



# ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Office Hours: Mon-Thurs: 9am-4pm; Fri: Office Closed

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## January 28, 2024 ✝ FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

*In Deuteronomy God promises to raise up a prophet like Moses, who will speak for God; in Psalm 111 God shows the people the power of God's works. For the church these are ways of pointing to the unique authority people sensed in Jesus' actions and words. We encounter that authority in God's word, around which we gather, the word that prevails over any lesser spirit that would claim power over us, freeing us to follow Jesus.*

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### ✝ GATHERING ✝

#### **Prelude**

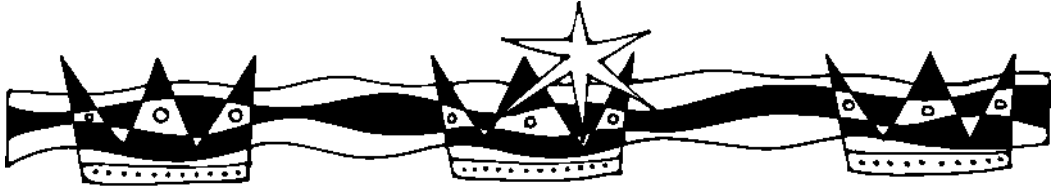
*(The prelude is a call to silent, personal preparation for worship.)*

#### **Welcome**

Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church in Albion! We offer a warm welcome to all who are worshipping in person or by way of Vyve Cable Channel 21 and Facebook Live. We hope that you encounter a word of God's grace and love in this worship service.

**Holy Communion** will be celebrated today. At the table of our Lord Jesus Christ, God nourishes faith, forgives sin, and calls us to be witnesses to the Gospel. All who are baptized and believe in the real presence of Christ are welcome to share in the Lord's meal. Holy Communion will be distributed in person or by pre-packaged elements. If you are uncomfortable coming forward, please pick up the communion elements as you enter worship. We will partake of the sacrament as directed by the pastor within the worship service. If you have any questions or concerns, please speak with an usher. Gluten Free wafers are available on request.





## Fourth Sunday After The Epiphany

### Confession & Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the ✚ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

When we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves,  
and the truth is not in us.

**But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just,  
will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Today we hear the voice of him who speaks to us with authority,  
the promised Prophet of the Lord.

*(Silence is kept for self-reflection and confession.)*

Most merciful God,  
**we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves.  
We turn from your word and shrink from your will,  
and so we follow other gods.  
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.  
Forgive us, renew us, and let your light shine upon us,  
so that your will may be our delight,  
your ways the path we follow,  
to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

The Son of God has come with great authority;  
his death effects forgiveness, and his Word promises freedom and life.  
As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ,  
and by His authority, I therefore declare to you  
the entire forgiveness of all your sins,  
in the name of the Father, and of the ✚ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

## Gathering Song

## Rise, Shine, You People!

#665



1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered  
2 See how he sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;  
3 Come, cel - e - brate; your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,  
4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent the Son to save us.



our hu - man sto - ry; God in him is cen - tered. He comes to  
he brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing. All men and  
your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark - ness hurl - ing. To all the  
Tell of the Son, who life and free - dom gave us. Tell how the



us, by death and sin sur - round - ed, with grace un - bound - ed.  
wom - en, who by guilt are driv - en, now are for - giv - en.  
world go out and tell the sto - ry of Je - sus' glo - ry.  
Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry na - tion God's new cre - a - tion.

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## Opening Litany

The people who heard you speak, O Lord, declared  
**“What is this? A new teaching — with authority!”**

For you taught forgiveness  
**and you indeed have the authority to forgive sins.**

You have taught the need for healing  
**and you indeed have the authority to heal our bodies and our souls.**

You taught the need for evil to be taken away  
**and you indeed have the authority  
to remove the evil from within us.**

You taught peace  
**and you indeed have the authority  
to bring peace to people everywhere.**

You taught compassion  
**and you indeed have the authority to bring love of God to everyone.**

You taught resurrection  
**and you indeed have the authority to raise us to new life.**

May we listen closely to your teachings, O Lord,  
**and may we always trust in your authority  
to do the things that you have taught.**

### Apostolic Greeting

The boundless grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the wisdom of God the Father,  
and the light of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

### Hymn of Praise

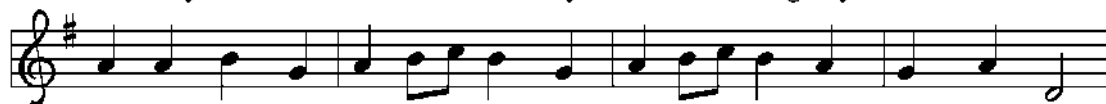
*ELW setting 10*



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.  
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.  
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:  
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;  
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.  
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.  
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray... *(A brief silence is kept.)*

Compassionate God,

**you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence  
and continually reveal your Son as our Savior.**

**Bring wholeness to all that is broken**

**and speak truth to us in our confusion,**

**that all creation will see and know your Son, Jesus Christ,  
our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

✠ WORD ✠

## First Reading

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

*Today's reading is part of a longer discourse in Deuteronomy, an updating of the law for the Israelite community as the people wait to enter the promised land. Here Moses assures the people that God will continue to guide them through prophets who will proclaim the divine word.*

*A reading from Deuteronomy.*

[Moses said:] <sup>15</sup>The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. <sup>16</sup>This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." <sup>17</sup>Then the Lord replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. <sup>18</sup>I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. <sup>19</sup>Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. <sup>20</sup>But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to

“speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak — that prophet shall die.”  
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 111**

*Let us read Psalm 111 responsively.*

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,  
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

<sup>2</sup>**Great are your works, O LORD,  
pondered by all who delight in them.**

<sup>3</sup>Majesty and splendor mark your deeds,  
and your righteousness endures forever.

<sup>4</sup>**You cause your wonders to be remembered;  
you are gracious and full of compassion.**

<sup>5</sup>You give food to those who fear you,  
remembering forever your covenant.

<sup>6</sup>**You have shown your people the power of your works  
in giving them the lands of the nations.**

<sup>7</sup>The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice;  
all of your precepts are sure.

<sup>8</sup>**They stand fast forever and ever,  
because they are done in truth and equity.**

<sup>9</sup>You sent redemption to your people  
and commanded your covenant forever;  
holy and awesome is your name.

<sup>10</sup>**The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;  
all who practice this have a good understanding.  
God’s praise endures forever.**

## **Second Reading**

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

*Paul is concerned about the way some Corinthian Christians use their freedom in Christ as license to engage in non-Christian behavior that sets a damaging example to other, impressionable believers. Christians have a responsibility to each other that their behavior does not cause another to sin.*

*A reading from First Corinthians.*

<sup>1</sup>Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. <sup>2</sup>Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; <sup>3</sup>but anyone who loves God is known by him.

<sup>4</sup>Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.”

<sup>5</sup>Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth — as in fact there are many gods and many lords — <sup>6</sup>yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

<sup>7</sup>It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. “Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. <sup>9</sup>But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. <sup>10</sup>For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? <sup>11</sup>So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed.

<sup>12</sup>But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. <sup>13</sup>Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Alleluia Verse**

*ELW setting 10*



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



## Holy Gospel

Mark 1:21-28

*Forces that would bring death and disease have taken hold of a man, yet they recognize Jesus and know what his power means for them. Jesus commands these forces to leave and people are amazed at his authority.*

*The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1<sup>st</sup> Chapter.*  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>21</sup>[Jesus and his disciples] went to Capernaum; and when the Sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. <sup>22</sup>They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. <sup>23</sup>Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, <sup>24</sup>and he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.” <sup>25</sup>But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” <sup>26</sup>And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. <sup>27</sup>They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching — with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” <sup>28</sup>At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee. The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Children’s Time Sermon





*Refrain*

There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed whole;



there is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul.



- 1 Some - times I feel dis - cour-aged and think my work's in vain.
- 2 If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, if you can-not pray like Paul.
- 3 Don't ev - er be dis - cour-aged, for Je - sus is your friend;

*Refrain*

but then the Ho - ly Spir - it re - vives my soul a - gain.  
 you can tell the love of Je - sus and say, "He died for all."  
 and if you lack for knowl - edge, he'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

Text & Music: African American Spiritual  
 Public Domain

## Apostle's Creed

Living together in trust and hope, let us confess our faith...

**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 into hell. 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 the People**

P As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray  
for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

A Loving God,

we pray that your example of teaching with confidence and authority  
builds up your church in love.

May all church leaders and teachers honor your instruction  
and model your inclusive ways.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

P Renewing God, we pray for all of creation,

that waterways flow clean and clear,

natural spaces are protected, and our planet is healed.

Let us commit to thoughtful care of the earth.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

A Justice-seeking God,

we pray for those in government and community leadership,  
that they lead with honor and mindfulness.

May they remember their covenants and be upright in their ways.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

P Compassionate God,

we pray for all in need, especially those who have known rejection,  
any who struggle with long-term illness or chronic pain,

those without access to safe housing or health care,

and any who suffer, *especially...*

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

A Still-speaking God, we pray for our congregation,

for its artists and musicians, for its educators and caregivers,

that all gifts are used to care for those in need and

to live out your example of accompaniment, gospel witness, and love.  
God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

P Here other intercessions may be offered either aloud or in silence...  
God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

A Eternal God, we remember all who have been teachers, mentors,  
and companions in the church and in our lives.  
We trust that all who have died rest in your loving care.  
God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

P Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us,  
we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts  
in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## Peace

The Peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

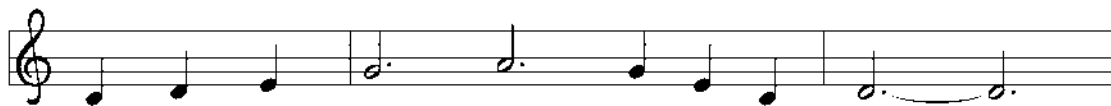
## ✠ OFFERING ✠

### Offering Response

(Tune: #556)



By the star's glow - ing Wise Men were guid - ed,



By the star know - ing Christ is the King!



By his re - deem - ing we too are wel - come.



See the star gleam - ing; rich treas - ures bring!

Tune: Public Domain

✠ MEAL ✠

**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.**



**Proper Preface**

God of glory and truth, we praise your holy name with thanksgiving,  
because you sent prophets to inscribe the story of creation,  
to recall the shaping of your covenant with Israel,  
and to hold your people to account for their life in you.

Those same prophets told of a day  
when you would restore your covenant  
and open wide your arms to bring your people home to you.

In Jesus we see those promises fulfilled.

In his death and resurrection we know our sins are forgiven  
and receive the promise of everlasting life with you.

And so with angels and archangels, and the company of heaven,  
we join the everlasting hymn to your praise.

**Sanctus**

*ELW setting 10*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



## Eucharistic Prayer & Words of Institution

Gracious God, your Son Jesus ate with friend and stranger,  
with devoted disciple and skeptical scrutinizer,  
with the one who would betray and the one who had denied.

He made food a place of encounter with you.

By the power of your Holy Spirit visit your people  
and sanctify us in the image of your crucified Son.

Through the same Spirit, make these gifts of bread and wine  
be for us the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ;  
who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks,  
broke the bread, and gave it to them saying,

*“Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me.”*

After supper, Jesus took the cup.

Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying,  
*“Drink this, all of you, this my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”*

Great is the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Cleansing God, your Son Jesus taught and healed as one with authority.  
Where your children search in vain for someone to trust,  
show them your face.

Where your people long for one to lead or a path to follow,  
send them your pillar of cloud by day and of fire by night.

Where your church is faltering in fear and doubt,  
make yourself known in the ones we regard as the least of these.

Usher in the day when all may taste and see the riches of your grace,  
and your arms of love will all the world embrace,

in Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit  
in union with the Father. **Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

Let us pray together as Jesus taught us...

**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.**

## Agnus Dei

*ELW setting 10*



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

## Distribution

If you are joining us from home or are taking communion from your seat:

*The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.***

*The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.***

**Distribution Hymn*****Healer of Our Every Ill***

#612

*Refrain*

Heal - er of our ev - 'ry ill, light of each to - mor - row,



give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be - yond our sor - row.



- 1 You who know our fears and sad - ness, grace us with your
- 2 In the pain and joy be - hold - ing how your grace is
- 3 Give us strength to love each oth - er, ev - 'ry sis - ter,
- 4 You who know each thought and feel - ing, teach us all your

*Refrain*

peace and glad - ness; Spir - it of all com - fort, fill our hearts.  
 still un - fold - ing, give us all your vi - sion, God of love.  
 ev - 'ry broth - er; Spir - it of all kind - ness, be our guide.  
 way of heal - ing; Spir - it of com - pas - sion, fill each heart.

Text &amp; Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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**Distribution Hymn*****Goodness Is Stronger than Evil***

#721



Good - ness is stron - ger than e - vil; love is stron - ger than hate;



light is stron - ger than dark - ness; life is stron - ger than death; vic - t'ry is

ours. vic-t'ry is ours, through God who loves us. Vic-t'ry is  
ours. vic-t'ry is ours, through God who loves us.

Text: From An African Prayer Book, Desmond Tutu, b. 1931 © 1995 by Desmond Tutu.  
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## Table Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ,  
strengthen you and preserve you unto eternal life. **Amen.**

## Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray... *(A brief silence is kept.)*

Giver of every gift,

**Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body.**

**Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all  
and to your glory, now and forever. Amen.**

✠ **SENDING** ✠

## Announcements

## Benediction

God who names you, Christ who claims you,  
and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you,

✠ bless you and remain with you always. **Amen.**





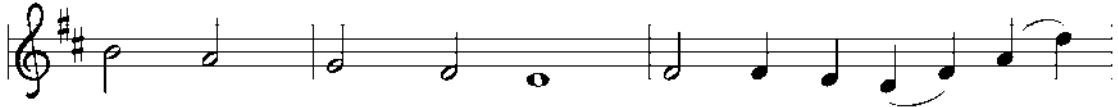
# Sending Song

# Jesus Shall Reign

#434



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -  
2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es  
3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue dwell on his  
4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - 'ners  
5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar



ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from  
throng to crown his head; his name like sweet per -  
love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es  
leap to lose their chains, the wea - ry find e -  
hon - ors to our king; an - gels de - scend with



shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.  
fume shall rise with ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.  
shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.  
ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.  
songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.  
Music: attr. John Hatton, d. 1793  
Public Domain

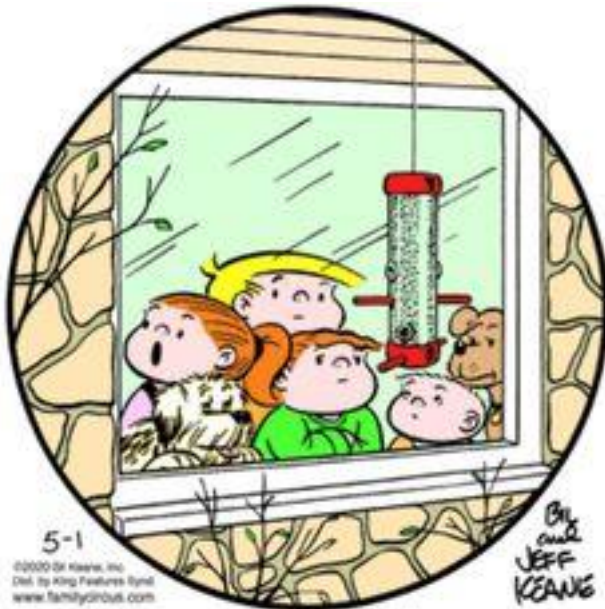
## Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



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5-1  
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By  
and  
JEFF  
KEANE

**"How come the birds aren't eating at our feeder? Do they hafta stay home, too?"**



The people were amazed because Jesus taught them as one who had \_\_\_\_\_.

Mark 1:22 (NIV)

SJSEU

2				

AETCH

8	1	4		

TSRIPI

			6	7	3

YEBO

5			9

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	

# Groundhog Day

## Word Search

L K Y E N W A T U S X N U P W E V E  
P J P N F O Y R A U R B E F T Q I L  
G X F L W D K W Y D U O L C S T W A  
H R O C I A Y O B M U M W P A T J M  
P Z O M R H D I O L P M W E C B P M  
G L U U P S U G S P R I N G E W V A  
D O E J N U Q T R E S G L Y R K L M  
A W D U N D E R G R O U N D O S S S  
Y A D I L O H E M E R G E E F T B S  
S Y A D Q L L O P R E D I C T I O N  
I S S F V Y K H G K C V W O R R U B  
X B E A W I Z M R O D E N T X D N P  
T E T A N R E B I H A R E T N I W L  
E E P W E E U E I F W E A T H E R I  
J S P E N N S Y L V A N I A M J V H  
S E H L G O E Y E O Y Z F R T S Y P  
X K B I T J R Y V X H J P X C Y G U  
L K S I H K O P O B Q E X Z Z O H C

burrow  
cloudy  
cold  
day  
emerge  
February  
forecast  
groundhog

hibernate  
hole  
holiday  
mammal  
Pennsylvania  
prediction  
Punxsutawney Phil  
rodent

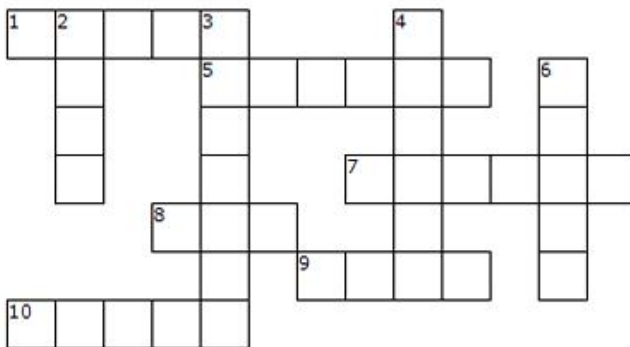
shadow  
sign  
six weeks  
spring  
underground  
weather  
winter



## Who's In Control?

The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, "What is this? A new teaching—and with authority! He even gives orders to evil spirits and they obey him." Mark 1:27

Based on Mark 1:21-28



### ACROSS

1. The Son of God
5. To be extremely surprised
7. A supernatural being such as a demon
8. An adult male human being
9. To do what you are told or expected to do
10. To instruct or train someone

### DOWN

2. Immoral, bad, or wicked
3. The day of the week set aside by some religions as a day of rest and worship
4. Human beings; men, women and children
6. Making very little or no noise

SPIRIT	OBEY	SABBATH	MAN	TEACH
PEOPLE	EVIL	JESUS	QUIET	AMAZED