

Life & Growth at Zion



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Confirmation

May 2-3, 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...

Since 1986, voice actor Tom Bodett has had his career defined with a one-line promotion for the Motel 6 hotel chain. He always ends his commercials for the company with a simple line stating "we'll leave the light on for you." Having an assured place to be going to can be encouraging and comforting. As Jesus speaks with His disciples, we hear Him reassure them and us that He will be in His Father's house, the heavenly place where lights are not even necessary. In the Revelation to John, we have this insight about our God's eternal city: "And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb" (Revelation 21:23). In "Jerusalem the Golden," medieval monk Bernard of Cluny writes of the "radiancy of glory" and the "bliss beyond compare" that are in store for God's redeemed people there (LSB 672:1). As we share in the foretaste of the feast to come through our worship, we can only imagine what joys still await us.

Week at a Glance

Saturday, May 2

- 5:00pm: Worship

Sunday, May 3

- 8:30am: Worship
w/ Holy Communion
- 9:30am: Sunday School
- 9:30am: Confirmands Questioning
- 10:45am: Creative Worship with Rite of Confirmation

Monday, May 4

- 7:00pm: AA Meeting

Tuesday, May 5

- Tuesday Bible Study does NOT meet.

Wednesday, May 6

- 7:30pm: Youth Group

Saturday, May 9

- 5:00pm: Worship

Sunday, May 10

Mother's Day

- 8:30am: Traditional Worship
- 9:30am: Muffins for Mom
- 9:30am: Sunday School
- 9:40am: Bible Study
- 10:45am: Creative Worship
w/ Holy Communion



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA



UPCOMING Events

Sunday, May 3

9:30am Confirmation Questioning
10:45am Worship Service
w/Rite of Confirmation

Tuesday, May 5
Tuesday Bible Class
Will NOT meet this week.

Thursday, May 14
7:00pm
Ascension Day Service
at Holy Cross

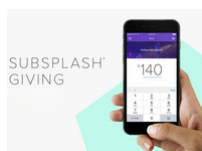
Sunday, May 17
Youth Sunday @ Zion

June 7-10

Vacation Bible School



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



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's new app is now available in your app store. Download it on your phone today to stay up to date with everything happening at Zion!



Sunday, May 3

Jesus Heals a Deaf Man

ACOLYTES



Sunday, May 3

8:30am: Chase Johnson
10:45am: Kira & Cooper
Yunker

Sunday, May 10

8:30am: Hadley Zacher
10:45am: AJ & Hailey Hjelmsted

Today's Sermon Follow the Narrow Road

John 14:6

You don't wake up one morning and say, "Today, I think I'll head in the wrong direction." That's not how it happens. It happens quietly. It happens gradually. You follow what feels normal. You follow what everyone else is doing. That's what makes this so dangerous. If the wrong road felt wrong immediately, no one would stay on it. If it were obviously broken, obviously destructive, obviously empty from the start, people would turn around. **The Road Everyone Is On.** It doesn't require a choice. You don't choose it the way you choose a destination. You go where the crowd is going. That's why Jesus says in Gospel of Matthew 7 that many are on it. Not because they all sat down one day and rejected God. But because this road is the default setting of life. **Why the Wrong Road Feels Right.** If the wide road is the one everyone is on... then the next question becomes unavoidable: Why does it feel so right? If it doesn't disturb us... if it doesn't cost us... if it doesn't require much of us... then we assume we're okay. But Jesus introduces a completely different framework in Gospel of Matthew 7. He says the road that leads to life is not wide. It's narrow. **How to Change Roads.** You don't leave the wide road because you're strong enough. This is not about self-improvement. This is not about trying harder. It's a matter of faith. **Which road are you on...?**

Questions:

1. How do we get on the wrong road in life?
2. What road does Jesus introduce us to?
3. How do we get on the correct road in life?

To hear or view Zion's podcast or video podcasts, go to: www.zionbismarck.org



Choose: "About Us", then "Ministries"

Scroll down to: "Living the Faith" podcasts, Click on: "Learn More", choose either the Video Podcasts or Podcasts, then select the one you would like to see or hear.

Adult Bible Class & Sunday School For All Ages

Opening for Sunday School & High School Bible study will be held in the Youth Room at 9:30am. Adult Bible Class will be held in the lower level beginning at 9:40am.



+ + +
**KIDS IN THE
 DIVINE SERVICE**
 + + +



**Why is Confession
 so important
 to a Christian?**

Confessing our sins is important! When we confess them, we see just how terribly sinful we are.

We also know that sin brings nothing but eternal death and separation from God. When we confess our sins, not only do we see that we are sinful, but we admit to God that we deserve death and separation from Him forever. We are free to admit all of this to Him because we know that Jesus has already died and paid for all of our sins.

**After we have confessed our sins,
 is there any hope?**

After Confession comes Absolution, or, the forgiveness of sins! In Jesus we have the sure and true promise of forgiveness of sins. "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). Wow! Absolution is *absolutely* wonderful!



Parents: Before the service, read through the confession and explain the words that might be confusing. During the service, help direct your children to the Confession/Absolution as it happens. Remind them that when the Pastor is speaking, it is as if God himself is speaking these words of comfort to us.

Copyright © 2017 LCMS Worship. Created by Christopher Thoma. LCMS congregations and schools have permission to reproduce "KIDS in the Divine Service" for their use. lcms.org | 888-THE LCMS

Confirmation & Graduation cards are available for sale on the racks outside the sanctuary. Place the payment in the metal box to the left of the card racks.



Zion's food pantry is in need of groceries. Please place your donations in the pantry box in the lower foyer. Thanks for helping.



Sunday, May 10

Will be the final day of Sunday School. Students will participate in a Mother's Day activity during opening.

High School Youth Group
 Activities in the Youth Room.
 Stop in and join the fun!



SHEPHERD'S HILL
 AT THE
 CROSSROADS
 11. 300N. SOUTH BOULEVARD

Camp brochures are available by Kristin's office.

Zion's Board of Youth will pay half the camp cost for Zion students. Students can also use money from their youth account to pay for the rest of the fee. Check it out!!

**Bismarck-Mandan LCMS
 Ascension Day Service**

Holy Cross Lutheran Church
 (7111 Williamson Drive, between US-83 & N. Washington)

Thursday, May 14

7:00 p.m. Divine Service

8:00 p.m. Ice Cream Social



"While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven." (Luke 24:51)

From the District President's Desk

This week, all the pastors of the ND District will gather in Minot for the Spring Pastor's Conference. Usually, one speaker teaches on a topic in which he has particular expertise. This conference will be slightly different. Over the next few days, three pastors will present papers on women serving as lectors in the Divine Service. Though the conference is for clergy, I will ensure that the papers are shared with all pastors for distribution to anyone interested. -Rev. Mark Chepulis, North Dakota District President

Martin Luther School's PTL invites you to Rock'n for a Reason!

PTL Dine-Out NIGHT!
 Join us for a great meal that gives back!
 at **Rock'n 50s Cafe**
 A PORTION OF THE EVENING'S SALES WILL BE DONATED TO OUR **PTL** TO SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS AND SCHOOL PROGRAMS!
 Bring your family, invite your friends, and **LET'S FILL THE PLACE!**
 Thank you for supporting our school!

Skip the cooking and enjoy a delicious meal as you support our school!
 Wednesday, May 6 from 4-8 at Rock'n 50s Cafe located inside Gateway Mall (2700 State Street)!



\$2300

\$1725

\$1150

\$575

Please help us replace the 14 candles that are on the candelabras and the 2 on the altar. The current candles are leaking and in need of replacement.

The goal is to raise \$2,300 for the 16 candles and two candlelighters/snuffers.

A single candle is \$110. A single candlelighter is \$250. You are welcome to choose to contribute to the total amount or purchase an individual piece.

Envelopes are available on the table in the rear of the sanctuary. Please drop your envelope in the black box outside the church office, or place in the collection plate.

The Chancel Circle

Each year the confirmation students choose to use their gifts and talents to create their Learning Fair Projects. This year, Braden Rooke chose to compose a song for his Learning Fair project.

He has titled the song, "He Strengthens Me".

Braden will share his song with the congregation during the 10:45 service.

The following is Braden's summary for this project.

"I chose to write a song for my project because music is a very important part of my life. This is my very first original song. I started by creating the lyrics approved by Pastor Marcis. Then I created a melody. I sat at the piano and figured out which cords worked the best with my melody.

I chose to base my song off of Philippians 4:13 because it is one of my favorite Bible verses."



JACE JESSE BECKERS

Jace is the son of Jesse & Beth Beckers. He was born April 1, 2013 in Fargo, ND and was baptized May 15, 2013 at Trinity Lutheran Church, Valley City, ND. He is currently attending Simle Middle School and will be attending Legacy High School. Jace enjoys soccer, basketball and track. After school, he would like to be a Lawyer. **Confirmation Verse:** "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." - Hebrews 13:8

SERENITY FERN HORN

Serenity is the daughter of Peter & Stevie Draeger & Anthony Horne. She was born May 17, 2011 in Bismarck, ND and was baptized May 29, 2011 at St. James Lutheran Church, Golden Valley, ND. She is currently attending Simle Middle School and will be attending Legacy High School. Serenity enjoys art, going for walks, shopping, & spending time with friends. After school, she would like to become an Occupational Therapist. **Confirmation Verse:** "And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength." - Mark 12:30

KINLEY RAE JOHNSON

Kinley is the daughter of Ryan & Lynette Johnson. She was born July 13, 2011 in Bismarck, ND and was baptized December 31, 2011 at Zion Lutheran Church, Bismarck, ND. She is currently attending Simle Middle School and will be attending Legacy High School. Kinley enjoys basketball, volleyball, track, theater, singing & art. After school, she would like to do something with music or something that helps people. **Confirmation Verse:** "Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the Earth! Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!" - Psalm 100:1-2

RAEANN LYNNE MORRISON

Raeann is the daughter of Justin & Melody Morrison. She was born April 21, 2012 in Bismarck, ND and was baptized October 2, 2012 at Legacy Methodist in Bismarck, ND. She is currently attending Simle Middle School and will be attending Legacy High School. RaeAnn enjoys soccer, volleyball, wrestling & 4-H. After school, she would like to be a Physical Therapist. **Confirmation Verse:** "Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the evil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places." - Ephesians 6:11-12

BRADEN ERIC ROOKE

Braden is the son of Eric & Katie Rooke. He was born August 6, 2011 in Williston, ND and was baptized September 4, 2011 at Light of Christ Lutheran Church, Williston, ND. He is currently attending Simle Middle School and will be attending Legacy High School. Braden enjoys soccer, music, drama, video games, camping, hiking and spending time outdoors. After school, he would like to do something with music. **Confirmation Verse:** "I will sing of steadfast love and justice; to you, O Lord, I will make music. I will ponder the way that is blameless. Oh when will you come to me? I will walk with integrity of heart within my house;" - Psalm 101:1-2



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



Linda Sullivan is in charge of altar flowers for the month of May. You can reach Linda at 701-955-2500.

Worship Attendance

Saturday, April 25

5:00 pm - 31

Sunday, April 26

8:30am -104

10:45am -128

Stewardship

April MTD

General Offering:
\$59,167

Average Budget
Monthly Expenses:
\$58,750

“Building Healthy Families”



Would your mom or dad make it into a “Perfect Parent Hall of Fame”? Probably not—because let’s be

honest, there’s no such thing as a perfect earthly parent. But imperfect, amazing Christian parents for whom we’re eternally thankful? Absolutely! Open your hymn book today and revisit Luther’s explanation of the 4th commandment. How are you doing with this one? Where does it challenge you—or gently nudge you to do something different? Prayerfully consider how you might better apply this instruction. In doing so, may you discover a deeper joy in following God’s path – honoring, loving, respecting, and appreciating the imperfect parents who are part of your story. www.LutheranFamilyService.org

What Makes Someone a “Champion” of Religious Liberty? See The Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty operates by the support of individual donations.



You are invited to add your donation by going to www.LCRLFreedom.org/donate - thank you.

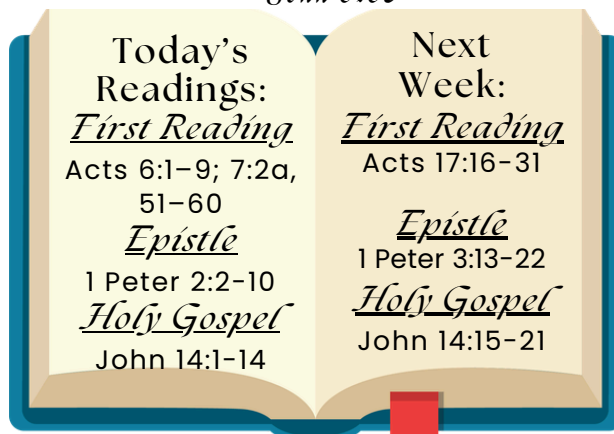
Main Street Living

May 3: Rev. Christopher Lieske, Trinity Lutheran Church, Fergus Falls, MN, presents the message: “Help is On the Way” based on Isaiah 12:1-6. This is the Life program: “Hope Enough to Live By” - A medical research scientist falls into despair after an accident and subsequent events.



“MAIN STREET LIVING” is a locally-produced TV program that includes a 30-minute worship service. Programs are broadcast starting at 10:00 am Central Time 9:00 am Mountain time on WDAZ Xtra Channel 8.3, Bismarck/Dickinson

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



Today's Readings:

First Reading
Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a,
51-60

Epistle

1 Peter 2:2-10

Holy Gospel
John 14:1-14

Next Week:

First Reading
Acts 17:16-31

Epistle

1 Peter 3:13-22

Holy Gospel
John 14:15-21