

Sunday Worship
April 27, 2025
Second Sunday of Easter



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

In spite of all we have heard and all we have seen, it is often hard to believe. Because it is hard to believe, we will invest ourselves in the Easter mystery for fifty days (a week of weeks). Because it is hard to believe, John the evangelist will provide sign after sign celebrating Jesus' victory over death. Because it is hard to believe, the risen Jesus will return to us again and again in the mystery of holy communion, inviting us to touch and taste his presence, and offering us his peace.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE - Bells

Jesus Christ is Risen Today

Arr: Organ

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

P: In the name of + the One who was, who is, and who is to come.

C: Amen.

P: Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured before or during the thanksgiving.

P: Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One,

C: make us one as You are one.

P: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One,

C: make us one as You are one.

- P: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into You, O Living One,
- C: make us one as you are one.**
- P: Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One
- C: Amen.**

HYMN Red hymnal #361

The Day of Resurrection

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: O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. 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.**

SPECIAL MUSIC - Bells

Shall We Gather at the River

Arr. Organ

THE WORD

FIRST READING: Acts 5:27-32

- R: ²⁷When they had brought [the apostles], they had them stand before the

council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." ²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 118:14-29

R: ¹⁴The LORD is my strength and my song, and has become my salvation.

C: ¹⁵**Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:
"The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"**

R: ¹⁶The right hand of the LORD is exalted! The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"

C: ¹⁷**I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.**

R: ¹⁸The LORD indeed punished me sorely, but did not hand me over to death.

C: ¹⁹**Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.**

R: ²⁰"This is the gate of the LORD; here the righteous may enter."

C: ²¹**I give thanks to You, for You have answered me and You have become my salvation.**

R: ²²The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

C: ²³**By the LORD has this been done; it is marvelous in our eyes.**

R: ²⁴This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

C: ²⁵**Hosanna! O LORD, save us! We pray to you, LORD, prosper our days!**

R: ²⁶Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD; we bless you from the house of the LORD.

C: ²⁷**The LORD is God and has given us light. Form a procession with branches up to the corners of the altar.**

R: ²⁸You are my God, and I will thank You; You are my God, and I will exalt you.

C: ²⁹**Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good; God's mercy endures forever.**

SECOND READING: Revelation 1:4-8

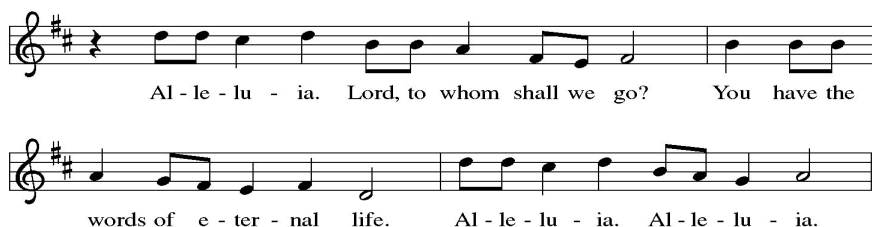
R: ⁴John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from

our sins by his blood, ⁶and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. ⁷Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. ⁸I am the Alpha and the Omega, says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

R: The Word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Red Hymnal Page 142



HOLY GOSPEL

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

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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 Jaren Summers

HYMN Purple hymnal #939

Touch that Soothes and Heals

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 *(Response after each petition)*

P: Lord in your mercy,
C: **Hear our prayer . . .**

OFFERING—Invitation—God's Work Continues

OFFERTORY SONG Red hymnal #207 Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise





ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.

Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with

shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

COMMUNION PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

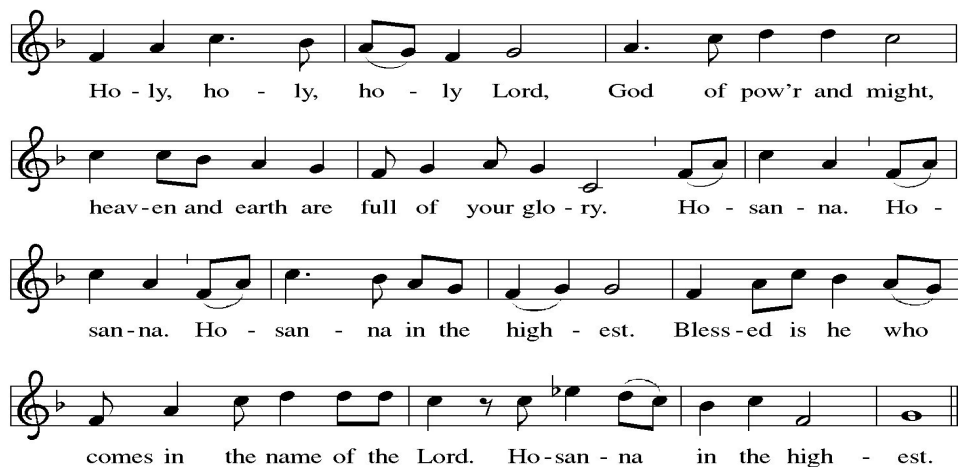
C: We lift them to the Lord

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 - from Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,

heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -

san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION - from 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

LORD'S PRAYER

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.)

BLESSING

P: The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, +
Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always
C: **Amen.**

HYMN Red hymnal #534

Savior, Again to Your Dear Name

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. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!
C: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

Come You Faithful, Raise the Strain

Arr: Farlee

*The altar flowers are given to the honor and glory of God
by Judy & Ken Bailey in memory of Virginia Ruth Kushmaul.*

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