



**Easter Sunday
The Day of Resurrection**

April 9, 2023 + 7am and 9am

Zion-Public WiFi password: Zion54484

Congregational responses are in BOLD.

All are welcome to receive Jesus' unconditional gift of God's grace through the sacrament of Holy Communion. Regardless of your church membership or affiliation, all are encouraged to participate in communion or to come forward for a blessing.

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@zionstratford.org or Pastor Amy Heinz at 608.498.5772 or pastoramy@zionstratford.org.

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

Pastor: Rev. Amy Heinz

Administrative Assistant: Kathy Busche

Organists: Judy Polege, Marge Redetzke, Ryan Huther

Custodian: Rod Huther

Missionaries: Steven & Bethany Friberg, Tanzania

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PRELUDE

CENTERING AND BELLS' CALL TO WORSHIP

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (9am) "I Love You, Lord" ZLC Choir

We Gather in Grace

EASTER LITANY

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

He has given us new life and hope.

He has raised Jesus from the dead.

God has claimed him as God's own.

He has brought us out of darkness.

He has made us light to the world.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

RETURN OF THE ALLELUIAS

PROCESSIONAL HYMN *"Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"* ELW 365

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

We begin 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 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.

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of mercy,

we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

We Hear the Word of God

COMPLEMENTARY READING

Psalms 118:19-24

- ¹⁹ Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the Lord.
- ²⁰ This is the gate of the Lord;
the righteous shall enter through it.
- ²¹ I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.
- ²² The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.
- ²³ This is the Lord's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.
- ²⁴ This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

READING**Matthew 28:1-10**

After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ² And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³ His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. ⁴ For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵ But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷ Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." ⁸ So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹ Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Surprise!

Rev. Amy Heinz

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!"

ELW 377
v1,2,4

NICENE CREED

ELW page 104

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

With boldness, we approach the throne of our risen and reigning Lord, deeply assured of mercy and grace in our time of need.

A brief silence.

Your rising and your reigning give hope to your people. May all who live without hope today taste and see that you are good.

So we pray,

O Lord of glory.

Your rising and your reigning call us, your people, to testify to your goodness. Equip each of us today to be bold witnesses of Easter news.

So we pray,

O Lord of glory.

Your rising and your reigning call all the nations of the world to stop their scheming and seek your peace. May your Spirit convict all people to submit to your rule and pursue true peace.

So we pray,

O Lord of glory.

Your rising and your reigning call each of us to turn from the path of death to the path of obedience and life. Send your Spirit to strengthen our resolve, and help us to live as people of life and light.

So we pray,

O Lord of glory.

Your rising and your reigning bring light and life and healing. May all who suffer in the valley of the shadow of death and illness know your healing presence.

So we pray,

O Lord of glory.

May we, your Easter people, never fail to bless and thank you for your immeasurable love and sure promises.

All praise to you, risen Christ, who with the Father and the Spirit lives in perfect communion forever and ever.

Amen.**

We Share the Meal

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“God Extends An Invitation”

ELW 486

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Good Shepherd,
you spread a table before us. We offer you our gifts, signs of
your gracious love and tokens of our grateful hearts. Nourish us
at the feast of the Lamb, that we may proclaim to all the world
your triumphant love in Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

You are holy, O God of majesty,
and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord,
whom you sent to save us.

He came with healing in his touch
and was wounded for our sins.

He came with mercy in his voice
and was mocked as one despised.

He came with peace in his heart
and met with violence and death.
By your power he broke free from the prison of the tomb,
and at his command the gates of hell were opened.
The one who was dead now lives.
The one who humbled himself is raised to rule over all creation,
the Lamb upon the throne.
The one ascended on high is with us always, as he promised.**
Therefore, with angels and archangels, and all the company of
heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

ELW p. 207

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

DISTRIBUTION SONGS

"Lamb of God"

ELW p. 208

"Now the Green Blade Rises"

ELW 379

"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"

ELW 392

BLESSING AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

MINISTRY OF MUSIC (7am)

"I Love You, Lord"

ZLC Choir

We Serve the World in God's Name

BENEDICTION

As Christ burst forth from the tomb, may new life burst forth from us and show itself in acts of love and healing to a hurting world. And may that same Christ, who lives forever and is the source of our new life, keep your hearts rejoicing and ✝ grant you peace this day and always.

Amen.

CLOSING SONG

"Thine Is the Glory"

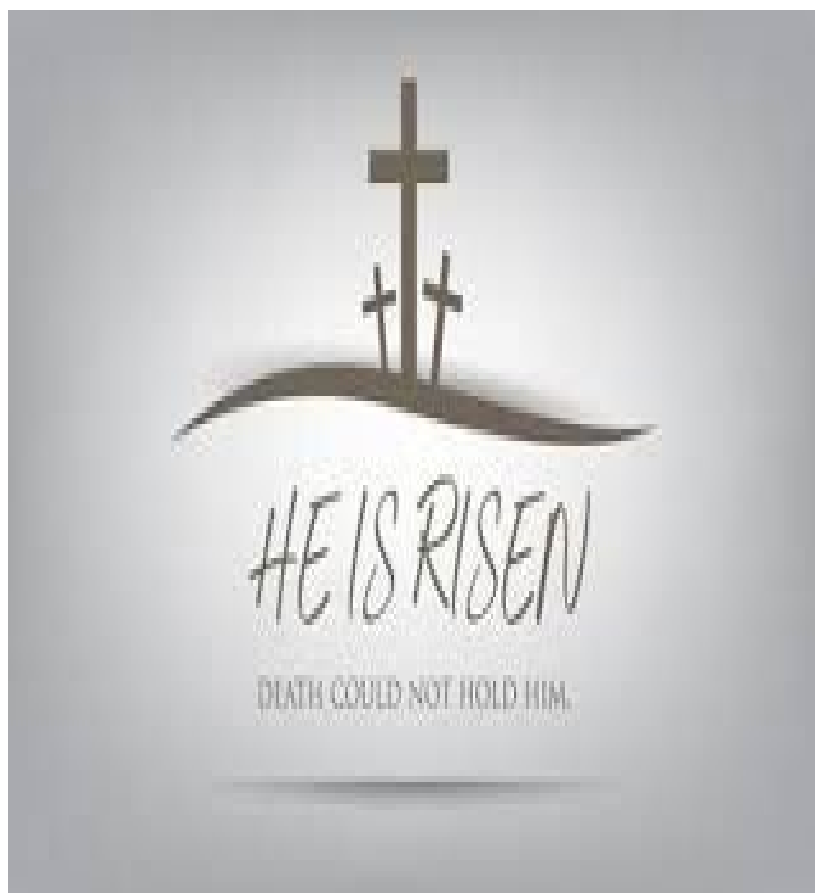
ELW 376 v1,2

DISMISSAL

We go in peace to serve the risen Lord,
with open doors, open hearts, and open hands.
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Happy Easter



Zion Lutheran Church

Open Doors, Open Hearts, Open Hands

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