

**April 14, 2024 - Third Sunday of Easter
Traditional Worship Service**



Zion
Evangelical
Lutheran
Church

*Zion matters to the
community by
showing the love of
Jesus Christ.*

**STAFFED CHILD
CARE**
Available during
worship service

WIFI = Zion Guest
No password required

www.zion-nc.com

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Welcome from Presiding Minister (PM)

Please stand as you are able

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

Jesus Christ was raised from the dead:
That we might walk in the newness of life!

Because He Lives:
We, too, shall live to the praise of God's glory!

Nothing, not even death, can ever separate us from the embrace of
God's love:

**God has given us His love as a gift, which is ours through
Christ our Lord.**

*Turn to follow the cross as it processes through the worship space
Welcome Jesus into our presence*

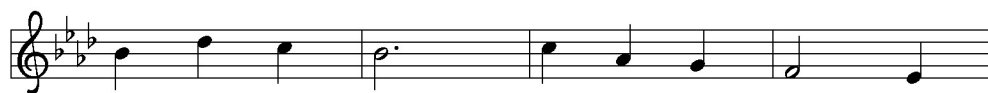
Verses 1,2,3,5 Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!
2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter
3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es;
4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent:
5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er,



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!
tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;
life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;
death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.
gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!
break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry:
heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,
Cher - u - bim sing: O grave, be o - pen!
riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.
gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.
sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!

Continued on next page

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
 Music: David N. Johnson, 1922–1987
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Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
 we are raised with him to new life.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God,

for in the beginning you created us in your image
 and planted us in a well-watered garden.

In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched,
 and you gave us water from the rock.

When we did not know the way,

you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters.

At the cross, you watered us from Jesus' wounded side,
 and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.

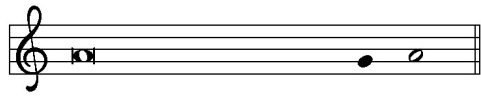
We praise you for your salvation through water,

for the water in this font, and for all water everywhere.

Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love.

Satisfy the thirsty, and give us the life only you can give.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



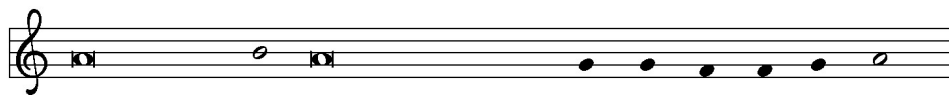
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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 wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

Assisting minister

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

All

Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we

wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.

Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;

you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.

For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,

in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

Let us pray.

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.

Please be seated

A reading from Acts:

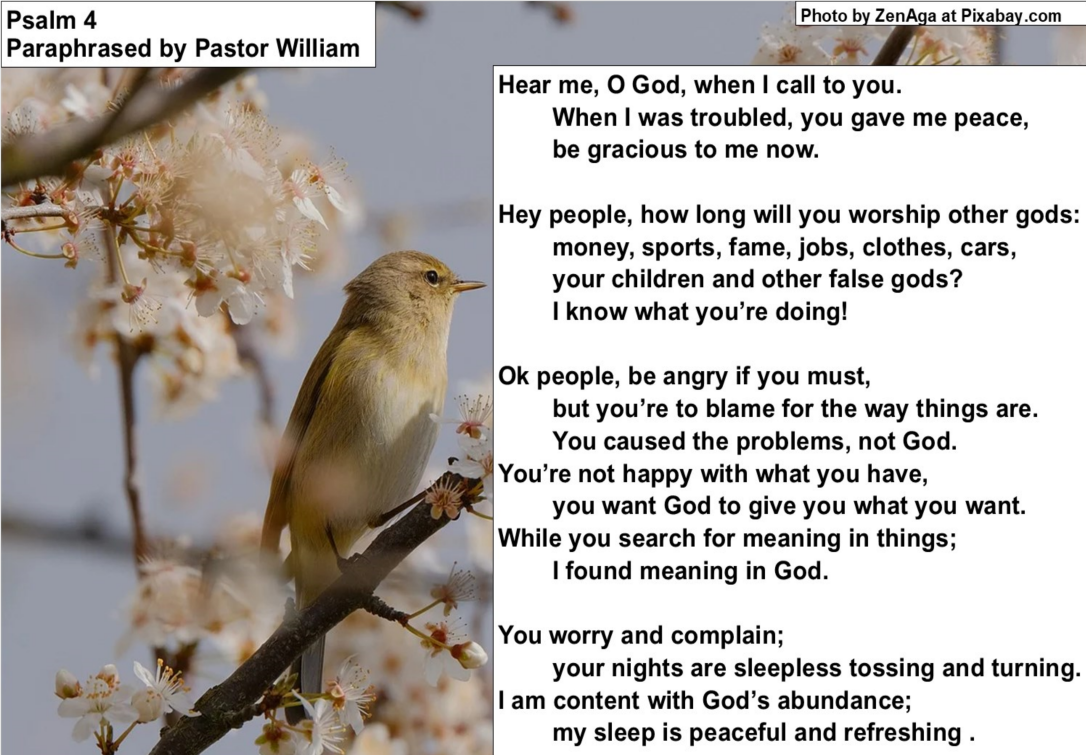
(Acts 3:12-19, Pew Bible, New Testament, page 92)

The reading concludes with:

Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm Paraphrase
(Read responsively
the indented lines)



Psalm 4
Paraphrased by Pastor William

Photo by ZenAga at Pixabay.com

Hear me, O God, when I call to you.
When I was troubled, you gave me peace,
be gracious to me now.

Hey people, how long will you worship other gods:
money, sports, fame, jobs, clothes, cars,
your children and other false gods?
I know what you're doing!

Ok people, be angry if you must,
but you're to blame for the way things are.
You caused the problems, not God.
You're not happy with what you have,
you want God to give you what you want.
While you search for meaning in things;
I found meaning in God.

You worry and complain;
your nights are sleepless tossing and turning.
I am content with God's abundance;
my sleep is peaceful and refreshing .

A reading from 1 John:

(1 John 3:1-7, Pew Bible, New Testament, page 188)

The reading concludes with:

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God

Please stand as you are able

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

The holy gospel according to St. Luke (Luke 24:36b-48, Pew Bible, New Testament, page 68)
Glory to you, O Lord

The reading concludes with:
 The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

Please be seated

Children's Time with Pastor

Sermon

Please stand as you are able

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
 Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen, 1855–1932
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AM: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence for personal prayer

O God our holy one, you feed our deepest hungers. As we share the holy meal that is the body and blood of Jesus given for us, lead us to share all that we have, and find, in generosity, abundant life. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

O God our creator, you bring forth all life on earth. Calm storms, bring water to parched places, and protect the climate, that this planet would sustain life in all its variety. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

O God our savior, you offer wisdom and guidance beyond all human knowledge. Instruct lawmakers, judges, and elected officials to make decisions grounded in your justice and care for all people. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

O God our elder, you care for all your children. Encourage those who are in times of transition, facing the loss of old ways and routines and anticipating change. Guide those who journey in grief, hope, and uncertainty. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

O God our center, you bring all people together in you. Help us to remember our identity and purpose in our ministry. Move us to love our neighbors as ourselves and to share in beloved community. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Thank you for the life of our birthday sibling,
Lorraine Weinman

O God our resting place, your Son Jesus promised that we are held in your love forever. We remember our beloved who have died. As we remember and share their love, comfort those who mourn. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

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.
Amen.

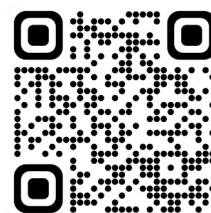
The Offering of our tithes, gifts and sacrifices is gathered for the mission of Christ's church, including the care of those in need.

ELECTRONIC GIVING

PC = <https://onrealm.org/ZionLutheranChurchNC/give/now>

Smartphone = <https://onrealm.org/ZionLutheranChurchNC/give/now>

OR Scan QR code for mobile giving



AM: Let us enthusiastically pray our prayer of stewardship, Holy Lord,
I gladly return, for your work, a portion of your abundant provision to me. All that I have is yours alone, entrusted Lord, to my care. Amen.

S 152

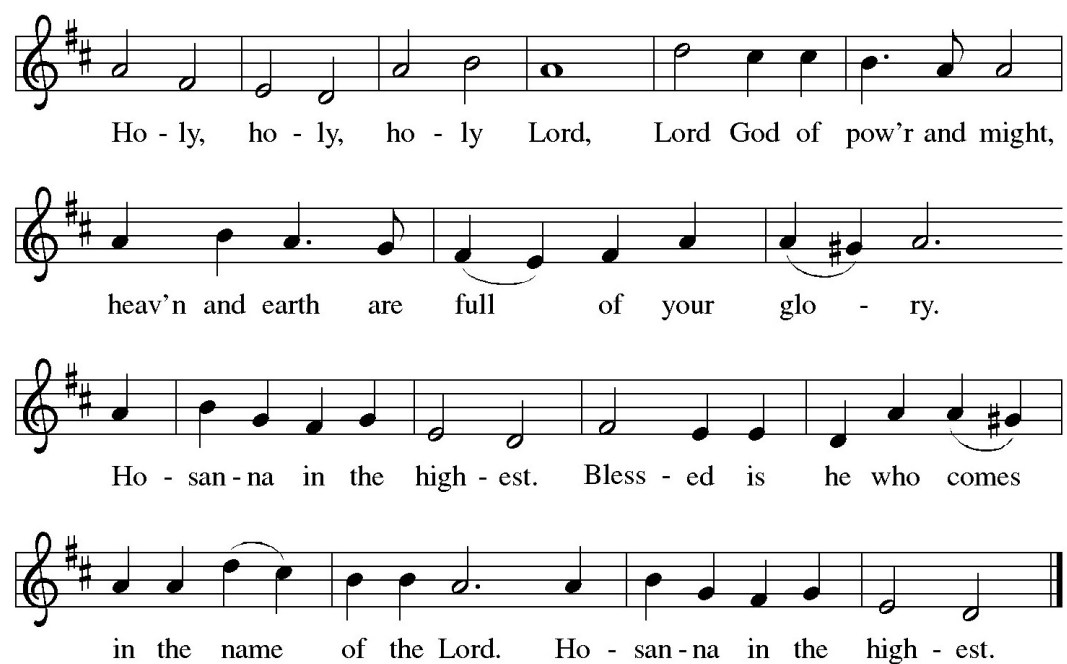
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 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 - Please look up, Pastor will be speaking these words

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your Light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit

All praise and glory are yours, Holy God, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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

Please be seated

The Lord's Supper (Communion) at this congregation is practiced as an open table – all are welcome. Jesus said this is his body and blood given and shed for you; come receive the loving grace God provides for you.

Those who do not commune may come forward for a blessing, for all are loved by God. Children who commune at their home congregation are encouraged to commune here today too. Gluten free wafers available. Request at time of receiving communion.

Communion Music

Please stand as you are able

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen

AM: Let us pray,

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.

AM: Let us enthusiastically commit to our mission as we pray,

Lord, my hope and strength comes from you. Open my eyes and heart to become the person you want me to be; a person who cares for the widows and orphans, feeds the hungry, clothes the naked, frees the oppressed, and visits the sick and imprisoned. Give me and this congregation a vision to make a difference in our community. Enliven me to spread the good news of your Son. I pray this all for Jesus's sake. Amen.

PM: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

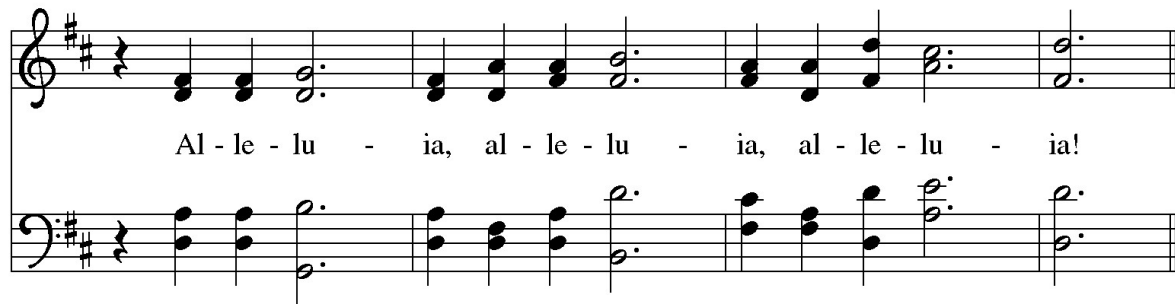
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen

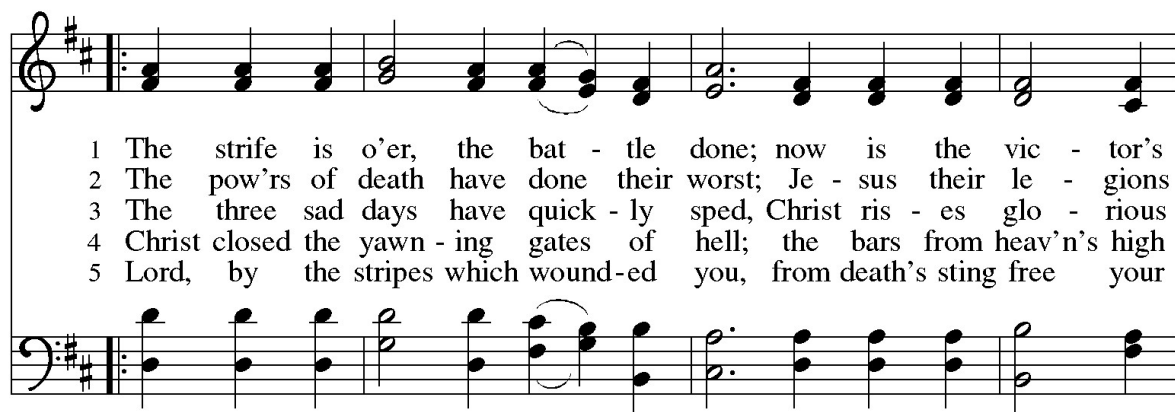
*Turn to follow the cross as it processes through the Worship Space.
Then follow it out to join in God's work.*

Verses 1-3

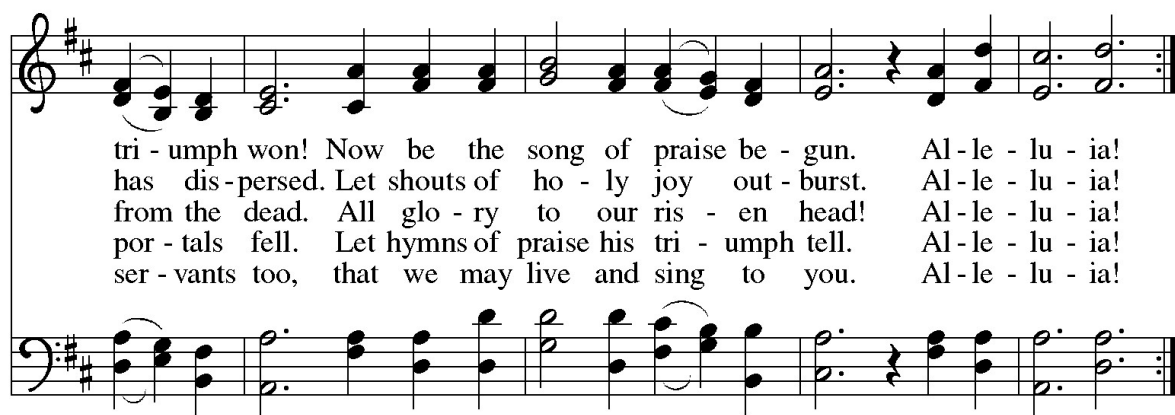
The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



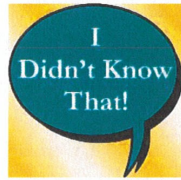
1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done; now is the vic - tor's
2 The pow'rs of death have done their worst; Je - sus their le - gions
3 The three sad days have quick - ly sped, Christ ris - es glo - rious
4 Christ closed the yawn - ing gates of hell; the bars from heav'n's high
5 Lord, by the stripes which wound - ed you, from death's sting free your



tri - umph won! Now be the song of praise be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!
has dis - persed. Let shouts of ho - ly joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!
from the dead. All glo - ry to our ris - en head! Al - le - lu - ia!
por - tals fell. Let hymns of praise his tri - umph tell. Al - le - lu - ia!
ser - vants too, that we may live and sing to you. Al - le - lu - ia!

AM: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude



What is that tall candle and why is it lit during Easter?



What is it called?

- It's proper name is; Paschal Candle (some, mistakenly call it the Christ Candle, which is a wholly different thing).
- Paschal means Easter. It comes from the Greek word *pascha*, which is derived from the Hebrew word *pesach*, meaning Passover; refer to Exodus chapter 12.

What does it mean?

- The Paschal Candle represents Christ' triumph over the darkness of sin and death.
- Fire has long been a sign of God's presence; one well-known example is the burning bush Moses encountered on Mount Sinai.
- Early Christians viewed the kindling of a new fire as a symbol of the resurrected Lord's presence amongst them.
- The Jerusalem church of the first Century blessed and lit candles every Saturday night, to be used in their celebration of the Resurrection the following day.

How is it used?

- At worship services during 50 days of Easter (Easter Sunday through the Day of Pentecost), the Paschal Candle is placed near the altar as a symbol of Chris's resurrection.
- After the Day of Pentecost, the unlit Paschal Candle is placed near the Baptismal Font as a reminder that through our Baptism we are crucified and resurrected with Christ.
- At Baptism services the Paschal Candle is lit and a small candle is lit from it and presented to the baptized or their sponsor as a visual reminder of the integral connection between Baptism and Easter,
- At Funerals the Paschal Candle is placed near the head of the casket as a reminder that "In our Baptism we have already died and been raised with Christ." (Romans 6:3-5)

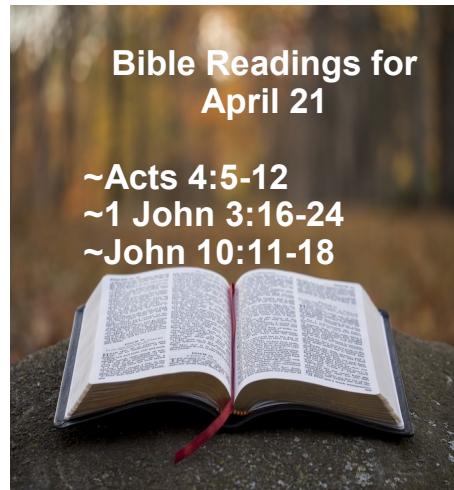
Now you know.

Today's Worship Leaders

Assisting Minister: Cindy Bagocius
Acolyte: Eli Haga
Accompanist: Digital Music
Audio/Visual Technicians: John Rhodes and Paul Bagocius
Chancel Guild: Connie Riffle & Nikki Milek
Nursery Attendant: Amelia Milek
Presiding Minister: Rev. William C. Weidenbach Jr.
Reader: Grant Schilling
Trustees: Darlene Milavickas and Randy Elsass

April 21, 2023 Worship Leaders

Assisting Minister: Linda Weidenbach
Acolyte: LJ Brown
Accompanist: Steve Moore
Audio/Visual Technicians: John Rhodes and Linda Weidenbach
Chancel Guild: Connie Riffle & Harriet Bowers
Nursery Attendant: Amelia Milek
Presiding Minister: Rev. William C. Weidenbach Jr.
Reader: Ruth Reinoehl
Trustees: Darlene Milavickas and Randy Elsass
Flowers by: Carol Rossbach in loving memory of parents Jim and Betty Kribbs

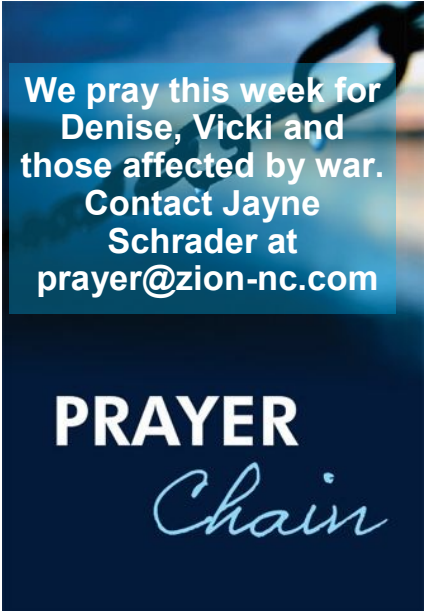


Luke 24:36b-48
Gospel Message from Pr. William

Photo by IdaT at Pixabay.com



In today's gospel reading we hear about how Jesus appeared to the disciples on the night of his being risen from the dead. And what does he have to say? "Repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in (my) name to all nations." Repentance: turn away from your selfish, self-centered ways and turn to God. Not so that your sins can be forgiven, but because they have already been forgiven. Lead a new life in Christ, be Christ to your neighbor (Martin Luther), get out there and tell everyone about this new way of life.



The Weekly News of Zion Lutheran Church

Luke 24:36b-48

Stewardship Moment from Pastor William



*Dwelling in a world
created with love and
entrusted to our care*

Stewardship in the Gospel

The newly risen Jesus appears to his disciples and gives them marching orders: proclaim forgiveness of sins in my name to all nations. God wants all people forgiven so they can have a new life of freedom from the captivity to sinful ways; freedom to be in a right relationship with God and with each other.

Stewardship in our Community

Our community could use some freedom. Not freedom to selfishly do as one wants, but freedom to do what is good for the benefit of all and for creation. Martin Luther told us that God doesn't need our good works, but our neighbors do. Jesus freed us so we could do those good works.

Stewardship in practice

Let us use our freedom to make a difference in our community. See God's abundance as a way of doing things to benefit others. Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs identifies things you can help make a reality for others: safety and security, love and belonging, and self-esteem. Look deeper at those three needs and ask God to help you have the strength and courage to do something for someone else that fulfills a need. God will give you the answer, and the ability.

Zion's Staff

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Administrative Assistant: Tina Taylor

Phone: 330-499-3909

Email: Office@zion-nc.com

IT Manager: Ray LePelley

Email: Tech@Zion-NC.com

Office hours:

9am-3pm

M-F

Doors open at 9 am

Pierstorf College Fund

The Pierstorf College Fund was established in 1994 and is a one-of-a-kind Lutheran financial aid program for all Lutheran students pursuing a higher education who live in Ohio. They have awarded over \$13 million in loans to more than 4,000 students since 1994. First time borrowers may be new or returning college students. They do not ask for family income information. The pastor of the applicant is their sole reference.

For more information, please visit Pierstorf.org to complete the online application. Applications are open from April 15 through June 30, 2024. Follow Pierstorf College Fund on Facebook and Instagram for further updates.

Please contact Pierstorf@messiahfp.org or call 440-665-3653 with any questions.



JOIN US AS WE WELCOME OUR NEW DISCIPLE
SUSAN KASCHAK ON
SUNDAY, APRIL 21
9AM WORSHIP SERVICE

The Weekly News of Zion Lutheran Church Continued....




COME AS YOU ARE!!

Wednesday Casual
Worship Service 7PM

How can I
SERVE TODAY?

Food Pantry Needs




Soup (hearty or creamy), boxed cereal, instant oatmeal

spaghetti sauce, jelly/jam, peanut butter
toilet paper, paper towels, and facial tissue

Bible Discussion Every Thursday
7am - Offsite
9am - Zoom
12pm - Zion Library

Contact office for info



Let's dig in together

**Need a helping hand with any chores?
The Zion Men's Group is willing to help!**




Stop in the office for a request form.

**1st & 3rd Tuesdays 12:00-2:00pm
April 15 - 5-7pm**



Zion's Shared Goods

JOIN US FOR
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
ADULT & CHILDREN CLASSES



Today, 10:15 - 11:15 am



Mark your calendars for the Stark Hunger Walk Sunday, May 5. Info on bulletin board in hallway
All proceeds benefit the Stark County Regional Foodbank!

Church Council MEETING
April 16 - 7pm