-1:00pm: Bismarck High Students lunch at Zion. (Youth Room)
- 7:00pm: Concordia St. Paul, MN Concert Band at Zion
- 7:00pm: AA Meeting

### **Tuesday, March 24**

- 1:00pm: Tuesday Bible Study

### **Wednesday, March 25**

- 5:15-6:30pm: Lent Supper
- 5:45pm: Bells of Zion Rehearsal
- 6:00pm: Confirmation
- 6:00pm: Kings Kids
- 7:00pm: Wednesday Lenten Service
- 7:45pm: Hosanna Choir Rehearsal
- 7:45pm: Youth Group

### **Friday, March 27**

- 9:30am: Chancel Circle

### **Saturday, March 28**

- 5:00pm: Worship w/ Holy Communion

### **Sunday, March 29**

- 8:30am: Worship  
w/ Holy Communion
- 9:30 am: Sunday School
- 9:40am: Bible Class
- 10:45am: Creative Worship  
w/ Holy Communion



This week on Living the Faith podcast join Pastor Marcis and Pastor Otto as they journey through Lent.

To hear the podcast Go to: [ZionBismarck.org](http://ZionBismarck.org)

Click Events


You will be taken to a page that gives you the option for:

Video Podcast

Click "Living the Faith" for the full list of Podcast dates and topics.

## UPCOMING Events

**Sunday, March 22**

 Today during the Bible Study Hour, Lutherans Engaged in Mission will share an update on their recent trip to Kid's Kingdom Orphanage Imuris, Sonora, Mexico.

CSP CONCERT BAND  
**SPRING  
TOUR**

**Monday, March 23**

7:00pm at Zion  
Concordia St Paul  
Concert Band Spring Tour

**Tuesday Bible Class**

1:00-2:30pm  
Book of Job



**March 25**

Wednesday Lent Supper  
5:15-6:30pm



**Wednesday, March 25**

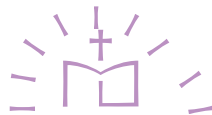
7:00pm  
Lenten Service

**Registration**

for the 2026-2027

**Martin Luther School**

year continues.



Vacation Bible  
School  
**Save the date!**  
June 7-10, 2026  
6:00-8:30pm



**Sunday, March 22**

Holy Week Lessons

**Sunday, March 22**

8:30am: Serenity Horne

10:45am: Kinley Johnson

McKenzie Wilson



**Wednesday, March 25**

7:00pm

Jace Beckers

**Sunday, March 29**

8:30am: Alijah Schiermeister

10:45am: Preslie Sailer

## Today's Sermon


**LAZARUS, COME FORTH**

**John 11:1-44**

The story of Lazarus is one of the most dramatic miracles recorded in the ministry of Jesus. Lazarus, the brother of Mary and Martha, had been dead for four days when Jesus arrived at the tomb. The situation seemed completely hopeless, and everyone believed that nothing more could be done. Jesus demonstrated that He possesses authority even over death. Standing before the tomb, He called out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth." Immediately, the man who had been dead walked out of the grave. This miracle revealed the divine power of Christ over life and death. Many people today experience situations that appear spiritually dead—dreams, opportunities, relationships, or faith that seem beyond recovery. Yet the same Jesus who called Lazarus from the grave still speaks life into impossible situations. The raising of Lazarus demonstrates Christ's authority over the greatest human fear - death. The miracle at Bethany was connected to the faith expressed by those who trusted in Jesus. The command "Lazarus, come forth" demonstrates the life-giving authority of Christ's word. Lazarus had been in the grave for four days, yet Christ restored him completely. The voice of Jesus still carries power today. No situation is too difficult for Him to restore. When Christ speaks into a circumstance, life replaces death, hope replaces despair, and miracles become possible.

### Questions:

1. Why is the timing of this miracle important?
2. How is Jesus divine power demonstrated?
3. What does this miracle speak to us today?

 Lutherans Engaged in Mission traveled to Kid's Kingdom Orphanage in Imuris, Sonora, Mexico in February. Today, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 9:40am, (Bible Class Hour), the team will share their experiences from that trip. You are invited to come down to the lower level and hear about this wonderful mission trip.



### Adult Bible Class & Sunday School For All Ages

Sunday School & High School Bible study, Join us for Opening in the Youth Room at 9:30am. Adult Bible Class will not meet this week due to the LEM, (Lutherans Engaged in Mission), presentation of their February trip to Imuris, Sonora, Mexico.



## Zion's Food Pantry

### Needs the Following Items

The following items are needed to replenish the pantry. Please remember we cannot accept items in glass bottles or jars.

Shelf Stable	Pancake Mix
Meat Products	Bisquick Mix
Canned Fruit	Bottles of Syrup (No Glass Bottles)
Canned Vegetables	Jelly in Plastic Squeeze Bottles
Canned Pasta Sauce	Vegetable Oil
Pasta	Onion Salt
Ramen Noodles	Garlic Salt
Boxes of	Boxes of Jello
Mac & Cheese	Packets of taco or gravy mix
Boxes of Packaged	
Rice Meals	Can Openers
Refried Beans	

If you are a Thrivent Member, please consider using one of your annual Thrivent Action Grants to help the youth restock the pantry. For information on how to do this, contact Zion's office at [Zionoffice501@gmail.com](mailto:Zionoffice501@gmail.com)



**Hosanna Choir** will rehearse Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am.

**Ensemble** rehearsal for Easter Sunday will be held Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:45am.

If you play a **musical instrument** and would like to be a part of the ensemble, please call Eric Rooke at 701-770-0520.

**High School Youth Group** will meet in the Youth Room following Wednesday Lenten Service.



## Catechesis Retreat April 10-11 Minot, ND

"Lost in the Scroll?"

Living Sober-Minded in a Digital World" is a great topic for all

of our youth to study! This retreat is open to Jr. High and High School students.

For more information, contact Kristin Nistler at 701-400-2069.

**NOTE:  
The Date  
Has  
Changed  
Plan to  
Attend  
this  
Special  
Event.**



Bismarck-Mandan Lutherans For Life invite you to

Tour the Women's Care Center

Rescheduled  
March 30th  
Tour @ 5:15 pm

Park at Zion Lutheran Church (413 East Ave D) and we will walk the short distance to WCC.

Following the tour, join us at Zion for a

**Norwegian Supper @ 6 pm**

*Rømmegrøt & "Uff da" Dogs*

*(warm, cinnamon-sugar pudding & hot dogs wrapped in lefse)*

Contact Jay (701-570-3536) for more information

## Easter Treats for the Residents of the



## Dakota Boys & Girls Ranch

Once again, Zion will fill Easter baskets for the residents of the Bismarck Boys and Girls Ranch.

If you would like to be a part of this project, please drop off your choice of the following items at the church office by Wednesday, March 26<sup>th</sup>.

Gatorade	Chocolate Candy	Snack Size Bags
Any flavor	Crosses	Of Candy

\$10 Gift cards to Caribou, Starbucks, or McDonalds for the staff.

If you prefer to place cash in an envelope and label it for Easter Gift cards for staff, we will purchase the gift cards.

Zion Lutheran Church

# MARCH LUNCH BREAK

FOR ZION HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS & FRIENDS!

Zion high school students are invited to stop by at the locations listed below anytime between 11:00 am and 1:00 pm for lunch & fellowship with each other and church staff.

All meals will be free, homemade, and ready when you arrive! You are welcome to bring a friend!



MARCH 23 - BISMARCK @ ZION (YOUTH ROOM)

Addresses for each location will be texted to students directly.



If you do not attend one of these schools, but would like to set up a "Lunch Break," please contact Kristin!



## DID YOU KNOW?

Zion assists our students with the tuition cost to attend Martin Luther School. As we plan for the upcoming school year, we'd love to have you experience our faith-based education. Zion's office can provide you with tuition information and connect you with the principal, Mrs. Wolfgram, who can help you understand what your child would experience at Martin Luther School. Students of all education levels are welcome.



Chancel Circle will meet Friday, March 27th at 9:30am in the lounge.



Individual Easter cards are available for purchase for \$1.00 each on the card rack outside the sanctuary. Payment can be placed in the metal box on the wall by the card racks.

## HOLY WEEK SERVICES at ZION

*Spy Wednesday*  
April 1  
Supper 5:15-6:30 Family  
Lenten Event 5:00-6:45pm  
Service 7:00pm  
Pastor Otto

*Maundy Thursday*  
April 2  
Service with  
Communion 7:00pm  
Pastor Otto

*Good Friday Service*  
April 3  
7:00pm  
Pastor Marcis

### Easter Sunday April 5

*Sunrise Service*  
With  
Communion  
6:30am  
Pastor Marcis

*Traditional  
Worship Service*  
With Communion  
8:30am  
Pastor Otto

*Creative Worship  
Service*  
With Communion  
10:45 am  
Pastor Otto



## CSP CONCERT BAND SPRING TOUR

SIoux FALLS LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL  
THURSDAY, MARCH 19 // 7 PM

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH,  
GILLETTE, WY  
SUNDAY, MARCH 22 // 9 AM

SIMLE MIDDLE SCHOOL, BISMARCK, ND  
MONDAY, MARCH 23 // 11 AM

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, BISMARCK, ND  
MONDAY, MARCH 23 // 7 PM

You are invited to attend the Concordia St Paul band concert at Zion Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm.

This 40-piece ensemble, under the direction of Professor Aaron Isakson, focuses on creative expression through the performance of uplifting music.

Warmest thanks to those of you who provided fabric for the Zion quilters' mission work.

Our latest contribution is to the LERT (Lutheran Early Response Team), who will be going to North Carolina to work on disaster relief projects left in the wake of Hurricane Helene.

Zion team members are Brian Rosin and Russ Weixel.

LERT is an LCMS organization whose volunteers aid in rebuilding and recovery. These quilts will be greatly appreciated.



**Wednesday Service**  
 March 25 7:00pm  
 Sermon by Pastor Marcis

**Wednesday Service**  
 April 1 7:00pm  
 Sermon by Pastor Otto



## Objects of Lent

- March 25th: **Rooster** (feather)  
 Matthew 26:75
- March 29th: **Palm** Palm Sunday  
 Matthew 21:1-11
- April 1st: **Silver** Spy Wednesday  
 Mt 26:14-16, 27:3-10
- April 2nd: **Bread** Maundy Thursday  
 Luke 22:7-20
- April 3rd: **Nails** (Good Friday)  
 Psalm 22:16
- April 5th: **Stone** (Easter)  
 Matthew 28:1-10



Meals are served from 5:15-6:30 each Wednesday during Lent. Everyone is invited to attend.

If you would like to join us for the meal, please sign up in the "Lenten Meals" binder located on the coffee bar in the lower foyer. It is much easier to plan the meals if we know how many will be attending.

**March 25:**  
 **Nacho Bar**

*Mrs. Nistler's Confirmation Class*

**April 1st:**  
 Pizza 

## From the District President's Desk

This Wednesday, March 25, the Church celebrates the Annunciation of Our Lord. Note that we celebrate His incarnation on March 25, exactly nine months before Christmas. On this day, we hear of the angel Gabriel announcing to the Virgin Mary that she will bear God's Son. Our Lord's incarnation begins in the Virgin's womb and develops as all of us, while at the same time reigning over earth and heaven. He becomes man "for us men and for our salvation."

*-Rev. Mark Chepulis, North Dakota District President*



## The Living Last Supper

**SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2026**  
 4:00 PM MATINEE | 7:30 PM EVENING  
 BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

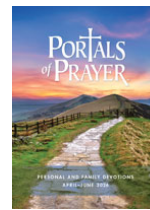
"ONE OF YOU WILL BETRAY ME"



Please complete the Adult Family Ministry survey you received this morning, then place it in the basket on the table in the rear of the sanctuary.

## Tre-Ore Schedule Good Friday, April 3, 2026

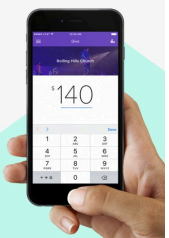
TIME	WORDS OF THE CROSS	PASTOR DELIVERING THE MESSAGE
NOON-12:30	"Father Forgive Them..."	Pastor Thompson
12:30-12:55	"Truly, I say to you..."	Pastor Woodside
12:55-1:20	"Woman, behold your son..."	Pastor Voss
1:20-1:45	"My God, my God..."	Pastor Walla
1:45-2:10	"I thirst"	Pastor Otto
2:10-2:35	"It is finished"	Pastor Wolfgram
2:35-3:00	"Father, into Your hands..."	Pastor Marcis



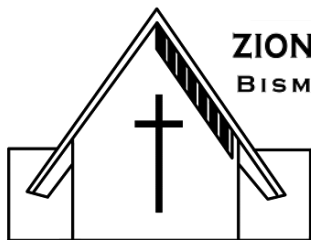
Portals of Prayer for April-June of 2026 are now available on the cabinet in the upper foyer and on the coffee bar in the lower foyer.

Zion is updating its online giving platform. Zion will now be using Subsplash. If you are presently using

SUBSPASH<sup>®</sup> GIVING



Vanco for your online giving there are handouts on the table in the back of the sanctuary on how to make the change, if you have any issues please contact the church office.



**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA

413 EAST AVE D  
BISMARCK, ND 58501  
701-223-8286  
FAX: 701-258-2146

Senior Pastor:

Rev. Thomas R. Marcis, Jr. (701) 220-8437  
tmarcisjr@gmail.com

Associate Pastor:

Rev. Vincent J. Otto (701) 319-5667  
rev.vincentotto@gmail.com

Director of Family Ministry:

Kristin Nistler (701) 400-2069  
kristin.nistler@gmail.com

Director of Junior Youth Ministry:

Russ Weixel (701) 400-6492  
weixelzion@gmail.com

Administrative Secretary:

Gayle Little (701) 220-0582  
zionlcmsbis@gmail.com

Assistant Secretary:

Roxanne Rosin  
zionoffice501@gmail.com

Website:

www.zionbismarck.org

Worship:

Saturday 5pm - Contemporary  
Sunday 8:30am - Traditional  
Sunday 10:45am - Creative

Sunday School (September-May) 9:30 am

Adult Bible Class (year round) 9:40 am



Carol Baker and Linda Sullivan are in charge of altar flowers for the month of March. You can reach Carol at 701-530-9981 or Linda at 701-955-2500

**Worship Attendance**

Saturday, March 14  
5:00 pm: 30  
Sunday, March 15  
8:30am -85  
10:45am-98

**Stewardship**

March MTD  
General Offering:  
\$35,790.  
Average Budget  
Monthly Expenses:  
\$58,750



**"Building Healthy Families"**

"Wrinkles merely indicate where smiles have been," suggested Mark Twain in a nod to the prestige of old age. Yet today we spend millions of dollars trying to look and feel younger than our years. As Christians, we understand our value is not found in how we look or in what we can do. We're valuable – even as the number of our limitations (or wrinkles) increase with each passing year – because Jesus says we are and demonstrated it by giving His life as a ransom for ours. If you're experiencing concerns with aging, chronic illness, disability, or any life transition or limitation and would like to talk to a confidential, experienced, caring counselor who shares your Lutheran faith and worldview, call us – it's why we're here! Learn more at:

[www.LutheranFamilyService.org](http://www.LutheranFamilyService.org) Lutheran Family Service.



The Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty is your voice in Washington DC. Help keep your voice strong, please consider a donation see-

[:https://www.lcrlfreedom.org/podcast.](https://www.lcrlfreedom.org/podcast)

**Main Street Living**

**March 22:** Rev. Brett Hartwig, Trinity Lutheran Church, Sabin, MN, presents the message: "The Resurrection and the Life" based on John 11:1-25. This is the Life program: "Money for Marriage" – A woman's decisions at work puts a strain on the new couple's marriage.



Programs are broadcast starting at 10:00 am Central Time: Bismarck : KBMY Xtra Channel 17.3

"Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life."  
- John 6:68 -



Today's Readings:  
Old Testament  
Ezekiel 37:1-14  
Epistle  
Romans 8:1-11  
Holy Gospel  
John 11:1-45

Next Week:  
Old Testament  
Isaiah 50:4-9a  
Epistle  
Philippians 2:5-11  
Holy Gospel  
John 12:20-43