

PEACE
BE WITH
you

Third Sunday of Easter

April 14, 2024

The gospel for the third Sunday of Easter is always one in which the risen Christ shares food with the disciples, meals that are the Easter template for the meal we share each Sunday. In today's gospel, Jesus both shares the disciples' food and shows them the meaning of his suffering, death, and resurrection through the scriptures, the two main elements of our Sunday worship.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

PRELUDE

WELCOME

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
the wellspring of grace,
our Easter and our joy.

Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism,
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.
We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning
your voice thundered over the deep
and water became the essence of life.
Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.
The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.
Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea
into freedom's land.
In a desert pool the Ethiopian official
entered your boundless baptismal life.
Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection
you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,
freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts,
giving all honor and praise to you,
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

HYMN

***Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!* RED ELW #377
(Vs. 1, 2 & 5)**

- 1 Alleluia! Jesus is risen!
Trumpets resounding in glorious light!
Splendor, the Lamb, heaven forever!
Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!

Refrain

Jesus is risen and we shall arise.
Give God the glory! Alleluia!

- 2 Walking the way, Christ in the center
telling the story to open our eyes;
breaking our bread, giving us glory:
Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise. *Refrain*
- 5 City of God, Easter forever,
golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,
river of life, saints and archangels,
sing with creation to God the I AM! *Refrain*

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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Now the Feast and Celebration RED ELW #167

Refrain

**Now the feast and celebration,
all of creation sings for joy
to the God of life and love and freedom;
praise and glory forevermore!**

**1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain,
whose blood has freed and united us
to be one great people of God. *Refrain***

**2 Power and riches, wisdom and might,
all honor and glory to Christ forever. *Refrain***

**3 For God has come to dwell with us,
to make us people of God;
to make all things new. *Refrain***

Text: Marty Haugen b. 1950

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

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.

FIRST READING: Acts 3:12-19

After healing a man unable to walk, Peter preaches to the people, describing how God's promises to Israel have been fulfilled in Jesus. Through the proclamation of Christ's death and resurrection, God is offering them forgiveness and restoration in Jesus' name.

¹²[Peter] 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?"¹³The 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. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And 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.

¹⁷"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 4

¹Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause;
you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

²**"You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory;
how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?"**

³Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful;
the LORD will hear me when I call.

⁴**Tremble, then, and do not sin;
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.**

⁵Offer the appointed sacrifices,
and put your trust in the LORD.

⁶**Many are saying, “Who will show us any good?”**

Let the light of your face shine upon us, O LORD.

⁷You have put gladness in my heart,
more than when grain and wine abound.

⁸**In peace, I will lie down and sleep;
for you alone, O LORD, make me rest secure.**

PLEASE RISE FOR THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Celtic Alleluia RED ELW #174

Alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL: Luke 24:36b-48

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In this account of an appearance after his resurrection, Jesus opens the minds of the disciples to understand him as Messiah. Jesus convinces them that he has been raised and sends them on a mission to proclaim the message of repentance and forgiveness.

^{36b}Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, “Peace be with you.” ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look 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.” ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴Then 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.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON ON THE STEPS

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

As We Gather at Your Table RED ELW #522

- 1 As we gather at your table,
as we listen to your word,
help us know, O God, your presence;
let our hearts and minds be stirred.
Nourish us with sacred story
till we claim it as our own;
teach us through this holy banquet
how to make Love's vict'ry known.
- 2 Turn our worship into witness
in the sacrament of life;
send us forth to love and serve you,
bringing peace where there is strife.
Give us, Christ, your great compassion
to forgive as you forgave;
may we still behold your image
in the world you died to save.
- 3 Gracious Spirit, help us summon
other guests to share that feast
where triumphant Love will welcome
those who had been last and least.
There no more will envy blind us
nor will pride our peace destroy,
as we join with saints and angels
to repeat the sounding joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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 PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN

We Are an Offering RED ELW #692

**We lift our voices, We lift our hands,
We lift our lives up to You:
We are an offering.
Lord use our voices, Lord use our hands,
Lord use our lives they are Yours:
We are an offering.
All that we have, All that we are,
All that we hope to be,
We give to You, We give to You
We lift our voices, We lift our hands
We lift our lives up to You:
We are an offering
We are an offering**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.

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.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also 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.

PREFACE

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:

HOLY HOLY HOLY

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest,
hosanna in the highest.**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord, Jesus Christ took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to the disciples saying, "Take and eat. This is my body given for you. Do this in 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 sins. Do this in remembrance of me."

Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us 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 COMMUNION

The risen Christ is made known to us
in the breaking of the bread.

Come and eat at God's table.

COMMUNION

(Zion practices an open table. God welcomes everyone to come forward. Young children may receive bread and a blessing. If you prefer not to receive, fold your hands and receive a blessing. Grape juice and gluten free wafers are available; please ask your servers. Come to the Lord's table and share in the feast!)

LAMB OF GOD

RED ELW page 208

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
you suffered death our lives to save: have mercy now, we pray.**

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mercy now, we pray.**

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
eternal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.**

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION BLESSING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Life-giving God,

in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

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.

CLOSING HYMN

The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done RED ELW #366

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

- 1 The strife is o'er, the battle done;
now is the victor's triumph won!
Now be the song of praise begun. Alleluia!
- 2 The pow'rs of death have done their worst;
Jesus their legions has dispersed.
Let shouts of holy joy outburst. Alleluia!
- 3 The three sad days have quickly sped,
Christ rises glorious from the dead.
All glory to our risen head! Alleluia!
- 4 Christ closed the yawning gates of hell;
the bars from heav'n's high portals fell.
Let hymns of praise his triumph tell. Alleluia!

5 Lord, by the stripes that wounded you,
from death's sting free your servants too,
that we may live and sing to you. Alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: *Symphonia Sirenum*, Köln, 1695; tr. Francis Pott, 1832-1909

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!



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4/15/2023 for ELW hymns

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Pastor Gretchen Pierskalla

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pastor@zionarlington.org

Unscheduled—Interruptible Hours for the week of April 7

Tuesday, 4/9—1p-4p

Wednesday, 4/10—1p-5p

Or by appointment

*Pr. Gretchen will be on vacation April 12-April 17. In her absence you may contact Pastor Kay Roloff (Immanuel Lutheran Church, New Auburn) at 507-339-7947.

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Weekly Announcements



Please keep these family, friends and members in your prayers: Christy Hebeisen, Lowell Tritabaugh, Jenna Dobner, Dilshad & Sonya Perani, Gary Revier, Cindy Hebeisen, and Deb Otto

Welcome Guests!

Please sign the visitor book in the entrance to the sanctuary.

We are glad you are here!

Thank you to Pastor Andy Evenson for leading us in worship today!

Outdoor Clean Up Sunday and Potluck—April 21

Come to church in your outside working clothes. After service we will be doing outside clean up at Zion. Please bring your trimming tools, rakes, leaf blower, gloves, buckets, etc. Also, bring a favorite dish for a potluck lunch after the hard work is done. For those not able to help with the outside work, please bring a dish for potluck and join in fellowship. In case of inclement weather, we will reschedule.

Clattering Coins for Christ on April 21—gifts will be given to Green Lake Lutheran Ministries

Minnesota Valley Action Council will be holding their 2nd annual Backpack Community Fair in fall and they are asking for the help of area churches. The goal of the Backpack Community Fair to obtain a variety of backpacks, **NEW with tags**, fill them with school supplies to help families in need. MVAC is asking area churches to attempt to collect a variety of 20 backpacks for Grade PreK-6 (**unused** with tags - colorful, cartoons, etc) and a variety of 10 backpacks (**unused** with tags, preference gender neutral colors.) The backpacks need to be delivered to MN Valley Action Council by May 1st. After Easter, there will be a tote in the narthex for the backpacks.

Please contact a member of the Board of Stewardship or Pastor Gretchen with any questions.

The next gathering of the Minnesota Valley Conference partnership ministry with the Vryheid Circuit in South Africa is from 6-8 p.m. Thursday, April 18 at Zion Lutheran in Arlington. The event starts with a simple meal involving a free will offering. All are welcome to learn about this ministry with representatives from each congregation requested. The March 21 gathering was cancelled due to weather issues. Election of the leadership teams will be conducted. Current leaders are welcome to continue. There will be reports from the recent exchange of visitors and plans made to meet with leaders from South Africa in June. To be put on the email list to stay connected send contact information to Dave Pedersen, dlpeders@msn.com. 763-807-0993.

Zion Lutheran Church services can be viewed on:

Facebook at
Zion Lutheran Church

YouTube at
www.youtube.com

Search: Zion ELCA Arlington MN
www.zionarlington.org

Worship Assistants

April 14

Usher: Peg Kamps, Cindy Hebeisen

Wendy Kube, Jan Wark

Greeter: Rich & Roseann Nagel

Acolyte: Daphne Hazelwood

Reader: Scott Bergs

Organist: Bobette Schauer

AV Team: Joe Prasad & Tim Michaelis

Altar Guild: Peg Kamps

Lorraine Mielke

Bread Making: Jane Scharpe

April 21

Usher: Carrie & Hannah Bartlette

Larry Gieseke, Deb Stenzel

Greeter: Cindy Osborne

Acolyte: Alice Foss

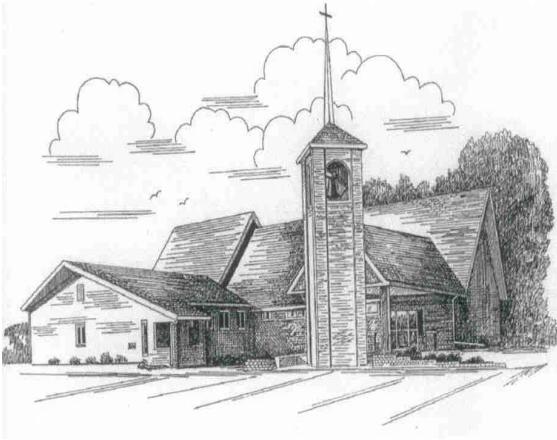
Reader: Betty Rud

Organist: Bobette Schauer

AV Team: Elton Hazelwood & Tim Michaelis

The WELCA SWMN Meeting will be at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Redwood Falls on Saturday, May 4. Zion women, please consider attending! ZCW will pay your registration fee of \$40. See the bulletin board for details and registration forms. See Mary Sylwester for registration fee payment.

Zion Lutheran Church ELCA



This Week at Zion:

Sunday, April 14	9:00a 10:00a 10:00a 1-3:00p	Worship w/Holy Communion—Live-stream, in-person Sunday School Sunday Bible Study Maranatha Church
Thursday, April 18	10:00a 6-8p 6-8p	Adult Bible Study Vryheid Meeting Maranatha Church
Friday, April 19	5:30p	Supper & Bunco
Sunday, April 21	9:00a 10:00a 1-3:00p 5:00p	Worship—Live-stream, in-person Sunday School Maranatha Church Youth Game Night

