

Zion Lutheran Church The Divine Service

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Welcome

Before Service Prayer

Graciously comfort and tend all who are imprisoned, hungry, thirsty, naked, and miserable; also all widows, orphans, sick, and sorrowing. In brief, give us our daily bread, so that Christ may abide in us and we in Him. forever, and that with Him we may worthily bear the name Christian. Amen.

Martin Luther

Anyone who is to find Christ must first find the church. For how can one know where Christ is, and where faith in him is, unless he knew where his believers are? Whoever wishes to know something about Christ must not trust to himself, nor by the help of his own reason build a bridge of his own to heaven, but must go to the church, must visit it, and make inquiry. Now the church is not wood and stone, but the company of people who believe in Christ; he must keep in company with them, and see how they believe, and teach, and live.

Martin Luther; Früh-Christmess Sermon, 1522

We are very happy that you are here today!

At Zion, the bulletin and Lutheran Service Book (LSB) are both used to lead us through our worship. To help guide you during the service, below are some helpful tips.

- For each section of the Divine Service, the page number in the hymnal is listed in the bulletin on the right side of the page, i.e., *LSB 184*, which is found towards the front of the hymnal. All responses are sung unless they are printed in the bulletin.
- P indicates sections spoken by the Pastor. C indicates responses by the Congregation and will be in **bold** print.
- All hymns are listed in the bulletin with the name of the hymn and page number, i.e., *Thy Strong Word LSB 578*. They are also shown on the Hymn board at the front of the church.
- The *red text* in both the bulletin and the hymnal shows when the congregation should stand or sit during the Divine Service. The Pastor may also provide direction.

A Special Welcome to Those with Young Children

At Zion we want families with children to feel at home.

- First, please relax and enjoy your time here. Jesus knows that children tend to wiggle and squawk a bit, so please don't feel embarrassed by it. Your children are welcome at Zion.
- To make it a bit easier on your family, please dare to sit toward the front where your children can easily see the front of the Church, note the colors, watch the pastor, wonder about the stained-glass windows above the altar and embrace the action at the altar. What Jesus does here promises to engage them.
- As we go, softly explain the Liturgy to your children, encouraging them to chime in on their parts: Amen! Lord have mercy! And with thy Spirit! I believe! Our Father! All of that belongs to them too.

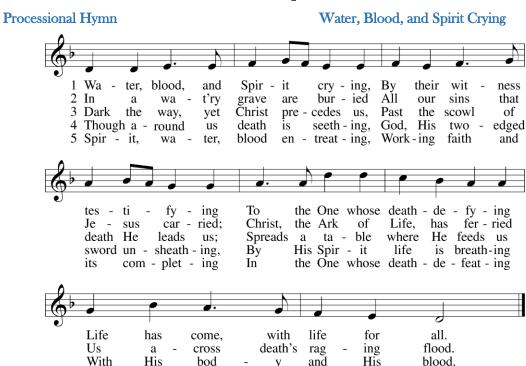
- Be sure to sing and say and pray your parts too as you stand and sit. Your children learn by following your lead.
- If you and your child must leave, please hurry back. We want you and your children here very much.
- If you need a little help, just ask. There are lots of folks here who will lend you a hand.
- Please know that while you are caring for your children, the rest of us will be rejoicing in Jesus' words, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these" (Luke 18:16).

We know that your children are a gift to the Church, so we will do our best to welcome, smile, encourage, help and bless you all. Welcome to Zion!



Divine Service, Setting Three

The Preparation



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Stand

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. \mathbf{P}

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C Amen.

Confession of Sins and Absolution

Through

Life

the

has

- P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

LSB 597

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P Let us then confess our sins unto God our Father
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
- Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 66:3, 5, 8-9; antiphon: vv. 1-2

- P Shout for joy to God, all the earth. Alle- | luia.*
 Sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise! Alle- | luia.
- Say to God, "How awesome | are your deeds!*

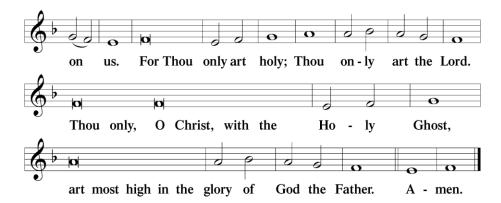
 So great is your power that your enemies come cringing | to you."
- P Come and see what | God has done:*

 he is awesome in his deeds toward the chil- | dren of man.
- Bless our God, O | peoples;*
 let the sound of his | praise be heard,
- who has kept our soul among the | living* and has not let our | feet slip.
- Glory be to the Father and | to the Son* and to the Holy | Spirit; as it was in the be- | ginning,* is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
- Shout for joy to God, all the earth. Alle- | luia.*
 Sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise! Alle- | luia.





Gloria in Excelsis LSB 187 O P Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor-ship men. Thee, 0 we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heav'n-ly God the Fa-ther Al - mighty. King, O O Lord, the only begotten Son, Christ; Je - sus O O Lord God, Lamb of God, Father, Son of the 0 that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us. 0 Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer. 0 O O Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-



Salutation and Collect of the Day

LSB 189

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And with thy spirit.
- **P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, You show those in error the light of Your truth so that they may return to the way of righteousness. Grant faithfulness to all who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's Church that they may avoid whatever is contrary to their confession and follow all such things as are pleasing to You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 40:25-31

The Old Testament reading for The Fourth Sunday of Easter is from Isaiah, the fortieth chapter.

To whom then will you compare me, that I should be like him? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see:

who created these?

He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name,

by the greatness of his might, and because he is strong in power not one is missing.

Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel,

"My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"?

April 25, 2021 | page 6

Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.
He gives power to the faint,
and to him who has no might he increases strength.
Even youths shall faint and be weary,
and young men shall fall exhausted;

but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles;

they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Gradual Matthew 28:7b; John 20:26a, c

- P Alleluia. He has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee. Alleluia.
- Eight days later Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Alleluia.

Epistle 1 Peter 2:11-20

The Epistle Reading is from First Peter, the second chapter.

Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.

Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a coverup for evil, but living as servants of God. Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.

Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust. For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Alleluia



Holy Gospel John 16:16-22

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixteenth chapter.
- Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] "A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me." So some of his disciples said to one another, "What is this that he says to us, 'A little while, and you will not see me, and again a little while, and you will see me'; and, 'because I am going to the Father'?" So they were saying, "What does he mean by 'a little while'? We do not know what he is talking about." Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, "Is this what you are asking yourselves, what I meant by saying, 'A little while and you will not see me, and again a little while and you will see me'? Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you."

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God. the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made: who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man: and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.

And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me

God's Son

by

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who knows

day,

blood

strife

LSB 756

Sit

Hymn of the Day

1 Why should cross and tri - al grieve me? Christ is near 2 When meet life's trou bles rise Though their weight to me, 3 God will gives me my days of glad ness. And Ι 4 From God's iov can noth - ing sev For Ι er. am 5 Now Christ. Though it in death can - not slay me. might, With His Nev will He cheer; er leave me. May be will de great. Thev not feat me. When Trust Him still He sends me sad ness. His dear lamb, He, Shep herd my ev er. ble Day and night, Trou and dis may me.

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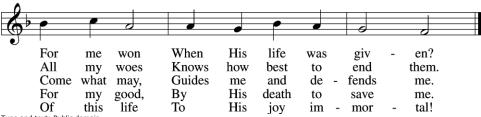
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Earthly Sorrow Transforms into Eternal Joys

John 16:16-22





Prayer of the Church

- P Lord in Your Mercy,
- C Hear our Prayer

Feelings are a great gift, but they're treacherous if that's all we live for. They drive us back into our selves, you see. What I want. What I feel. What I need.

Tony Hendra, Father Joe

Service of the Sacrament

Preface LSB 194



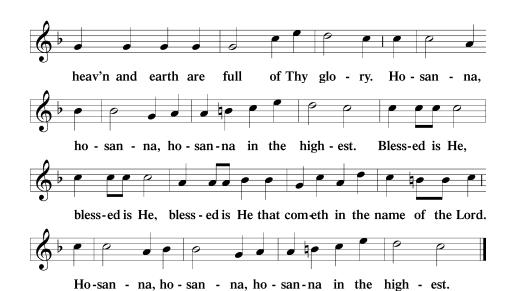
Proper Preface

It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. [...] Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 195

LSB 195



Lord's Prayer Matthew 6:9-13

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

C 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.

The things we love tell us what we are.

Thomas Aquinas

The Words of Our Lord LSB 197

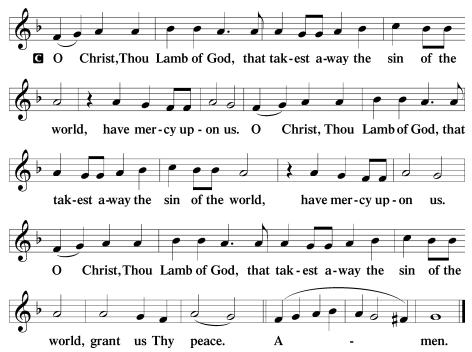
P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the

new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.

Pax Domini LSB 197

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.

Agnus Dei



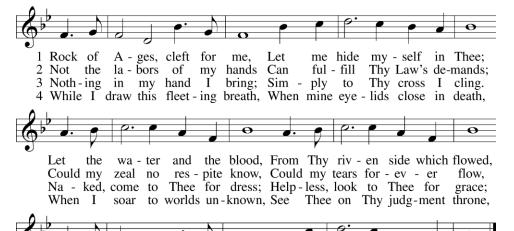
Distribution

We at Zion Lutheran Church of Augsburg believe and confess along with the Holy Scriptures, that this bread and wine in the Sacrament of Holy Communion are truly the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, instituted by Christ Himself, for us Christians to eat and drink. The gifts of His physical body and blood are given in, with, and under the elements of bread and wine at the altar. Those who are communicant members of a Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregation are welcome to commune at this altar with us. Other guests wishing to join our confession and receive this Holy Sacrament are invited to meet with the Pastor for Catechesis before communing. Anyone not communing may still come forward, crossing their arms at the rail, to receive a blessing from the Pastor.

The apostle Paul encourages everyone coming to the Sacrament to examine him/herself (1 Corinthians 11:28-29). Ask yourself the following questions: 1) Are you aware that you are a sinner; and, are you sorry for your sins? 2) Do you believe in Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord and in His words of promise in the Sacrament: "This is my body," "This is my blood"? 3) Also, do you intend with the help of the Holy Spirit to live as a forgiven, redeemed child of God, resisting the devil, saying no to sinful desires, and walking in the new life God provides?

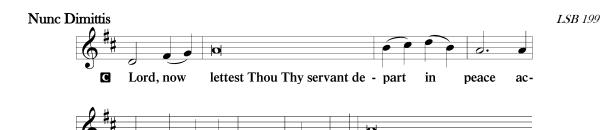
Communion Hymn

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me LSB 661



Be of sin the dou-ble cure: Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r. a - tone; Thou All for sin could not must save, and Thou a - lone. the foun-tain fly; Wash me, Sav - ior, die. Foul, I to or Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, Let me hide my - self in Thee.

Tune and text: Public domain

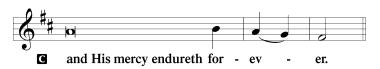


cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



Thanksgiving LSB 200

P Oh give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.



Post-Communion Collect

LSB 201

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Salutation, Benedicamus, and Benediction

P The Lord be with you.



P Bless we the Lord.



The Lord bless you and keep you,
 The Lord makes His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you
 The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and
 → give you peace.



Sit





The Prayers of the Church

Persecuted Christians in:

Sri Lanka Colombia Bangladesh Palestinian Territories Azerbaijan

Partner Church

Lutheran Church in Korea

Comfort, Health, and Recovery

Darlene McGuire (friend of Susan Colles) Peggy Flatt (friend of Susan Colles) Dave Louk (friend of Susan Colles) Earl Schrock Diane Ragsdale

For those who mourn

especially the family and friends of: Lawrence Steuber

Homebound

Dorothy Birkhahn
Betty Bocksnick
Nettie Grant
Gwen Hale
Tom Harms
Kenneth Hottinger Sr.
Helen Rick
Glenda Schrock
Lawrence Steuber

Catechumens

Emmett Schlittenhart Gavin Rion Tatum Rion Alison Waldo Alivia Waldo Chance Paylor

Serving in the armed forces

Logan Kremers Matthew Allen Brian Rutledge Trent Hale Josh Imme Dale Ozment

When hospitalized, sick, needing prayer or absolution, contact Pastor Ralston anytime at 501-454-0581.

Z Life Together



The Fourth Sunday of Easter April 25, 2021

The Fruits of Our Faith 4/18/2021

Worship Attendance: 69 Adult Sunday School: 10 Children's Sunday School: 7

> General Fund: \$ 2,005 Food Pantry: \$ 20 Cemetery Fund: \$ 25

Summer High School Bible Class

Pastor Ralston will be teaching the High School Youth in June, July, and August during the Sunday school hour. Parents, talk to Pastor about having your high schooler attend!

Adult Bible Study

We are still continuing with our Bible Study on Matthew downstairs in between services. However, we will take a break for Adult Bible Class on Sunday mornings in June, July, and August. Alternatively, Pastor will have a class over the Augsburg Confession, which is a defining confessional document for Lutherans. This class will begin Wednesday, June 2nd at 6:00 PM.

Offering

If you are not able to attend church, we encourage you to still send in offerings. During this time, it's important to remember that we are borrowers, not owners, of everything we have. The Lord generously gives us means to support us in this life. Yet, he also expects "tithes and contributions" (Malachi 3:8) to be made to Him. By so doing, you are spiritual discipling yourself, demonstrating where your heart's treasures are.

Family Fellowship in the Summer!

On the second and fourth Saturdays June, July, and August, Zion plans to host gatherings for our church family to bond together! There will be games for kids outside, board games, or just hangout by the fire! You're welcome to bring snacks, drinks, and games.

Cemetery Service

The annual memorial service will be outside at the Pavilion on Sunday, May 2nd at 10:00 AM. This is the ONLY service on that Sunday. A potluck will follow at 11:30 AM. It will be preceded with Bible class at 9:00 AM.

Activities this Week:

04/26 - Fall Fest at 6:00 PM Church Council at 7:00 PM 04/28 - Confirmation at 6:00 PM



Lutheran Church

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The Reverend Joshua Ralston Pastor

Rusty Dorn

Congregational President

Jeff Schlittenhart

Head Elder

Diane Ragsdale

LWML President

Nikki Dorn

Treasurer

Phyllis Campbell

Office Assistant

Email: rev.jralston@gmail.com Website: zionaugsburg.org Facebook: facebook.com/ AugsburgZionLutheranChurch

If calling for a Pastoral Emergency, contact Pastor Ralston directly:

Cell	501-454-0581
Church	479-331-3277

Restrooms

Restrooms are located in the Narthex outside of the Sanctuary and in the basement Fellowship Hall. Please see an usher if you need assistance.

Nursery

The Nursery is located in the Narthex outside of the Sanctuary.

Congregational Membership

New members are received by Baptism, Confirmation, Transfer, or Profession of Faith (after receiving Pastoral instruction). Please speak with Pastor Ralston for more details.

Pastoral Consultation

Pastoral Consultation based on the Holy Scriptures is available from the Pastor. Please speak with Pastor Ralston to make an appointment.

Sick and Homebound

The sick and homebound are visited regularly by the Pastor with the Scriptures and Sacrament. Please contact Pastor Ralston if you know of any parishioner in need of pastoral visitation.

Pastor's Bible Study, Teen, and Children's Sunday School

Sunday School begins at 10:15 am. Anyone from confirmation age on up is welcome to attend Bible Study. Teen and Children's Sunday School is held **every Sunday** in the basement Fellowship Hall/Family Center (Ages 0 and up).

Listen to Lutheran Radio

Listen: Issues, Etc. is talk-radio for the thinking Christian. Listen 24/7 at www.IssuesETC.org *The Lutheran Hour* is broadcast on KARV 610 AM/101.3 FM every Sunday at 7:30AM.