



"Receive the Holy Spirit."
John 20:22

Second Sunday of Easter

April 7, 2024

The Easter season is a week of weeks, seven Sundays when we play in the mystery of Christ's presence, mostly through the glorious Gospel of John. Today we gather with the disciples on the first Easter, and Jesus breathes the Spirit on us. With Thomas we ask for a sign, and Jesus offers us his wounded self in the broken bread. From frightened individuals we are transformed into a community of open doors, peace, forgiveness, and material sharing such that no one among us is in need.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

PRELUDE

WELCOME

HYMN

Children of the Heavenly Father RED ELW #781
(Vs. 1, 2 & 3)

- 1 Children of the heav'nly Father
safely in his bosom gather;
nestling bird nor star in heaven
such a refuge e'er was given.**
- 2 God his own doth tend and nourish,
in his holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things he spares them,
in his mighty arms he bears them.**
- 3 Neither life nor death shall ever
from the Lord his children sever;
unto them his grace he showeth,
and their sorrows all he knoweth.**

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870-1958
Text © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

BAPTISM

Willie Hayes Robinson

BAPTISMAL HYMN

You Belong to Christ RED ELW #212
(sing 3 times)

BAPTISMAL WELCOME

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share:
join us in giving thanks and praise to God
and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

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

Text © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved.
Used by permission.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

FIRST READING: Acts 4:32-35

While the apostles testified to others about the resurrection of Jesus, the early Christian community shared what they owned or sold their possessions to help their fellow believers who were in need.

³²Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. ³³With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 133

¹How good and how pleasant it is,
when kindred live together in unity!

²**It is like fine oil upon the head, flowing down upon the beard,
upon the beard of Aaron, flowing down upon the collar of his robe.**

³It is like the dew of Hermon flowing down upon the hills of Zion.
For there the LORD has commanded the blessing: life forevermore.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The story of Easter continues as the risen Jesus appears to his disciples. His words to Thomas offer a blessing to all who entrust themselves in faith to the risen Lord.

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON ON THE STEPS

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

We Walk by Faith RED ELW #635
(Vs. 1, 2, 3 & 4)

- 1 We walk by faith and not by sight;
with gracious words draw near,
O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke:
"My peace be with you here."
- 2 We may not touch your hands and side,
nor follow where you trod;
but in your promise we rejoice,
and cry, "My Lord and God!"
- 3 Help then, O Lord, our unbelief;
and may our faith abound
to call on you when you are near
and seek where you are found:
- 4 For you, O resurrected Lord,
are found in means divine:
beneath the water and the word,
beneath the bread and wine.

Text: Henry Alford, 1810-1871, alt.

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.

RED ELW page 207

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

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

That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright RED ELW #384
(Vs. 1 & 4)

- 1 That Easter day with joy was bright;
the sun shone out with fairer light
when, to their longing eyes restored,
th'apostles saw their risen Lord!

- 4 All praise, O risen Lord, we give
to you, once dead, but now alive!
To God the Father equal praise,
and God the Spirit, now we raise!

Text: Latin hymn, 5th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Christ goes before you.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!



From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2021 Augsburg Fortress.

All rights reserved.

License #SB122759—11/30/2022

One License #A-732489

4/15/2023 for ELW hymns

All rights reserved.

CCLI License #20990483

Copyright License + Streaming License—2/29/2024

All rights reserved.

Pastor Gretchen Pierskalla

952-237-1060

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.

Zion Lutheran Church
814 West Brooks St. P.O. Box 371
Arlington, MN 55307
Church: 507-964-5454

Email: zion.elca.814@gmail.com

Web: zionarlington.org // YouTube: Zion ELCA Arlington MN

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!

Baptized today is Willie Hayes Robinson. Willie is the son of Dakota and Brittany Robinson and he has 2 older brothers Waylon and Walker. Willie's sponsors are Sarah & Cole Robinson and Marshall Robinson. Welcome to God's family!

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

Sunday Offerings >>>>>>			
3/3/2024	\$ 1,978.61	Lenten 3/6/2024	\$ 403.00
3/10/2024	\$ 2,793.49	Lenten 3/13/2024	\$ 216.00
3/17/2024	\$ 1,963.06	Lenten 3/20/2024	\$ 354.00
3/24/2024	\$ 1,559.36	Lenten 3/28/24 & 3/29/24	\$ 2,850.25
3/31/2024	\$ 1,496.34	Paypal & Other	\$ 7,273.26
2024 Monthly Giving >>>>>>			
January	\$ 9,076.91	July	\$ -
February	\$15,017.63	August	\$ -
March	\$20,887.37	September	\$ -
April	\$ -	October	\$ -
May	\$ -	November	\$ -
June	\$ -	December	\$ -
2024 Weekly Budget	\$ 3,515.00	2024 Monthly Budget	\$15,234.58

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 7

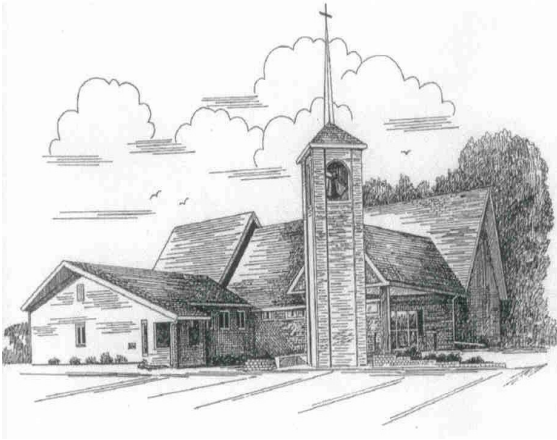
Usher: Ryan & Kate Bergs
Ross Bergs, Scott Bergs
Greeter: Lyle & Betty Rud
Acolyte: Adilyn Kamps
Reader: Laurie Stern
Organist: Bobette Schauer
AV Team: Matt & Jan Giesen
Altar Guild: Gordon & Barb Bergs
Bread Making: Jane Scharpe

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

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.)

Zion Lutheran Church ELCA



This Week at Zion:

Sunday, April 7	9:00a	Worship w/Holy Communion—Live-stream, in-person Baptism of Willie Robinson
	10:00a	Sunday School
	1-3:00p	Maranatha Church
Tuesday, April 9	10:00a	Prayer Shawl
Wednesday, April 10	7:00p	Church Council
Thursday, April 11	10:00a	Adult Bible Study
	5:30p	Board of Stewardship Meeting
	6-8p	Maranatha Church
Saturday, April 13	8:00a	Men's Prayer Breakfast
	11:30a	WELCA Conference @ Grace, Brownton
Sunday, April 14	9:00a	Worship w/Holy Communion—Live-stream, in-person
	10:00a	Sunday School
	1-3:00p	Maranatha Church

