

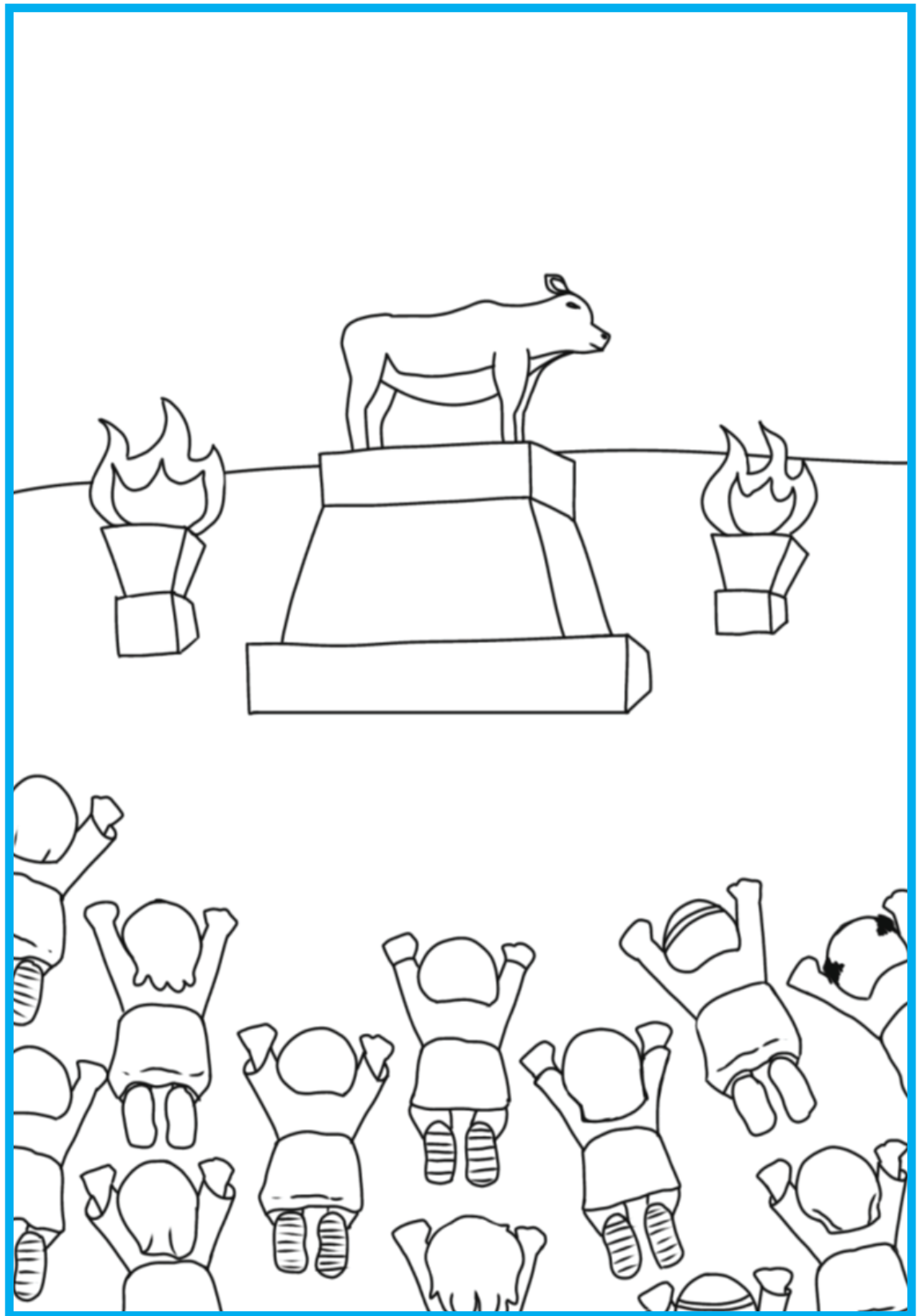


ZION
LUTHERAN † ANOKA

A
WELCOMING
FAITH
COMMUNITY.
GROWING.
CARING.
SERVING.



JULY
25/26
2026



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Villains of the Bible The Crowd/People

Welcome to Worship

If you are a visitor please stop at the Welcome Desk in the lower level for a visitor bag.
For more information contact us at www.zionanoka.org.

PREACHING:

Pastor Connie Tiede

PRESIDING:

8 AM Pr Sue Wallager

9 AM Pr Mike Pancoast

11 AM Pr Sue Wallager

ORGANIST:

Mary Jo Gothmann

We experience the devastating power of evil in so many ways – yet in the face of a myriad of streams of news and commentary, it can be hard to point directly at a villain without shutting others' ears. By exploring villains in the Bible, we can create a kind of pattern recognition for discerning evil in the world. In learning this skill, we can then reflect on how God and/or God's people respond to the abuses of power with transformative love and liberation.

PRELUDE

GATHERING

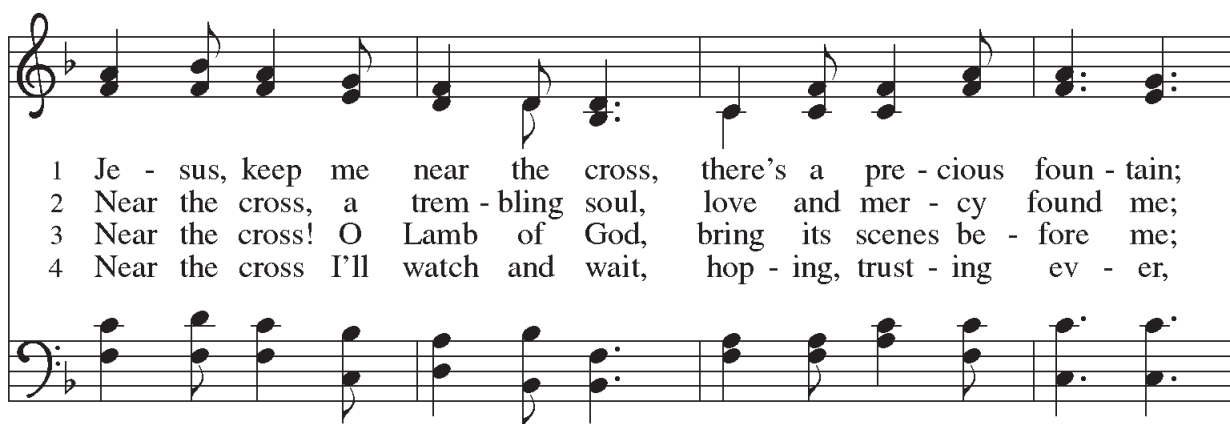
WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

God of Goodness and Mercy,

We confess that we have let evil confuse and discourage us. We have looked away when the powerful destroy and abuse, seeking our own “peace” at the expense of others’ lives. We have caused harm and been too ashamed to face our failure and make it right. We have gotten carried away by the crowd to condemn those you love. We have let fear and jealousy guide our actions. We’re sorry. Help us repair the harm we have caused, both willingly and unintentionally. Surround those we have harmed with comfort and support. Turn our hearts and our actions back to you and guide us once again in your ways of love and justice. Amen.

Our God is Love. And in God’s infinite love, God has compassion for our mistakes and failures. God’s goodness always perseveres through our evil. God chooses liberation and new life. And God forgives you, † abundantly, for all your sins and calls you to follow the way of love. **Amen.**



1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;
 2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;
 3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;
 4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,



free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
 there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.
 help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.
 till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.

Refrain



In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;



till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

GREETING:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE: Spirit, Open My Heart

ACS 1043

Refrain

Spir-it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of
liv-ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing
and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.

1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's
2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my
3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of

kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and
goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and
friend and neigh - bor. As I live from day to

Refrain

fear to your grace I now sur - ren - der.
deed, may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.
day, love will be my fin - est la - bor.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: WILD MOUNTAIN THYME, Irish melody; adapt. Alfred V. Fedak, b. 1953

Text © 1996 Pilgrim Press. All rights reserved.

Music © 2011 Alfred V. Fedak

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PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Mighty Wisdom,

It's too easy to give up our agency and follow the crowd, yet you still call us to follow you. Guard us from the pressure to follow the crowd. Call us to our values and inspire us to speak out and take action to confront injustice. Give us the words and courage to speak truth to power and amplify voices of resistance, even when it is scary or dangerous. Amen.

BAPTISM (11 AM): Lily Grace Hammill

WORD

WORD FOR KIDS (9 AM)

ACCLAMATION:



Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep - a - rate us from the love of God.



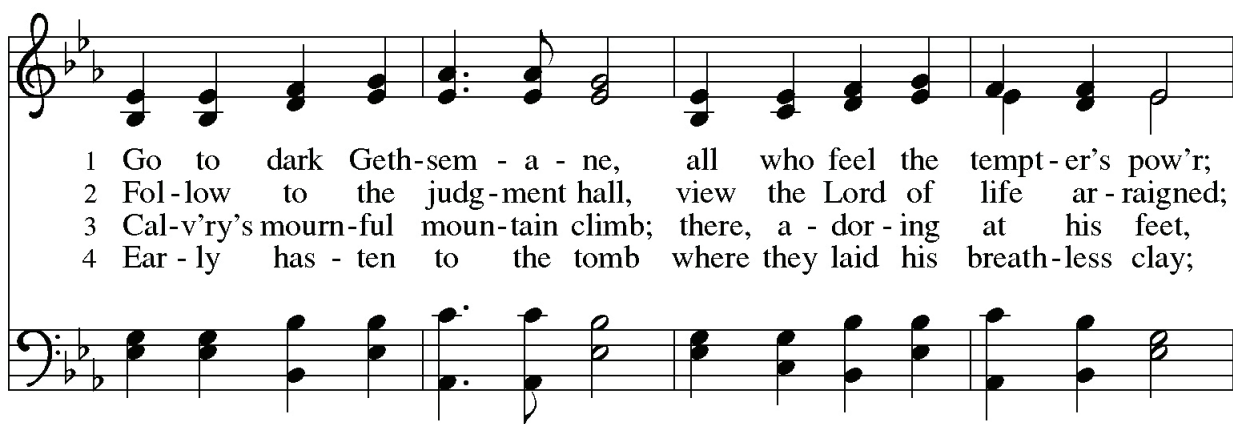
Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep - a - rate us from the love of God.

READING: Exodus 32, John 18:4-16

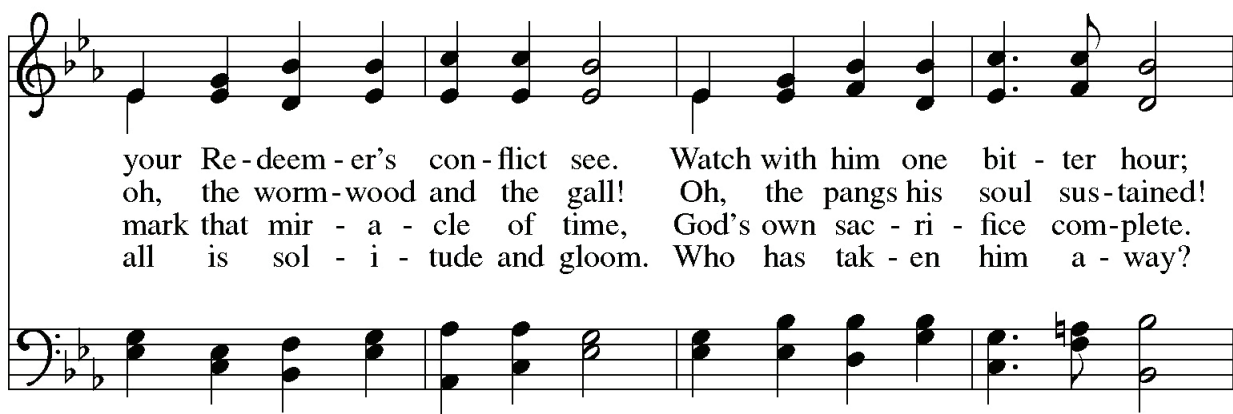
Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

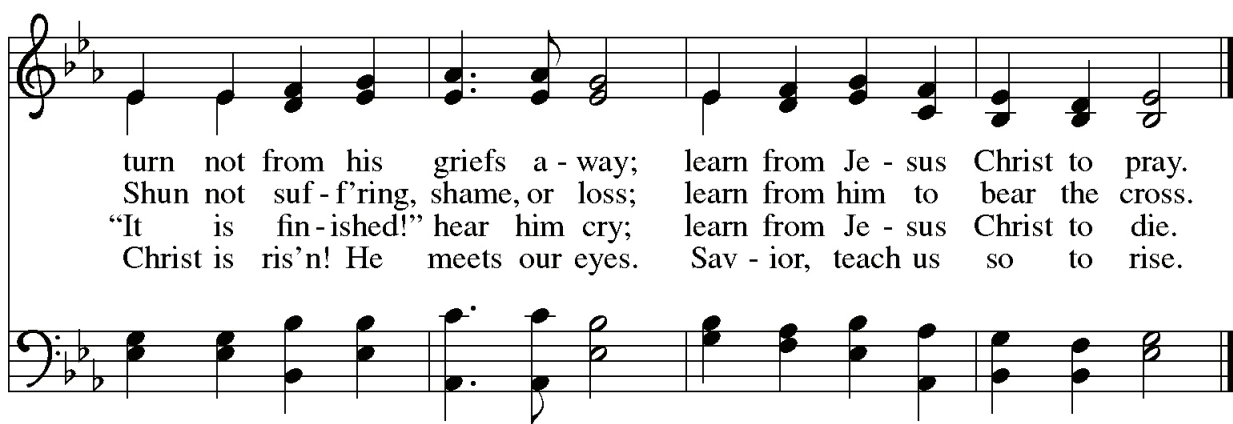
THE SERMON: "The Crowd" by Pastor Connie Tiede



1 Go to dark Geth-sem - a - ne, all who feel the tempt - er's pow'r;
 2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, view the Lord of life ar - rained;
 3 Cal - v'ry's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; there, a - dor - ing at his feet,
 4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb where they laid his breath - less clay;



your Re - deem - er's con - flict see. Watch with him one bit - ter hour;
 oh, the worm - wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sus - tained!
 mark that mir - a - cle of time, God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete.
 all is sol - i - tude and gloom. Who has tak - en him a - way?



turn not from his griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.
 Shun not suf - f'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.
 "It is fin - ished!" hear him cry; learn from Je - sus Christ to die.
 Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

CREED STATEMENT - From ELCA Indigenous People Liturgy (5PM, 8 & 9AM):

We believe in Creator, Father-Mother Spirit, who called the world and all that is in it, into being, who spoke the creative-forming word, and all came forth who created women and men and set them free to live in love, in obedience to the will of supreme love and in community with all.

We believe in Creator, Son and Brother, who, because of love beyond our understanding, love for creation, entered the world to share our humanity, to rejoice and to despair; to set before us the paths of life and death, and walk them with us; to be rejected and die, but finally to conquer death and bind the world to himself for all time.

We believe in Creator, In-Dwelling Spirit, who invites us into community, that we may through faith and that community of oneness, experience uplifting and sustaining grace; that we may fulfill our human responsibility to reach out to our neighbor, whoever that may be; that we may rejoice in the constant nature of creation and the wondrous joy of life itself.

We believe in Creator, whose word teaches us that all things grow together, the Circle of Life; that the paths of life and death, good and evil, too often come together, that choices are not clearly defined; but that we confidently and responsibly tread the path we choose and only the true One can be our judge.

**We believe in Creator, who is present and working in this world through all creation.
AMEN**

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

After each petition

God of mercy and grace...

Hear our Prayer.

SHARING THE PEACE:

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

(Share the peace with a wave and word of peace.)

MEAL

OFFERING

SPECIAL MUSIC - Piano Duet (8 & 9 AM):

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"arr. Phillip Keveren
Kristine Johnson and Deb Oas Koepsell, piano

MANY WAYS TO GIVE

TEXT: 763-710-2209

ONLINE www.zionanoka.org
click on "GIVE TODAY"

ELECTRONIC GIVING
<https://cutt.ly/ziongivetoday>

or



**For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:
Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sacrifice of praise.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER:

Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

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.

DISTRIBUTION *(Note: while our pouring chalices are out for restoration and repair we will be serving grape juice only (no wine) out of glass pitchers.)*

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

- *The ushers will invite you forward. Please take a cup from them and proceed to a communion station.*
- *The first server will give you a wafer. If you would like a gluten-free wafer, please let them know.*
- *The second server will pour grape juice into your cup.*
- *After receiving communion, place your empty cup in the baskets provided as you return to your seat.*

1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for
 2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for
 3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for

you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,
 you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,
 you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

Refrain

watch - ing for you and for me.
 mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!
 par - don for you and for me. Come home, come home!

You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,

Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"



1 Re - store in us, O God, the splen - dor of your love; re -
 2 O Spir - it, wake in us the won - der of your pow'r; from
 3 Bring us, O Christ, to share the full - ness of your joy; bap -
 4 Three-per - soned God, ful - fill the prom - ise of your grace, that



new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move.
 fruit-less fear un - furl our lives like spring-time bud and flow'r.
 tize us in the ris - en life that death can - not de - stroy.
 we, when all our search-ing ends, may see you face to face.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: BAYLOR, Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933

Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company.

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POST COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER:

Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING

BENEDICTION:

God the Creator carry you through all evil, the Teacher guide your wisdom and discernment and the Advocate defend you in justice. The Holy Three-In-One † bless you now and always. **Amen.**

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of four systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are as follows:

1 Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day; Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Chris-tians, on this ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!

Chris-tians, has - ten on your way; Al - le - lu - ia!
 all your grate - ful hom - age pay; Al - le - lu - ia!

of - fer praise with love re - plete, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!

at the pas - chal vic - tim's feet. Al - le - lu - ia!
 now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!

DISMISSAL:

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

WE WELCOME YOU TO WORSHIP

Hearing Assistance Units Available

*Hearing assistance units
are available at the
sound booth at the
back of the Sanctuary.*

Mobility Concerns

*We have areas in the
sanctuary where a wheel-
chair or walker will fit.
Ushers can assist you.*

Children Welcome

*Activity bags are avail-
able outside the sanctu-
ary. We have two "pray
grounds" in the sanctuary
with plenty of places just
outside the sanctuary as
well where children can
sit and play.*

LIVE STREAM

SUNDAY 9 & 11 AM
www.zionanoka.org
(click "Worship Online")
- or -

[www.facebook.com/
ZionLutheranChurch
AnokaMn](http://www.facebook.com/ZionLutheranChurchAnokaMn)

AVAILABLE ANYTIME

CABLE TV

Metro Cable Network
Channel 6
SUNDAY | 5 PM

RADIO BROADCAST

106.1 BOB FM
SUNDAYS | 9 AM

OFFICE HOURS

M - TH: 9 AM - 5 PM
FRI: 9 AM - 12 NOON



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Anoka MN 55303
763.421.4656
www.zionanoka.org

HOSPITAL VISITS AND PASTORAL CARE

If you or a family member are in the hospital or have had a change in your health status and would like a pastoral visit, please call the church office at 763-421-4656, email Kristine at kjohnson@zionanoka.org or Pr. Sue at swallager@zionanoka.org or let any of the pastors know. The pastoral staff will be very happy to visit you and provide pastoral care. Thank you.

COMMUNION FOR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

One of Zion's most important ministries is reaching out to our homebound members. We do this by radio, Cable-TV and livestreaming of worship services, visits by our Visitation Minister Ken Johnson, Zion's monthly online newsletter "The Herald" and monthly services at assisted living facilities. Sharing Holy Communion is one of the most meaningful ways we connect with our homebound members. Zion has a visitation team that provides this ministry. If you or a family member would like a monthly home communion visit please call the church office at 763-421-4656. We are also looking for kind, caring souls to add to our visitation team. Please contact Pastor Sue at swallager@zionanoka.org if you would like to become part of the *Home Communion Visitation Team*.

CONGREGATIONAL GODPARENTS NEEDED

Every child needs AAA (authentic, available and affirming) adults in their lives – the more the better! At Zion we believe in "marinating" our children in prayer and being present from the beginning. That is why we have Congregational Godparents – AAA adults who are willing to be present at the baptism of a child and pray for them every day and send cards (which are provided) on their birthdays and the anniversary of their baptism. It's an easy job, but a vital one. We are in need of people who would like to be part of this ministry and be present at the baptism. Contact Kristine Johnson or Pastor Connie for more information.

PRAYER CARDS are available in the pew holders for you to write a prayer request. Place them in the wooden prayer collection boxes located in the Sanctuary, Chapel or at the front desk. All prayer concerns or thanksgivings are confidential and are shared only with the Prayer Team.