# WELCOME TO ZION'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Third Sunday of Easter

May 4, 2025

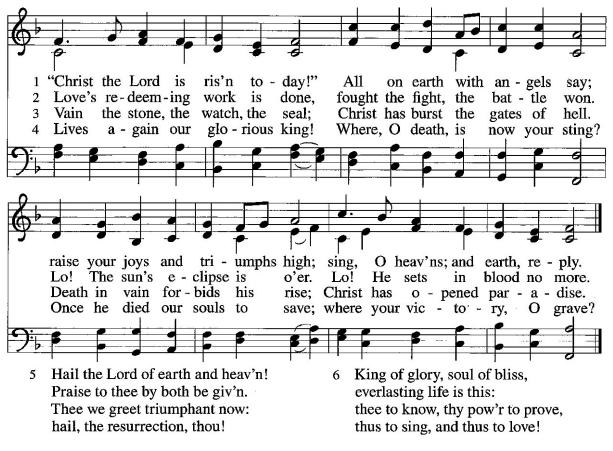
Zion's worship services are live-streamed and archived on YouTube. While the focus is always on the worship leaders and the sanctuary at large, your voice and image may be included as part of the recording. If you do not wish to appear on film, please sit in, or under, the balcony and ask an usher for communion to be brought to your seat. If you have any other questions, please speak with Pastor Caitlin. Thank you for your understanding and support in spreading the Gospel message!

Pastor Caitlin M. Kurtz **Every Week at Zions:** @ 10:30 Worship, 9:15 Sunday School Wednesday night activities 5:30 meal, 6:15 Rejoicing Spirits worship,6:50 Bible study

\*(Congregation please stand as able)

Welcome and Announcements and Prelude

**\*GATHERING HYMN:** ELW 373 *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today! You are invited to face the rear of the sanctuary and turn towards the cross as it passes.* 



Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt. Arr. © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress ORIENTIS PARTIBUS Music: Pierre de Corbeil, d. 1222, arr. Lutheran Book of Worship 7777

## **\*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

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 in the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

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 of Praise



# \*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.

# \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

# FIRST READING: Acts 9:1-20 (pg. 893 in pew Bible)

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?' He asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The reply came, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.' The men who were travelling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, 'Ananias.' He answered, 'Here I am, Lord.' The Lord said to him, 'Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.' But Ananias answered, 'Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.' But the Lord said to him, 'Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.' So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, 'Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.' And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, 'He is the Son of God.'

After the Reading: Reader: The Word of the Lord. Congregation: Thanks be to God.

**PSALM:** Psalm 30 (pg. 439 in your pew Bible, next) (read responsively)

Leader: I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up, and did not let my foes rejoice over me.

## Congregation: O Lord my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me.

- L: O Lord, you brought up my soul from Sheol, restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit.
- C: Sing praises to the Lord, O you his faithful ones, and give thanks to his holy name.
- L: For his anger is but for a moment; his favour is for a lifetime. Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning.
- C: As for me, I said in my prosperity, 'I shall never be moved.'
- L: By your favour, O Lord, you had established me as a strong mountain; you hid your face; I was dismayed.
- C: To you, O Lord, I cried, and to the Lord I made supplication:

L: 'What profit is there in my death, if I go down to the Pit? Will the dust praise you? Will it tell of your faithfulness?

- C: Hear, O Lord, and be gracious to me! O Lord, be my helper!'
- L: You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy,
- C: so that my soul may praise you and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you for ever.

## SECOND READING: Revelation 5:11-14 (pg. 997 in pew Bible)

Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, singing with full voice, 'Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honour and glory and blessing!' Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing, 'To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honour and glory and might for ever and ever!' And the four living creatures said, 'Amen!' And the elders fell down and worshipped.

# After the reading: Congregation: Thanks be to God.

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

Allelu, allelu, allelu, alleluia! Praise ye the Lord! (2x) Praise ye the Lord! Alleluia! (3x) Praise ye the Lord!

#### \*Gospel Acclamation



\*Gospel: John 21:1-19 (pg. 883 in pew Bible)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel According to St. John, the 21st Chapter. Congregation: Glory to you, O Lord. After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, 'I am going fishing,' They said to him, 'We will go with you.' They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, 'Children, you have no fish, have you?' They answered him, 'No.' He said to them, 'Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.' So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord!' When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the lake. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, 'Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.' So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, 'Who are you?' because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead. When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs.' A second time he said to him, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Tend my sheep.' He said to him the third time, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, 'Do you love me?' And he said to him, 'Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.' (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, 'Follow me.'

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

#### SERMON

\*HYMN OF THE DAY: WOV 784 You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore v.1-3



Text: Cesáreo Gabaraín, 1936–1991: tr. Madeleine Forell Marshall, b. 1946 Music: Cesáreo Gabaraín, 1936–1991 PESCADOR DE HOMBRES 8 10 10 and refrain

# **OUR OFFERINGS: OUR TRUST, PRAYERS & GIFTS**

#### \*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 hearing, "Lord in your mercy," respond: Hear our Prayer)

(after hearing the final prayer petition, "We commend these and all our prayer to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior." respond: **Amen**)

#### \*Sharing of Christ's Peace

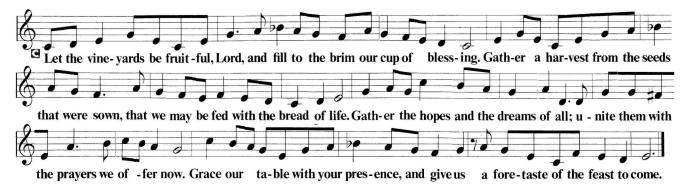
P: The peace of Christ be with you all. C: And also with you.

#### **CHOIR ANTHEM**

#### 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, our regular electronic offering service, offering one-time and regular options.

## **\*Offertory Hymn**



#### **\*Offertory Prayer:**

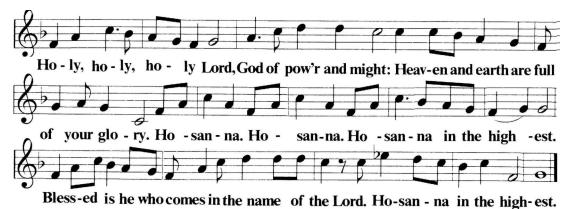
P: Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation.Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.C: Amen.

## **\*HOLY COMMUNION & SENDING**

- \*P: The Lord be with you
- C: And also with you. C: We lift them to the Lord.
- P: Lift up your hearts. C:
- 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, 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, with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## \*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



# \*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P:Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory. We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age: the promise to Israel, the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the words of the prophets; and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son, who proclaimed the good news in word and deed and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

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 of me. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

## C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

## C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P: Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we who share in Christ's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light. C: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

P: Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. C: Amen.

## \*Invitation to the Lord's Prayer

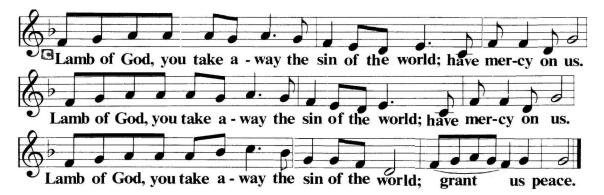
P: We pray as Jesus taught us:

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 the Lord's Table

P: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

## LAMB OF GOD



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 accommodation, 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."

COMMUNION HYMNS: #672 Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

(blue book)#711 You Satisfy the Hungry Heart<br/>#718 Here in This Place

## \*Post Communion Prayer and Sending of Communion

P: Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. C: Amen.

P: In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

C: We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.

## \*BENEDICTION

P: The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. C: Amen.

P: The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. C: Amen.

P: The God of all grace bless you now and forever. C: Amen.

## \*SENDING HYMN: ELW 389 Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing v.1,2,3,5

As the cross is processed to the rear of the sanctuary as we sing, you are invited to turn towards it, symbolic of our desire to follow Christ out into the world.

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#### \*DISMISSAL

- L: Alleluia! Christ is risen. C: Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!
- L: Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! 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 worshiping 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**: Family & friends of Kay Erb, De Mohn, Jan, Pat Keefer, Gary, Wendy, Halley, Jeremy and family, Randy & Diane, hurricane and fire victims and all victims of violence.

#### This Week at Zions:

May 4, Sunday @ 2:00 pm NL Ministerium Prayer meeting at Levitz park May 7, Wednesday @ 9:00 am Quilting May 7, Wednesday @ 5:30 community meal, 6:15 pm Rejoicing Spirits worship,6:50 pm Bible Study, 7:30 adult choir rehearsal May 11, Sunday @ 9:15 am Men's and Women's Bible Study

#### Next Week at Zions:

May 12, Monday @ 6:30 pm Worship & Music meeting May 14, Wednesday @ 9:00 am Quilting May 14, Wednesday @ 5:30 community meal, 6:15 pm Rejoicing Spirits worship, 6:50 Bible study, 7:30 adult choir rehearsal May 17, Saturday @ 4:00 pm DDS dance in social hall

**TODAY !! The Northern Lebanon Ministerium will gather for an afternoon of prayer and worship** from 2-4 PM at the "Middle" Pavillion at Memorial Lake. Bring a chair and join others in praising God and praying for our community.

**Dudes & Donuts, and Women of the Word,** Men's and Women's Bible studies will meet May 11 at 9:15 am. Donuts and coffee will be available.

**Zion's 8<sup>th</sup> annual DDS Dance** will be held in the social hall on May 17 from 4 until 7. ALL of the congregation is invited. The sign up sheet is on the board in the Gathering Area. Please sign up by Sunday, May 11. The theme this year is HALLOWEEN IN MAY. So please wear a Halloween costume! Dinner is included and the cost is \$3 per person. All the money goes back to DDS. There will be a photo booth so that you can take your own pictures. Also, anyone who would like to volunteer to help in the kitchen or with the DDS participants, please let Linda Wenrich or Elaine Ludwig know.

**R+K Sub Sale to support Zion's Preschool** Our preschool is raising funds for their graduation celebration through a sub (\$7.50) and pretzel sandwich (\$6.50) sale. Orders can be placed with Linda Toth and are due by Sunday May 10 for delivery around noon on Wednesday May 21 (also available for pick up that evening)

**Youth Service Camp coming to Zion's this summer!** Youth who have completed 6th through 12th grade are invited to participate in a week of service, learning (and fun) June 16 to 20, based at Zion's. At the end of the week, participants will receive money to use for a service project or to contribute to a non-profit of their choice (with thanks to the Touching Tomorrow Endowment!) More info and registration links on our website.

**Help needed for Youth Service Camp!** Of course, to make this great week of service learning possible, we need adult help! If you're able to provide a meal for our time together, donate a Thrivent Action Team card, help transport youth whose parents are working, or provide transportation for one of our afternoon activities *please let Pastor Caitlin know*. Thank you!

Serving at Zion's	Today	Next Sunday
Lector	Jim Gill	Leah Wolfe
Prayer	Ed Ludwig	Grace Ludwig
Children's sermon	Christine Techky	Joanna Guldin-Noll
Comm. Assts.	Linda Wenrich, Noel Strattan	Kelly Rittle, Deb Long
Greeter	Elaine Ludwig	
Acolyte	Derek Wolfe	Levi Bucks
Crucifer	Joanna Guldin-Noll	Daryl Hess
Altar Guild	Bucks family	Strattan/Wenrich
Elevette	Tom Frey	Steve Bucks
Ushers	Georgetta Wolfe, Rick Herr	Georgetta Wolfe, Rick Herr

MUSICIAN: Maryann Guldin SOUND: Houser family ZION'S OFFICE: 717-865-2848 zions@comcast.net VIDEOGRAPHER: James Cascarino PASTOR: Caitlin M. Kurtz PASTOR'S OFFICE: 717-865-3652 pastorckurtz@gmail.com