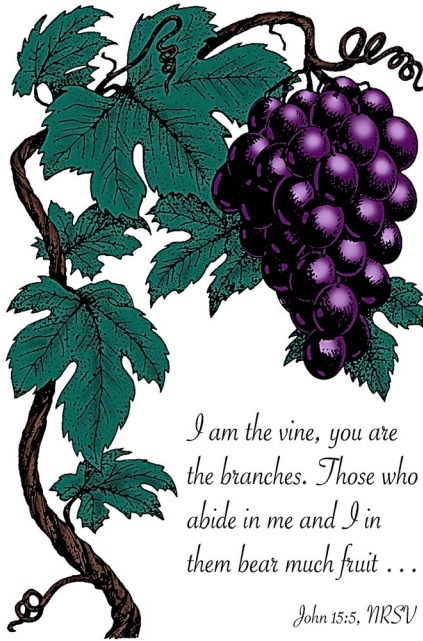


# Zion Lutheran Church



*I am the vine, you are  
the branches. Those who  
abide in me and I in  
them bear much fruit . . .*

*John 15:5, NRSV*

May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021  
Fifth Sunday of Easter



## **Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church & Preschool!**

Thank you for joining us in worship of the Lord. We would love to get to know you, and for you to learn more about our church family at Zion. We cordially invite you to talk with Pastor Grimenstein, our Elders, or any of our church members to learn more about our fellowship. At our website -- [zlc.org](http://zlc.org) -- you can find out more about the many worship, Christian education, and fellowship opportunities at Zion.

### **Communion Statement**

We believe that in the Lord's Supper, Christ's physical body and blood are present in the bread and wine (1Cor. 11:23-25). We also believe receiving the Lord's Supper is an act of church fellowship. Scripture cautions that those who receive without recognizing Christ's body and blood will bring judgment upon themselves (1 Cor. 11:27-29). Therefore, out of love to our guests, we invite to our altar those who are baptized, confirmed, repentant members of Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod congregations or sister congregations. Visitors desiring to commune are asked to please announce their intentions to an elder or pastor. Everyone is welcome to sing the hymns during communion as we contemplate Christ's mercy to us.

In preparation to receive the Lord's Supper in a worthy manner please consider reading "Christian Questions with their Answers" on Page 329-330. If you are interested in exploring membership, please talk with Pastor Grimenstein after the service, or call the church office.

Opening Hymn – Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun #868



1 A - wake, my soul, and with the sun Thy dai - ly  
 2 In con - ver - sa - tion be sin - cere, Thy con - science  
 3 All praise to Thee, who safe hast kept And hast re -  
 4 Lord, I my vows to Thee re - new; Dis - perse my



stage of du - ty run; Shake off dull sloth and  
 as the noon - day clear; Think how the all - see - ing  
 freshed me while I slept; Grant, Lord, when I from  
 sins as morn - ing dew; Guard my first springs of



joy - ful rise To pay thy morn - ing sac - ri - fice.  
 God thy ways And all thy se - cret thoughts sur - veys.  
 death shall wake, I may of end - less light par - take.  
 thought and will And with Thy - self my spir - it fill.

5 Direct, control, suggest this day  
 All I design or do or say  
 That all my pow'rs with all their might  
 In Thy sole glory may unite.

△ 6 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
 Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
 Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:  
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Tune and text: Public domain

**P** In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** 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.**

**P** 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 of the  $\text{†}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

### Service of the Word

#### Introit



**P** A little while, and you will see me no | longer;  
and again a little while, and you will | see me.

**C** I will extol you, my | God and King,  
and bless your name forever and | ever.

Every day I will | bless you  
and praise your name forever and | ever.

The LORD is gracious and | merciful,  
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.

All your works shall give thanks to you, | O LORD,  
and all your saints shall | bless you!

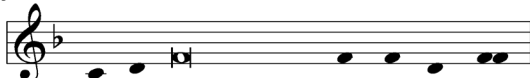
My mouth will speak the praise | of the LORD,  
and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and | ever.

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.

**P** A little while, and you will see me no | longer;  
and again a little while, and you will | see me.

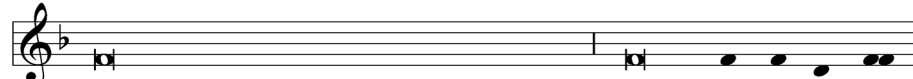
# Kyrie



**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.




**C** Lord, have mer - cy.




**A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



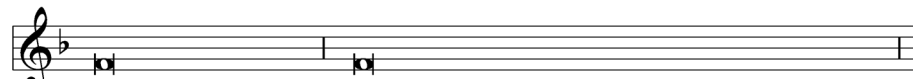
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



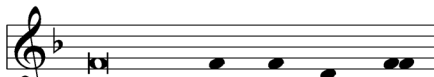
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



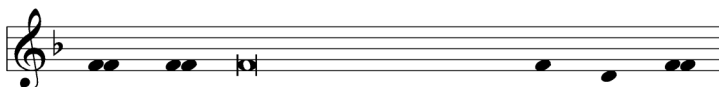
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



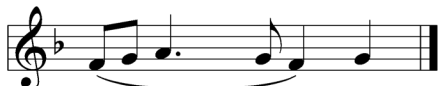
let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra-cious Lord.



**C** A - men.

### This Is the Feast



**C** This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



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



1 — Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and  
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and  
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to  
 5 For the Lamb ——— who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*  
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*  
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*  
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*  
 gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

*Cont'd...*

*Final Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-tory for our God.

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

**Salutation and Collect of the Day**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Let us pray.

O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** A - men.

**First Reading – Acts 8:26–40**

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is a desert place. And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. And the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and join this chariot.” So Philip ran to him and heard him reading

Isaiah the prophet and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter  
and like a lamb before its shearer is silent,  
so he opens not his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.”

And the eunuch said to Philip, “About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?” And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### **Epistle Reading – 1 John 4:1-11**

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.





Hymn of the Day -- At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing #633



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to  
 2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His  
 3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death's dread  
 4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide  
 sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—  
 an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um-phant go  
 vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Mighty Victim from the sky,  
 Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;  
 You have conquered in the fight,  
 You have brought us life and light.  
 Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!  
 This alone can sin destroy;  
 From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,  
 Newborn souls in You to be.  
 Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,  
 Now no more the grave enthrall;  
 You have opened paradise,  
 And Your saints in You shall rise.  
 Alleluia!

△ 8 Father, who the crown shall give,  
 Savior, by whose death we live,  
 Spirit, guide through all our days:  
 Three in One, Your name we praise.  
 Alleluia!

Tune and text: Public domain

**Sermon**

## Offertory



**C** What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to  
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will  
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-  
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the  
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa-lem.

## Apostles' Creed

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.  
And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.  
the third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life † everlasting. Amen.


### Prayer of the Church

**P** ... Let us pray to the Lord.

**C** ... Lord have mercy.

### Service of the Sacrament


#### Preface




**P** The Lord be with you.



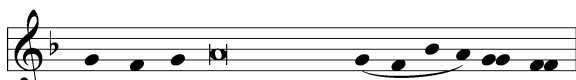
**C** And al - so with you.



**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them to the Lord.



**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

### Sanctus



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are 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 in the high - est.

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

**P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive





### Agnus Dei

Musical notation for the Agnus Dei. It consists of four treble clef staves with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody is a simple, flowing line. A square 'C' time signature is placed below the first note of the first staff. The lyrics are written below the notes.

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.

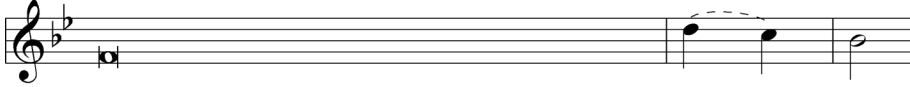
### Distribution

Men's Choir – *Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus* (8:00)

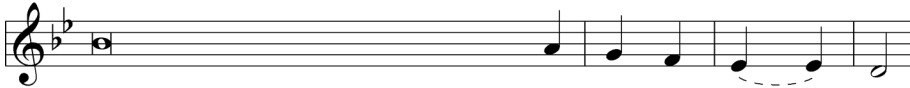
#### Distribution Hymns

Fruitful Trees, the Spirit's Sowing	#691
Christ the Lord is Risen Today	#469
I Come, O Savior, to the Table	#618

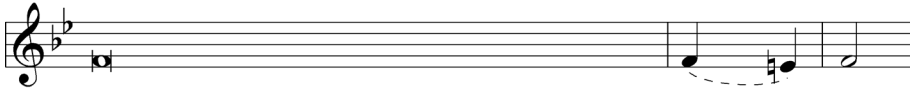
## Te Deum



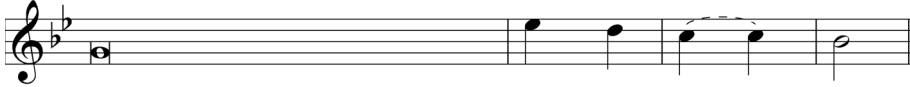
- C** 1 We praise You, O God; we acknowledge You to be the Lord.  
2 Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of . . . . . Sab - a - oth;  
3 The noble army of martyrs . . . . . praise — You.



- 1 All the earth now worships You, the Fa-ther ev - er - last - ing.  
2 heaven and earth are full of the majes - ty of Your glo - ry.  
3 The holy Church throughout all the world does ac - knowl-edge You:



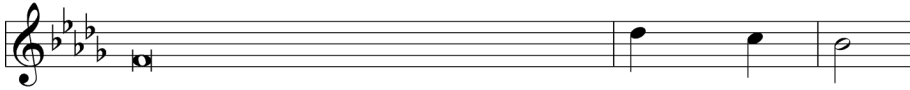
- 1 To You all angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the pow'rs there-in.  
2 The glorious company of the apostles . . . . . praise — You.  
3 The Father of an infinite majesty; Your adorable, true, and on - ly Son;  
4 You are the king of glory, . . . . . O — Christ;



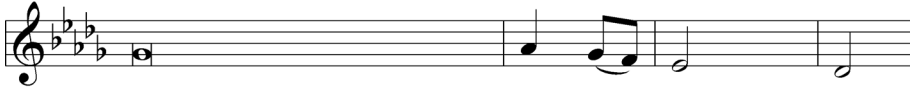
- 1 To You cherubim and seraphim con - tin - ual - ly do cry:  
2 The goodly fellowship of the . . . . . proph-ets praise — You.  
3 also the Holy . . . . . Ghost, the Com-fort - er.  
4 You are the everlasting Son . . . . . of the Fa - ther.



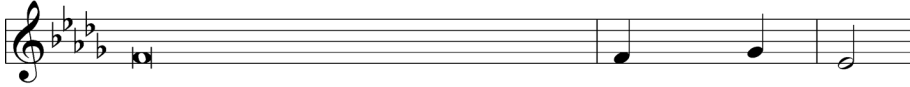




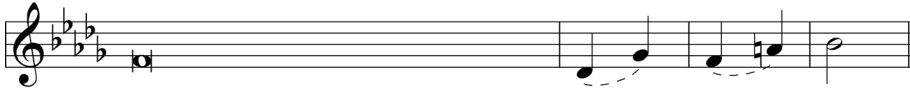
5 When You took upon Yourself to de - liv - er man,  
6 You sit at the right . . . . . hand of God



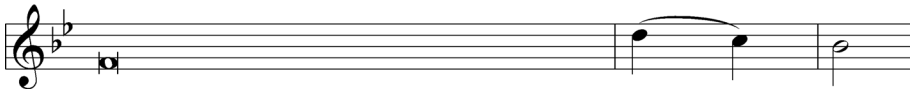
5 You humbled Yourself to be born of a vir - gin.  
6 in the glory . . . . . of the Fa - ther.



5 When You had overcome the . . . . . sharpness of death,  
6 We believe that . . . . . You will come



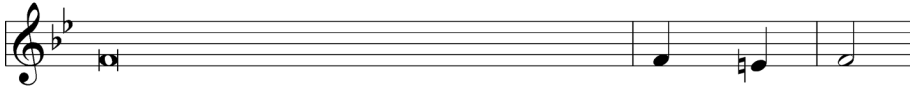
5 You opened the kingdom of heaven to all be - liev - ers.  
6 to . . . . . be our judge.



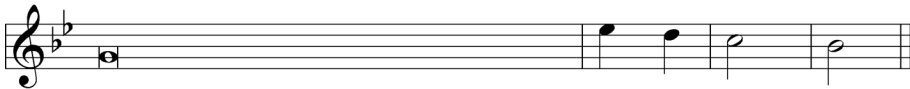
7 We therefore pray You to help Your . . . . . ser - vants,



7 whom You have redeem - ed with Your pre - cious blood.



7 Make them to be numbered . . . . . with Your saints



7 in glory . . . . . ev - er - last - ing.

## Post-Communion Collect

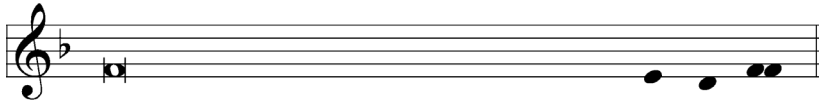
**P** Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

## Benediction



**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you  
and be gracious to you.

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



**C** A - men.



Closing Hymn – Christ, the Word of God Incarnate #540



1 Christ, the Word of God in - car - nate, Lord and Son of  
 2 Christ, the liv - ing bread from heav - en, Food for bod - y,  
 3 Christ, the shoot that springs tri - um - phant From the stump of  
 4 Christ, our good and faith - ful shep - herd, Watch - ing all Your



A - bra - ham; Christ, the ra - diance of the Fa - ther,  
 food for soul; Christ, the man - na dai - ly giv - en,  
 Jes - se's tree; Christ, true vine, You nur - ture branch - es  
 lambs and sheep; Christ, the gate that guards the sheep - fold,



Per - fect God, the great I AM; Christ, the light, You  
 Nour - ish, strength - en, make us whole. Feed us with the  
 To bear fruit a - bun - dant - ly. Graft us in - to  
 Nev - er - fail - ing vig - il keep. When we stray, Good



shine un - van - quished, Light and life You bring to all; Light our  
 food of heav - en, Fore - taste of the feast to be; Quench our  
 You, O Sav - ior; Prune our hearts so we re - main Fruit - ful  
 Shep - herd, seek us, Find us, lift us, bear us home; Lamb of



path with Your own pres - ence, Grant us grace to heed Your call.  
 thirst with liv - ing wa - ter Spring - ing up e - ter - nal - ly.  
 branch - es in Your vine - yard Till e - ter - nal life we gain.  
 God, our shep - herd, keep us; Let us hear Your voice a - lone.

5 Christ, the way that leads un failing  
 To the Father's home on high,  
 Christ, the truth that frees the captive,  
 Christ, the life that cannot die.  
 Mediator to the Father,  
 Sacrifice and great High Priest:  
 Lead us to Your heav'nly mansions,  
 There to share Your wedding feast.

△6 Christ, the Alpha and Omega,  
 Christ, the firstborn from the dead,  
 Christ, the life and resurrection,  
 Christ, the Church's glorious head:  
 Praise and thanks and adoration  
 And unending worship be  
 To the Father and the Spirit  
 And to You eternally.

*Please leave your bulletin on the pew where you were seated to assist our custodian with sanitizing the pews following the service.*

#### **Acknowledgments**

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### **Prayer Requests for Family & Friends**

#### **The Church:**

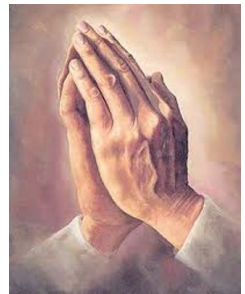
- For our homebound members:** Tom Bicusky, Florence Boehme, Lois Dittmer, Joan Cisko, Dottie Heslop, John & Bobbie Hoelle, Vince Kimberland, and Janet Hickey
- Healing for:** Dwayne Kaufman, Carol Wuerthele, Ruth Rostron, Patti Neill, Judy Graziano, Alyssa Mance, Shannon Mance, Elias Kazas, Marian Siek, Don and Deana Thielet, Dave Hutula, Ron Valentino, Norma Dyson, Mabel Granke, Mary Reihing, and Jennifer Meyer.
- For our missions/missionaries,** especially Pastor Wokoma and The Siberian Lutheran Mission Society.
- For all who care for loved ones with illnesses.
- For the ministry of Zion Lutheran Sunday School and Preschool.

#### **The World:**

- For an end to the pandemic, and for the safety of all who are fighting it.
- For an end to abortion and human trafficking.
- For the youth in our community.

#### **Our Nation:**

- For our leaders and government officials.
- For those in foster care and those looking to adopt.
- For the disabled, unborn and aged.
- For those whose work it is to protect us.
- For godly care of the earth.



## † *Service Participants* †

Pastor:	Rev. Dr. Edward Grimenstein
Music Director:	Mark Killinger
The Organist:	Sandy Quinlan
The Elders:	Bob Schmidt & Jim Neill
The Acolyte:	Decklan Pasquini (8:00) Christian Bonacci (10:30)
The Ushers:	Kathleen Conn, Michael Grimenstein Janet & Larry Zreliak (8:00) Ross Chilcott, Bob Bonacci Bill Koester, Chuck LaJeunesse (10:30)
Altar Guild:	Megan Pasquini, Diana Schmidt, Barb Oechslein

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given by Dallas & Christa (nee Coyle) Blayney in celebration of their wedding yesterday at Zion.

**ETERNAL LIGHT** is given by Dallas & Christa (nee Coyle) Blayney in memory of loved ones.

**PARENTS ...** A Nursery Room for children 3 and under is available on Sundays in the lower level near the Fellowship Hall (Room 101).

Parent supervision is required as there are no nursery volunteer attendants at this time. In addition, the Family Care Room in the back of the sanctuary is equipped with a nursing chair and changing station items.



### Last Week in Worship

Sunday Worship Attendance (4/25) – 45 (8 am); 70 (10:30 am)

Wednesday Worship Attendance (4/28) -- 14

Sunday Offering (4/25) – \$3245

Online Offering – \$955

~ Online giving is available on the donate page of Zion's website [www.zlcb.org](http://www.zlcb.org), and through the "Give Plus" app from Vanco Payment Solutions.

## *This Week at Zion*

<b>SUN</b> <b>5/2</b>	8:00 AM – Worship 9:15/9:20 AM – Adult/Teen Bible Study & Children’s Sunday Sch. 10:30 AM – Worship
<b>MON</b> <b>5/3</b>	6:00 PM – 1 <sup>st</sup> year Confirmation Class 6:15 PM – Grace Bell Choir 7:00 PM – Trustees’ Meeting 7:00 PM – 2 <sup>nd</sup> year Confirmation Class 7:15 PM – Choir 8:15 PM – Faith Bell Choir
<b>TUE</b> <b>5/4</b>	
<b>WED</b> <b>5/5</b>	7:00 PM – Service of Prayer & Preaching
<b>THU</b> <b>5/6</b>	
<b>FRI</b> <b>5/7</b>	
<b>SAT</b> <b>5/8</b>	
<b>SUN</b> <b>5/9</b>	8:00 AM – Worship 9:15/9:20 AM – Adult/Teen Bible Study & Children’s Sunday Sch. 10:30 AM – Worship

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN MINISTRIES

# 2021 CLM Golf Classic

Treesdale Golf & Country Club  
Monday, July 12, 2021

8:30 a.m. - Registration, Breakfast, Gifts & Skill Contests  
(Putting Green and Driving Range open)

10 a.m. - Shot Gun Start (Scramble)

3 p.m. - Reception

4 p.m. - Banquet & Program



Several Zion Members have already registered for this event which benefits CLM's benevolent care fund!

If you'd like to play and are interested in joining a group of other Zion golfers, contact Bill Bishop at [wrbishopiii@gmail.com](mailto:wrbishopiii@gmail.com) or 412-398-1796. The event fee of \$225 per golfer includes breakfast, lunch, refreshments, dinner and a silent auction.

## We Need You!

### at Vacation Bible School



We are planning in-person VBS the week of **June 21 – 25 from 9am – noon.** **Online registration will be available this week!**

The VBS team is developing a safe environment for both students and volunteers. At this point, our current and most important need is volunteers to help in areas such as the nursery and guiding children to VBS stations. If you would like to help or have any questions, you can contact Katie Gielarowski at [sundayschool@zlc.org](mailto:sundayschool@zlc.org), or in person.



## Kids Fishing Derby

Saturday, May 22, 2021

8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Saxony Farm Lake

Adley Boy Lane, Saxenburg

No entry fee

Open to all kids 14 and under

Free refreshments

Bait provided by Concordia

Prizes all day

Participants must have an adult chaperone



Call Concordia Public Relations for more information at 724-352-1571, ext. 8268.  
Social distancing will be encouraged, enhanced cleaning procedures will be in place and disposable masks will be available for those who would like one. Registration is strongly encouraged by visiting the Events & News section of the Concordia website:

[www.concordiam.org/events-news/fishingderby2021](http://www.concordiam.org/events-news/fishingderby2021).



# KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

## Why do we worship on Sunday?

Do you remember on what day Jesus rose from the dead? On what day did Jesus appear to His disciples on the road to Emmaus? If you guessed Sunday, you are right! The Early Church gathered on Sunday because it directed our attention to Jesus' resurrection from the dead. Many other miraculous events in the early Christian Church, such as Pentecost, happened on Sunday.



## When did Christians begin gathering together for worship on Sundays?

We know from the Bible that during Paul's lifetime Christians met on Sunday to hear God's Word and celebrate Holy Communion (Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 16:2). Though Christians in different regions of the world sometimes worshipped on different days, by A.D. 325 most Christians worshipped on Sunday because they considered it "the Lord's Day." Wow, what a great tradition we share with our Christian ancestors!



**Parents:** In the Early Church, Christians used different terms for their day of worship such as "First Day" or "Eighth Day." The label "the Lord's Day" stands out as the most significant title chosen by the Church. Direct your children to the significance in having a particular day set aside for receiving God's wonderful gifts through Word and Sacrament.



