

WELCOME TO ZION'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Third Sunday of Easter

April 14, 2024

**(Congregation please stand as able)*

Welcome and Announcements and Prelude

*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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. 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. Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P: 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!**

***GATHERING HYMN: WOV 674 Alleluia! Jesus is Risen v. 1,2 & 3**

You are invited to face the rear of the sanctuary and turn towards the cross as it passes.

1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en! Trum - pets re -
2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter tell - ing the
3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es; life in the

sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light! Splen - dor, the Lamb,
sto - ry to o - pen our eyes; break - ing our bread,
Spir - it the fruit of the tree; heav - en to earth,

heav - en for - ev - er! Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
giv - ing us glo - ry: Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.
Christ to the peo - ple, gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.

Refrain

Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise:
Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926 Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress
Music: David N. Johnson, 1922-1987 Music © 1969 Contemporary Worship I, admin. Augsburg Fortress

EARTH AND ALL STARS
4 5 10 4 5 10 and refrain

***APOSTOLIC GREETING**

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.

***KYRIE**

▲ In peace, let us pray to the Lord. ♪ Lord, have mer - cy.
▲ For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. ♪ Lord, have mer - cy.
▲ 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. ♪ Lord, have mer - cy.
▲ For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord. ♪ Lord, have mer - cy.
▲ Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra-cious Lord. ♪ A - men

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

ALL This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.
MEN Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.



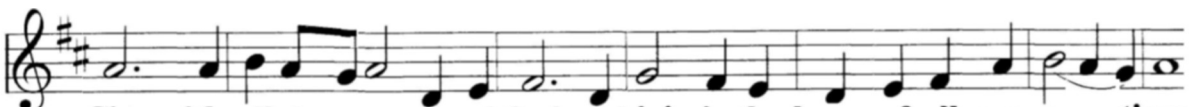
ALL This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia. al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.



WOMEN Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and strength, and hon-or, bless-ing, and glory are his.



ALL This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia. al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.



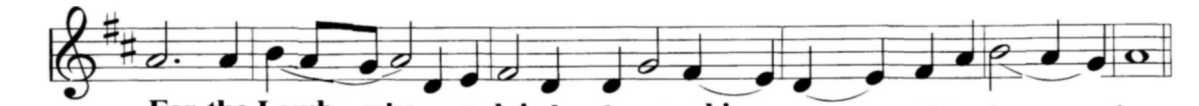
MEN Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and join in the hymn of all cre-a-tion:



Bless-ing, hon-or, glo-ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.



ALL This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia. al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.



WOMEN For the Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia.



ALL This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection 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.**

FIRST READING: 1 John 3:1-7 (pg. 990 in pew Bible)

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

After the Reading: **Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 4 (pg. 425 in pew Bible, next) (read responsively)

Leader: Answer me when I call, O God of my right! You gave me room when I was in distress. Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.

Congregation: How long, you people, shall my honour suffer shame? How long will you love vain words, and seek after lies?

L: But know that the Lord has set apart the faithful for himself; the Lord hears when I call to him.

C: When you are disturbed, do not sin; ponder it on your beds, and be silent.

L: Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the Lord.

C: **There are many who say, 'O that we might see some good! Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord!'**

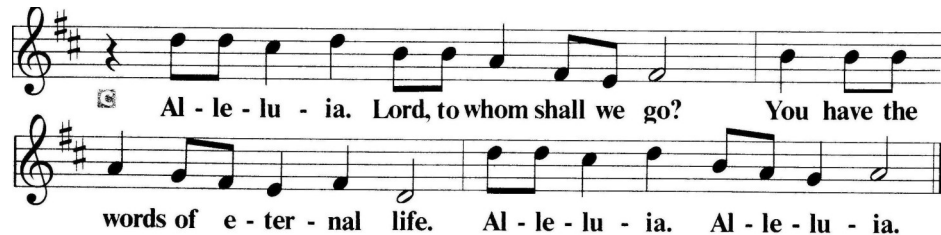
L: You have put gladness in my heart more than when their grain and wine abound.

C: **I will both lie down and sleep in peace; for you alone, O Lord, make me lie down in safety.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON *as the children come forward, please join in singing:*

Jesus rose for all the children, all the children of the world, every color, shape, and size, they are precious in His eyes, Jesus rose for all the children of the world.

***GOSPEL
ACCLAMATION**



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

***GOSPEL:** Luke 24:36b-48 (*pg. 861 in pew Bible*)

Before reading: P: The Holy Gospel According to St. Luke, the 24th Chapter. C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

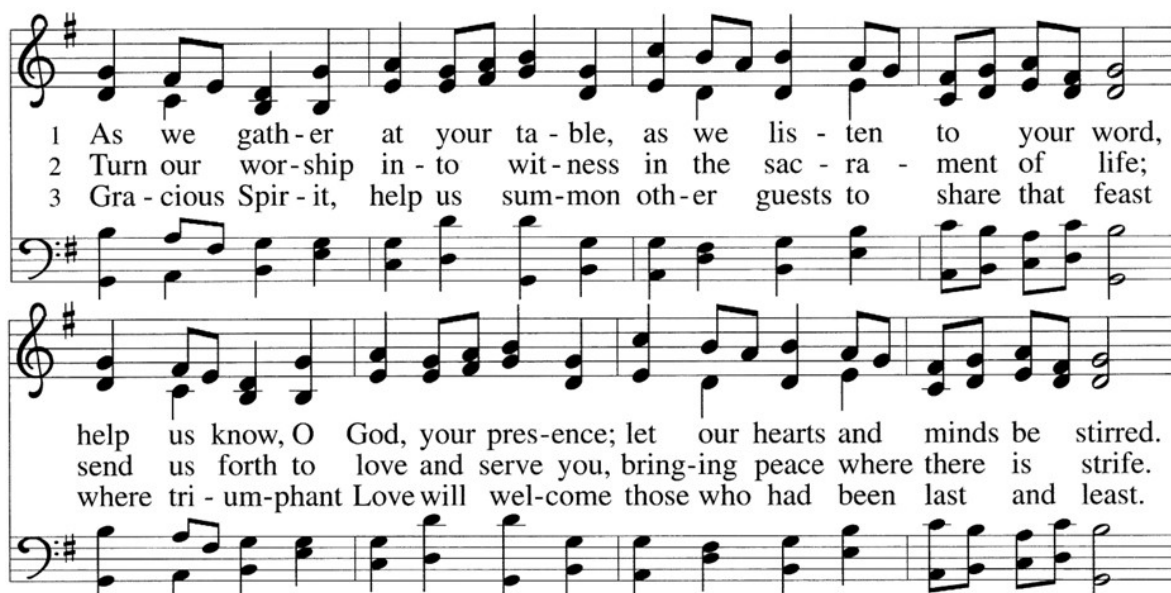
Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.' And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

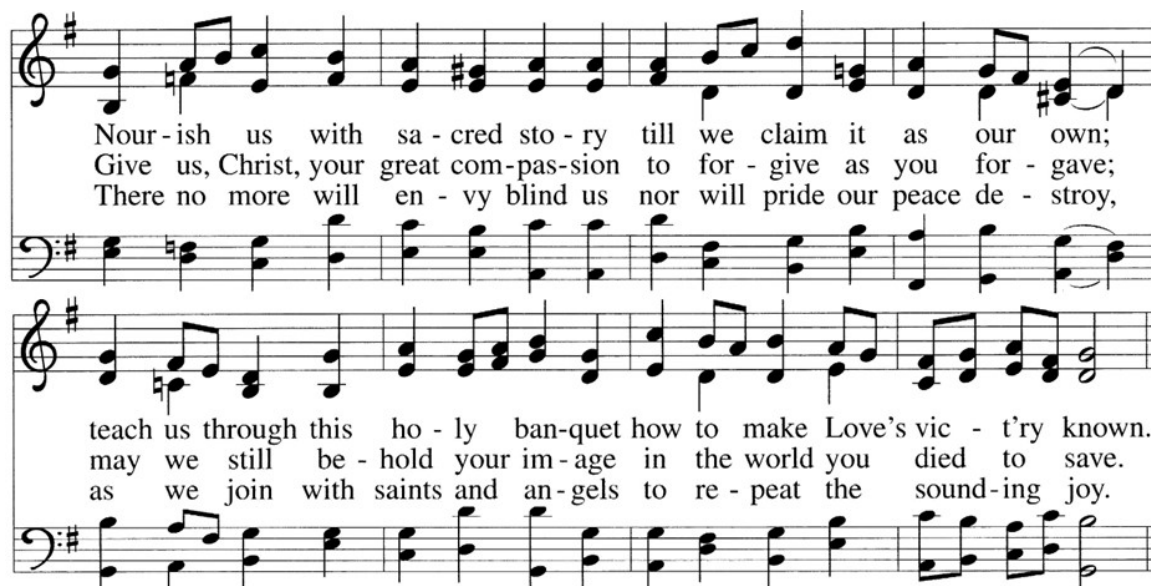
After the reading: P: The Gospel of our Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY:** ELW 522 *As We Gather at Your Table*



1 As we gath-er at your ta-ble, as we lis-ten to your word,
2 Turn our wor-ship in-to wit-ness in the sac-ra-ment of life;
3 Gra-cious Spir-it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast
help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.
where tri-um-ph-ant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa-cred sto-ry till we claim it as our own;
 Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for-give as you for-gave;
 There no more will en-vy blind us nor will pride our peace de-stroy,
 teach us through this ho-ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic-t'ry known.
 may we still be-hold your im-age in the world you died to save.
 as we join with saints and an-gels to re-peat the sound-ing joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944 Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company

Music: *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen, 1855-1932

IN BABILONE
87 87 D

OUR OFFERINGS: OUR TRUST, PRAYERS & GIFTS

*THE NICENE CREED

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us profess our faith, using the words of the Nicene Creed.

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** (after, "Lord in your mercy," respond: **Hear our prayer.**)

(after final petition, "Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord", respond: **Amen.**)

*SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

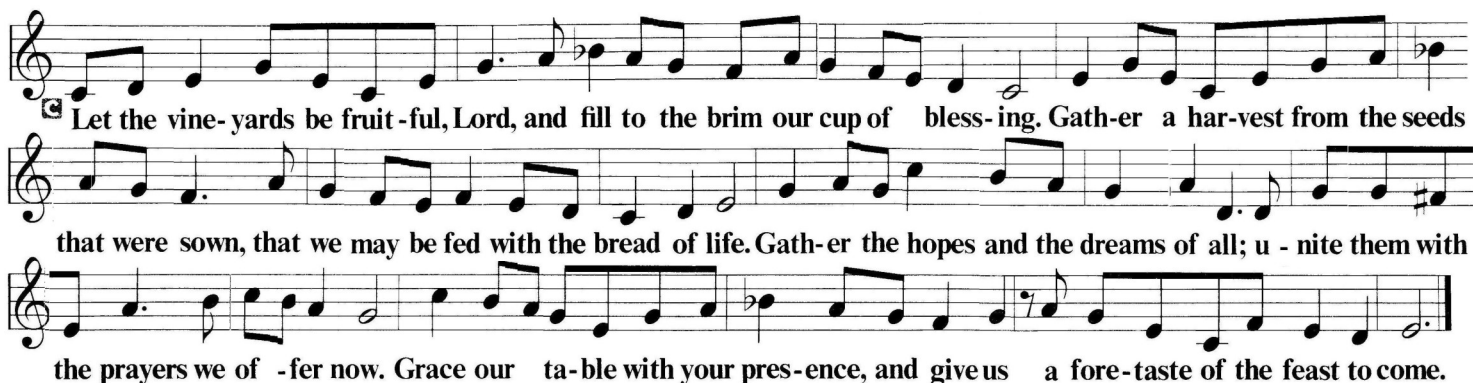
P: The peace of Christ be with you. C: **And also with you.**

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

During this portion of the worship service, we offer to God a portion of what God has first given us, trusting that God will use these gifts to do God's work in the world. We offer thanks to God with financial gifts, song, and prayer. Or you can scan this QR code to go to our electronic giving website: <http://www.zionsjonestown.com/giving/>, where you can choose to give either through PayPal, or Simply Giving, which is our regular electronic offering service, offering both one-time, and regular, automatic options.



***OFFERTORY HYMN**



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we of -fer now. Grace our ta-ble with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

P: Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. **C: Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please stand as you are able.

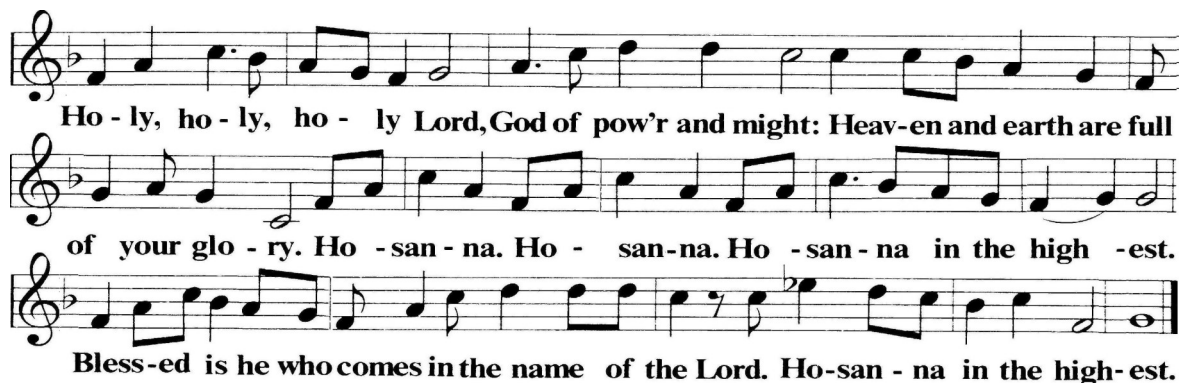
P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

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 him 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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**



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 and CONSECRATION**

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all. In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance for me. Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

***LORD’S PRAYER**

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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**

P: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God’s table.

This is the Lord’s table where all are welcome. At the ushers instruction, you are invited to come forward, pick up either a pre-filled grape juice cup, or empty communion cup, and kneel or stand at the communion railing. (gluten free wafers are available for those who need that , please let Pastor know when you are communing) Here, you will first receive the bread, and then either a blessing of your grape juice, or the wine poured into your glass. After consuming both elements, return to your seat by the side aisle, placing your empty glass in the tray.

*Those who are worshipping at home this morning are invited to **pray this prayer**, trusting that Christ’s spiritual presence is with you at all times and places. If you would like Pastor Caitlin to bring communion to your home, call her at 717 865 3652 and she will be glad to do so.*

“Loving Jesus, since I cannot at this moment receive you in bread and wine according to your promise in the sacrament of Holy Communion, I ask you to come to me in Spirit. Feed me, for I am hungry; strengthen me, for I am weak; enliven and sanctify me with Your sacred Body and Blood. Deliver me from all sin and make me always obedient to Your commands. Let me never be separated from You, my Savior, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit live and reign one God forever and ever. Amen.”

***LAMB OF GOD** (Based on Gospel of John 1:29)

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

- DISTRIBUTION HYMNS:** #131 *Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!*,
 (green book) #144 *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!*
 #147 *Hallelujah! Jesus Lives*

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

P: Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

C: Amen

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***BENEDICTION**

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.**

***SENDING HYMN: WOV 754** *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

As the cross is recessed, you are invited to turn your body towards the rear, symbolic of our desire to follow Christ out into the world.

1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt.

bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!

Refrain
Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929 Music: Jamaican folk tune, adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925-1980 © 1975 Hope Publishing Co. LINSTEAD L M and refrain

***DISMISSAL**

L: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad. **C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

We're glad you're here! Whether today is your first day at Zion's, or your thousandth, we're glad you're here, and we look forward to worshipping with you. If you're new, or it's been a while, we invite you to fill out one of the "We're glad you're here" white envelopes located in the pew back to ensure our records are correct, and so we can connect with you further. Completed cards can be placed in the offering plate. Thank you, and welcome!

This week we especially remember in our prayers: Sandy Kohr, Ben Glass, Anna Houser, Lois Schaeffer, Katie Smith, Jean Fowler, Pastor Ted Hummel, and the people of Ukraine, Russia, Israel and Palestine.

MUSICIAN: Lauren Forgas	LECTOR: Jim Gill
VIDEOGRAPHER: James Cascarino	PRAYER: John Mohn Jr.
ACOLYTES: Daryl Root, Annabella Hess	CRUCIFER: Mason Livingston
CHILDREN'S SERMON: Ed Ludwig	COMM. ASSTS.: Deb Long, Kelly Rittle
ZION'S PASTOR: Rev. Caitlin M. Kurtz	
APRIL USHERS: Luke Hiester, Darryl Bush, Al Reiner, Rick Herr	

**NEXT
WEEK**

Lector: Joanna Guldin-Noll
Children Sermon: Tracy Hoy
Comm. Asst.: Linda Wenrich, Eva Frank

Prayer: John Noll
Acolytes: Greyson & Izaac McQuaide
Crucifer: Xander McQuaide

This Week at Zions:

Tuesday, April 16 @ 6:30 p.m. Church Council meeting

Wednesday, April 17 @ 9:00 a.m. Quilting

Wednesday, April 17, Community meal @ 5:30 p.m., followed by Rejoicing Spirits at 6:15, and Bible study at 6:50.

Saturday, April 20 @ 1:00 p.m. Church work day

Sunday, April 21 @ Noon Women's event, light lunch and dancing!!

Upcoming Events:

Wednesday night Bible study continues Wednesday, April 17, at 6:50 PM. We will be reading through 1 John (which is different than the Gospel of John!)

Women of Zion's, On April 21, join us right after church to learn (or relearn!) old standards like the Electric Slide and Macarena and newer party dances like the Cupid Shuffle and the Wobble. A light lunch will be provided. Not into dancing? No problem! Come and enjoy the fellowship. **Help us plan by RSVPing** on the bulletin board in the Gathering Area. Questions? Contact Maryann Guldin.

Kate Bowler, an author oft-quoted by Pastor Caitlin, is coming to Gettysburg! Kate writes a lot about the intersection of faith and life and is the author of "Good Enough: 40ish devotions for a life of imperfection". "The Lives We Actually Have: 100 Blessings for Imperfect Days", and "Have a beautiful, Terrible Day". She'll be one of the keynote speakers on Wednesday April 24 at the Seminary, and we're going to take a road trip! More information is posted on the bulletin board, where you can also sign up for the carpool.

SAVE THE DATE: RIVER OF LIFE VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - June 17-20 (Monday-Thursday) from 6-8 PM at Jonestown UMC. Watch for more detail!

Interested in Mission Trip work, right here in our community? Want to share a day, or a week of your time? The Lutheran churches in Lebanon County are coming together to serve at our beloved Camp Kirchenwald June 23-29. Skilled and unskilled volunteers ages 14 and up are welcome. Pastor Caitlin plans to be there on Tuesday, June 25, and would love company! More information is available on the bulletin board.

Other News from Zions:

A note from Pastor Caitlin: There are a number of high-tech SCAMS going around right now, especially targeting churches. The most common one is that people receive texts or emails, supposedly from "Pastor Caitlin", asking for you to urgently go out and buy gift cards and then send the gift card information to "the Pastor". *Please know that I would never solicit your help like that. If you ever get an odd-sounding communication "from the Pastor" please call the Church Office, or send a separate email or text message (not replying back to what they sent you) to verify.* I am grateful for your generous, always-ready-to-help hearts, and I would hate for you to be cheated in this way.

Did you know? Every Friday, at 11:30 AM, an email entitled "**Zion's Weekly E-Blast:**[And the date]" goes out to our email list, from Pastor Caitlin's email, which appears as pastorckurtz@send.mailchimpapp.com This email contains a weekly pastoral message, announcements, photos, and links. Your email may be sending it to "spam", but you should be able to teach it to send it to your inbox instead. If you need help, or want to be added to the list, please see Pastor Caitlin.

Learn to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief. Zion's has a quilt-making group called "**Peace Through Pieces**" that meets MOST Wednesdays at 9 AM in the Social Hall to work on large blankets for LWR and smaller ones for our preschool graduates. They are always accepting fabric donations of any size, and love to welcome newcomers! You don't have to have any experience with fabric or thread--they'll teach you what you need to know! If you're interested in learning more, or want to confirm a meeting date, please contact Judy Merkel: 717 269 3532 or johnjudymerkel@comcast.net

Know someone going through a difficult time? Want to share a physical sign of God's love and care with them? Zion's is blessed to have an abundance of prayer shawls and lap blankets right now, each hand crafted with love and prayers. If you would like to take one of these to a friend or family member who is struggling, please contact Jean Fowler (jmfowler51@gmail.com) or 717 926 1240. This is one way we can

To my church family, my heartfelt thanks for cards and the beautiful Easter lily, brought by a surprise visit from Karen & Blanche. - Ingrid Erb.

Council Highlights: March council highlights are available on the large bulletin board in the gathering area.