

Zion Lutheran

**Mission: Creating Community Through
God's Love and Guidance**



Fifth Sunday of Easter
April 28, 2024

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“Jesus Loves the Little Children”

1. Jesus loves the little children,
All the children of the world.
Big or little, short or tall,
Does not matter, not at all,
Jesus loves the little children of the world.
2. Jesus rose for all the children,
All the children of the world.
Every color, every race, all are covered by His grace.
Jesus rose for all the children of the world.
3. Jesus cares for all the children
All the children of the world
Every child in every land
Jesus holds them in His hand
Jesus cares for all the children of the world

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,
who journeys with us through this Easter Season
and sustains us with the gift of grace.

Amen.

Let us acknowledge before God and one another
our need for repentance and God’s mercy.

Holy God,
we confess to you our faults and failings.
Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word;
we take for ourselves instead of giving to others;
we spoil rather than steward your creation;
we cause hurt though you call us to heal;
we choose fear over compassion.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
as we seek to follow in your way of life.
Amen.

Hear the good news:
God so loved the world that God gave the only Son,
so that all may receive life.
This promise is for you!
God embraces you with divine mercy,
forgives you in Christ's name,
and revives you in the Spirit's power.
Amen.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

FIRST COMMUNION RECOGNITION

FIRST READING

Acts 8:26-40

A reading from Acts.

²⁶An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” ³¹He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³²Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: “Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. ³³In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.” ³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” ³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 22: 25-31

Read Responsively

From you comes my praise in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied, Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; all the families of nations shall bow before God.

For dominion belongs to the LORD, who rules over the nations.

Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.

Their descendants shall serve the LORD, whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.

They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

SECOND READING

1 John 4:7-21

A reading from 1 John.

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. ¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. ¹⁷Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us.

²⁰Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. ²¹The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.
 Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

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, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL READING

John 15:1-8

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**
 [Jesus said:] ¹"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned.

⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Jake Czarnik-Neimeyer

HYMN OF THE DAY#477

“I Received the Living God”

APOSTLES’ CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 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 OF INTERCESSION

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

CHOIR ANTHEM

“Feed My Lambs”
by Natalie Sleeth
Wendy Sachs-oboe

OFFERING PRAYER

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.

Amen.

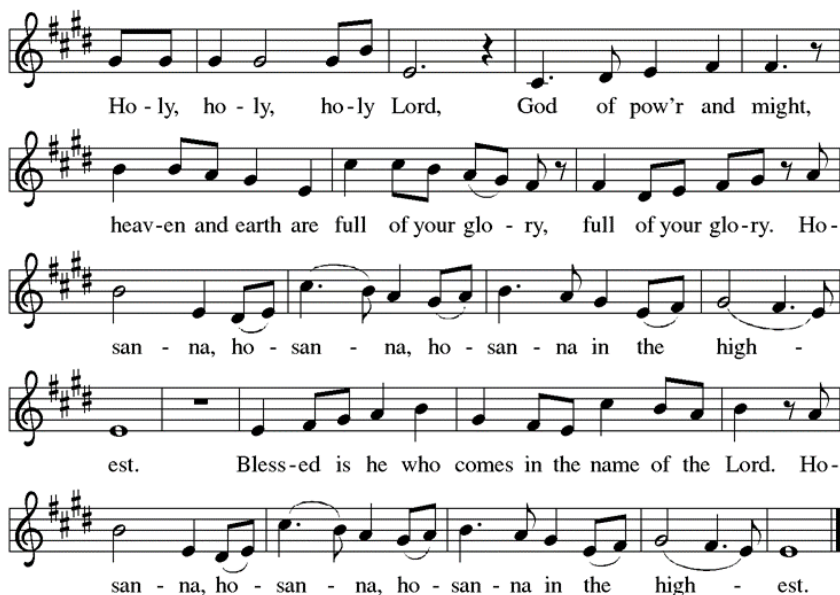
GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

HOLY HOLY HOLY

Setting 8



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, 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, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

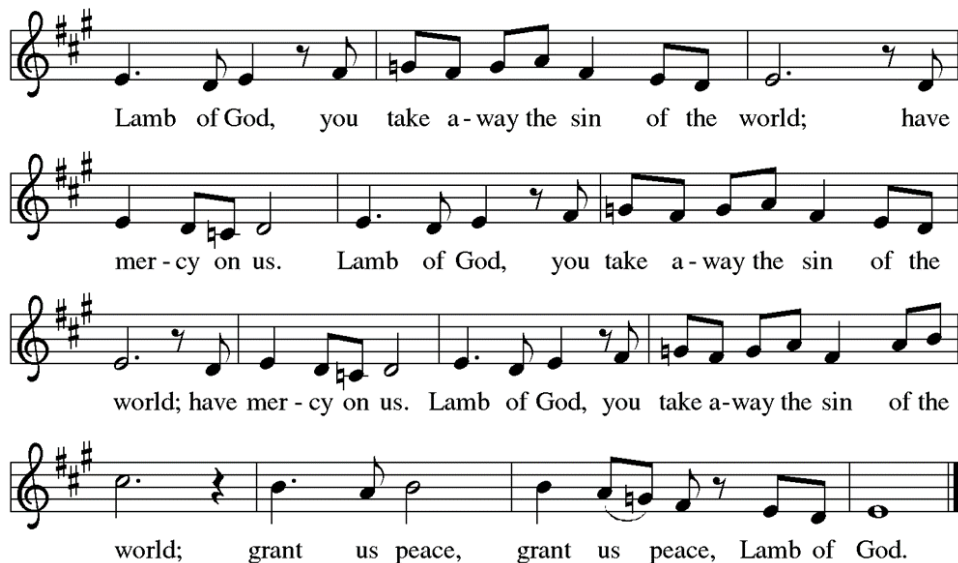
THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

THE 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.

LAMB OF GOD

Setting 8



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, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

The first communion students and their families will be taking first communion first.

COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN#479

"We Come to the Hungry Feast"

TABLE BLESSING

Now may the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.

Amen.

BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power,
the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope
bless you now and always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN#879

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.
**Creating Community through God’s Love and Guidance —
thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

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Zion Lutheran

920-739-3104 • Monday- Thursday, 9:30 am - 2:00 pm
zion@zionappleton.org • www.zionappleton.org For Pastoral
Emergencies contact the office.

Welcome!

We invite visitors to complete the card in the pew and put it in the collection basket. Thank You!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today we celebrate our youth who are receiving the sacrament of Holy Communion. Please keep them in your prayers as they continue in their faith journey and join us at the table. After the service, please join us for cake in the fellowship hall, as we celebrate:

Harper Olivia Baeten, daughter of Benjamin and Traci Baeten
Miley Jean Bee, daughter of Tanya McCollough and Michael Bee
Elsie Lynn Delfosse, daughter of Ginny Polzin-Delfosse and
Brandon Delfosse

Isaac John Gruselle, son of Nick and Laura Gruselle

Vera Rose Moseng, daughter of Kyle & Valerie Moseng

Christopher David Weiland, son of Wendy Weiland and Daniel C
Weiland

Next Sunday is Confirmation Sunday. Please join us as we celebrate the affirmation of baptism of 3 of Zion's confirmands.

We are in need of some volunteers to cover the office when Kimberly is not able to be there. The only thing you need to do is answer the phones & take care of people that come into office for help. It is from 9:30am-2:00pm. You can help as much or as little as you would like. Contact the office at 920-739-3104 if you are interested or would like more information. Any help is appreciated.

The next event at Linwood Community (Fox Valley Lutheran Homes) is Thursday, May 2 at 2 PM. The subject will be Leaving a Non-Monetary Legacy. The Wellness Coordinator, Yon Abel will focus on ways we can leave something of value that is not based on money.

I have (2) \$25 Kwik Trip & (4) Festival gift cards available in the narthex for purchase today. There is a list in the narthex of all the places you can purchase gift cards from & Zion will benefit from your purchases. Lynn

Today the MacDowell Male Chorus will have a special concert event at Denmark High School Music Theatre, 450 N. Wall St., Denmark, WI. Tickets are \$12/\$15 and they are available from Denmark Knights of Columbus or you can call 920-836-4200.

Order forms for the May 4th & 5th concerts can be found in the narthex. The Appleton MacDowell Male Chorus proudly presents "Rock Solid", our 90th Granite Anniversary Concert. We will perform a repertoire of songs made popular during our nine decades, including hits by Mumford & Sons, Backstreet Boys, Billy Ray Cyrus, Neil Diamond, the Beatles, the Hollies, and more. Also in the program are several hits from Broadway Plays such as Hamilton, Man of La Mancha, Children of Eden, Big Fish, and more.

We are looking for 1-2 congregation members to participate in the Good Futures Program. This program is used to help guide a church and its congregation in a path that is best for it's future. Please contact Kandie Wilz if you have any questions.

"The Affordable Housing Project has a final report from our partners, GLCI, clarifying objectives and scope for the project on the Zion campus. There are copies of this report at the back of the sanctuary for you to take with you and review. If you have any questions, please direct them to Gail Hunter."

Monday, May 13, 2024

Submissions due for May's calendar

Wednesday, May 1

Tower RingerZ Rehearsal 4:15pm

Sunday, May 5

Sixth Sunday of Easter-Confirmation

Acts 10:44-48; Ps 98

Presiding: Pastor Mike Dismer

1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17

Preaching: Pastor Jake Czarnik-Neimeyer

Choir Rehearsal 8-8:45 am

Assisting Ministers: Deb Reis

Worship Service 9:00 am

Acolyte: Ava Dorn

followed by

Musician: William Surtees

Coffee Hour

Opens: Greg Pettigrew

Sunday School & Confirmation

Closes: Tammy Mossholder