

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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7th Sunday in Easter 10:45 am May 13, 2018

INTRODUCTION

In today's gospel the risen Christ ascends into heaven and his followers are assured that the Spirit will empower them to be witnesses throughout the earth. The disciples were told to not gaze up into heaven to look for Jesus; we find his presence among us as we proclaim the word and share the Easter feast. We too long for the Spirit to enliven our faith and invigorate our mission.

GATHERING

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION *(please stand)*

Jesus prayed that his followers would be one as he and God are one.

Forgive us when we contribute to conflict in our relationships with one another.

Jesus prayed that God would keep and protect us from the influence of evil.

Forgive us for blaming you, O God, for distressing or difficult times and for believing that we can deal with problems in our own strength.

Jesus prayed that his disciples would be made and kept holy by the truth of the gospel - the reality of God's love for all people - revealed in Jesus and experienced through the Holy Spirit.

Keep us holy, O God, and empower us to be faithful witnesses of the truth of the gospel as long as we live. As Jesus' disciples and in his name we pray. Amen

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God, who knows everyone's heart, gives us mercy and life in his Son.
Whoever accepts the Son of God receives life in the name of Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God!

OPENING SONG

"How Great Is Our God"

The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty;
Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice.
He wraps Himself in light, and darkness tries to hide;
And trembles at His voice, and trembles at His voice.

How great is our God!
Sing with me, how great is our God!
And all will see how great, how great is our God.

And age to age He stands, and time is in His hands;
Beginning and the End, Beginning and the End.
The Godhead, Three In One, Father, Spirit, Son;
The Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb.

How great is our God!
Sing with me, how great is our God!
And all will see how great, how great is our God.

Name above all names, worthy of all praise.
My heart will sing how great is our God.
Name above all names, worthy of all praise.
My heart will sing how great is our God.

How great is our God!
Sing with me, how great is our God!
And all will see how great, how great is our God.
How great, how great is our God.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, you have called us to follow in the way of your risen Son, and to care for those who are our companions, not only with words of comfort, but with acts of love. Seeking to be true friends of all, we offer our prayers on behalf of the church and the world.

Amen. *(please be seated)*

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

WORD

FIRST READING

Ephesians 1:15-23

Pew Bible NT p. 204

The risen and exalted Christ reigns over the entire universe. The author of Ephesians prays that we would be given the wisdom to comprehend this and display it through love toward others.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA *(please stand)*

“Halle, Halle, Hallelujah”

Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Hallelujah, Hallelujah!

Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Hallelujah, Hallelujah!

The holy gospel according to John the 17th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 24:44-53

Pew Bible NT p. 93

On the day of his ascension, Jesus leaves his disciples with a commission, a blessing, and a promise of the Holy Spirit.

The gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

Pastor Marcia

SONG OF THE DAY

“Open the Eyes of My Heart”

Open the eyes of my heart Lord. Open the eyes of my heart.
I want to see you. I want to see you.
Open the eyes of my heart Lord. Open the eyes of my heart.
I want to see you. I want to see you.

To see you high and lifted up, shining in the light of your glory.
Pour out your pow’r and love as we sing holy, holy, holy.

Open the eyes of my heart Lord. Open the eyes of my heart.
I want to see you. I want to see you.
Open the eyes of my heart Lord. Open the eyes of my heart.
I want to see you. I want to see you.

To see you high and lifted up, shining in the light of your glory.
Pour out your pow’r and love as we sing holy, holy, holy.

Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy.
I want to see you.
Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy.
I want to see you.

Open the eyes of my heart Lord. Open the eyes of my heart.
I want to see you. I want to see you.
Open the eyes of my heart Lord. Open the eyes of my heart.
I want to see you. I want to see you.

APOSTLES' CREED *(please stand)*

**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.** *(please be seated)*

OFFERING

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

OFFERING SONG "Give Thanks"

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son.
Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son.
And now, let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am rich,"
Because of what the Lord has done for us.

And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am rich,"
Because of what the Lord has done for us.
Give thanks, give thanks, give thanks, give thanks!

OFFERING PRAYER *(please stand)*

Loving God, we praise you for blessing and protecting our lives through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. We offer these gifts as signs of our gratitude and our commitment to live lives shaped by holiness and love. In Jesus' name, we pray. **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**“There Is A Redeemer”**

There is a Redeemer. Jesus, God’s own Son,
 Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.
 Thank you, O my Father, for giving us Your Son;
 And leaving Your Spirit ‘til the work on earth is done.

Jesus, my Redeemer, Name above all names,
 Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, hope for sinners slain.
 Thank you, O my Father, for giving us Your Son;
 And leaving Your Spirit ‘til the work on earth is done.

When I stand in glory I will see His face,
 And there I’ll serve my King forever, in that holy place.
 Thank you, O my Father, for giving us Your Son;
 And leaving Your Spirit ‘til the work on earth is done.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER *(please stand)*

Almighty God, we give you thanks for this holy meal by which you nourish all your people with eternal life. Send us now in the strength of the Spirit to walk with Christ and one another in leadership or service as you call us. **Amen.**

SENDING**BLESSING**

Go now. Christ sends you into the world just as he himself was sent into the world.
 Delight in the Lord’s teaching, testify to his resurrection life
 and share in the ministry of his people.

We go in peace to love and serve the Lord,

SENDING SONG**“I See the Lord”**

I see the Lord, and He is seated on the throne.
 The train of His robe is filling the heavens.
 I see the Lord, and He is shining like the sun.
 His eyes full of fire, His voice like the waters.
 Surrounding His throne and thousands singing

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty.
 Holy, holy, holy is the Lord.
 Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty.
 Holy, holy, holy is the Lord.

I see the Lord, and He is seated on the throne.
 The train of His robe is filling the heavens.
 I see the Lord, and He is shining like the sun.
 His eyes full of fire, His voice like the waters.
 Surrounding His throne and thousands singing

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty.
 Holy, holy, holy is the Lord.
 Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty.
 Holy, holy, holy is the Lord.

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty.
 Holy, holy, holy is the Lord.
 Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty.
 Holy, holy, holy is the Lord.

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LESSONS

PSALM Psalm 1

The Lord knows the way of the righteous. (Ps. 1:6)

¹**Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel | of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats | of the scornful!**

²Their delight is in the law | of the Lord,
and they meditate on God's teaching | day and night. R

³**They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with
leaves that | do not wither;
everything they | do shall prosper.**

⁴It is not so | with the wicked;

they are like chaff which the wind | blows away.

**⁵Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when | judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council | of the righteous.**

⁶For the Lord knows the way | of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall | be destroyed. R

SECOND READING

1 John 5:9-13

Pew Bible NT p. 261

God has borne witness to the gift of eternal life in Jesus Christ. Whoever believes in the Son of God believes in the witness of God and has the promise of eternal life.

⁹If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. ¹⁰Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. ¹¹And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹²Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

¹³I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

The holy gospel according to John the 17th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 17:6-19

Pew Bible NT p. 115

In this reading the church hears Jesus' words on the night before his death. This gospel reports the words of Jesus' prayer, a prayer for his disciples and for all who would believe in him through their words.

[Jesus prayed:] ⁶"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the

world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. ¹²While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. ¹⁴I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁵I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁷Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth."

The gospel of the Lord.

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

