



Third Sunday of Easter
Children Leading Worship
May 1, 2022 + 9:00 a.m.

Congregational responses are in BOLD.

All are welcome to receive Jesus' unconditional gift of God's grace through the sacrament of Holy Communion. The people of Zion practice eucharistic hospitality.

Children of all ages are encouraged to worship with the whole community in Christ. Children's worship bags are available in the back of the sanctuary.

Page numbers that are listed are found in the front of the cranberry-colored hymnal on the bottom of the page. Hymn numbers are listed in bold, large print on the top of the page.

If you would like home communion, hospital visit, or a conversation with the pastor, please contact the church office at 715.687.4110 or at office@zionlc.com or Interim Pastor Andrea Fluegel at 715.391.9311 or pastor@zionlc.com.

Ministers: All the People of God through the love of Jesus and the power and gifts of the Holy Spirit

Interim Pastor: Andrea Fluegel

Administrative Assistant: Kathy Busche

Organists: Judy Polege, Marge Redetzke

Custodians: Barb Kaiser, Gerry Viegut

Missionaries: Steven & Bethany Friberg, Tanzania

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Descriptions of the various parts of the liturgy come from "Spirit and Truth: Teaching Kids the Heart of Worship" by Spirit and Truth Publishing, 2010-2012.

Worship Focus: Why do we worship? Worship is how we show God how much we love him. “Liturgy” means “the work of the people.” Specifically, when we use the term “liturgy” we are referring to the text and songs that we say and sing. Most of the liturgy is based on Scripture, and much of it has been used by Christian churches for over a thousand years! Why do we use this liturgy? Our liturgy has been written and shaped by many people to teach us how to give thanks, praise, pray, confess and give – really, how to worship God!

PRELUDE

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS/CENTERING

We Gather in Grace

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather here at this time as family, the family of God.

We are here: members, friends, and guests guiding young people in God’s way.

We are here: children, youth and young adults, with hope and enthusiasm for our future.

We are here: parents, aunts and uncles, grandparents, and senior members of our congregation, who are connected with many generations of family.

Today, we all gather as children of God to be open to God’s message to us.

Let our eyes and ears be open to God’s Word that lives from generation to generation. Amen.

GATHERING HYMN “All Are Welcome” Hymn 641 Vs. 1, 3, 4

THANKSGIVING OF 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.

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 by 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.**

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.

Kyrie means "Lord." Eleison means "have mercy." We sing "Lord, have mercy" because we are asking God to hear our prayers, even though as sinners we do not deserve it. This, in and of itself, is a great act of worship, when we say it with understanding and feeling.

HYMN OF PRAISE "Lord, I Lift Your Name on High" Hymn 857

Telling people about God's amazing actions in history and in our own lives is not done to make God feel important, it is to allow others to know that God is powerful and wonderful. Glorifying God is a mix of praise and proclamation, where we announce to others the amazing things God has done. The main difference between praising and glorifying is simply that praise is directed solely to God himself, while when we glorify God, we are talking to others.

PRAYER OF THE DAY (based on 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10)

Let us pray:

Grace and peace to you, our children.

We will always give thanks for you.

We pray for you constantly because we love you.

We love you just as God loves you.

We know, children of God, that God loves you so much.

There are no words to express it.

There are no wonders we can perform.

But, we know that the power of God is in you.

We can see it upon your faces.

You remind us of God's love.

Teach us to see the world as you do.

Surprise us with the wonders you see.

Show us what gifts God has given you.

And we will bless you, and protect you,

and we will always give thanks for you.

**We will bless you in the name of our God.
We will bless you again and again.
Grace and peace to you, our children.
Grace and peace to you who show us God's glory
shining through your faces. Amen.**

We Hear the Word of God

FIRST READING

Acts 9:1-6

*Saul (later called Paul) was an ardent persecutor of all who followed the Way of Christ. This reading recounts the story of his transformation beginning with an encounter with Jesus Christ on the way to Damascus.**

PSALM

Psalm 30

You have turned my wailing into dancing. (Ps. 30:11)*

SECOND READING

Revelation 5:11-14

*The vision of John recorded in Revelation offers a glimpse of cosmic worship around the throne. At its center is "the Lamb who was slain."**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

"Alleluia"

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GOSPEL

John 21:1-19

The Holy Gospel according to St. John the twenty-first chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

*The risen Christ appears again to his disciples by the sea where they were first called. After echoes of the fishing and feeding miracles, he gives a final reminder of the cost of a disciple's love and obedience.**

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S GOOD NEWS

"Books of the Bible"

THE WORD

"I Love to Tell the Story"

Hymn 661 Vs. 1, 2

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

"We Place Upon Your Table"

Hymn 467

APOSTLES' CREED

The creed (from the Latin "credo" meaning "I believe"), is a short statement of faith, a summary of the most important things to believe from the entire Bible.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God wants us to ask for what we or others need. Specifically, when we ask for what other people need, that is called "intercessory prayer." God's love for each of us makes him an eager listener. When children (and adults) pray, we learn to rely on God and keep in touch with our Creator and Redeemer.

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Holy One of new beginnings, fill us with new life. Send us into the world as you sent your apostles Philip and James, to invite people to come and see your wondrous acts in Christ. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Revive ecosystems along coastlands that have been devastated by natural forces and human negligence. Reestablish plant and animal life that purifies air and water and that feeds humans and other living creatures. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Accompany laborers who get little rest from their work. Give them hope when they struggle to produce what they need. Give all who labor fair treatment and just wages. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Restore all people who cry to you for help. Turn their mourning into dancing, clothe them with joy, and put a testimony of healing and praise on their lips. We lift before you all the people, places and circumstances that we now name silently in our hearts our aloud with our voices. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of all good gifts, your Son gathered children into his arms and blessed them. Help us to understand our youth as they grow in years and in knowledge of your world. Give us compassion when they face temptations and experience failures. Teach us to encourage their search for truth and value in their lives. Help us to appreciate their ideals and sympathize with their frustrations; that with them we may look for a better world than either we or they have known. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Join our voices with angels, creatures, and all the saints in praising Christ and bestowing upon him all blessing and honor and glory. Reveal Christ's glory to us and through us in our worship. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE

All of us can work toward furthering God's peace in the world by forgiving, loving, and serving others. Every action we make in loving our neighbor as ourselves rings more peace on earth. Total and complete peace will not come until Jesus returns and makes all things new, but even a little of God's peace can make a huge difference.

The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT

Stewardship is a spiritual discipline, with the focus in Scripture more on the act and intention of giving back to God what was God's to begin with, as well as helping those in need. Stewardship is the Biblical concept that means everything in the whole of creation belongs ultimately to God. We might work for our money and possessions but ultimately, they are just on loan from our Creator.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.

Gracious God,

With our offerings, **we honor you.**

With our lives, **we hope to reveal you.**

With our actions, **we hope to point to you.**

With our hearts, **we seek your face.**

Bless what we offer,

So that these gifts of money will make a difference in the world,

And through offering ourselves to you,

You will make a difference in us and through us for others.

In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

God wants us to worship wholeheartedly, not halfheartedly. God is holy: good, perfect, and clean, and we are made holy through Jesus. God also wants us to act holy in our choices.

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.

Thank you for showing such love to your children.

When we were sinners or slaves, helpless and hopeless,

You came to the rescue and set us free.

The Bible stories tell how you came and saved us;

The burning bush, the Passover meal, the Red Sea crossing,

The bread in the desert, and all of the prophets' wise words.

Lord our God,

We give you thanks and praise.

And then you sent us your Son, Jesus.

He was Mary's baby, born in Bethlehem.

He grew up to feed us and heal us and teach us the truth.

Lord, our God.

We give you thanks and praise.

And Jesus saved the world from sin.

Evil tracked him down,

His friends failed him,

His enemies crucified him.

But death did not win.

You raised him from the dead and
He came back to us full of grace and glory.
Lord our God,
We give you thanks and praise.

All this is why we praise you, our living, loving God.
With angels and archangels, and all the forgiven friends of Jesus,
We praise you with this song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (sung response)

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**Holy, holy, holy Lord, 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.**

HOLY COMMUNION

*Holy Communion is a special way for Jesus to come to us.
Communion is one of the means of grace, ways in which God gives
us his good gifts of faith, peace, love, power and forgiveness.*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Martin Luther once suggested that people pray the Lord's Prayer,
stopping after each petition and adding in our own prayers. So,
after "Our Father..." you can pray something about God being
your Father. Try that this week and see what you think!*

And now we pray that you will send your Holy Spirit,
to make us holy, and ready to receive this holy food,
the body and blood of Jesus.
Fill us with power to do your work in the world.

Give us energy for loving and blessing,
befriending, forgiving, and bringing the Good News
of Jesus to your children wherever we go.
Lord our God,

We give you thanks and praise.

Through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
and with the Holy Spirit to help us sing your praises:

**Blessing and honor and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

All are welcome to the table of our Lord Jesus Christ. Come and
receive his love, grace and mercy. Come, for you are worthy and
you belong. Come, taste and see.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Lamb of God”

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“Jesus Loves Me”

Hymn 595

“Have No Fear Little Flock”

Hymn 764

BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and
keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER

We seek to worship you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
not just as we gather, but as we are sent.

As you have nourished us at the table, fill us with your Spirit,
**so that we may be witnesses of your resurrection,
and reflect the light of Christ to the world.**

May our worship of you extend beyond this gathering
to every aspect of our lives, wherever we are.

In Jesus’ name, we pray. **Amen.**

We Serve the World in God's Name

BENEDICTION (*Aaronic or Priestly Blessing from Numbers 6:22-27*)
The Benediction (Latin for "good speaking") is an invocation of God's blessing on his people. This is the blessing God gave Aaron and his sons through Moses. This blessing calls on the name of God three times (possibly in reference to the Trinity) for God to give the people God's love, favor, and all good gifts.

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.

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

Amen.

HYMN

"Go My Children"

Hymn 543

DISMISSAL

"Go in peace. Serve the Lord" is a reminder that our relationship with God does not get put on hold as soon as we leave the sanctuary. The worship service is an important weekly time to refocus on God and receive grace through the Word and Sacraments. However, it is only the beginning of our week with God. The Dismissal reminds us to leave with God's peace and bring it to the world, serving God by glorifying his name and serving our neighbor in love.

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

WORSHIP REFLECTIONS AND NOTES

Zion Lutheran Church
Open Doors, Open Hearts, Open Hands

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