Sunday Worship May 18, 2025 Fifth Sunday of Easter



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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

Easter initiates a new day. It anticipates a new heaven and a new earth. The risen Christ is making all things new. In the mystery of holy baptism God has made new people of us. Today Jesus invites us to see everyone in a new light—through the lens of love.

# WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## PRELUDE

Abba, Abba, Hear Us

Arr: Kim

## 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 #424

Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones

# **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 Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through 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.

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.

CHANCEL CHOIR Director Bill Jones Composer: R. Keven Boesiger Be My God

# THE WORD

## FIRST READING: Acts 11:1-18

<sup>1</sup>Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the R٠ Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. <sup>2</sup>So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, <sup>3</sup>saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" <sup>4</sup>Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, <sup>5</sup>I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. <sup>6</sup>Ås I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. <sup>7</sup>I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' <sup>8</sup>But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' <sup>9</sup>But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' <sup>10</sup>This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. <sup>11</sup>At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. <sup>12</sup>The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. <sup>13</sup>He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; <sup>14</sup>he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' <sup>15</sup>And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. <sup>16</sup>And I remembered the word of the Lord, how He had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>17</sup>If then God gave them the same gift that He gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" <sup>18</sup>When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

- R: The Word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.

## PSALM: Psalm 148

- R: <sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise God in the heights.
- C: <sup>2</sup>Praise the LORD, all you angels; sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.
- R: <sup>3</sup>Praise the LORD, sun and moon; sing praise, all you shining stars.
- C: <sup>4</sup>Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.
- R: <sup>5</sup>Let them praise the name of the LORD, who commanded, and they were created,
- C: <sup>6</sup>who made them stand fast forever and ever, giving them a law that shall not pass away.
- R: <sup>7</sup>Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps;

- C: <sup>8</sup>fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing God's will;
- R: <sup>9</sup>mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;
- C: <sup>10</sup>wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds;
- R: <sup>11</sup>sovereigns of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;
- C: <sup>12</sup>young men and maidens, old and young together.
- R: <sup>13</sup>Let them praise the name of the LORD, whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.
- C: <sup>14</sup>The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. Hallelujah!

# SECOND READING: Revelation 21:1-6

R: <sup>1</sup>Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup>And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; <sup>4</sup>He will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." <sup>5</sup>And the One who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also He said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." <sup>6</sup>Then He said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

- 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 13:31-35**
- C: Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>31</sup>When He had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup>If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup>Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, "Where I am going, you cannot come.' <sup>34</sup>I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup>By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

- P: The Gospel of the Lord.
- C: Praise to you, O Christ.

# CHILDREN'S SERMON

CHANCEL CHOIR Director: Susie Gray Composer: Jay Rouse Carry the Light of Love

**SERMON** Pastor Jaren Summers

HYMN Red hymnal #359

Where Charity and Love Prevail

# **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.

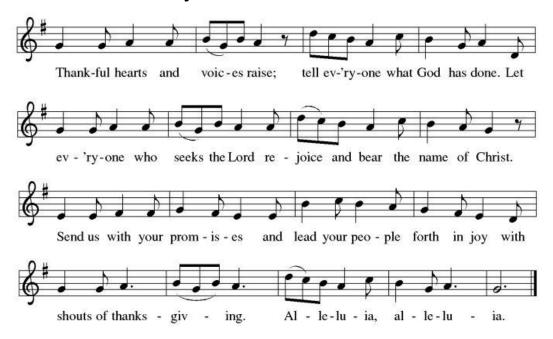
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**PRAYERS** (Response after each petition)

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

**OFFERING—Invitation—God's Work Continues** 

#### OFFERTORYSONG Red hymnal #207 Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise

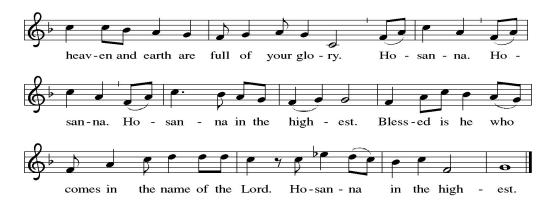


#### **COMMUNION PREFACE**

- 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





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 Purple hymnal #1043

Spirit, Open My Heart

## 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!