

**Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 5, 2024**



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
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WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP CELEBRATION!

Thanks for coming to be with us at Zion Lutheran Church. If you are visiting with us for the first time, will you please fill out a visitor card, available in the pew rack in front of you, and drop it in the offering plate. Whether this is your first visit or you worship here regularly, we are delighted that you chose to share with us. We worship together on Saturday at 5:00 p.m. and Sunday at 10:00 a.m. If you have a “prayer request” or a “praise report”, please let the pastor know. God bless you on your journey of faith.

INTRODUCTION

This Sunday's image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutual-ity of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *In Christ There is No East or West* Arr. Hansen

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

C: **Amen.**

P: Look, here is water!

C: **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

P: Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

C: **We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.**

P: Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P: Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen

P: Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

HYMN Red hymnal #650

In Christ There is No East or West

KYRIE

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, let 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

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: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray together the Prayer of the Day.

C: O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CHANCEL CHOIR Director: Bill Jones *For the Beauty of the Earth*
Composer: F.S. Pierpoint Arr: John Rutter

THE WORD

FIRST READING: Acts 10:44-48

R: ⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷"Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" ⁴⁸So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 98

R: ¹Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

C: ²O LORD, You have made known your victory, You have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.

R: ³You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

C: ⁴Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

R: ⁵Sing to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.
C: **⁶With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the king, the LORD.**
R: ⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein.
C: **⁸Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth.**
R: ⁹The LORD will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

SECOND READING: 1 John 5:1–6

R: ¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? ⁶This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

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 Holy Gospel according to **John 15:9-17**
C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: [Jesus said:] ⁹As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. ¹²"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to

go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON Pastor Sally Padgett

HYMN Red hymnal #708

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

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....**

OFFERING—INVITATION—God's Work Continues

OFFERTORY SONG Red hymnal #691 *Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring*

C: **1. Accept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place upon your table. We do not worship as we ought but only as we're able.
2. The vines were planted, seeds were sown. They grew in Your good pleasure. What once was common, daily food becomes a holy treasure.**

COMMUNION PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to You, almighty and merciful God...(The pastor continues with the proper preface for the day)...And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

SANCTUS Red hymnal page 144

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER / WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION *(All who confess Jesus as their Lord and Savior and believe in the real presence of Christ in the sacrament are invited to receive Holy Communion.)*

AGNUS DEI Red hymnal page 146

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: Now may the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

C: **Amen.**

POST COMMUNION HYMN #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.**

BLESSING

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

P: The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope + bless you now and always.

C: **Amen.**

HYMN Red hymnal #836

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

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! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

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

POSTLUDE *We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God* Arr. Blerch

The altar flowers are given to the honor and glory of God by the Sebastian's in celebration of Julie's upcoming graduation.

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

In Helpful Service

Pastor	Sally Padgett
Acolyte	Marissa Kessler
Reader	Joyce Luther
Communion Assist	Pam Sauls
Usher	Matt Sauls
Greeters	Randy & Debbie Turner