

The Third Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 14th, 2024



Jesus' Appearance While the Apostles are at Table by Duccio di Buoninsegna (1255-1319)

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Reverend Martha McCreight – *Pastor*
Mr. Andrew Sabol – *Director of Music Ministries*
Mrs. Julie Nieser – *Administrative Secretary*
Dr. Stanley E. Yoder – *Cantor Emeritus*

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PRELUDE:

“Partita on This Joyful Eastertide”
I. Moderato, II. Allegro

Paul Bouman

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✝ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
Shower us with your Spirit,
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

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

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: ELW 361

The Day of Resurrection!

ELLACOMBE

GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

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

Refrain

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

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.

The assembly is seated.

FIRST READING: Acts 3:12-19

When Peter saw it, he 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? The 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. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And 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.

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

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 4

setting by Marty Haugen

The refrain is introduced by the choir and then repeated by all following each verse.

The verses are sung by the choir.



Lord, let your face shine on us, shine on us, shine on us.

1. O God of justice, give answer when I call;
from anguish you released me, have mercy and hear me!
2. Know that the LORD works wonders for his faithful one;
the LORD will hear me whenever I call him.
3. Lift up the light of your face on us, O LORD.
You have put into my heart a greater joy.
4. In peace I will lie down and fall asleep,
for you alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:1-7

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.



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

Choir: Our hearts burn within us while you open to us the scriptures. (Luke 24:32)

GOSPEL: Luke 24:36b-48

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke the 24th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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

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

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

CHILDRENS MESSAGE

SERMON

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY: ACS 939

The assembly stands to sing.

Touch That Soothes and Heals

v. 1-2 – choir, 3-4 – all

CIVILITY

APOSTLES CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The assembly is seated or kneels for the prayers of intercession

...For this let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

The assembly is seated.

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

OFFERTORY: “Prelude on ‘Around You, O Lord Jesus’” Robert Buckley Farlee
The organ prelude leads directly into the offering hymn.

OFFERING HYMN: ELW 468 Around You, O Lord Jesus O JESU, AN DE DINA
The assembly stands at the final verse as the offering is brought forward.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth.
Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ,
give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

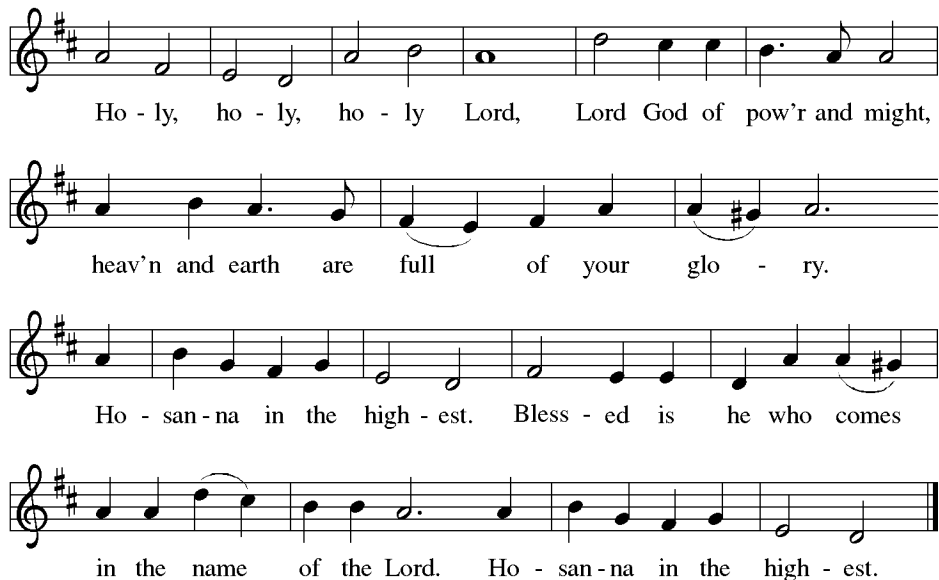
DIALOGUE

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.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:
Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.
You have filled all creation with light and life;
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age:
the promise to Israel,
the rescue from Egypt,
the gift of the promised land,
the words of the prophets;
and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son,
who proclaimed the good news in word and deed
and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

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

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup
we remember the life our Lord offered for us.
And, believing the witness of his resurrection,
we await his coming in power
to share with us the great and promised feast.
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,
that we who share in Christ's body and blood
may live to the praise of your glory
and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.
Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Join our prayers with those of your servants
of every time and every place,
and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest
until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

Through him, with him, in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father,
now and forever.
Amen.

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.**

The assembly may be seated.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All who believe and are baptized are welcome at the table Jesus Christ sets for us. You will be dismissed pew by pew by an usher to come forward to the railing. As you come forward, in front of the baptismal font is a tray of empty glasses (for wine) or a filled glass (with grape juice). Please take one before you come forward. You will then receive a piece of bread and then the assisting minister will distribute the wine. If you wish to only receive a blessing, please motion to the pastor. Gluten Free wafers are available and can be given by motioning to the pastor. For those in need of assistance, please let the ushers know, and we will commune you in your pew.

AGNUS DEI



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, grant us peace.

COMMUNION SONGS

ELW 464

Bread of Life, Our Host and Meal

JESUS, FEED US

ELW 470

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

UNION SEMINARY

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The assembly stands.

Let us pray, 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.

BLESSING

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.

SENDING SONG: ELW 391

This Joyful Eastertide

VRUECHTEN

DISMISSAL

The worship has ended. Now the service begins.

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE:

“Partita on This Joyful Eastertide”

Paul Bouman

IV. Festive, V. Allegro

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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The Sanctuary candle is given today in memory of the Rev. Dr. Kwasi Yirenkyi from Pastor and Linda Neumann.

Welcome to All Visitors: We welcome you to Worship at Zion Lutheran Church this morning. Bulletins may be found from one of the ushers or on the table in the back of the Narthex. Families and Children are welcome to worship – please feel free to worship from your pews or to make use of our Prayground Space at the back of the sanctuary along with provided coloring materials and special children's bulletins.

Sunday School/Confirmation: During the months of September – May, we offer Sunday School and Confirmation for children and youth after worship as well as Adult Study time in our Gerhard Lounge. You and/or your family are welcome to drop-in and join us at any time.

We hold a Hospitality time after worship throughout the year in our Gathering Space with goodies provided by volunteers from the congregation. Please feel free to stay after worship and partake in this time as you get to know more about the life of Zion Lutheran Church

We hope your worship here is fruitful and fulfills what you may need in your spiritual life this morning. If you would like to speak more with Pastor Martha, you can reach her over email pastormartha@zionpennhills.org or by calling the office 412-242-2626.

ULLA: Thank you to everyone who has already returned their responses for our Unified Lutheran Lenten Appeal. We have received \$5,065 toward a goal of \$10,000. More importantly, we will ensure that more elderly, youth, homeless, hungry and others in need of human and social services will be served.

Graham Standish Zion Consult in March: The working group met Wednesday, April 3rd at 7pm in person and over Zoom to discuss the book “The Grace Outpouring.” A reminder that you are also welcome to read these books (which are now in Zions’ library) and watch these movies on your own for your own edification and discernment.

Please continue to keep these monthly consult sessions and members of the working group in your prayers. The members of the working group are: Tom Felmley, Andrew Sabol, Kathy Gaberson, Sue Clydesdale, Reid Wolfe, Lauren Fitzroy, and Pastor Martha. If you have further questions about the group, please see one of them. Thank you!

Pickup Choir Next Sunday – April 21st: All are welcome to come learn an easy anthem and sing with us next Sunday. Meet at 8:30 in the sanctuary!

Nominations for Synod Assembly in June: We are seeking 2 individuals (or a couple) to serve as voting representatives of Zion for the SWPA ELCA synod assembly this summer. The Synod Assembly will be held at California University June 14 & 15. If interested, please see Pastor. We will vote on names received after worship at a special congregational meeting on April 28th.

Special Congregational Meeting – April 28th: We will hold a special congregational meeting after worship on Sunday April 28th in order to vote on the names of individuals to serve as Zion’s voting representatives at this year’s synod assembly in June. All those who are voting members of Zion, please plan to stay after worship for this short meeting. Thank you!

Annual Congregation Meeting – June 2nd: Our annual Congregation meeting will be on Sunday, June 2nd immediately after worship. All names of nominees to serve on council should be given to the Nominating Committee – Marc Schuler, Chris Dippold and Rhonda Pope. All those who are voting members of Zion, please plan to stay after worship for this meeting. Thank you!

Annual Committee Reports: Please submit your annual report to Julie no later than May 24th. Also, please remember to sign your report. Thank you.

A message from Lutherlyn: “Your generous support of the *Building for the Future* Capital Campaign is changing the way Lutherlyn’s campus looks. The Amphitheater’s renovations are nearly complete, with just finishing touches like hand-rails and landscaping left. We are so excited to fill the space with prayer and song! I hope that you will consider joining us when we re-dedicate the Steininger Memorial Amphitheater on the morning of May 11th.”

If anyone is interested in attending the re-dedication of the Amphitheater on May 11th, please contact Kathy Gaberson. Maybe we can carpool, or, if enough people are interested, we can get us a convoy!

May 11 is also the day of Lutherlyn’s annual Camp Blast! This is a free, fun day at Lutherlyn for kids and grown-ups. Hours are 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. No registration needed – just show up. If your kids have never been to Lutherlyn, this is an excellent way for them to “dip their toes in the water” and see what it might be like for them to be campers. Any questions – contact Kathy Gaberson.

Good Shepherd Ministry: This week our cards are for Robert & Alice Bartley, Robert Beresky, Marian Dailey, Paul & Mary Lou Feathers, and Theodore Stolp, Jr. Please take a moment to sign the cards and share a smile with those unable to join us for worship. Also remember them in your prayers this week.

Thank you for all the cards, prayers and other gestures of care and concern after the passing of my mother. It is indeed good to belong to a community such as this. Sue Baumann

Food Pantry: A special thank you to all of you who participated in our Food Pantry this past weekend! Thanks to your time and efforts, we were able to distribute food on Saturday to all those in need. In the event we have leftover items, you are welcome to pick them up in our Community room after worship today.

Food Pantry:

We all want to save money when we go to the store.

Buying extra for someone else would mean spending a little more.

But if you can, put that food pantry item in your cart.

You'll have less money in your wallet, but you'll have shown the love in your heart.

All cleaning and toiletry items accepted in the bin by the coat rack. Thank you! 😊
Zion Lutheran Food Pantry Leadership

OREMUS: If there is someone that we can prayerfully take off of the prayer chain, please let the Church office know. If you or someone you know (who is not on the OREMUS) is in need of a pastoral visit, please let Pastor Martha know at 406-565-3592. Thank you.

Please pray for Annette Felmley and the dental students from Pitt as they travel to Honduras on their annual mission trip April 20-May 5.

OREMUS

Rehab Facility:

Evelyn Lamm (Concordia, Monroeville, Room 110)

Nancy Fabel (Rosebrook Living Facility, Sarver, PA, Room 116)

Paul and Mary Lou Feathers (Presbyterian Homes, Oakmont, Room 204)

Robert Beresky (Concordia Rebecca Residence Rehab - Allison Park)

Prayers Requested for: John Carter, Jenny Fabrizi, Sandra Short, Marion Ertel, Amy Santoriello, Mary Jane Anthony, Marge Lamorte (mother of Tony Lamorte), Josh Cummings (nephew of Tony Lamorte), Gary Bunch (husband of Cheryl Bunch), Wayne Stumpf, Natalie Kuehn & family, Joe Nepsa & family, Pari Bailey (friend of Pastor Martha), Mary Rex (friend of Kathy Gaberson), Katie Ritenour (cousin of Debbie

Marks), Sandy Hutchins (friend of Diane Santoriello), Darnell Pope (brother of Sandra Short), Michael Ladonne (friend of Audri Erfort), Ron Jeroski (friend of Charlotte Murray), Steve Bell (brother of Rhonda Pope), Chris Vuocolo (nephew of Mary Lou D'Ambrosio), Beth Rall, Sarah, Tom & Carolyn Schuler, Marsha Balaban, Betsy Heston, Marylene Gingras-Roi (friends of Barbara Stolp), Lynn Santoriello (sister-in-law of Diane Santoriello), Rachel Faulkner, Denise Capobianco (friend of Sandra Short), Patrick Taylor, Bonnie Hanssen (mother-in-law of Pastor Martha).

ZION EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Sunday, April 14:** 9:30 – In person, Livestream on Facebook
 10:45 – Sunday School/Confirmation
- Monday, April 15:** 1:00 – Zion Book Club – G. Lounge
- Wednesday, April 17:** 1:00 – Zion Bible Study – G. Lounge and Zoom
- Thursday, April 18:** 10-12 – Food Pantry Tour and Education – C. Room
 7:30 – Choir

Zion Lutheran Church Budgeted Finances as of March 31st:

Offering Income: \$55,033.99
 Other Income:* \$14,934.34
 Total Income: \$69,968.33
 Total Expense: \$68,020.02
 Net: \$ 1,948.31

*Thomas Child Care and Learning Center and other groups who use our facilities.

BREAD SCHEDULE FOR APRIL 2024

April 14: Lori Smith
 April 21: Mary Lou D'Ambrosio
 April 28: Sallie Lazar

USHER SCHEDULE FOR APRIL 2024

Sunday, April 14, 2024	Marc Schuler	Joe Balaban
Sunday, April 21, 2024	Tony Lamorte	Mike Patchen
Sunday, April 28, 2024	Marc Schuler	Joe Balaban