

**Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church!**  
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*Rooted in Faith      \*      Growing in Spirit      \*      Reaching Out to Those in Need*  
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**5th Sunday in Easter      10:45 am      April 29, 2018**

## INTRODUCTION

*This Sunday's image of how the risen Christ shares his life with us is the image of the vine. Christ the vine and we the branches are alive in each other, in the mystery of mutual abiding that we read of in the gospel and the first letter of John. Baptism makes us a part of Christ's living and life-giving self and makes us alive with Christ's life. As the vine brings food to the branches, Christ feeds us at his table. We are sent out to bear fruit for the life of the world.*

## GATHERING

### GATHERING MUSIC

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather in the name of the risen Christ to worship God.  
**Surely, God is in this place and calls us to worship in spirit and in truth.**

God's love is for you and for all people everywhere.  
**May we share God's love and life, and be renewed in the refreshing Spirit of the living Christ.**

The risen Christ is with us.  
**Christ is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

## OPENING SONG *(please stand)*      **“Made to Worship”**

Before the day, before the light.  
Before the world revolved around the sun.  
God on high stepped down into time  
And wrote the story of His love for everyone.  
He has filled our hearts with wonder.  
So that we always remember;

You and I were made to worship  
You and I are called to love.  
You and I are forgiven and free.  
When you and I embrace surrender,  
When you and I choose to believe  
Then you and I will see, who we were meant to be.

All we are, and all we have.  
Is all a gift from God that we receive.  
Brought to life we open our eyes,  
To see the majesty and glory of the king.  
He has filled our hearts with wonder.  
So that we always remember;

You and I were made to worship  
You and I are called to love.  
You and I are forgiven and free.  
When you and I embrace surrender,  
When you and I choose to believe  
Then you and I will see, who we were meant to be.

Even the rocks cry out,  
Even the heavens shout,  
At the sound of His Holy name.  
So let every voice sing out  
Let every knee bow down  
He's worthy of all our praise

You and I were made to worship  
You and I are called to love.  
You and I are forgiven and free.  
When you and I embrace surrender,  
When you and I choose to believe  
Then you and I will see, who we were meant to be.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through 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)*

### SPECIAL MUSIC

**“Praise the Lord”**  
**Zachary Anderson**

**Hal Hopson**

### A TIME FOR CHILDREN

### WORD

### PSALM Psalm 22:25-31

*All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD. (Ps. 22:27)*

<sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

<sup>26</sup>**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,**

**Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!**

<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;

all the families of nations shall bow before God.

<sup>28</sup>**For dominion belongs to the LORD,**

**who rules over the nations.**

<sup>29</sup>Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;

all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.

<sup>30</sup>**Their descendants shall serve the LORD,**

**whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

<sup>31</sup>They shall proclaim God’s deliverance to a people yet unborn,  
saying to them, “The LORD has acted!”

### FIRST READING 1 John 4:7-21

**Pew Bible NT p. 260**

*We love God and others because God first loved us. We cannot say we love God, whom we have not seen, while hating fellow Christians, whom we regularly see. Love toward God is to be matched by love toward others because the essence of God is love.*

Word of God, Word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**ALLELUIA** *(please stand)*

**“Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks”**

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord;

Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord;

Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.

### SERMON

Pastor Marcia

The holy gospel according to John the 15th chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

### HOLY GOSPEL John 15:1-8

**Pew Bible NT p. 113**

*On the night of his arrest, Jesus taught his disciples about the relationship they would have with him. Those who abide in his word and love would bear fruit, for apart from him, they could do nothing.*

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.** *(please be seated)*

### SONG OF THE DAY

**“Amazing Love”**

My Lord, what love is this that pays so dearly,

That I, the guilty one, may go free?

Amazing love, oh, what sacrifice,

The Son of God giv’n for me;

My debt he pays and my death he dies,

That I might live, that I might live.

And so, they watched him die, despised, rejected;  
But, oh, the blood he shed flowed for me.  
Amazing love, oh, what sacrifice,  
The Son of God giv'n for me;  
My debt he pays and my death he dies,  
That I might live, that I might live.

And now this love of Christ shall flow like rivers;  
Come, wash your guilt away, live again.  
Amazing love, oh, what sacrifice,  
The Son of God giv'n for me;  
My debt he pays and my death he dies,  
That I might live, that I might live.

#### **OFFERING**

*The children are welcome to come forward and place their offerings in the "For Children Everywhere" box.*

#### **OFFERING SONG            "Beloved"**

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God,  
And ev'ryone that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.  
He that loveth not knoweth not God, for God is love.  
Beloved, let us love one another, First John four: seven and eight.

#### **OFFERING PRAYER** *(please stand)*

Gracious and loving God, you raised Jesus from the dead, disclosing forever your great love for the world. We respond to such love with these gifts and our lives and pray that you will bless them. Send us out in the power of the Holy Spirit to reveal your love in all we do and say. We pray in the name of our risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen**

#### **MEAL**

#### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

#### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**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** *(please be seated)*

#### **DISTRIBUTION OF THE SUPPER**

*All are welcome at the Lord's table. Please come forward as directed by the ushers.  
Grape juice and gluten free wafers are available; please indicate to the server by raising your hand.*

#### **DISTRIBUTION SONG            "Mercy"**

Mercy, mercy Lord, Your mercy is how we are restored.  
Mercy, O mercy Lord, Help us to show Your mercy Lord.

You have been patient with our offenses.  
You have forgiven all of our sins.  
We were deserving only Your judgment,  
But Your great mercy triumphed again.

Mercy, mercy Lord,  
Your mercy is how we are restored.  
Mercy, O mercy Lord,  
Help us to show Your mercy Lord.

Lord, You have taught us, love one another.  
As You have loved us, so we must love.  
Always forbearing, always forgiving.  
Showing to others the mercy we've known.

Mercy, mercy Lord, Your mercy is how we are restored.  
Mercy, O mercy Lord, Help us to show Your mercy Lord.

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER** *(please stand)*

Life-giving God, we give you thanks for nourishing us  
with the bread of heaven and the wine of love, Jesus our risen Savior.  
As you send us into the world, guard us from the power of evil,  
keep us in unity with all your people, and by your Spirit move us to testify  
to your grace in our words and actions; through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**SENDING**

**BLESSING**

Go now, in the love of our God.

**We will live for others through our God.**

Go now, in the grace of Jesus.

**We will forgive others, just as we have been forgiven.**

Go now, in the community of the Spirit.

**We will serve others in every need, in every place, in every heart.**

**DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed!**

You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God!**

**SENDING SONG**

**“Forever”**

Give thanks to the Lord our God and King.  
His love endures forever. For He is good, He is above all things.  
His love endures forever. Sing praise, sing praise.

With a mighty hand and outstretched arm,  
His love endures forever.  
For the life that's been reborn,  
His love endures forever.  
Sing praise, sing praise.  
Sing praise, sing praise.

Forever God is faithful, Forever God is strong.  
Forever God is with us, Forever, forever.

From the rising to the setting sun  
His love endures forever.  
And by the grace of God we will carry on.  
His love endures forever.  
Sing praise, sing praise.  
Sing praise, sing praise.

Forever God is faithful, Forever God is strong.  
Forever God is with us, Forever, forever.

Forever God is faithful, Forever God is strong.  
Forever God is with us, Forever, forever.

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## LESSONS

### PSALM Psalm 22:25-31

*All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord. (Ps. 22:27)*

<sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the | great assembly;  
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who | fear the Lord.

<sup>26</sup>**The poor shall eat | and be satisfied,  
Let those who seek the Lord give praise! May your hearts | live forever!**

<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the Lord;  
all the families of nations shall bow | before God.

<sup>28</sup>**For dominion belongs | to the Lord,  
who rules o- | ver the nations. R**

<sup>29</sup>Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow | down in worship;  
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel be- | fore the Lord.

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whom they shall proclaim to genera- | tions to come.**

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saying to them, "The | Lord has acted!" **R**

### FIRST READING 1 John 4:7-21 Pew Bible NT p. 260

*We love God and others because God first loved us. We cannot say we love God, whom we have not seen, while hating fellow Christians, whom we regularly see. Love toward God is to be matched by love toward others because the essence of God is love.*

<sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup>God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

<sup>13</sup>By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. <sup>16</sup>So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. <sup>17</sup>Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. <sup>18</sup>There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out

fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. <sup>19</sup>We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup>Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup>The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

### HOLY GOSPEL John 15:1-8 Pew Bible NT p. 113

*On the night of his arrest, Jesus taught his disciples about the relationship they would have with him. Those who abide in his word and love would bear fruit, for apart from him, they could do nothing.*

[Jesus said:] <sup>1</sup>"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. <sup>2</sup>He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."