

ZION'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 18, 2021

Gathered, Empowered, Sent



ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

GATHERING AND THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: Christ is Risen! C: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

C: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

P: Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

C: We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

Opening Hymn: WOV 674 *Alleluia! Jesus is Risen!* v. 1,2,3

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!

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

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.**

SCRIPTURE READING: Acts 3:12-19

When Peter saw it, he addressed the people, ‘You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. ‘And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out,

Reader: The word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL: LUKE 24:36-48

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.

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-phant 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

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APOSTLE'S CREED

Let us confess our faith together, using the words of the Apostle's Creed.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. 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.

Note: the word "catholic" here means the church around the world.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(after hearing, "Lord in your mercy," respond: **Hear our Prayer**)

(after hearing the final prayer petition, "In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord." respond: **Amen**)

SHARING OF PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

OFFERING:

Through our offering, we give a portion of what God has first given us back to God to support the work of God in and through this congregation. Thank you for your financial and prayer support that makes the many ministries of Zion's possible, together with your gifts of time and talent. There are offering plates in the rear of the sanctuary for you to drop your offering in, as you enter or exit the sanctuary. or you can scan this QR code to be taken 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. Simply Giving fees are less than PayPal fees, so if you're giving



regularly, this is an awesome program to check out. Any questions, contact: pastorckurtz@gmail.com. If you are experiencing financial hardship right now, we understand that you may not be able to give as you'd like. If you are in need of financial assistance, contact Pastor Caitlin (717 819 0420) or pastorckurtz@gmail.com as we have funds set aside to assist you.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Be known to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, as you were made known to the disciples.

C: Receive these gifts, and the offering of our lives, that we may be your risen body in the world. Amen.

COMMUNION LITURGY

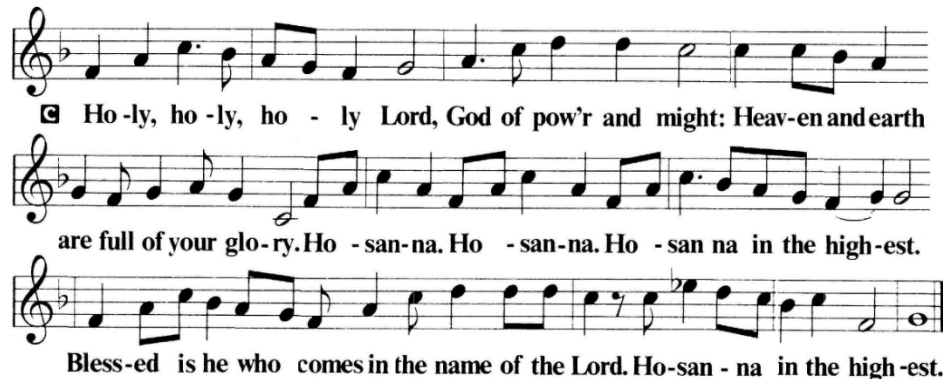
P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

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 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.

P: 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. With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

P: O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Together with the whole church, let us pray together using the words 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 COMMUNION

P: Come, let us feast on Christ, the bread of heaven. **C: Hallelujah! Thanks be to God!**

Together we will consume first the wafer 'The body of Christ given for you' and then the grape juice 'The blood of Christ shed for you.

*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, please 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.”

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

P: Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of heaven to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection that we may show your glory to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

C: Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: May God who has brought us from death to life fill you with great joy. Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **C: Amen.**

DISMISSAL

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: You are the body of Christ raised up for the world. Go in peace. Share the Good News.

C: Thanks be to God!

PIANO & VOCALS: Guldin Family

PASTOR: Rev. Caitlin M. Kurtz

WORSHIP ASST.: Linda Wenrich

VIDEOGRAPHER: Jim Cascarino