

"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom."

**SERVICE OF PRAYER AND MISSION - A.C.T.S.**

*Adoration + Confession + Thanksgiving + Supplication*

# ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

**STANDING STRONG + GROWING TOGETHER + REACHING OUT**

**The Fourth Sunday After The Epiphany**

**January 31, 2021**

## AS WE GATHER

In today's Gospel from Mark 1, we are reminded of Jesus' divine authority in His teaching to the people and also in His power over evil spirits. This power and authority was foretold by prophets such as Moses, pointing to the One who would fulfill all things as the long-awaited perfect prophet and Savior. In that power and authority, Christ has won our victory through His death and rising, and we are blessed with freedom in that faith to be used to His glory in service to others.



## MISSION PRAYER

*Almighty God, Heavenly Father Your mercies are new to us each morning and your faithfulness reaches to eternity. Today You again invite us to celebrate Your gift of life in Christ and to pray for Your Church and world. We offer You new this day our lives, our thanks, and also the heartaches and hopes of the world; we bring before You the names and needs of our families and friends, our neighborhoods and our nation, our city and our world, Pour out Your Holy Spirit upon Your Church and upon this congregation that we boldly live the joy and healing power of Your Son's resurrection. In the precious Name of Jesus. Amen.*

## PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

David Garcia, Organ

## WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION TO WORSHIP

## OPENING HYMN

"Blessed Jesus, At Your Word" v.1-2 Lutheran Service Book 904



1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at Your Word We are gath - ered  
2 All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight Lie in deep - est  
3 Gra - cious Sav - ior, good and kind, Light of Light, from



all to hear You. Let our hearts and souls be stirred  
dark - ness shroud - ed Till Your Spir - it breaks our night  
God pro - ceed - ing, O - pen now our heart and mind;



Now to seek and love and fear You, By Your teach - ings,  
With the beams of truth un - cloud - ed. You a - lone to  
Help us by Your Spir - it's plead - ing. Hear the cry Your



sweet and ho - ly, Drawn from earth to love You sole - ly.  
God can win us; You must work all good with - in us.  
Church now rais - es; Hear and bless our prayers and prais - es.

## INVOCATION AND BAPTISMAL REMEMBRANCE

*The sign of the Holy Cross may be made by all in remembrance and celebration of their baptism.*

- P** In the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

## ADORATION

Psalm 111

- P** Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.
- C** **Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.**
- P** Full of splendor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.
- C** **He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered; the LORD is gracious and merciful.**
- P** He provides food for those who fear him; he remembers his covenant forever.
- C** **He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the inheritance of the nations.**
- P** The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy;
- C** **they are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.**
- P** He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name!
- C** **The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever.**  
**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.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** Let us confess our sins unto God and implore His forgiveness for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ.
- C** **I, a poor sinner, plead guilty before God of all sins. I have lived as if God did not matter and as if I mattered most. My Lord's name I have not honored as I should; my worship and prayers have faltered. I have not let His love have its way with me, and so my love for others has failed. There are those whom I have hurt, and those whom I have failed to help. My thoughts and desires have been soiled with sin. I am sorry for all of this and ask for grace to forgive my sins and for the Holy Spirit so that I may amend my sinful life.**

**C** Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

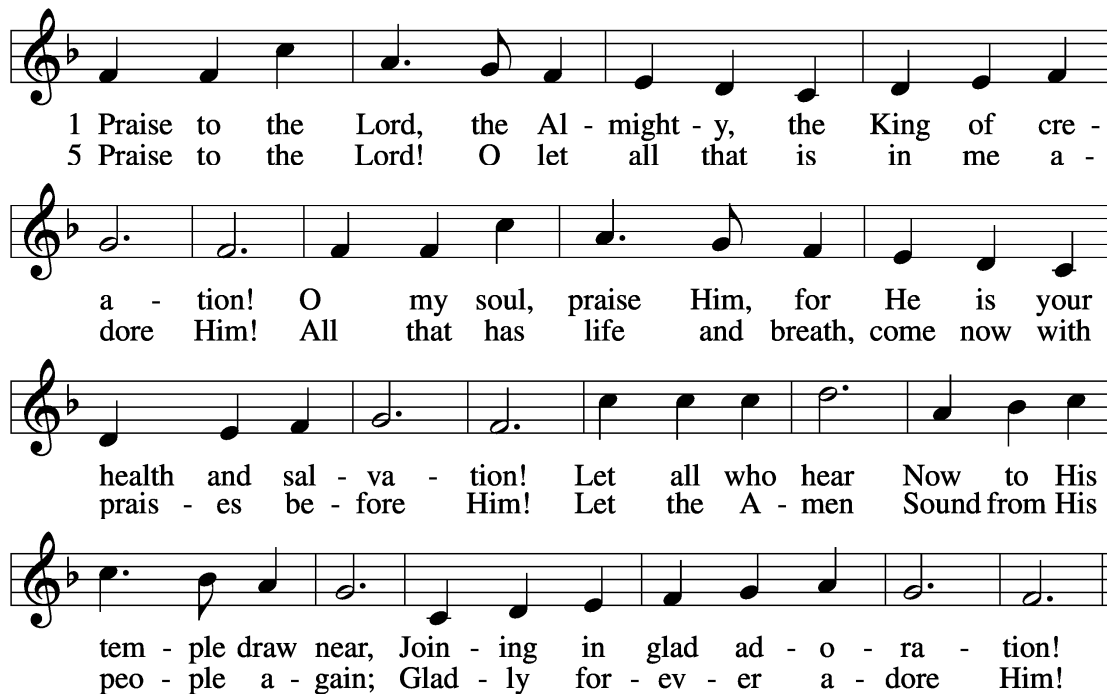
- P** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and given to us His only Son to suffer and die for our salvation. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

**P** I am sure of this, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. (Phil 1:6) Peace be with you.

**G** **And also with you.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

Praise to The Lord, The Almighty" v.1,5 LSB 790



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -  
5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -  
a - tion! O my soul, praise Him, for He is your  
dore Him! All that has life and breath, come now with  
health and sal - va - tion! Let all who hear Now to His  
prais - es be - fore Him! Let the A - men Sound from His  
tem - ple draw near, Join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!  
peo - ple a - gain; Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore Him!

Tune and text: Public domain

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray. Lord of all, by Your hands all things were made. In Your Word is power over order and chaos, light and darkness, life and death. Grant Your Spirit that we become instruments of Yours by Your grace, humbly serving You through the perfect Prophet and Savior of this world; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** **Amen.**

## READINGS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

### OLD TESTAMENT READING

(A new prophet like Moses)

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 brothers—it is to him you shall listen— <sup>16</sup>just as you desired of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, 'Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.' <sup>17</sup>And the LORD said to me, 'They are right in what they have spoken. <sup>18</sup>I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. <sup>19</sup>And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him. <sup>20</sup>But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in my name that I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die.'"

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**G** **Thanks be to God.**

### EPISTLE READING

(In our freedom, not causing others to stumble)

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

<sup>1</sup>Concerning food offered to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." This "knowledge" puffs up, but love builds up. <sup>2</sup>If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. <sup>3</sup>But if anyone loves God, he is known by God. <sup>4</sup>Therefore, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "an idol has no real existence," and that "there is no God but one." <sup>5</sup>For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as indeed there are many "gods" and many "lords"— <sup>6</sup>yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things

and through whom we exist. <sup>7</sup>However, not all possess this knowledge. But some, through former association with idols, eat food as really offered to an idol, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. <sup>8</sup>Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. <sup>9</sup>But take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. <sup>10</sup>For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? <sup>11</sup>And so by your knowledge this weak person is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. <sup>12</sup>Thus, sinning against your brothers and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. <sup>13</sup>Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**G** **Thanks be to God.**

### PREPARATION FOR READING OF THE HOLY GOSPEL

**P** Alleluia! In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

**G** **But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son. Alleluia!**

### GOSPEL

(Jesus teaches with authority and shows His power over unclean spirits.)

Mark 1:21–28

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

**G** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>21</sup>They went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath [Jesus] entered the synagogue and was teaching. <sup>22</sup>And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes. <sup>23</sup>And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit. And he cried out, <sup>24</sup>“What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God.” <sup>25</sup>But Jesus rebuked him, saying, **“Be silent, and come out of him!”** <sup>26</sup>And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying out with a loud voice, came out of him. <sup>27</sup>And they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, “What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” <sup>28</sup>And at once his fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**G** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

### CONFESSION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### HYMN OF THE DAY

"A Mighty Fortress is Our God" v.1-4 LSB 657



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, A sword and shield vic -  
 2 No strength of ours can match his might. We would be lost, re -  
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land All threat-'ning to de -  
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, No thanks to foes, who



to - rious; He breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod And wins sal -  
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, Whom God Him -  
 vour us, We trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; They can - not  
 fear it; For God Him - self fights by our side With weap - ons

va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe Has sworn to  
 self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be? The Lord of  
 o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage; In bat - tle  
 of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house, Goods, hon - or,  
 work us woe. With craft and dread - ful might He  
 hosts is He, Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord, God's  
 we'll en - gage. His might is doomed to fail; God's  
 child, or spouse, Though life be wrenched a - way, They  
 arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.  
 on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.  
 judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.  
 can - not win the day. The King - dom's ours for - ev - er!

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 Tune: Public domain

**SERMON**

"Christ's Word is Power"

**OFFERING**

"O Lord Most Holy" by Cesar Franck

Kristen Boyea and David Garcia, *Duet*

**OFFERTORY**

"The Lamb" v.1-2 LSB 547

1 The Lamb, the Lamb, O Fa - ther, where's the sac - ri - fice?  
 2 The Lamb, the Lamb, One per - fect fi - nal of - fer - ing.  
 Faith sees, be - lieves God will pro - vide the Lamb of price!  
 The Lamb, the Lamb, Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing.  
*Refrain*  
 Wor - thy is the Lamb whose death makes me His  
 own! The Lamb is reign - ing on His throne!

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**PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING**

- L** Lord God, Heavenly Father we lift up our hearts in gratitude to you, and for all your Loving kindness we bless your holy Name.
- L** For life and health, for love and friendship, and for the goodness and mercy with which you have guided us all the days of our life...

**C we thank you!**

**L** For the wonder and beauty of your creation, and for all things true and honorable, just and pure, lovely and gracious...

**C we praise you!**

**L** For the gift of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord; for the grace and truth that have come by Him; and for his obedience unto death, even death on a cross...

**C we worship you!**

**L** For His glorious resurrection and ascension to your right hand, and for His kingdom and glory and everlasting dominion...

**C we glorify you!**

**L** For the Holy Spirit, the Counselor, the Lord and Giver of life; for your holy Church throughout the world; for all the means of grace; and for the fellowship of the redeemed in heaven and on earth...

**C we thank you!**

**L** For the early leadership gifts to Your Church of Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors, Teachers, Deacons, Saints, Martyrs ... and for their lives of service to You and mission to a dying world we bless Your grace and thank You for their example to us as Servant Leaders...

**C we thank you!**

**L** For the Servant Leaders and the leadership gifts You have breathed so abundantly into this congregation in the past, now in the present, and toward a promising future...

**C we thank you!**

**L** We lift up our thanksgiving, praise, adoration and love to You, Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.

**C Amen!**

## PRAYERS OF SUPPLICATION

**P** Almighty God, because you have committed to your people the ministry of intercession hear us as we pray for others, and fill our spirits with your grace:

**P** For your holy Church throughout all the world, that you would pour out upon Your ministers of Word and Sacrament the abundance of your grace and truth and that you would create in all your people a hunger for your Word, a love for your church, a passion for your mission and a compassion for those in need, Lord in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer**

**P** For the nations and for our nation, especially our president Joe Biden, Congress, our state, city, and county leaders that you would breathe on them the spirit of peace and understanding: For those in authority, that you would inspire in them a true desire for peace, a zeal for Justice, a heart for the weak, and a love of concord, Lord in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer**

**P** For all the schools and colleges of our nation and world; for all who teach in them and all who learn, that in humility of heart they may ever look to you, the fountain of all wisdom, Lord in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer**

**P** For all in sickness and distress that you would give strength to the weary, relief to the suffering, and comfort to the dying ... today heavenly Father we remember before your throne of grace particularly ..... Lord in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer**

**P** (Here other supplications may be offered)

**P** For all your servants who have departed this life in your faith and fear we give you our highest thanks, and we pray you to give us grace to follow them as they followed Christ. Bring us, with them, into your eternal kingdom of peace and life and "to those things which eye has not seen, nor ear heard, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

**C Amen**

## LORD'S PRAYER

**P** 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.

## MORNING PRAYER

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.

## BLESSING

**P** Go out into the world in Christ's peace; have courage; hold to what is good; return no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the suffering; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. And Almighty God the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you. (Romans 12:9-12)

**G** Amen.

## CLOSING HYMN

"Earth and All Stars" v.1,3,5-6 LSB 817



1 Earth and all stars! Loud rush - ing plan - ets! Sing to the  
3 Trum - pet and pipes! Loud clash - ing cym - bals! Sing to the  
5 Class - rooms and labs! Loud boil - ing test tubes! Sing to the  
6 Knowl - edge and truth! Loud sound - ing wis - dom! Sing to the



Lord a new song! Oh, vic - to - ry! Loud shout - ing  
Lord a new song! Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud hum - ming  
Lord a new song! Ath - lete and band! Loud cheer - ing  
Lord a new song! Daugh - ter and son! Loud pray - ing



ar - my! Sing to the Lord a new song!  
cel - los! Sing to the Lord a new song!  
peo - ple! Sing to the Lord a new song!  
mem - bers! Sing to the Lord a new song!

### Refrain



He has done mar - vel - ous things.



I too will praise Him with a new song!

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## POSTLUDE

David Garcia, *Organ*

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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## Offerings

*You can contribute offerings using three main methods:*

**Online donations:** You can make a secure contribution from your credit card or bank account at [www.zionelpaso.org](http://www.zionelpaso.org). We use Vanco, a reputable agency which specializes in donations to churches and nonprofits. Your contribution can be set up to be recurring, such as each week or month, or as a one-time donation.

**Mail donations:** Mail your check to the Zion church office at 2808 Pershing Drive, El Paso, TX 79903. The mail is checked every day.

**Donations via an app:** If you prefer using your phone or tablet, you can download the Vanco Give Plus app. You can easily set up an account and donation through the app.

*Your offerings and support are crucial to our congregation and we are very grateful for your support!*

**Altar flowers** today are given to the glory of God by Wayne and Mariann Porter in celebration of the lives of Edward and Joshua Porter, Wayne's brother and nephew.

**Voters Meeting.** Our next Voters Meeting will take place on **Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup>**, after the worship service. This meeting will be available both on Zoom and in-person in the Zion auditorium. We will provide the Zoom link prior to the meeting. If you have any questions, please call or email the church office: (915) 566-4667 or [info@zionelpaso.org](mailto:info@zionelpaso.org).

**The Memorial Service for Fay Eckstrom** was held at Zion this past Friday, January 29, 2021. If you were unable to attend or watch the livestream, please visit our website, under the "Worship" tab or at [zionelpaso.org/fayeckstrom/](http://zionelpaso.org/fayeckstrom/), to access the livestream, view Fay's obituary, and view photos shared by Fay's family.

**Welcome to Christ's family, Cooper Gene Shimkus!** Cooper was born on Monday, January 18, 2021, and Baptized at Zion on Saturday, January 23, 2021. Congratulations to Dusty and Erin Shimkus on a healthy baby boy!





+ + +

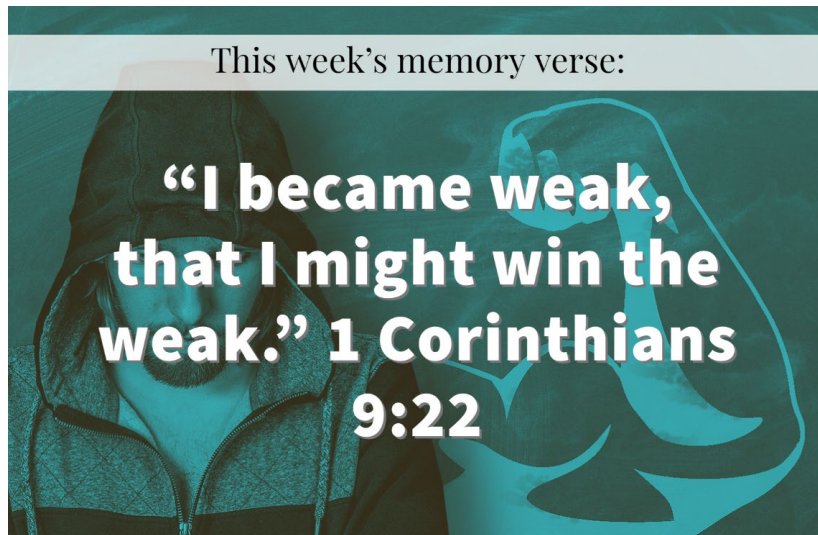
**ZION STEWARDSHIP OF + TIME + TALENT + TREASURE**

**Preacher & Liturgist:** Pastor Stephen Heimer  
**Organist:** David Garcia  
**Elder:** Jim Smith  
**Reader:** Tim Kludt  
**Acolytes:** Victoria Ochoa  
**Camera Operator:** Jaden Heimer  
**Sound Director:** Brenna Rodriguez  
**Offering Counter:** Sharon Amastae

**THIS WEEK AT ZION**

2/2	Tuesday	5:30 PM	Confirmation Class
		7:00 PM	Eastside Bible Study
2/3	Wednesday	6:00 PM	Council Meeting
2/4	Thursday	7:00 PM	"Acts" Bible Study
2/5	Friday	10:00 AM	Women's Bible Study
2/7	Sunday	9:15 AM	"Exodus" Bible Study
		10:30 AM	Worship Service

**This Week's Memory Verse**

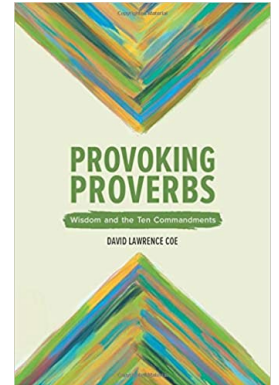
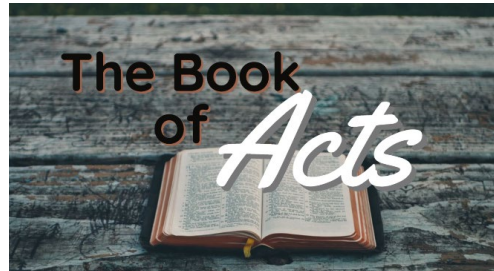
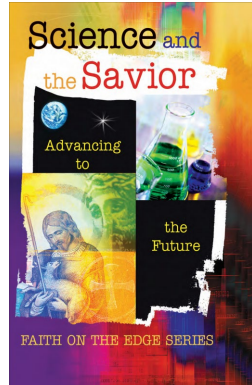
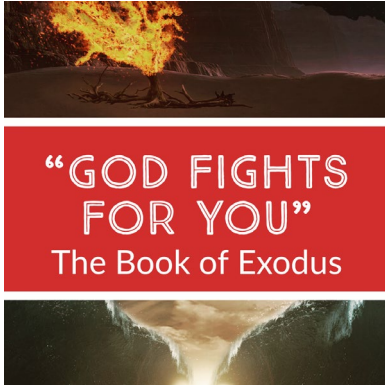


View more from Zion's "At Home in the Word" on our website:  
**<https://www.zionelpaso.org/at-home>**

## Join Any Zion Bible Study from Home!

We are working to continue being a channel for the Holy Spirit through God's word, and to help keep our Zion family connected.

*All are invited, please contact the Zion office for login information or questions. Never attended an online meeting? No problem! Call 915.566.4667 for assistance.*



### "Exodus" Bible Study - Sundays at 9:15am

The book of Exodus (and its important prequel in Joseph's story in Genesis) offers us a great deal of insight and confidence as we live out our lives today. Adults and teens are all welcome in-person in the Zion auditorium and online via Zoom. Sign up at the Zion website to receive weekly Zoom links for online participation. If attending in person, enter the Auditorium through the playground gate on Pershing, and then up the ramp.

### Berea Bible Study - Every second and fourth Monday at 7:00pm

Join our "Berea" Bible study on Zoom! We explore different lessons each week, covering various short topics. If you are interested in joining, call the church office or Peggy Djerf and we will send you the upcoming lesson.

### Eastside Bible Study - Tuesdays at 7:00pm

Eastside Bible Study group meets Tuesday evenings, at 7:00 p.m., on Zoom (online), using set of lessons from the CPH series: *Faith on the Edge*. The set of lessons we are studying now is entitled *Science and the Savior*. Here's the CPH description: "(6 Sessions) *Science and the Savior* explores how scientists may serve their Creator through understanding and explaining the wonders of His creation." New members are always welcome and encouraged to join us! For more information, contact the church office or Lydia Williams.

### "Acts" Bible Study - Thursdays at 7:00pm

We are enjoying our study of the book of Acts, focusing particularly on the mission and ministry of Saints Peter and Paul. We will also include a study of the 1<sup>st</sup> century of our "Mother Church," along with some side trips into the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries (the Nicene Creed 325 A.D.). We will meet on Zoom on Thursdays at 7:00pm, according to the following schedule: Winter, January 7 - February 11; Post-Easter, April 8 - Close (to be determined by the study group). Please call Zion or Pastor Patten if you have any questions.

## **Women's Bible Study - Fridays at 10:00am**

Using the book *Provoking Proverbs* from Concordia Publishing House we will explore the Book of Proverbs in the context of The Ten Commandments and discover a unique view of the wisdom contained in the book. Lessons will focus on how we are called to fear, love, and trust the Lord because He first forgives, loves, and treasures us. Meet on zoom (maybe eventually in person) Fridays at 10:00am. Contact the Zion office or Krysia Heimer if you would like to join or need help ordering the book.



**Zion Office Hours:** Monday-Friday 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**Visit our website:** [zionelpaso.org](http://zionelpaso.org)

**Follow us on Facebook:** [facebook.com/zionlutheranelpaso/](https://facebook.com/zionlutheranelpaso/)



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