



Zion Lutheran Church and Christian School

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Newsletter

February / March 2026

Keeping you informed and
staying connected



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Marked with Dust – and with Christ
(Mark 1:12-13)
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1. Marked with Dust—and with Christ

Mark 1:12-13

This month, Ash Wednesday will bring us to the beginning of Lent, and it marks us—quite literally. Ashes placed on our foreheads will confess a hard truth: *we are dust, and to dust we shall return*. They remind us of our frailty, our sin, and the grave that awaits every child of Adam. It is a sober, even unsettling, beginning.



Yet notice the shape of that mark. The ashes are traced in the sign of the cross. In our repentance, Christ is present. The cross recalls our Baptism, where we were united to Jesus' death and resurrection. The dust that names our mortality is marked with the promise of forgiveness and life.

In the beginning, humanity was formed from dust and given life by God's breath. But through Adam's disobedience, death entered the world. Driven from the garden into a wilderness of thorns and decay, we inherit Adam's dust and rebellion. A careful look into our hearts confirms it: we do not fear, love, and trust God above all things. We deserve not life, but death.

And yet—this is the Gospel—God did something merciful beyond imagining. The Eternal Son of God became dust for us. Jesus took on our flesh. Jesus was driven into the wilderness. Jesus bore temptation in our place. Jesus obeyed where we fail. He carried the curse, wearing the thorns as a crown. And Jesus was lifted up on the tree of the cross to give us the fruit of eternal life.

So the ashes on Ash Wednesday do not speak only of death. They speak of Christ, who entered our dust, passed through death, and rose victorious. Marked with His cross, we repent in confidence, knowing that in Jesus, dust is redeemed and paradise is restored.

--Pastor Kyle Eddy

2. Services and Events:

Sunday, February 1st, 2026

- 9:30 a.m.

Bible Study: Journey Through God's Word – Book of Revelation

This week: **The Fall of Babylon and the Triumph of the Lamb – Part Two**

Everybody is welcome to find comfort and answers to many questions.

- 10:30 a.m.

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany Worship Service, Holy Communion.

God redeems His people not by worldly strength but through the humility and weakness of Christ crucified. In Him we receive forgiveness, righteousness, and true wisdom, so that we learn to walk humbly with our God. By His cross the blessings of the kingdom are ours, even amid persecution, for we are God's beloved children in Christ.

Friday, February 6th, 2026

- 7:00 p.m.

Youth Group for Teenagers Grade 8 to 12

Games, Bible Study, and Fellowship

Sunday, February 8th, 2026

- 9:30 a.m.

Bible Study: Journey Through God's Word – Book of Revelation

This week: **Victory over Satan – Part One**

Everybody is welcome to find comfort and answers to many questions.

- 10:30 a.m.

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany Worship Service.

Jesus fulfills the Law perfectly, giving His own righteousness to His people so their lives shine with His light and flavour the world as salt. Through the preaching of Christ crucified, God grants His hidden wisdom and the Spirit's power. This righteousness moves us to true fasting—freeing the oppressed, feeding the hungry, and caring for the poor.

Thursday, February 12th, 2026

- 7:00 p.m.

Monthly Meeting of the **LWMLC Prince George Society**

in the downstairs meeting room at ZLCS; all ladies are welcome!

Please contact Penny if you need a ride.



Sunday, February 15th, 2026

- **9:30 a.m.**

Bible Study: Journey Through God's Word – Book of Revelation

This week: **Victory over Satan – Part Two**

Everybody is welcome to find comfort and answers to many questions.

- **10:30 a.m.**

Transfiguration of Our Lord Worship Service, Holy Communion.

On the mountain, Jesus reveals His divine glory, confirming the prophetic word and fulfilling the Law and the Prophets. The Father declares Him the beloved Son, whose shining majesty points to the cross where He seals the new covenant with His own blood. In Him we behold God's gracious glory and share communion with Him in His body and blood.

Wednesday, February 18th, 2026

- **4:00 p.m.**

Ash Wednesday Worship Service, Holy Communion.

Lenten Midweek Series 'The Lord's Prayer: A Prayer for all Seasons'

Part One: Seasons of Needing Forgiveness.

Soup and bun dinner after the service.

Friday, February 20th, 2026

- **7:00 p.m.**

Youth Group for Teenagers Grade 8 to 12

Games, Bible Study, and Fellowship

Sunday, February 22nd, 2026

- **9:30 a.m.**

Bible Study: Journey Through God's Word – Book of Revelation

This week: **A New Heaven and a New Earth – Part One**

Everybody is welcome to find comfort and answers to many questions.

- **10:30 a.m.**

First Sunday in Lent Worship Service.

- Enjoy good food in good company at our **Fellowship Potluck after the Service.**

Please bring a dish to share if you can.

Wednesday, February 25th, 2026

- **4:00 p.m.**

Second Lent Midweek Worship Service.

Lenten Midweek Series 'The Lord's Prayer: A Prayer for all Seasons'

Part Two: Seasons of Lifting Up the Lord.

Soup and bun dinner after the service.

Thursday, February 26th, 2026

- **6:30 p.m.**

ZLCS Science Fair

Come and see what our students have prepared for you.

Sunday, March 1st, 2026

- **9:30 a.m.**

Bible Study: Journey Through God's Word – Book of Revelation

This week: **A New Heaven and a New Earth – Part Two**

Everybody is welcome to find comfort and answers to many questions.

- **10:30 a.m.**

Second Sunday in Lent Worship Service.

Wednesday, March 4th, 2026

- **4:00 p.m.**

Third Lent Midweek Worship Service.

Lenten Midweek Series 'The Lord's Prayer: A Prayer for all Seasons'

Part Three: Seasons of Wondering Who's in Control.

Soup and bun dinner after the service.

Friday, March 6th, 2026

- **7:00 p.m.**

Youth Group for Teenagers Grade 8 to 12

Games, Bible Study, and Fellowship

Sunday, March 8th, 2026

- **9:30 a.m.**

Bible Study

Everybody is welcome to join.

- **10:30 a.m.**

Third Sunday in Lent Worship Service.

Wednesday, March 11th, 2026

- 4:00 p.m.

Fourth Lent Midweek Worship Service.

Lenten Midweek Series 'The Lord's Prayer: A Prayer for all Seasons'

Part Four: Seasons of Seeking God's Will.

Soup and bun dinner after the service.

Thursday, March 12th, 2026

- 7:00 p.m.

Monthly Meeting of the **LWMLC Prince George Society**

in the downstairs meeting room at ZLCS; all ladies are welcome!

Please contact Penny if you need a ride.



Sunday, March 15th, 2026

- 9:30 a.m.

Bible Study

Everybody is welcome to join.

- 10:30 a.m.

Fourth Sunday in Lent Worship Service.

Wednesday, March 18th, 2026

- 4:00 p.m.

Fifth Lent Midweek Worship Service.

Lenten Midweek Series 'The Lord's Prayer: A Prayer for all Seasons'

Part Three: Seasons of Thanking God for Simple Things.

Soup and bun dinner after the service.

3. Notices:

- * **Details of events can change on short notice.**

Please check the Upcoming Events page on our website for Updates.

<https://zionpg.lutheranchurchcanada.ca/>

- * Find us on **You-Tube:** <https://www.youtube.com/@zion-vanderhoof-lutheran> if you are unable to attend in person and want to watch our **live-streamed worship services**, or if you want to rewatch a previously recorded service.

- * You can now find **Written Sermons on our Website under the Resources tab.**

<https://zionpg.lutheranchurchcanada.ca/>

4. Prayer Requests and Praise Reports

Almighty and merciful God, in this life we suffer and die before we enter eternal glory.

We commend to Your mercy all who have asked for our prayers.

Be with them and with all who are in need.

Give Your people strength to accept Your holy will.

Keep us firm in the true faith until the end.

Fill us with the hope of the resurrection and the joy of the life to come.

Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Please continue to keep your brothers and sisters in Christ in your prayers.

If you have prayer requests you would like to share with the congregation, please call the office at 250-562-2777 or send an email to zion@zlcs.com.

The **Prayer Chain** is a line of communication among Christians who are willing to be 'On Call' and will pray for any specific need for anyone who requests their prayers.

The members of the prayer chain will keep your prayer requests **strictly confidential** unless you explicitly allow us to share them with the congregation!

If you would like to participate in the prayer chain, or want to know more about it, please contact Penny Bobier or the church office.

If you are in need of prayer, please don't hesitate to call the office at 250-562-2777 or Shirley at 250-964-3411.

We don't want anyone to be in need or suffering, so, please let us know if we can help in any way.

5. Did you know – The Seasons of the Church Year –

Part 2: Lent and Easter

The Christian year includes six seasons and four key holy days: Christmas Day, Epiphany, Easter, and Pentecost.

Each holy day marks a transition between seasons, and each season is associated with a liturgical colour that symbolizes the spirit of the time. These colours adorn sanctuaries and worship spaces as visible reminders of the Church's journey through the Christian year.

Here is a brief look at the season of Lent and Easter.

Lent

The word **Lent** comes from the old English word 'lencten', which referred to the early months of spring, the same time Lent began.

The season of Lent starts with **Ash Wednesday**, when God's people receive a cross of ashes on their foreheads along with a reminder: "For you are dust, and to dust you shall return" (Genesis 3:19) and spans 40 days (excluding Sundays) leading to Easter. It is a season of repentance, self-examination and spiritual preparation.

The main colour of Lent is violet, but each of the three instances of liturgical black occur during Lent in the cases of Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday.

Christians observe Lent through prayer, fasting, and acts of service and worship.

Holy Week

The final week of Lent is known as Holy Week and includes Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday, commemorating Jesus' passion and death.









							
H	O	L	Y	W	E	E	K
PALM SUNDAY	HOLY MONDAY	HOLY TUESDAY	HOLY WEDNESDAY	MAUNDY THURSDAY	GOOD FRIDAY	HOLY SATURDAY	EASTER SUNDAY
JESUS ENTERS JERUSALEM	JESUS CURSES A FIG TREE	FIG TREE IS WITHERED	JUDAS AGREES TO BETRAY JESUS	JESUS WASHES DISCIPLES' FEET	JESUS SUFFERS UNDER PILATE AND HEROD	JESUS' BODY RESTS IN THE TOMB	JESUS RAISES FROM THE DEAD
CROWDS WAVE PALMS AND SING HOSANNAS	JESUS CLEANSSES THE TEMPLE	JESUS CONFRONTS RELIGIOUS LEADERS WITH PARABLES		JESUS EATS LAST SUPPER	JESUS IS CRUCIFIED		JESUS APPEARS TO MARY MAGDALENE
		JESUS PREDICTS FALL OF JERUSALEM		GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE	JESUS IS BURIED		JESUS APPEARS TO WOMEN
		JESUS SPEAKS ABOUT THE LAST DAY		JESUS IS BETRAYED			JESUS APPEARS ON ROAD TO EMMAUS
				JESUS IS TAKEN BEFORE HIGH PRIEST			JESUS APPEARS TO PETER
							JESUS APPEARS TO APOSTLES
March 29, 2026	March 30, 2026	March 31, 2026	April 1, 2026	April 2, 2026	April 3, 2026	April 4, 2026	April 5, 2026

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Palm Sunday, or Passion Sunday, comes one week before Easter, marking the first day of Holy Week with commemorating Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Palm Sunday uses the colour red as a symbol of Christ's suffering to come.

The service of Palm Sunday begins with the procession of palms, reflecting the contrasting attitude towards Jesus that were displayed during the days leading to His crucifixion.

'Palm Sunday' is named after the palms that were spread before Jesus as He entered Jerusalem. The acclamation of the people, "Hosanna to the son of David. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord," clearly reveals that they hailed Jesus as the messianic king. Yet only days later, our Lord would hear the cry "Crucify!"

This contrast is reflected on this day as the joy of His triumphal entry into Jerusalem gives way to the sombre remembrance of His passion.

Holy Thursday

Holy Thursday is also referred to as **Maundy Thursday**. "Maundy" comes from the Latin word *mandatum*, or commandment, reflecting Jesus' words "I give you a new commandment." (John 13:34-35)

Holy Thursday is occurring on the eve of our Lord's crucifixion and marks the beginning of the holy three days of Christ's Passover, also known as the Paschal Triduum. It commemorates the Washing of the Feet and Last Supper of Jesus Christ with the Apostles.

The depth of Christ's servanthood is demonstrated as the altar is reverently stripped in preparation for the Church's observance of Jesus' death on Good Friday. Maundy Thursday adopts the colour white to reflect the purity of the Lord's Supper.

Good Friday

Good Friday, also known as Holy Friday, or Friday of the **Passion of the Lord**, is a solemn Christian holy day commemorating the crucifixion of Jesus and his death at Calvary (Golgotha). It is observed during Holy Week as part of the Paschal Triduum, the three-day observance of Christ's Passover.

Good Friday is not observed as a funeral for Christ. It is a day for repentance over sin and restrained joy and praise for the redemption Christ accomplished for us on the cross. In keeping with this character, music during the service is kept to a minimum, though not silenced. Elaborate words of praise are omitted.

The altar remains bare, having been stripped on Holy Thursday.

Given the solemnity of the day, silence is observed at various times in order to reflect upon the Word of God.

The colour for Good Friday is black.

Easter Sunday

Easter Sunday is the most significant day in the Christian year, celebrating Christ's resurrection from the dead.

It finishes off a six-week period of anticipation and preparation for the Christians in the resurrection of the Savior of the world.

Christians celebrate Easter on the first Sunday following the first full moon after the first day of spring. This is a lot of firsts, but Christ's resurrection was also a first! Its introductory phrase "Christ is Risen, Alleluia!" will usher in Easter and its celebrations.

Easter Sunday uses the colours white and gold, celebrating the resurrection as a crowning glory of Christ's work.

Easter Season begins on Easter Sunday and continues for 50 days, ending on the day of Pentecost.

This is a joyful time in the church year, contrasting the spirit of somberness often associated with Lent. It is also a great time for spiritual formation.

Easter season also includes **Ascension Day**, marking Jesus' return to heaven 40 days after his resurrection, which most churches celebrate the following Sunday.

The season's colours are white and gold, celebrating resurrection, royalty and glory.

6. Zion Lutheran Church and Christian School Contact Information:

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, except statutory holidays.

School Hours: 8:40 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. on school days (Office closes at 12:30 p.m.!)

Address: ZLCS, 180 Tabor Blvd., Prince George, BC, V2M 5T4

Phone: 250-562-2777

Email: zion@zlcs.com

Church Website: <https://zionpg.lutheranchurchcanada.ca/>

School Website: <http://zlcs.com/wp/>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@zion-vanderhoof-lutheran/streams>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/people/Zion-Lutheran-Church-and-Christian-School/100064320926931/>