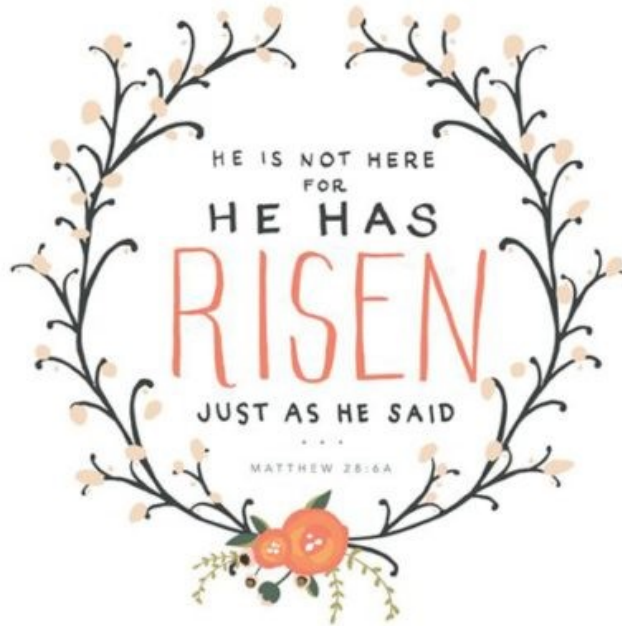


**Second Sunday of Easter
April 16, 2023**



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
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INTRODUCTION

In today's gospel the risen Christ appears to the disciples and offers them the gift of peace. Even amid doubts and questions, we experience the resurrection in our Sunday gathering around word and meal, and in our everyday lives. Throughout the coming Sundays of Easter the first two readings will be from the Acts of the Apostles and the first letter of Peter. Even as the early Christians proclaimed the resurrection, we rejoice in the new birth and living hope we receive in baptism.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

Arr. Sanborn

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life.

C: **Amen.**

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring.

In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for waters that wash us clean, quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures. Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

C: **Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you. Empower our witness to your resurrection.**

Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.

- P: Satisfy the world's need through this living water. Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment. Where despair prevails, grant hope. Where chaos reigns, bring peace. We ask this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.
- C: **Amen.**

HYMN Red hymnal #363

Come You Faithful Raise the Strain

KYRIE Red hymnal page 138

- P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- C: **Lord, have mercy.**
- P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
- C: **Lord, have mercy.**
- P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, lets us pray to the Lord.
- C: **Lord, have mercy.**
- P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
- C: **Lord, have mercy.**
- P: Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C: **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE Red hymnal page 140

- C: **This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

GREETING / PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The grace of Jesus Christ our Savior, the reconciling love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray . . .

C: **Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

CHANCEL CHOIR Director: Susie Gray
Composer: Mary McDonald

Just As I Am, I Come

THE WORD

FIRST READING: Acts 2:14a, 22-32

R: ^{14a}Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]: ²²"You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know—²³this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. ²⁴But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. ²⁵For David says concerning him, 'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; ²⁶therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope. ²⁷For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. ²⁸You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence. ²⁹Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, 'He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.' ³²This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

R: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 1:3-9

R: ³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

HOLY GOSPEL

P: The Gospel according to **John 20:19-31**

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: ¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."
²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON Pastor Dale Schaefer

HYMN Red hymnal #635

We Walk by Faith

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

APOSTLE'S CREED

P: Let us confess our faith.

C: **I believe in God, the Father almighty creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and 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 CHURCH (*Response after each petition*)

P: Lord in your mercy,

C: **Hear our prayer . . .**

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.

OFFERING—Invitation—God's Work Continues

OFFERTORY SONG Red hymnal #207 *Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise*

C: Thankful hearts and voices raise;; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord rejoice and bear the name of Christ. Send us with your promises and lead your people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER WITH WORDS OF INSTITUTION

BLESSING

P: The God of all, who raised + Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation.

C: Amen.

HYMN Red hymnal #376

Thine is the Glory

DISMISSAL

P: What is the mission of Zion Lutheran Church?

C: **The mission of Zion Lutheran Church is:**
"Serving Christ through serving others."

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Risen One

C: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

The Strife is O'er the Battle Done

Arr. Albrecht

*The altar flowers are given to the honor and glory of God
by Linda Hood in memory of Edward Hood*

*Prayer concerns for Zion's prayer chain may be submitted
by using a 'prayer request' card from the pew rack.*

ATTENDANCE & OFFERING

Maundy Thursday Attendance: 45

Unified Giving: \$386.00

Good Friday Attendance: 47

Unified Giving: \$416.00

Saturday Vigil & Easter Worship Attendance: 172

Total Unified Giving: \$9,835.20

Total Building Fund: \$160.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSION OF THE MONTH / OESTERLEN SERVICES FOR YOUTH, INC.

was founded in 1903 as an orphanage by Ameilia Oesterlen. It currently is a mental health treatment and social service agency serving youth and their families. It is located in Springfield, Ohio. Please take an egg or two from the display in the back of the narthex. Many items are needed to help these kids and their families. The display will be available April 10-30 for bringing in items. Any questions, Call Judy Bailey (937-845-0380).

RELAY FOR LIFE of Miami County will be held **June 17, 10 am-11 pm** at the Miami County Fairgrounds. Our team, Holy Walkamolies For the Cure, would love to have some more members. Our next team meeting will be **April 16, 3 pm** in the adult Sunday school room. If you don't want to join the team, you can still help by: **Making a donation.** You can donate online at <http://www.RelayForLife.org/MiamiCounty>. When asked who you are supporting, select the team Holy Walkamolies For the Cure. Checks payable to American Cancer Society may be given to Debbie Rudisill, Erma Swanson, or May Fischvogt. **Purchase a luminaria** in memory of a loved one, in honor of a cancer survivor, or in support of someone currently battling cancer. These will be placed around the track during the event. Luminarias are \$10 each. For an order form see Debbie Rudisill, Erma Swanson, or May Fischvogt.

CONFIRMATION : Sunday, May 14th

Staff

Dale Schaefer, Interim Pastor; Bill Jones & Susie Gray, *Choir Directors*;
Lori Sebastian, *Organist*; Jessica Dorn, *Christian Education Director*;
Annette Calicoat, *Office Manager*; Sue Rambeau, *Treasurer*;
Tina Putnam, *Sexton*