

Theme for 2019 - **MOVING FORWARD TO ZION**

Monthly Themes 2019

The monthly themes are presented this year in a way that gives you the freedom to develop your own weekly themes as the good spirit gives direction at each location of the church. These are suggestions and can be used by each branch to bring unity and understanding to the entire church. We pray that with the resources of our Scriptures, the Hymnal, and the Holy Ghost, we will prepare worship experiences which will usher our people into the presence of God. Scriptural references are taken from: Inspired Version of the Bible, 1908 Book of Mormon, Doctrine and Covenants and Remnant Revelations, and HRS Hymnal of the Remnant Saints.

Guide for the presider/speaker:

This year the Theme Helps are designed with a theme for each month and not each day. Each week in the month has a scripture that is meant to be a guiding theme for the presider/speaker. He does not have to use that scripture. There is usually one scripture in the calendar for the week. We are relying on your preparation to use that scripture to develop a call to worship or scripture reading for yourselves. As always, let the spirit lead you into what you prepare. For example, the scripture for the week of Jan 6th is Matthew 26:26, a scripture about the Lord's Supper, is the theme scripture for the week. This would cover the thoughts for morning and evening services as well as prayer service. A question may arise; once the morning Sacrament Service is over, why should we have the whole week focused on communion? The answer is simple: we wish to bring the importance of the memorial to the Lord and ordinance to a higher meaning for the Saints.

Brothers, please don't forget seasons, religious days, recognition of veteran's days, et cetera. In this guide, we have added those dates in the theme calendar as a reminder. If you are presiding, don't forget the Saints want to sing Christmas hymns during December and hymns of thanksgiving in November. There are many hymns that were composed to address the special days that we remember.

In all you do remember our mission: "The Remnant Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints has been called into renewal to preach the fullness of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all who will listen, and to prepare and gather a righteous people for the building of the Kingdom of God on earth, Zion."

January 2019

Zion Beckons Us On

"Onward to Zion, faithful and strong, Zion the beautiful beckons us on" (HRS 556). President Frederick M. Smith penned these beautiful and positive words to motivate the church (the body of Christ) to seriously consider the call of God to establish God's Kingdom here on earth and make it a reality in the world of his day. The hymn expresses "We have the promise that Jesus will come, Zion the beautiful beckons us on, Let us be faithful, His will be done." May we take up the clarion call and diligently work to sanctify our lives that Zion will become a reality in our day and provide hope and peace to the world.

Week Jan 6th **The Lord's Supper** Matthew 26:26
Week Jan 13th D&C 94:5c
Week Jan 20th 2 Nephi 11:109
Week Jan 27th D&C 83:17

February 2019

Let Us Be Sanctified

“Now this is the commandment, Repent, all ye ends of the earth, and come unto me and be baptized in my name, that ye may be sanctified by the reception of the Holy Ghost, that ye may stand spotless before me at the last day” (3 Nephi 12:33). Sanctification is a cleansing process of our hearts and minds of sin, and the result is that our garments are clean. This will allow us to present ourselves to God and Jesus as a ‘living sacrifice’ for the work of building the kingdom of God on earth, providing for mankind hope and peace for a better way of life.

Week Feb 3rd **The Lord's Supper** Hebrews 13:12
Week Feb 10th Helaman 2:31
Week Feb 17th Hebrews 10:9-14
Week Feb 24th D&C R-147:5c, D&C 76:4g

March 2019

Consecrating Time, Talents and Treasure

The hymn (HRS 426) “Take My Life and Let It Be” speaks to the true meaning of total Consecration of all the Lord has given us stewardship over. “Take my life and let it be Consecrated, Lord, to thee; Take my moments and my days, Let them flow in ceaseless praise...Naught of thine would I withhold.” This reflects our understanding of total consecration of our temporal world. “Take myself, and I will be Ever, only, all for thee.” This is what God is really hoping for, our desire to do his will by bringing into reality His Kingdom on earth, “Zion”.

Week Mar 3rd **The Lord's Supper** I Corinthians 10:16-21
Week Mar 10th D&C 106:2a-c
Week Mar 17th **Stewardship Sunday** D&C R-151:5a
Week Mar 24th D&C 102:2c
Week Mar 31st D&C 70:2b, 70:3

April 2019

Let Us Strengthen Our Faith

“Thy Saints are weak, but thou art strong; There's all we want in thee; And thou hast promised us thine aid, When we united be” (HRS 385). The Lord Jesus has promised that as we depend on Him, our faith will increase and be strengthened. This will allow for us to become more involved in sharing our testimony and preparing our lives to be part of the Kingdom. “My faith looks up to thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine! Now hear me while I pray, Take all my guilt away, Oh, let me from this day Be wholly thine!” (HRS 387). May this be our spoken prayer each day.

Week Apr 7th **The Lord's Supper** III Nephi 8:28-40
 Week Apr 14th **Palm Sunday** Matthew 21:1-9; Mark 11 1-13; Luke 19:28-37; John 12:12-19
 Week Apr 21st **Resurrection Sunday** Matthew 28; Mark 16:1-4; Luke 24:1-2; John 20:1, 20-29
 Week Apr 28 D&C R-162:9, James 2:18

May 2019

Making the Secular Sacred

Many things we identify as secular take a great amount of our time and limit the amount of time we can spend in prayer, study, worship, and living our lives according to the wishes of our King and Savior, Jesus. Some of those secular things are very necessary, such as our jobs and careers that provide for that which we need to live: food, clothing, transportation, and housing. If our attitude is that God provides for us our jobs and our income, they become sacred and are to be used with good stewardship wisdom. A good measuring reference for secular/sacred is found in HRS 627. "Turn your eyes upon Jesus, Look full in His wonderful face, And the things of earth will grow strangely dim In the light of His glory and grace."

Week May 5th **The Lord's Supper** III Nephi 12:6-35
 Week May 12th **Mother's Day** Alma 26:56-57
 Week May 19th D&C R-152:4
 Week May 26th Moroni 7:18

June 2019

Bearing Fruit For the Kingdom

Bearing fruit for the kingdom is like a two lane one way highway, leading us to the kingdom. One lane is the fruit of our spiritual life which keeps us close to our Master Jesus and prepares us for the kingdom. The second is just as important in our journey. The Lord calls us to be valiant in witness to our neighbors. "...for the worth of souls is great" (DC 16:3e). What a rich promise is given to those who will take the time to plant the seed, nurture it and harvest it to bring unto Jesus. Our lives and our talents being used to prepare for the kingdom, our testimony and witness to bring souls to the kingdom and Jesus. "What fruit have you gathered for Jesus Through all the glad, beautiful days?...O workers, dear workers for Jesus, What souls have you gleaned by the way?" (HRS 347).

Week Jun 2nd **The Lord's Supper** Mark 14:20-25
 Week Jun 9th D&C R-148:4a
 Week Jun 16th D&C 46:4
 Week Jun 23rd Galatians 5:22, 23
 Week Jun 30th James 1:27

July 2019

Zion Shall Flourish

In the hymn "I Am Walking on a Highway" (HRS 573), the author states "So, I'm trusting in his promise, As I walk the narrow way, And we'll always dwell with Jesus, In that eternal day When the Father, too, shall

come, To earth, to dwell with men. We shall share his wonderous glory, We shall live with him again.” As the Remnant Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints continues on our journey to secure our preparation and building of Zion, our spiritual lives will allow Zion to flourish and its towers to shine brightly with the glory of our Savior, Jesus. The world is in need of the hope and reality of Zion. May we diligently commit ourselves to the flourishing of Zion in this place, Jackson County, Missouri.

Week Jul 7th **The Lord’s Supper** 3 Nephi 12
Week Jul 14th Jeremiah 3:14, 15
Week Jul 21st D&C 36:12f, g
Week Jul 28th D&C R-148:4a-b

August 2019

Guided By the Iron Rod

This theme quickly brings to our minds the vision of Lehi (1 Nephi 2:48 – 86) where the rod of iron is depicted as our scriptures. Further, the understanding is that the rod of iron will give us understanding, strength, and direction if we faithfully apply them to our everyday lives. Our scriptures (rod of iron) become the standard for all truth in our daily thoughts and actions, and as we read, study and obey we come closer to our goal of building the kingdom, Zion. “Join the Saints in the call to prepare For the glorious Kingdom of God, Which shall come from his mansions above, Holding fast to that old iron rod. Yes, we’ll cling To the rod that leads to the tree Where the Saints Will partake of its fruit, sweet, and free” (HRS 325).

Week Aug 4th **The Lord’s Supper** Luke 22:42
Week Aug 11th 1 Nephi 2:41-92
Week Aug 18th Ephesians 6:10-18
Week Aug 25th D&C R-162:5

September 2019

Jesus Awaits His Kingdom, Even Zion

“Beloved community of God” “Thy kingdom come on earth, as it is in heaven, Zion.” No matter which of these titles we choose, God and his Son Jesus are still waiting for their people to become one and establish their Kingdom on earth. The hymn “Beloved Community of God” (HRS 506) provides thoughts for several themes for the month. “In vision seen, a perfect whole...From dreams we turn to take our part In that beloved community Where love is law in every heart.” Genesis 7:23 reads, “and the Lord called His people Zion, because they were of one heart and one mind, and dwelt in righteousness, and there were no poor among them”. May we not do anything that would create a longer delay in God’s great plan for his Church and mankind. “You, my faithful Remnant, have not, as yet fully understood the purpose for which I have called you forth in these last days. You have brought renewal to my church, but have not fully grasped the vision of the building up of my kingdom. My coming still awaits the establishment of my Zion” (DC R-150:3a).

Week Sep 1st **The Lord's Supper** 1 Corinthians 11:24-26
Week Sep 8th Romans 12:1-5
Week Sep 15th Mosiah 2:11-17
Week Sep 22nd Isaiah 40:9-11
Week Sep 29th DC 51:8d-g

October 2019

The City of Our God

“Thy kingdom come, O Lord...Till rise at last, to span Its firm foundations broad, The commonwealth of man, The City of our God” (HRS 561). The city of our God needs a gathered, consecrated people to maintain the light that will shine forth from the City of Our God. The City of Our God needs a people who will sacrifice and discipline their needs and want to build the temple where Jesus Christ shall return. “Remember, remember, my Remnant saints, you are of the chosen few to bring to pass my kingdom in these last days...Throughout the revelatory direction given to the Remnant Church from the prophetic office is that which is required for bringing to pass my Zion, and therefore my coming, Read, study and obey! In this day of world chaos, political unrest, and moral decay, it is imperative that we be very strong in our faith. Even though, through our faith we are saved by grace, remember that is through our holy works we demonstrate the depth of our faith. We shall be tempted and tried in the days ahead. But if we remain obedient to the commandments and latter-day counsel, the end will be glorious, Zion will be, and our Lord will return to claim his own. Let it be so.” DC R-162:5, 9

Week Oct 6th **The Lord's Supper** Moroni 6:6
Week Oct 13th Zechariah 14:20
Week Oct 20th Mosiah 7:77-80
Week Oct 27th Revelation 20:2-7

November 2019

Give Thanks For All Things

November is the month of Thanksgiving in which we focus our thoughts and thankfulness to God for all the bountiful physical blessings he has showered on us. The hymn “God’s Great Harvest Home Draws Near” (HRS 599) turns the focus from physical blessings to spiritual aspects of our journey of preparation to meet our Savior. “God’s great harvest home draws near. When His glory shall appear; Saints for that blest day prepare! Watch in earnest faith and prayer! Gather all thy people in, free from sorrow, Free from sin; Come, with all thine angels, come! Raise the glorious harvest home”! “For thus saith the Lord, I, the Lord, am merciful and gracious unto those who fear (love) me, and delight to honor those who serve me in righteousness and in truth to the end: great shall be their reward, and eternal shall be their glory; for by my spirit will I enlighten them, and by my power will I make know unto them the secrets of my will; yea, even those things which eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor yet entered into the heart of man” (DC 76:2a, b, d). Do not forget to emphasize grace “by grace that we are saved, after all we can do.”

Week Nov 3rd **The Lord's Supper** Psalm 30:4
Week Nov 10th **Veteran's Day (11th)** 2 Nephi 11:44
Week Nov 17th Ether 1:35
Week Nov 24th **Thanksgiving (28th)** Psalm 150 Alma 14:127-128

December 2019

"Lead On! O King Eternal"

"Lead on, O King Eternal, The day of march has come; Henceforth in fields of conquest Thy tents shall be our home. Through days of preparation Thy grace has made us strong, And now O King Eternal, We lift our battle song" (HRS 195). The King Eternal has been working for centuries to influence his children to allow him to lead them in paths of righteousness. "Lead on, O King Eternal, Till sin's fierce war shall cease, And holiness shall whisper The sweet amen of peace". God sent his Son into the world to save the world with deeds of love, joy and peace. It is our responsibility to carry on the ministry of the Lord Jesus to all mankind by developing the quality of charity in our lives that we may love our neighbor as our self and love God with all of our heart, mind, might and strength. We give to the King Eternal the praise, honor, and glory that he deserves. Our battle song is found in DC 83:17.

Week Dec 1st **The Lord's Supper** 1 Corinthians 11:28
Week Dec 8th Psalm 31:1-5
Week Dec 15th 2 Nephi 9:66, 67
Week Dec 22nd **Christmas (25th)** Alma 10:19, 26
Week Dec 29th **New Year's Eve (31st)** Psalm 43:3