



ZION  
CHURCH

TRANSFORMED BY GRACE  
POURED OUT FOR OTHERS

28 May 2023  
Day of Pentecost

Ezra is a model reformer in that what he taught he had first lived, and what he lived he had first made sure of in the Scriptures. With study, conduct, and teaching put deliberately in this right order, each of these was able to function properly at its best.

—Derek Kidner (*Tyndale OT Commentary. on Ezra 7:10*)

## WELCOME!

**We're glad you're here! If you are a newcomer, visitor, or guest:**

- ◆ Please take a **Zion coffee mug** from the welcome table in the foyer!
- ◆ **Nursery** is provided for children up to age 3 during Sunday school and both morning services.
- ◆ **Sunday School** classes for children, youth, and adults are at 9:45.
- ◆ **Children's Church** is also available in the 11:00 service for children ages 3-5. The children gather just before the sermon and return during the final hymn.
- ◆ **Busy Bags** for young children are hanging on racks at the back of the worship hall.
- ◆ Please explore the rest of your worship folder for opportunities to **connect** and **serve** at Zion. **We're glad you're here!**

## WORSHIP AT ZION

The Zion worship service has a structure and sequence that reflects the way scripture shows how God meets his people. God has made himself known to the world in Jesus Christ, who is God the Son, who took on human flesh, bled and died for our sins, rose from the dead, ascended to the Father's right hand, intercedes for us now, and will come again to receive us at the end. The church assembles on the Lord's day to name the name of Jesus, which is above every name.

- We enter his courts with thanksgiving and praise
- We kneel before him in confession and repentance
- We stand and hear again the Gospel's promise of mercy and forgiveness
- We bring our tribute offerings to our King
- We hear the voice of God from scripture
- We eat at the table Jesus has provided for us
- We depart with his blessing and promise that He will be with us until he comes for us again.

## THE MISSION OF ZION CHURCH

By God's grace Zion Church will be a Christ-centered ministry committed to worship God by proclaiming the truth of Scripture and relating to one another on the basis of the transforming power of the Gospel.

As God's people living in community, we will equip one another to pour out our lives for Christ at home, in the city, on the campus, across the Midwest, and to the ends of the earth. This vision rests upon the supernatural work of Christ who alone can build His church through the Spirit's work in our lives together.

# LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

## Prelude

**Gathering Song** — *All Creatures of Our God and King*

## Welcome and Announcements

## ENTRANCE TO WORSHIP

† **Call to Worship**    *Ezekiel 11:19-20*

And I will give them one heart, and a new spirit I will put within them. I will remove the heart of stone from their flesh and give them a heart of flesh, that they may walk in my statutes and keep my rules and obey them. And they shall be my people, and I will be their God.

## WORSHIP THROUGH CONFESSION AND PRAISE

† **Come Into His Presence With Singing**

*Spirit of the Living God*

*We Are Listening*

*Draw Us Deeper*

*Spirit of the Living God, Descend Upon My Heart (Trinity Hymnal 338)*

## Pastoral Prayer

**Confession of Faith** — *The Nicene Creed*

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made. Who, for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with

glory, to judge the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### **Preparation for Confession**    *John 20:21-23*

**Leader:** Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

**All:** If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld."

### **Silent Confession of Sin**

#### **† Declaration of Grace**    *Romans 8:14-15*

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!"

#### **† Song of Gratitude**

*Great is Thy Faithfulness (Trinity Hymnal 32)*

#### **Giving Moment** — *Doxology*

*(In the 11:00 Service, children ages 3, 4, and 5 may be dismissed for Children's Church)*

# WORSHIP THROUGH WORD AND SACRAMENT

## Preaching of the Word

**Series:** Ezra and Nehemiah: God Stirs Up His People

**Title:** God's People Return with Ezra

**Text:** Ezra 7 (*pew Bible p. 393*)

## Celebration of the Lord's Supper

*A Cappella — Jesus Loves Me*

*The communion trays have wine in the outside ring of wine-colored cups  
and a juice option in the inner ring of clear cups.*

*All baptized Christians who are members in good standing with their home congregation  
are welcome to join us at the Lord's table today.*

## † Hymn of Celebration

*O Father, You Are Sovereign (Trinity Hymnal 75)*

## † Benediction

## Postlude

# *Ezra and Nehemiah: God Stirs Up His People*

## **“God’s People Return with Ezra”**

**Ezra 7** (*pew Bible p. 393*)

**Sermon Notes: 28 May 2023**

Big Idea: Because God’s hand is on his people, Christians must study and do God’s word.

Problem: People don’t see the beauty of what God is doing right in front of them.

Christians need the beauty of God’s word in how they:

I. Live (vv. 1-10)

II. Build (vv. 11-24)

III. Remember (vv. 25-28)

## **Ezra 7:1-10, 27-28**

Now after this, in the reign of Artaxerxes king of Persia, Ezra the son of Seraiah, son of Azariah, son of Hilkiah, 2 son of Shallum, son of Zadok, son of Ahitub, 3 son of Amariah, son of Azariah, son of Meraioth, 4 son of Zerariah, son of Uzzi, son of Bukki, 5 son of Abishua, son of Phinehas, son of Eleazar, son of Aaron the chief priest-- 6 this Ezra went up from Babylonia. He was a scribe skilled in the Law of Moses that the LORD, the God of Israel, had given, and the king granted him all that he asked, for the hand of the LORD his God was on him. 7 And there went up also to Jerusalem, in the seventh year of Artaxerxes the king, some of the people of Israel, and some of the priests and Levites, the singers and gatekeepers, and the temple servants. 8 And Ezra came to Jerusalem in the fifth month, which was in the seventh year of the king. 9 For on the first day of the first month he began to go up from Babylonia, and on the first day of the fifth month he came to Jerusalem, for the good hand of his God was on him. 10 For Ezra had set his heart to study the Law of the LORD, and to do it and to teach his statutes and rules in Israel. ...

27 Blessed be the LORD, the God of our fathers, who put such a thing as this into the heart of the king, to beautify the house of the LORD that is in Jerusalem, 28 and who extended to me his steadfast love before the king and his counselors, and before all the king's mighty officers. I took courage, for the hand of the LORD my God was on me, and I gathered leading men from Israel to go up with me.

### ***Questions for Further Discussion:***

- ◆ Why did the king grant Ezra all that he asked (v. 6)?
- ◆ Why is it called the Law of Moses if the LORD gave it? How do those two phrases in v. 6 work together to teach us something about Scripture?
- ◆ What three things does v. 10 tell us about Ezra's relationship to the law of God? Is the order important? Why?
- ◆ Describe all the ways that King Artaxerxes is generous to Ezra and God's people. (vv. 11-24)
- ◆ Is Ezra going to lead God's people alone? Which people will lead with him?
- ◆ How does Ezra respond in v. 28 to all these things?
- ◆ How is God with you in a similar way that he is with Ezra?
- ◆ How is God with you in a better way than he was with Ezra?

### **Weekly Events: [zionpca.com/groups](http://zionpca.com/groups)**

Sundays, 7:45am: Prayer in Library — [zionpca.com/prayer](http://zionpca.com/prayer)

Tuesdays, 9:30am: Women's Bible Study — *on Summer Break: resumes Aug. 22*

Thursdays, 6:30am: Men's Bible Study in the Coffee House (*Gospel of Luke*)

Saturdays, 8:15am: Foodnet distribution — [zionpca.com/foodnet](http://zionpca.com/foodnet)

### **Upcoming Events: [zionpca.com/calendar](http://zionpca.com/calendar)**

#### **No Education Hour classes today**

Our adult Education Hour classes meet on Sunday mornings at 9:45-10:45. Summer electives start next Sunday, June 4th. We will meet for six weeks and then break until mid-August. See p.10 or [zionpca.com/classes](http://zionpca.com/classes) for more info.

#### **ZYG Tree Rush: June 3**

All youth (rising 6th grade & up) are invited to a high ropes course at Fontanelle Forest from 11:30-3:30 this Saturday. Contact Kyle Lindgren at [kyle@zionpca.com](mailto:kyle@zionpca.com) for more details.

#### **Zion Kids Spanish Camp: Register by June 4**

All rising 2nd-7th graders are invited to learn Spanish and celebrate Hispanic culture at our Spanish Camp on June 12-16, 1:00-3:30pm at Zion. Contact Jill Greff at [greffjill@gmail.com](mailto:greffjill@gmail.com) to register by Sunday.

#### **Vacation Bible School: June 5-9**

Please be in prayer for the 130 kids and the amazing volunteers who will be journeying with Jesus next week. You can make a donation at [zionpca.com/vbs](http://zionpca.com/vbs). Contact Elizabeth at [elizabeth@zionpca.com](mailto:elizabeth@zionpca.com) for more info.

#### **Women's Summer Symposium: Begins June 22**

All women are invited to come as you are, enjoy each other's company, and go a little deeper into meaningful conversation with each other. We will meet for five Thursday evenings this summer. See [zionpca.com/symposium](http://zionpca.com/symposium) for details.



## **Sunday Mornings: [zionpca.com/visit](http://zionpca.com/visit)**

8:30: Corporate Public Worship in the Worship Hall  
Streaming to [zionpca.com/livestream](http://zionpca.com/livestream) & Facebook (@zionpca)

9:45: Education Hour for all ages

11:00: Corporate Public Worship in the Worship Hall  
Streaming to Hearth Room

No Education Hour — TODAY, May 28  
July 16-August 13

No Children's Church — July 2

## **Nursery: [zionpca.com/nursery](http://zionpca.com/nursery)**

Nursery care is available during both services and the Education Zion. If you have any questions or would like to serve, please contact our nursery director **Kelsey Nyenhuis** ([nursery@zionpca.com](mailto:nursery@zionpca.com)).

## **How to Give at Zion**

God provides all we have, and Christians return a portion of that in thanksgiving. You can put cash and checks in the offering **box in the foyer**, or use this QR code to go to our website's giving page ([zionpca.com/give](http://zionpca.com/give)). You can also Venmo **@Zion-Church-2**.



## **Budget Update**

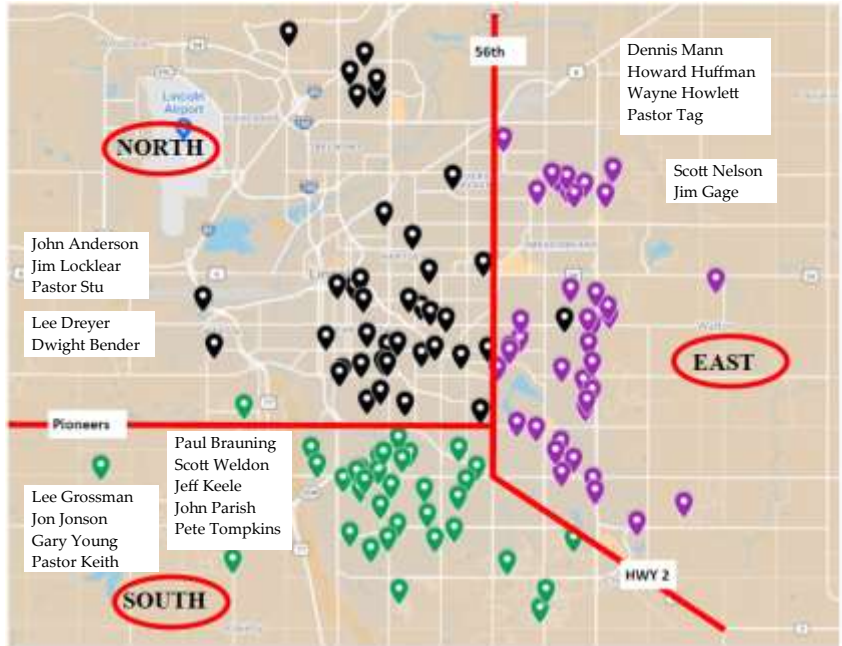
YTD Giving through March/Q1 2023 = \$262K

YTD Expenses through March/Q1 2023 = \$221K

## Where Are You?

For service, small groups, and social events, we have three Adult Fellowships based on your location in Lincoln:

- **North:** North of Pioneers Boulevard, and west of 56th Street
- **South:** South of Pioneers Boulevard, and south of Highway 2
- **East:** East of 56th Street and north of Highway 2



## Adult Summer Electives

**South Classroom** - *Pastor Keith*  
*Pastoral Epistles*

**Hearth Room** - *Pastor Tag*  
*(... topic coming soon ...)*

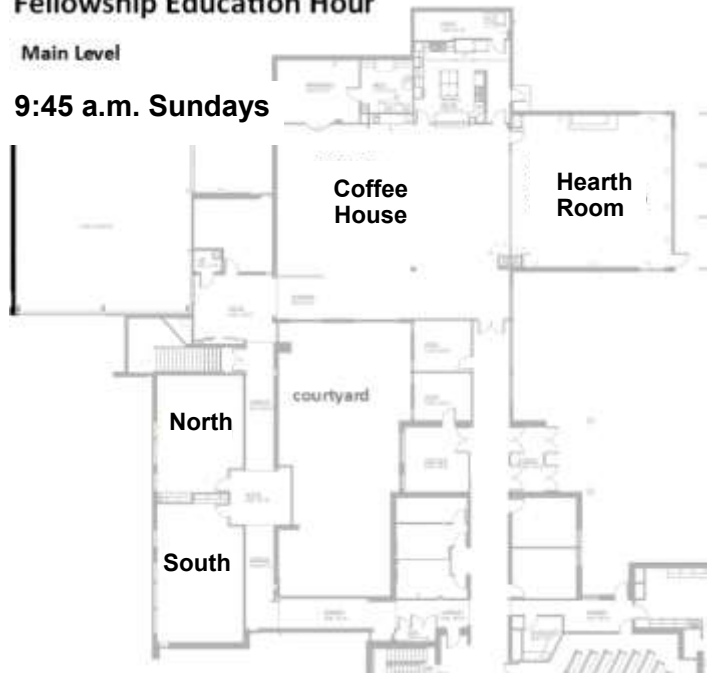
**No classes TODAY**

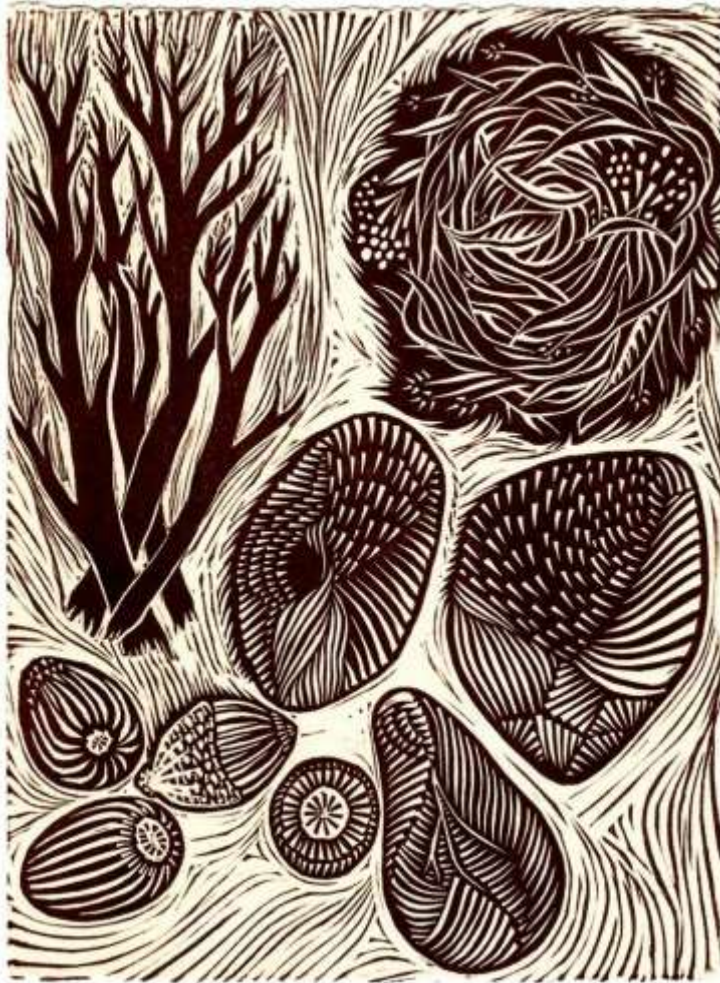
Summer electives start next week,  
June 4th.

## Fellowship Education Hour

Main Level

9:45 a.m. Sundays





*Seed Pods*, linocut relief print

# All Creatures of Our God and King



1. All crea - tures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing,  
2. Thou ris - ing morn in praise re - joice, ye lights of eve - ning, find a voice,  
3. And all ye folk of ten - der heart, for - giv - ing oth - ers, take your part,  
4. Let all things their Cre - a - tor bless, and wor - ship him in hum - ble - ness,



al le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Thou burn - ing sun with gold - en beam,  
O praise him, al - le - lu - ia! Thou flow - ing wat - er, pure and clear,  
O sing ye, al - le - lu - ia! Ye who long pain and sor - row bear,  
O praise him, al - le - lu - ia! Praise, praise the Fath - er, praise the Son,



thou sil - ver moon with soft - er gleam, O praise him, O praise Him,  
make mu - sic for thy Lord to hear,  
praise God and on him cast your care,  
and praise the Spir - it, Three in One,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - - - ia.

# Spirit of the Living God

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Spirit of the Living God". It consists of four staves of music in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first two staves are identical and end with a repeat sign. The third staff contains the lyrics "Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me." and features a key signature change to two flats (B-flat and E-flat) for the final two measures. The fourth staff is identical to the first two and ends with a double bar line.

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, Fall a - fresh on me.

5 Spir - it of the liv - ing God, Fall a - fresh on me.

9 Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

13 Spir - it of the liv - ing God, Fall a - fresh on me.

# We Are Listening

Jeremy Quillo

Voice

The musical score is written for a single voice part in G major, 4/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are: 'Fa-ther, I long to be wise, to see with new eyes the truth that was writ-ten by your hand. Fa-ther, speak your truth in - to me, be-cause I be - lieve that you will help me un - der-stand. We are lis - ten - ing to your word. We are lis - ten - ing to your word. Mor - ning and eve - ning we come to de - light in the words of our God. Give us eyes to see, give us faith to hear that the Word has come, that the Word is here.' A fermata is placed over the final note of the last staff.

Fa-ther, I long to be wise, to see with new eyes the truth that was  
writ-ten by your hand. Fa-ther, speak your truth in - to me, be-cause I be - lieve that you will  
help me un - der-stand. We are lis - ten - ing to your word. We are lis - ten - ing to your  
word. Mor - ning and eve - ning we come to de - light in the words of our God.  
Give us eyes to see, give us faith to hear that the Word has come,  
that the Word is here.

2. Father, I long to see Christ: the Truth and New Life,  
the Word that made the universe.  
Father, speak; in you I believe. I have been set free  
by the Word that lived and died for me.

# Draw Us Deeper

voice



Fm E<sup>b</sup> Fm E<sup>b</sup> Fm E<sup>b</sup> Fm Fm Fm E<sup>b</sup> Fm E<sup>b</sup>

Ho - san - na, Hal - le - lu - jah, wis - dom, hon - or, glo - ry and po - wer

7 Fm E<sup>b</sup> Fm D<sup>b</sup>maj7 E<sup>b</sup> Fm Cm

be un - to our God. You are Lord, you are God, you are all in all,

11 D<sup>b</sup>maj7 E<sup>b</sup> Fm D<sup>b</sup>maj7 E<sup>b</sup> Fm Cm

the ve - ry moun - tains melt be - fore you, yet you have come to us in love as a fa - ther to his child,

15 D<sup>b</sup>maj7 E<sup>b</sup> Fm

our hearts are bro - ken be - fore you.

## *Chorus*

You do satisfy the yearnings of our restless souls  
Peace, rest, and joy are found in you  
You are bread to our hunger, you are wine to our thirst  
We need no more in life than you

## *Chorus*

Draw us deeper, ever deeper into life with you  
Please give us hearts to know and love you  
Hearts that ache for your presence and that long to see your face  
Hearts that burn with love for you

Hearts that ache for your presence and that long to see your face  
Hearts that burn with love for you

# Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart

338

*Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. Gal. 5:25*

Capo 3: ♭ (G) (D<sup>7</sup>) (G) (C) (Am<sup>7</sup>) (G) 7 (Em) (F#)

1. Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart; wean it from  
 2. I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies, no sud - den  
 3. Hast thou not bid us love thee, God and King? All, all thine  
 4. Teach me to feel that thou art al - ways nigh; teach me the  
 5. Teach me to love thee as thine an - gels love, one ho - ly

(Bm) (E<sup>7</sup>) (D/A) (A<sup>7</sup>) (D) (D<sup>7</sup>) (C)

earth, through all its puls - es move; stoop to my weak - ness,  
 rend - ing of the veil of clay, no an - gel vis - i -  
 • own, soul, heart, and strength and mind. I see thy cross—there  
 strug - gles of the soul to bear, to check the ris - ing  
 pas - sion fill - ing all my frame; the bap - tism of the

(D<sup>7</sup>) ♭ (G) (C) (G) (D<sup>7</sup>) (G) 7

might - y as thou art, and make me love thee as I ought to love.  
 tant, no o - p'ning skies; but take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.  
 • teach my heart to cling: O let me seek thee, and O let me find.  
 doubt, the reb - el sigh; teach me the pa - tience of un - answered prayer.  
 heav'n - de - scend - ed Dove, my heart an al - tar, and thy love the flame.



## Great Is Thy Faithfulness

*Because of the LORD'S great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail.  
They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. Lam. 3:22, 23*

1. Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no  
 2. Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest, sun, moon, and  
 3. Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear

shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -  
 stars in their cours - es a - bove, join with all na - ture in  
 pres - ence to cheer and to guide, strength for to - day and bright

pas - sions, they fail not; as thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
 man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.  
 hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

REFRAIN

Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by

morn - ing new mer - cies I see: all I have need - ed thy hand hath pro -

The musical score is written for guitar and voice. It features a treble and bass clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The score includes three verses of lyrics, a refrain, and a final line of lyrics. Chord symbols are placed above the treble staff. The lyrics are: '1. Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no 2. Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest, sun, moon, and 3. Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com - stars in their cours - es a - bove, join with all na - ture in pres - ence to cheer and to guide, strength for to - day and bright pas - sions, they fail not; as thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be. man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love. hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side! REFRAIN Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see: all I have need - ed thy hand hath pro -'. The score ends with a right-pointing arrow.

G Bdim D A7 D 7

vid - ed — Great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

## Doxology

Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow! Praise Him, all crea-tures here be - low!

<sup>10</sup> Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n-ly host! Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost! A - men.

## O Father, You Are Sovereign

*The LORD Almighty has purposed, and who can thwart him? His hand is stretched out, and who can turn it back? Is. 14:27*

1. O Fa - ther, you are sov - ereign in all the worlds you made;  
 2. O Fa - ther, you are sov - ereign in all af - fairs of man;  
 3. O Fa - ther, you are sov - ereign, the Lord of hu - man pain,  
 4. O Fa - ther, you are sov - ereign! We see you dim - ly now,

your might - y word was spo - ken and light and life o - beyed.  
 no pow'rs of death or dark - ness can thwart your per - fect plan.  
 trans - mut - ing earth - ly sor - rows to gold of heav'n - ly gain.  
 but soon be - fore your tri - umph earth's ev - ery knee shall bow.

Your voice com - mands the sea - sons and bounds the o - cean's shore,  
 All chance and change tran - scend - ing, su - preme in time and space,  
 All e - vil o - ver - rul - ing, as none but Con - qu'ror could,  
 With this glad hope be - fore us our faith springs up a - new:

sets stars with - in their cours - es and stills the tem - pest's roar.  
 you hold your trust - ing chil - dren se - cure in your em - brace.  
 your love pur - sues its pur - pose—our souls' e - ter - nal good.  
 our sov - ereign Lord and Sav - ior, we trust and wor - ship you!

## COMMITTED TO GOD'S TRUTH

We believe in a holy God who exists eternally in three persons – the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

We believe the Bible is the written word of God, and we hold to it as our authority in all matters of faith and life.

We believe all people are sinners, justly deserving God's displeasure, and incapable of saving themselves.

We believe that Jesus Christ – God the Son who became man – lived a sinless life, died on the cross and rose again to accomplish our salvation. We receive this gracious gift through faith alone.

We believe the Holy Spirit gives Christians the daily strength and wisdom they need to walk according to His will and grow in holiness.

We believe that Jesus Christ will return to judge all mankind and to receive His people unto Himself.

*For more explanation and resources go to [zionpca.com/beliefs](http://zionpca.com/beliefs)*

### ELDERS — [SESSION@ZIONPCA.COM](mailto:SESSION@ZIONPCA.COM)

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John Parish, Pete Tompkins, Scott Weldon

### STAFF — [OFFICE@ZIONPCA.COM](mailto:OFFICE@ZIONPCA.COM)

|                      |                              |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| Rev. Stu Kerns       | Senior Pastor                |
| Rev. Keith Ghormley  | Associate Pastor             |
| Rev. Tag Tuck        | Associate Pastor             |
| Wayne Howlett        | Finance Officer              |
| Lynn Locklear        | Office Manager               |
| Kyle Lindgren        | Youth Director               |
| Elizabeth Vander Top | Children's Ministry Director |
| Kelsey Nyenhuis      | Nursery Director             |
| Gina Tuck            | Worship Director             |
| Joseph Ghormley      | Tech Specialist              |
| Lauren Wismer        | Organist                     |



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