

The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

January 25, 2026



Zion Lutheran Church

23167 Topeka Street

Vassar, KS 66543

785-828-4482

www.ZionVassar.org

Growing Together in Christ's Love and Grace

Let us know you're here!

Visitors: Scan the QR code

- or -

txt the Keyword CONNECT
to **785-828-4482** to fill out a
simple online form or
submit a prayer request.



Members: TXT "CHECK" to Check-In. Thank You!

+ WELCOME – AS WE GATHER +

+ PREPARATION +

412 THE PEOPLE THAT IN DARKNESS SAT



1 The peo - ple that in dark - ness sat A glo - rious
 2 To hail Thee, Sun of Righ - teous - ness, The gath - 'ring
 3 To us a Child of hope is born, To us a
 4 His name shall be the Prince of Peace, The Ev - er -



light have seen; The light has shined on them who long In
 na - tions come; They joy as when the reap - ers bear Their
 Son is giv'n, And on His shoul - der ev - er rests All
 last - ing Lord, The Won - der - ful, the Coun - sel - or, The



shades of death have been, In shades of death have been.
 har - vest trea - sures home, Their har - vest trea - sures home.
 pow'r in earth and heav'n, All pow'r in earth and heav'n.
 God by all a - dored, The God by all a - dored.

5 His righteous government and pow'r
 Shall over all extend;
 On judgment and on justice based,
 His reign shall have no end,
 His reign shall have no end.

△ 6 Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray,
 And make us Thine alone,
 Who with the Father ever art
 And Holy Spirit, one,
 And Holy Spirit, one.

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.

Tune: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561

Text and tune: Public domain

(△ = Stand) - (*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*)

+ INVOCATION +

P In the name of the Father and of the **+** Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

INTROIT

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22

**I will tell of your name to my brothers;
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.**

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD,
and all the families of the nations shall worship before you.

**For kingship belongs to the LORD,
and he rules over the nations.**

All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one who could
not keep himself alive.

**Posterity shall serve him;
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation;**

they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn,
that he has done it.

**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.**

I will tell of your name to my brothers;
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.

KYRIE

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

LSB 204



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro- claimed at Je-sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

(Sit)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shined.
³ You have multiplied the nation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴ For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

Psalm 117:1–2a; 96:8

P Praise the LORD, all nations!
Extol him, all peoples!
C For great is his steadfast love toward us,
and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.
P Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
bring an offering, and come into his courts!

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(Stand)

ALLELUIA AND VERSE



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

P Alleluia. From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Alleluia.



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 4:12–25

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee.

¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—

¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness

have seen a great light,

and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,

on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. ²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them.

²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

(Sit)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: "Jesus' Ordinary Disciples"

856 O CHRIST, WHO CALLED THE TWELVE



1 O Christ, who called the Twelve To rise and fol - low You, For -
2 O Christ, who taught the Twelve The truth for a - ges sealed, Whose
3 O Christ, who led the Twelve A - mong the des - o - late And
4 O Christ, who sent the Twelve On roads they'd nev - er trod To
5 O Christ, th'a - pos-tles' Lord, The mar - tyrs' strength and song, The



sak - ing old, fa - mil - iar ways For ven - tures bold and new:
words and works a - wak - ened faith, The ways of God re - vealed:
broke as bread of life for all Your love com - pas - sion - ate:
serve, to suf - fer, teach, pro - claim The near - er reign of God:
cru - ci - fied and ris - en King To whom the saints be - long:



Grant us to hear Your call To risk se - cu - ri - ty And,
In - struct us now, we pray, By Your em - pow'r - ing Word. True
Lead us a - long the ways Where hope has near - ly died And
Send us on ways where faith Tran - scends ti - mid - i - ty, Where
Though gen - er - a - tions pass, Our trib - ute still we bring, Our



bound in heart and will to You, Find per - fect lib - er - ty.
teach - er, be for all who seek Their light, their life, their Lord.
help us climb the lone - ly hills Where love is cru - ci - fied.
love in-forms and hope sus-tains Both life and min - is - try.
hymns a sac - ri - fice of praise, Our lives an of - fer - ing.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007

Tune: English; adapt. Franklin L. Sheppard, 1852–1930

Text: © 1993 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002205

Tune: Public domain

SERMON: "The Call to Serve Where You Are"

(Stand)

APOSTLES' CREED

C 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 \pm everlasting. Amen.

(Sit) (Those who are to be Installed make their way to the rail, as the congregation sings...)

861 CHRIST BE MY LEADER



1 Christ be my Lead - er by night as by day; Safe through the
2 Christ be my Teach - er in age as in youth, Drift - ing or
3 Christ be my Sav - ior in calm as in strife; Death can - not

dark - ness, for He is the way. Glad - ly I fol - low, my
doubt - ing, for He is the truth. Grant me to trust Him; though
hold me, for He is the life. Nor dark - ness nor doubt - ing nor
fu - ture His care, Dark - ness is day - light when Je-sus is there.
shift - ing as sand, Doubt can - not daunt me; in Je-sus I stand.
sin and its stain Can touch my sal - va - tion: with Je-sus I reign.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926–2024

Tune: Irish

Text: © 1964, renewed 1992 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002205

Tune: Public domain

INSTALLATION OF CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

(Stand)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P ... let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy. . . .

...

P Hear us, heavenly Father, for the sake of Christ Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

(Sit)

OFFERING

Online Offering is available through our website or by texting GIVE to 785-828-4482.

Members simply text the word **CHECK** to 785-828-4482 then click & submit online to **Check In** for attendance during the day. Or please complete the “**Let’s Connect**” **Card** in the pews with your Name(s), email, and phone and hand to the ushers as they are returning from the altar. **VISITORS**, please hold your card to give to Pastor at the door and receive a ‘Thank You’ Gift.

(Stand)

P Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

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.

LSB 212

BENEDICAMUS

A Let us bless the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and \ddagger give you peace.
C Amen.

411 I WANT TO WALK AS A CHILD OF THE LIGHT



1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
2 I want to see the brightness of God.
3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ.

I want to fol - low Je - sus.
 I want to look at Je - sus.
 I want to be with Je - sus.

God set the stars to give light to the world.
 Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,
 When we have run with patience the race,

The star of my life is Je - sus.
 And show me the way to the Fa - ther.
 We shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain

In Him there is no dark - ness at all.

The night and the day are both a - like.

The Lamb is the light of the cit - y of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text and tune: Kathleen Thomerson, 1934–2025

Text and tune: © 1970, 1975 Celebration. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002205

IN OUR PRAYERS

HEALING AND CARE: for those suffering from cancer: Stu Duncan, Jenny Peimann, Dan Henderson, Sheri Bravenec, Frank Wagner, Barbara Feltner, Tom Arb, Sharon Eilert (Eva's sister), JoAnn Arb.

CONTINUED HEALING: Christopher Smith, Gabriella Schultz, Michael Nally, Charlie Timberlane, Logan Brady, Jean Curtis, Carl Sluder, Raymond Zorn, Lyn Wren, David Wagner, Cecil McMullen, Mark Feltner, Darrell Sturdy, Diane Schulze, Keith Scheid, Pete Scheid, Glenn Templeton, Harley Browning, Ruby Zorn, Lavon Haney, Joe Lichtenauer.

SHUT-INS: Don Becker, Virginia Elmore, Jim & Pat Croucher

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME to all who worship with us this morning, especially our guests. You are invited for coffee and snacks after our service. You are also invited to stay for Bible Study and Sunday School.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS – January 25, 2026

During the service TODAY we will acknowledge officers of the congregation for 2026 and formally install those newly or re-elected this past October. You have a list of ALL Officers of the congregation. Note the ones being Installed today are notated with an asterisk (*).

WATCH PARTY SATURDAYS!

We return to watching the 8 episodes for the next season of The CHOSEN series on *Saturdays, 4:30 – 6:00 pm*, right here in our own Fellowship Hall at Zion. We will lead up to the movie with reading the Scripture that will be used in the episode, then WATCH, then have a discussion. **Bring a friend!**



CHOIR – Practice Resumes **Wednesday, January 28 @ 7 PM** here at Zion – We are preparing for Lent and Easter Services. (Ash Wednesday = Feb 18).

PRAYER SISTERS will meet on Feb. 7 @ 10:00 am at Joetta's. All Ladies are invited.

Record of Faithfulness

Attendance Last Sunday: 59

Offering Last Sunday: \$2666 (Needed weekly = \$3193)

Grace Fund Last Sunday: \$20

SERVANTS IN THE LORD'S HOUSE

Serving In Worship Today

<i>Greeters</i>	Larry & Toni Wendling
<i>Organist</i>	Tanya Fraker
<i>Acolyte</i>	
<i>Reader</i>	Pastor Jim
<i>Ushers</i>	Clint Sturdy ©, Jeff Heidenreich © Reed Silver, Donice Browning
<i>Elder</i>	Clint Sturdy

Serving Next Week

<i>Greeters</i>	Kathryn Phoenix & Kathie Kirschenmann
<i>Organist</i>	Tanya Fraker
<i>Acolyte</i>	Chase Silver
<i>Reader</i>	Jim Bauck
<i>Ushers</i>	Shane Anschutz ©, Marvin Zorn © Reed Silver, Loren Eissler
<i>Elder</i>	Greg Schultz
<i>Lay Assistants</i>	Dwight Becker**, Casey Monthey

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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NOTE TO OUR GUESTS AND VISITORS

We are very glad you are here! Our services may look and sound different (other worldly, perhaps), but please bear with us! We worship the way we do for a reason and there is a certain rhythm involved. We gather to receive the gifts of salvation our Living Triune God comes to serve through His Word and Sacrament. In these gifts we receive the enlivening of our faith, forgiveness from our sins, and life eternal. Worship is the unwrapping of these gifts. The liturgy, hymns, and preaching proclaim His Word to us. They remind us of the promise of salvation as a gift we have in our baptism, and they prepare our hearts and minds to receive the Lord's Supper. Through these means of grace God comes to serve us in this Divine Service, and so our worship is centered around receiving these gifts of God through faith.

Pastor Jim Kirschenmann
GV (314) 884-0828
Email: Pastor@ZionVassar.org

You may Call or TXT the Church Office Phone
Number at ANYTIME: **785-828-4482**
Email: Office@ZionVassar.org

Service Time: Sunday 9:00 am
Bible Study and Sunday School: 10:30 am

Services Streamed on Social Media...
<https://bit.ly/m/zionvassar>

*Take this WITH you - Pass this bulletin along to
someone and invite them...*

TXT/Chat Questions 785-645-3755



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