

**ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
SASKATOON, SK**

WORSHIP STATEMENT

1. In our worship at Zion Lutheran Church, the Holy Spirit gathers the people of God around Jesus Christ present in the word of God and the sacraments, so that the people will hear God's words, receive God's forgiveness, express their faith and caring, and be strengthened and encouraged to go out into the larger community to be Christ's presence.

2. Worship is a shared activity involving pastor(s) and congregation in which people of all ages and cultures are encouraged to participate. We use patterns, words, actions, and songs handed down through the ages, but because we worship in the midst of an ever-changing world, worship is renewed regularly. Freedom and flexibility in worship is a Lutheran inheritance, and there is room for variety in ceremony, music and liturgical form, *within the four elements of Gathering, Word, Meal and Sending.*

We will maintain a relatively stable order of service and a significant repertoire of worship elements and responses that the congregation knows. We will be attentive to the seasons of the church year calendar in word, song and visual art.

Worship unites the people of God in one time and place with the people of God in every time and place.

3. All are welcome to our worship. We will be intentional in welcoming visitors and strangers. In our worship, God encourages us to a sense of belonging and caring and motivates us to reach across all cultural barriers.