

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, FERNDALE
10:30AM, MARCH 8, 2026

Prelude

Scott Schroeder

Welcome and Announcements

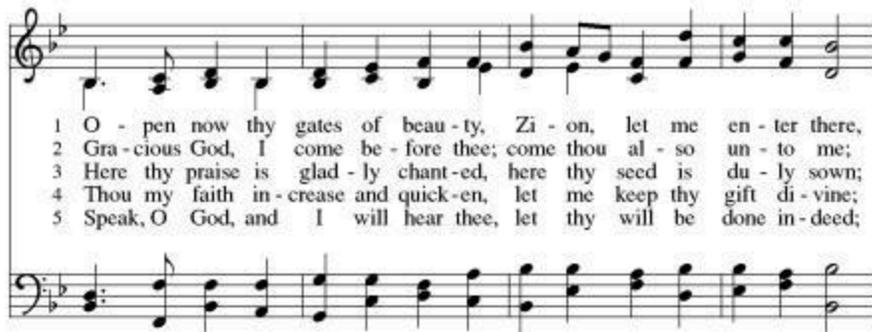
The Box

Juniors Explore leave following
(children ages 4-5 through middle school)

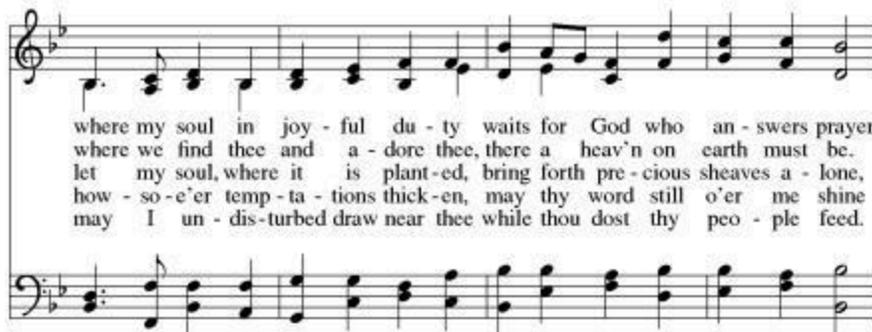
Processional Hymn

“Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty”

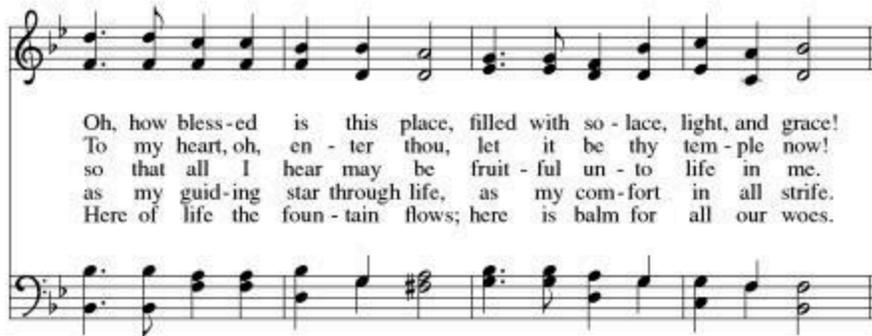
Hymn 533



1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me en - ter there,
2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore thee; come thou al - so un - to me;
3 Here thy praise is glad - ly chant - ed, here thy seed is du - ly sown;
4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick - en, let me keep thy gift di - vine;
5 Speak, O God, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done in - deed;



where my soul in joy - ful du - ty waits for God who an - swers prayer,
where we find thee and a - dore thee, there a heav'n on earth must be.
let my soul, where it is plant - ed, bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone,
how - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick - en, may thy word still o'er me shine
may I un - dis - turbed draw near thee while thou dost thy peo - ple feed.



Oh, how bless - ed is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace!
To my heart, oh, en - ter thou, let it be thy tem - ple now!
so that all I hear may be fruit - ful un - to life in me.
as my guid - ing star through life, as my com - fort in all strife.
Here of life the foun - tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

Call to Worship:

Pastor: Come to God with openness, seeking God's presence whatever it brings. Bring doubt, bring belief. Seek God and live.

Confession & Forgiveness:

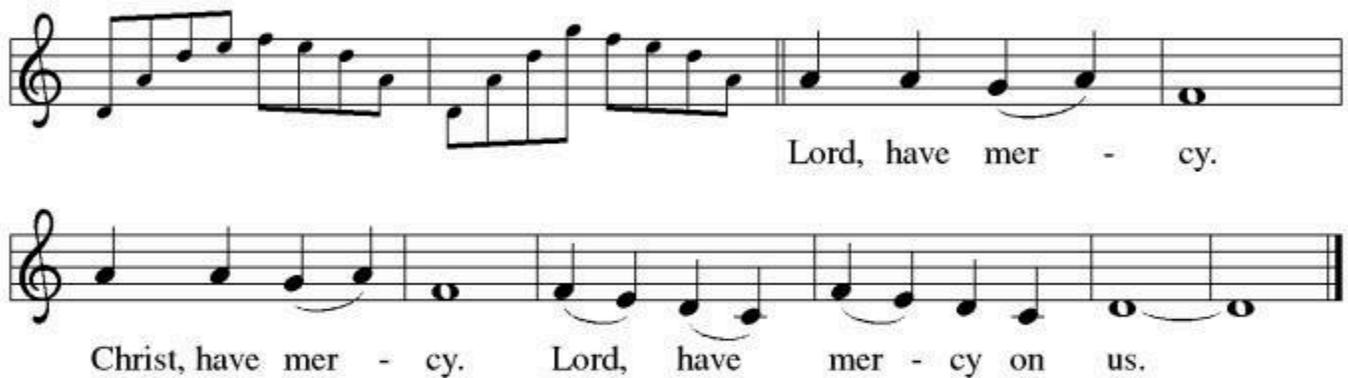
Assistant: We cannot earn God's grace or favor. It comes to us, not as something owed, but as a gift freely given. Confident in God's love for us, even when we are ungodly, we confess our sins in faith.

Gracious God, we come before you in need of forgiveness and grace. You call us to trust in you completely, but we do not. We are timid and fearful as we follow your lead. We justify our actions and words, though we know they are not what you require. We struggle to understand the new life Christ offers, preferring old habits to risky change. Forgive us, we pray. Help us to be born again into the life of Christ, trusting that you have included us by grace in the family of faith. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Pastor: Friends, God is for us and not against us! For that very reason, God sent the Son into the world not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Believe the good news, in Jesus Christ we are forgiven! **Amen.**

Kyrie (2x)

(Hymn 158)



Lord, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G-clef. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn, with lyrics 'Lord, have mer - cy.' written below it. The second staff contains the melody for the second line, with lyrics 'Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy on us.' written below it. The music is written in a simple, clear style suitable for a church service.

Sharing of the Peace

Pastor: The peace of God be with you all. **And also with you!**

At Zion we share the ASL/universal sign for peace, or other non-physical contact to greet one another.

1 Tree of Life and awe - some mys - t'ry, in your
 2 We re - mem - ber truth once spo - ken, love passed
 3 Christ, you lead and we shall fol - low, stum - bling

death we are re - born; though you die in all of
 on through act and word; ev - 'ry per - son lost and
 though our steps may be; one with you in joy and

his - t'ry, still you rise with ev - 'ry morn, still you
 bro - ken wears the bod - y of our Lord, wears the
 sor - row, we the riv - er, you the sea, we the

rise with ev - 'ry morn.
 bod - y of our Lord.
 riv - er, you the sea.

One of the following may be sung as a final stanza at the appropriate time.

General

Light of life beyond conceiving,
 mighty Spirit of our Lord;
 give new strength to our believing,
 give us faith to live your word

Lent 3

Living Water of salvation,
 be the fountain of each soul;
 springing up in new creation,
 flow in us and make us whole.

Lent 1

From the dawning of creation
 you have loved us as your own;
 stay with us through all temptation,
 make us turn to you alone.

Lent 4

Give us eyes to see you clearly;
 make us children of your light.
 Give us hearts to live more nearly
 as your gospel shining bright.

Lent 2

In our call to be a blessing,
 may we be a blessing true;
 may we live and die confessing
 Christ as Lord of all we do.

Lent 5

God of all our fear and sorrow,
 God who lives beyond our death,
 hold us close through each tomorrow,
 love as near as every breath.

Light of life beyond conceiving, mighty Spirit of the Lord;
 give new strength to our believing, give us faith to live your word.

Living Water of salvation, be the fountain of each soul;
 Springing up in new creation, flow in us and make us whole.

Prayer of the Day

Assistant: Merciful God, **the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Exodus 17:1-7

¹ From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ² The people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" ³ But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" ⁴ So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me." ⁵ The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. ⁶ I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷ He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 95

¹ O come, let us sing to God;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

² **Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving;**
let us make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!

³ For God is a great God
and a great Ruler above all gods.

⁴ **In God's hand are the depths of the earth;**
the heights of the mountains are God's also.

⁵ The sea is God's, for God made it,
and the dry land, which God's hands have formed.

⁶ **O come, let us worship and bow down;**
let us kneel before God, our Maker!

⁷ For God is our God,
and we are the people of God's pasture
and the sheep of God's hand.
O that today you would listen to God's voice!

⁸ **Do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah,**
as on the day at Massah in the wilderness,

⁹ when your ancestors tested me
and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work.

¹⁰ **For forty years I loathed that generation**
and said, "They are a people whose hearts go astray,
and they do not regard my ways."

¹¹ Therefore in my anger I swore,
"They shall not enter my rest."

Romans 5:1-11

¹Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. ⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

“Lenten Acclamation”

(Hymn 176)



Let your stead - fast love come to us, O Lord.
Save us as you prom-ised; we will trust your word.

John 4:5-42

The holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O God.**

⁵So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

⁷A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” ⁸(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?” (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) ¹⁰Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.” ¹¹The woman said to him, “Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? ¹²Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?” ¹³Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but those who drink of the water that I

will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.”¹⁵ The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.”

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come back.”¹⁷ The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband,’¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!”¹⁹ The woman said to him, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet.”²⁰ Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.”²¹ Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.²² You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.²³ But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him.²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”²⁵ The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.”²⁶ Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

The Gospel of the Living One. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Gospel Acclamation

Special Music

“We Believe”

Chancel Choir Women

Sermon

Pastor Matthew Bode

Hymn

“I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say”

Hymn 611

1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, “Come un - to me and rest;
2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, “Be - hold, I free - ly give
3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, “I am this dark world’s light;

lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast.”
the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live.”
look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright.”

I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad;
I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;
I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun;

I found in him a rest - ing - place, and he has made me glad.
my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.
and in that light of life I’ll walk till trav - ling days are done.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Assistant: Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

Now is the Time of Grace (Refrain)

(ACS 918)

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). It contains two measures of music. The first measure is marked with a '1' above it and contains the notes G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4. The second measure is marked with a '2' above it and contains the notes D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, A4, G4. Below the notes are the lyrics: "Now is the time of grace, now is the day of sal - va - tion." The second staff also begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. It contains two measures of music. The first measure contains the notes G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4. The second measure contains the notes D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, A4, G4. Below the notes are the lyrics: "Turn now, and seek God's face, now be-hold God's in-vi - ta - tion."

O God, when suffering arises, preserve your church. Give to pastors, deacons, bishops, and all servants of your gospel the endurance that produces character and the hope that will never disappoint. Our prayers are to you, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

When the waters run dry, sustain this earth. Send water to places languishing with drought, and bring relief to places damaged by floods. Our prayers are to you, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Now is the Time of Grace

When quarrels ensue, soften our hearts. Quell hostilities between nations and peoples, and reconcile all humans across the lines of race, class, nationality, moral conviction, religion, and all else that divides or oppresses. Our prayers are to you, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

When your people thirst, satisfy their needs. Send water and food to all who need nourishment. Grant welcome to all who are excluded. Show your mercy to any in need, especially those we bring to you now... Our prayers are to you, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Now is the Time of Grace

When we gather to worship, send us your Spirit. Renew our hearts through the joyful noise we make and bless the work of our church musicians and musical ensembles. Our prayers are to you, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

O God, when death draws near, we rejoice in the promise of life with you. We remember all who have entered eternal rest, and we pray that you bring us the hope of sharing in your glory. Our prayers are to you, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Now is the Time of Grace

Pastor: Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation. **Amen.**

Offertory

“What Feast of Love” (to the tune of “What Child is This”, verse 1)

Hymn 487

What feast of love is offered here, what banquet comes from heaven?
What food of everlasting life, what gracious gift is given?
This, this is Christ the king, the bread comes down from heaven.
Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the manna given!

Offertory Prayer:

Pastor: Gracious God, **we dedicate to you not only these gifts, but also ourselves, in deep gratitude - for your call on our lives, your guidance in the baptismal journey, and for blessing us that we may be a blessing to others. Accept what we bring for our own good purpose. In Christ we pray, Amen.**

Ways to give -

- Venmo @ZionFerndale (confirmation code 7498)
- Vanco mobile app (code VHLXGH)
- www.zionlutheranmi.org
- Offering plate located in the middle of the center aisle
- Mail to church mailing address

Eucharistic Prayer

Pastor: God be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to God.**

Let us give thanks to our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.

Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness
to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. **Amen.**

Holy One, remember us in your reign and teach us to pray:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory
are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Christ invites you to this table. Come, taste and see.

Distribution

Zion welcomes and encourages those of all faith backgrounds to communion. We believe that the death and resurrection of Christ makes us all worthy and needing of the sacrament regardless of background, age or any other factor.

1 "Come to me, all pil-grims thirst - y; drink the wa - ter I will give.
 2 "Come to me, all trav - lers wea - ry; come that I may give you rest.
 3 "Come to me, be - liev - ers bur - dened; find re - fresh - ment in this place.
 4 "Come to me, re - pen - tant sin - ners; leave be - hind your guilt and shame.

If you knew what gift I of - fer, you would come to me and live."
 Drink the cup of life I of - fer; at this ta - ble be my guest."
 Come, re - ceive the gift I of - fer, turn to me and seek my face."
 Come and know di - vine com - pas - sion, turn to me, I call your name."

Refrain
 Je - sus, ev - er - flow - ing foun - tain, give us wa - ter from your well.

In the gra - cious gift you of - fer there is joy no tongue can tell.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>5 "Come to me, distressed and needy;
 I would be your trusted friend.
 Come and seek the gift I offer,
 come, your open hands extend." <i>Refrain</i></p> | <p>6 "Come to me, abandoned, orphaned;
 lonely ways no longer roam.
 Come and take the gift I offer,
 let me make in you my home." <i>Refrain</i></p> |
|--|---|

Post-Communion Prayer

Pastor: Now may this the body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ bless you and keep you in his grace, now and forever. **Amen.**

1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land, I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me
 wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
 fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me

with your pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,
 safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es

feed me now and ev - er - more, ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.
 shield me with your might - y arm, might - y arm, shield me with your might - y arm.
 I will raise for - ev - er - more, ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

Charge and Blessing:

Pastor: Go out in faith, trusting God’s sense of direction. Remember how much God loves this world and so loves the world in the name of Christ, that your testimony becomes the good news someone else has been waiting to receive.

You are free from condemnation, free to question and seek, knowing God’s love surrounds you in both the dark of night and light of day. Amen.

Dismissal

Assistant: Go in the power of Christ and be a living witness. **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

Scott Schroeder

*Lenten liturgy from *Feasting on the Word, Lenten Companion*, Bartlett, et. al., Westminster John Knox Press, 2014.

Today's Worship Leaders:

Assistant Minister: Stacey Jamison

Lector: Elon Jamison

Cantor: Fred Kaiser

Cross Bearer: River Spayde

Juniors Teachers: Stephanie Melnick/Eric Podolsky

Staff:

The Rev. Matthew Bode, Pastor

Office Manager: Stacey Jamison

Custodian: Anthony Bailey

Chancel Choir Director: Roger Smith

Organist: Scott Schroeder

Juniors Music Ministry: Stacey Jamison

Tech Ministry: George Stuteville

Zion Council/Lay Leadership:

Emily Corey, President

Natalie Melnick, Vice President

Cecelia Mac-Smith, Secretary

Dagmar Jones, Treasurer

Brian Griffin

Mark Jones

Ann McChesney

Matt Northcott

Jackie Oliver

Michael Weiszbrod