

Zion Lutheran Church

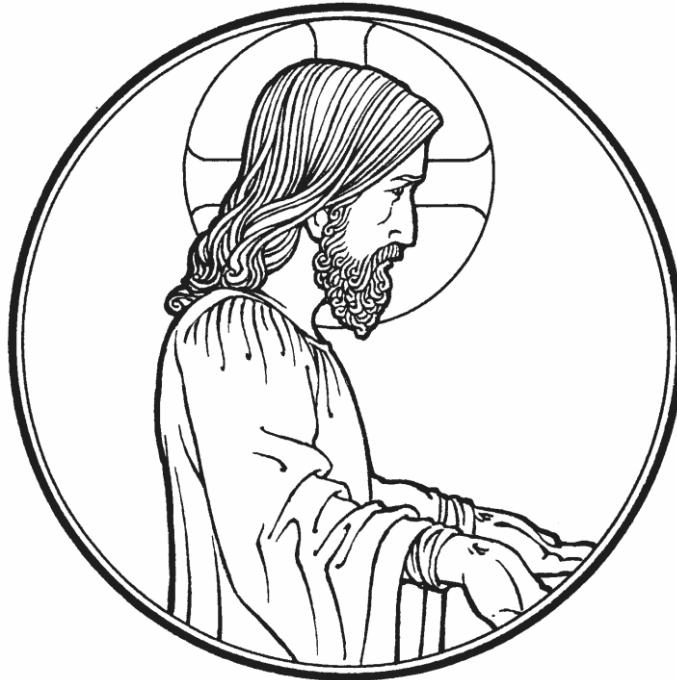
Mascoutah, Illinois

April 24, 2022

Quasimodo Geneti

(*Like Newborn Infants, Crave Pure Spiritual Milk*)

Youth Confirmation Sunday



In the Name of Christ Jesus our Lord, we bid you a warm welcome to this worship service. May your experience of worship and fellowship this morning be spiritually refreshing and ready you for the week ahead.



Pastor: Rev. Kirk Clayton

Church Secretary: Robin Phillips

Director of Music/Head Organist/Choir Director Team: Josh and Nancy Peterson

Church Office Phone: 618-566-7345

Pastor Clayton Cell: 618-447-1306

Office Hours: 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

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Pastor Clayton email: Pastor@ZionMascoutah.org

Web site: www.ZionMascoutah.org

Find us at @ZionMascoutah on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram

Electronic Devices

Please TURN OFF all cell phones and electronic devices when entering the sanctuary for worship so those around you may focus on the Word of God without electronic distraction. Thank you.

Prayer to Begin Worship

Lord Jesus, risen Lord, whose love suffers long and is kind, as You were once patient with Thomas, the doubter, be patient with us and show us the nail holes again lest our humanness get in the way of our faith; who with the Father and the Holy Spirit are one God with dominion over us forever.

DIVINE SERVICE I WITH COMMUNION LSB p. 151

Confession and Absolution

Prelude

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

arr. Albert Travis

Stand

Processional Hymn

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia

LSB 463

- 1 Christ the Lord is ris'n today; Alleluia! Christians, hasten on your way; Alleluia!
Offer praise with love replete, Alleluia! At the paschal victim's feet. Alleluia!**
- 2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Alleluia! Sinless in the sinner's stead. Alleluia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia! Now He lives, no more to die. Alleluia!**
- 3 Hail, the victim undefiled, Alleluia! God and sinners reconciled, Alleluia!
When contending death and life, Alleluia! Met in strange and awesome strife. Alleluia!**
- 4 Christians, on this holy day, Alleluia! All your grateful homage pay; Alleluia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia! Now He lives, no more to die. Alleluia!**

Text: Public domain

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the  Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Exhortation

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left**

undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Absolution

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the  Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Service of the Word

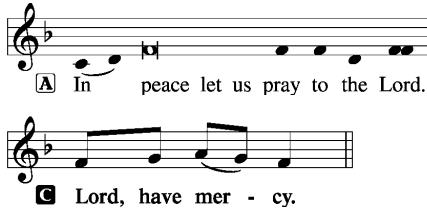
Introit

Ps. 81:1, 7a, 10, 16b; antiphon: 1 Peter 2:2a

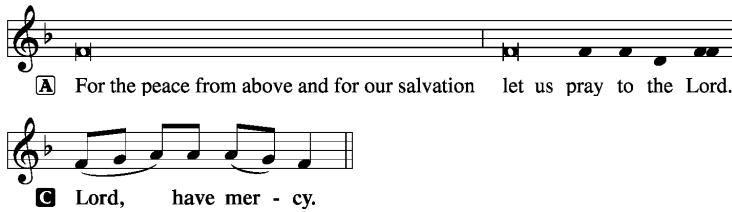
- L** Like newborn infants, Alleluia,
C long for the pure spiritual milk of the Word. Alleluia.
L Sing aloud to God our strength;
C shout for joy to the God of Jacob!
L In distress you called, and I delivered you;
C I answered you in the secret place of thunder.
L I am the LORD your God,
C who brought you up out of the land of Egypt.
L Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it;
C and with honey from the rock I would satisfy you.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.
L Like newborn infants, Alleluia,
C long for the pure spiritual milk of the Word. Alleluia.

Kyrie

LSB 152



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.
C Lord, have mer - ey.



A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
C Lord, have mer - ey.

Kyrie continues on the next page.



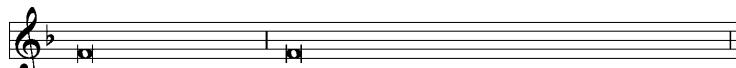
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



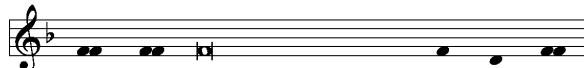
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

Hymn of Praise -- This Is the Feast

LSB 155



C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 — Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose

2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and

3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and

4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to

5 For the Lamb—— who was slain has be -

Salutation and Collect of the Day

L The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

L Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 37:1–14

The hand of the Lord was upon me, and He brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. And He led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. And He said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” And I answered, “O Lord God, You know.” Then He said to me, “Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord.”

So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. Then He said to me, “Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.” So I prophesied as He commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

Then He said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are indeed cut off.’ Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O My people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O My people. And I will put My Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the Lord; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the Lord.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Hand Chime Choir

Easter Rejoicing

Linda Lamb

Epistle

I John 5:4–10

For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is He who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. For there are three that testify: the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree. If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that He has borne concerning His Son. Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning His Son.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Common Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156

The musical notation consists of two staves in G major, common time. The first staff begins with a quarter note followed by eighth notes. The lyrics "Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?" are written below the notes. The second staff begins with a quarter note followed by eighth notes. The lyrics "You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia." are written below the notes.

Holy Gospel

John 20:19–31

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

The musical notation consists of two staves in G major, common time. The first staff begins with a quarter note followed by eighth notes. The second staff begins with a quarter note followed by eighth notes. The lyrics "C Glo - ry to You, O Lord." are written below the notes.

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent Me, even so I am sending you.” And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.”

Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in His hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into His side, I will never believe.”

Eight days later, His disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” Then He said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see My hands; and put out your hand, and place it in My side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.” Thomas answered Him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen Me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Sit

Hymn

O Sons and Daughters of the King
(*Stanzas 1-4*)

LSB 470

- 1 **O sons and daughters of the King, Whom heav'ly hosts in glory sing,
Today the grave has lost its sting! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- 2 **That Easter morn, at break of day, The faithful women went their way
To seek the tomb where Jesus lay. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- 3 **An angel clad in white they see, Who sits and speaks unto the three,
“Your Lord will go to Galilee.” Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- 4 **That night the apostles met in fear; Among them came their master dear
And said, “My peace be with you here.” Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Text: Public domain

Sermon

Sent

Hymn

O Sons and Daughters of the King
(*Stanzas 5-9*)

LSB 470

- 5 **When Thomas first the tidings heard That they had seen the risen Lord,
He doubted the disciples' word. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- 6 **“My piercèd side, O Thomas, see, And look upon My hands, My feet;
Not faithless but believing be.” Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- 7 **No longer Thomas then denied; He saw the feet, the hands, the side;
“You are my Lord and God!” he cried. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- 8 **How blest are they who have not seen And yet whose faith has constant been,
For they eternal life shall win. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- 9 **On this most holy day of days Be laud and jubilee and praise:
To God your hearts and voices raise. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Text: Public domain

Rite of Youth Confirmation

(Due to the fact that this is a worship service, held in God's House, conducted before His Altar, we respectfully request that no flash photographs be taken during the Confirmation. Thank you for respecting the reverence of worship.)

Stand

Prayer of the Church

- P** We give thanks to You, O Lord; we call upon Your name and sing praises to You for Your wonderful works.
C By Your great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ

from the dead.

P Although we have not seen Him, we love Him.

C We believe in Him and rejoice with inexpressible joy.

P We live in a scientific age, O Lord, and we like to see tangible evidence to support what we believe.

C Forgive us, Lord, for being slow to accept the truth of Your Son's resurrection from the dead.

P We are like Thomas, wanting to put our fingers into the nail prints of His hands and to thrust our hand into the wound of His side.

C We often forget Christ's promise that, if we believe without seeing, we will be blessed even more than Thomas.

P O Lord, we believe;

C help our unbelief!

P Without the gift of Your Holy Spirit we cannot acknowledge Jesus Christ as our risen Lord.

C Therefore, send us Your Holy Spirit that with steadfast hearts we may believe and always hold fast to the truth of our Savior's resurrection.

P May the knowledge of Christ's resurrection from the dead reassure us of our own resurrection so that we can face temporal death without fear.

C Take away all our doubts and cause us to believe that Jesus Christ is Your Son so that, believing, we may have eternal life in His name.

WE GO TO THE LORD IN PRAYER FOR

- † Ernie Lockwood, Blake Twenhafel, Karl Bretz, Calista Hosler, Dalton Wambold, Emily Wambold, Dawn Ahner, Marsha Baro, and Terry Twenhafel, as they celebrate their baptismal anniversaries this week.
- † Abigail Clayton, Bjorn Peterson, Mia Simon, and Makenna Suedmeyer, as they are confirmed in their Christian faith.
- † Elizabeth Bogue, as she recovers from cataract surgery.
- † Thanksgiving for 175 years of faithful sharing of the Word and Sacraments in the LCMS as the church body observes its anniversary on April 26th.
- † Members of Zion's Board of Trustees, Stewardship Committee, and Board of Finance.
- † Faithfulness in support of world missions.

Offering

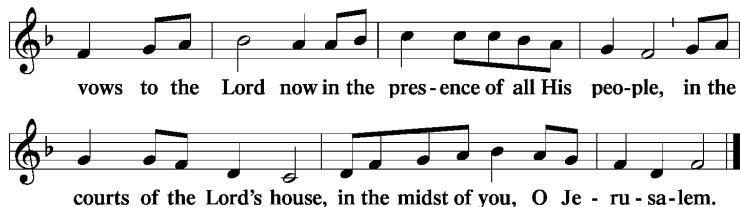
OFFERING OPTIONS: While we are not passing the offering plate during the service at Zion, here are three ways to share your offering for the Lord's work: 1. Place your offering in the plates on the table in the narthex on your way in or out of church. 2. Mail your offering to the church office. 3. Use Zion's online giving program and make a donation through a PayPal account. Thank you for your ongoing generosity!

Offertory

LSB 159

The musical notation consists of four staves of music in common time and G major. The lyrics are integrated into the music as follows:

What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 160

P The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.
P Lift up your hearts.
C We lift them to the Lord.
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface (Full)

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 161

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 161

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
C **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 Words of Our Lord

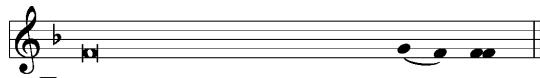
LSB 162

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ☩ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ☩ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

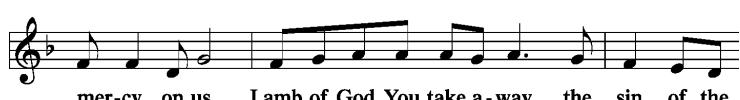
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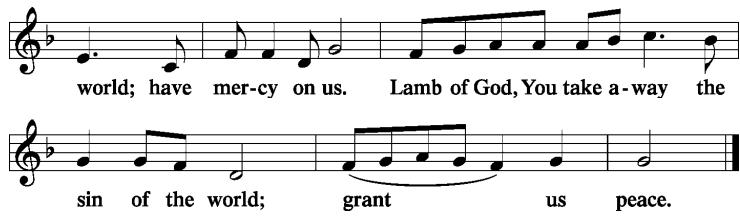
LSB 163



Agnus Dei

LSB 163





Sit

Distribution

During the Distribution, the camera will be focused on the cross at the front of Zion to allow for privacy for those who commune.

Zion Lutheran practices the policy of close communion, communing only those who share our common Biblical view of the Lord's Supper. If you are not a confirmed LCMS Lutheran, please confer with the pastor before communing.

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.
Amen.

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.
Amen.

Hymn	These Things Did Thomas Count as Real <i>(Sung to the tune of LSB 655 "Erhalt Uns Herr")</i>	LSB 472
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- 1 These things did Thomas count as real: The warmth of blood, the chill of steel,
The grain of wood, the heft of stone, The last frail twitch of flesh and bone.
- 2 The vision of his skeptic mind Was keen enough to make him blind
To any unexpected act Too large for his small world of fact.
- 3 His reasoned certainties denied That one could live when one had died,
Until his fingers read like braille The markings of the spear and nail.
- 4 May we, O God, by grace believe And thus the risen Christ receive,
Whose raw imprinted palms reached out And beckoned Thomas from his doubt.

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Hymn	I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table	LSB 618
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- 1 I come, O Savior, to Thy table, For weak and weary is my soul;
Thou, Bread of Life, alone art able To satisfy and make me whole: Refrain
- ref Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood Be for my soul the highest good!
- 2 Thy heart is filled with fervent yearning That sinners may salvation see
Who, Lord, to Thee in faith are turning; So I, a sinner, come to Thee. Refrain
- 3 Unworthy though I am, O Savior, Because I have a sinful heart,
Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt banish never, For Thou my faithful shepherd art: Refrain

Hymn continues on the next page.

- 4 Weary am I and heavy laden; With sin my soul is sore oppressed;
 Receive me graciously and gladden My heart, for I am now Thy guest. Refrain
- 5 What higher gift can we inherit? It is faith's bond and solid base;
 It is the strength of heart and spirit, The covenant of hope and grace. Refrain

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Hymn

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

LSB 621

- 1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence And with fear and trembling stand;
 Ponder nothing earthly-minded, For with blessing in His hand
 Christ our God to earth descending Comes our homage to demand.
- 2 King of kings yet born of Mary, As of old on earth He stood,
 Lord of lords in human vesture, In the body and the blood,
 He will give to all the faithful His own self for heav'nly food.
- 3 Rank on rank the host of heaven Spreads its vanguard on the way
 As the Light of Light, descending From the realms of endless day,
 Comes the pow'rs of hell to vanquish As the darkness clears away.
- 4 At His feet the six-winged seraph, Cherubim with sleepless eye,
 Veil their faces to the presence As with ceaseless voice they cry:
 "Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, Lord Most High!"

Text: Public domain

Stand

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

The Dismissal

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart $\text{\tfrac{X}{+}}$ in peace.
C Amen.

Post-Communion Canticle -- Thank the Lord

LSB 164



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'-ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proudly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

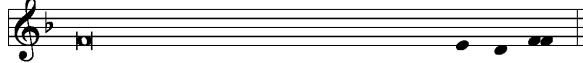
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Benediction

LSB 166



P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.



C A - men.

Remain Standing

Recessional Hymn

This Joyful Eastertide

LSB 482

- 1 This joyful Eastertide Away with sin and sorrow!
My love, the Crucified, Has sprung to life this morrow: Refrain
- ref Had Christ, who once was slain, Not burst His three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain: But now has Christ arisen,
arisen, arisen; But now has Christ arisen!
- 2 Death's flood has lost its chill Since Jesus crossed the river;
Lover of souls, from ill My passing soul deliver: Refrain
- 3 My flesh in hope shall rest And for a season slumber
Till trump from east to west Shall wake the dead in number: Refrain

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Postlude

This Joyful Eastertide

arr. John Behnke

Acknowledgments

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LIFE AND LIVING ITEMS AT ZION



TODAY IN SUNDAY SCHOOL – APRIL 24th

Today's Sunday School lesson, "The Bronze Serpent," is one of the more challenging stories in the Old Testament. Just as the bronze serpent was lifted up to heal and save the Israelites, Christ was lifted up on the cross to heal and save us from sin, death, and the devil. *Ask students, "How did God rescue people bitten by the serpent? How does God rescue you?"*

YOUTH CONFIRMATION – TODAY, APRIL 24th

Zion will rejoice to celebrate Youth Confirmation Sunday today, April 24, 2022, during the 10:00 AM Divine Service. We have four youth being confirmed this year:

Our Confirmands this year, along with their Confirmation Verses, are:

Abigail Clayton, Isaiah 40:31 "They who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

Bjorn Peterson, Joshua 1:9 "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

Mia Simon, Joshua 1:9 "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

Makena Suedmeyer, Isaiah 65:25 (NIV) "The wolf and the lamb will feed together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox, and dust will be the serpent's food. They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain," says the Lord.

We welcome these dedicated, faithful youth into full communicant membership in the congregation.

CONFIRMATION INVITATION – AFTER CHURCH TODAY

Dear Church Family, I invite you to join me today, April 24th after church in the basement to celebrate my confirmation with a meal and fellowship. Abigail Clayton

FIND OUT WHERE SEM. MOELLENHOFF AND SEM. STEIN ARE HEADED NEXT YEAR

Call Day 2022 is quickly approaching. All are invited to "attend" these services virtually. Watch online as future vicars, interns, deaconesses and pastors learn where they will serve God's people next. Call Day at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis is on Tuesday, April 26, 2022. The Assignment of Vicarages & Internships will take place at 3:00 p.m. and the Candidate Call Service will be held at 7:00 p.m. Services for Call Day 2022 at CSL will be streamed online at <https://www.csl.edu/academics/call-day-services>. Celebrate with Sem. Moellenhoff as he receives his vicarage assignment, and with Sem. Stein and the Stein family as he receives his first Call as a pastor!

HAPPY 175th BIRTHDAY TO THE LCMS

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod celebrates its 175th birthday on April 26. Initial members, which included 12 pastors representing 14 congregations from Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Michigan, New York and Ohio, signed the church body's constitution on April 26, 1847, at First Saint Paul Lutheran Church in Chicago, IL. (St. John, New Minden, IL, just down the road from us, was one of the original 14 congregations.) Originally named The German Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio and Other States, the name was shortened to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in 1947 on the occasion of our 100th anniversary. The roots of the LCMS run deep, tracing back to Saxon and other German immigrants establishing a new church body in America, seeking the freedom to practice and follow confessional Lutheranism. The theme for this anniversary is "Only Jesus: No Other Name." President Matthew Harrison writes, "Who we are — a 175-year-old church body — is important, but it pales in comparison to the history of the church. But what we do — preaching and pointing to Jesus for 175 years — is quite significant indeed. It has eternal consequences. If 175 years is an accomplishment, it's Christ's accomplishment. Come what may, the next 175 years are in the hands of Jesus, only Jesus, and so are we."

SLIGHT CHANGE IN COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

As Zion gradually works toward a return to pre-Covid practices in church, the Elders have discussed and approved a slight change to Communion distribution starting in April. Instead of receiving the Body of Christ from the individual cups, we will now return to receiving the Body of Christ placed directly into the communicant's hands. (Pastor will sanitize his hands before Communion distribution to make this process as sanitary as possible.) This will also make the work of the Altar Guild much easier as they set up for Communion. Thank you for your patience and understanding with all the changes we have faced in the last two years, and the various adjustments yet to come.

ZION HELPING HANDS NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Our team of "Helping Hands" needs a few more volunteers. Can you give an hour or two on occasion to help a member of our church? You may be asked to provide transportation to church or to a medical appointment. Perhaps take a member shopping or help with light housekeeping. If interested, please contact Lesley Eads (618) 623-2360, Jordan Rehfeldt (618) 980-8475, or Linda Hoskins (618) 210-6987. *As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace. 1 Peter 4:10*

ZION VBS 2022 - GOD'S WONDER LAB

When: June 13–17 from 6–8 pm. Who: Children ages 3–11 years old.

Please join us for a fascinating science lab that will help explain how things are possible with God. In Jesus' ministry, He did things that cannot be explained. He turned water into wine, walked on water, and His greatest miracle of all was dying on the cross and rising from the dead for our salvation. Discover that Jesus does the impossible for us in God's Wonder Lab. Please invite your friends and families! Register online at <https://vbsmate.com/events/ZionMascoutahVBS/23280> Questions or want to volunteer? Contact Marsha Baro at mkrausz11@gmail.com or 618.558.5913. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

MISSING BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST AT ZION? INVITE THEM!

We can all think of brothers and sisters in Christ whom we have not seen at Zion since the Covid lockdowns began two years ago. Every member missing from our family of faith is a source of sorrow as we long to be all together as one in God's family. If you remember friends and family members who have been missing due to Covid, please invite them to come back to rejoin the family of faith at Zion. "I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!'" (Psalm 122:1)

CELEBRATE TODAY

This week marks the 175th anniversary of the founding of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (April 26, 1847). Give thanks to God as we sing His praises this afternoon (April 24) at St. John's, New Minden, beginning with an organ recital at 2:30 p.m. and hymn festival at 3:00 p.m. Dr. Nancy Peterson (Zion, Mascoutah) will serve as organist, with various SID pastors introducing the hymns. An offering will be received, with 100% of the proceeds designated for LCMS work in Ukraine/Eastern Europe. "Through the Church the Song Goes On."

GIRLS CONFERENCE – NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 1st

All 6th – 12th grade girls are invited to register for this incredible day of worship, experience stations, and dinner at the Girls Conference in Troy, IL! Sue Bustler is speaking. Harvest will be leading worship and the day is a reminder that true beauty comes from the heart. Moms, grandmas, or female student ministry leaders are welcome to attend too! The conference will be held on Sunday, May 1st from 3-7 PM at 407 Edwardsville Rd., Troy, IL. For more info and to register go to www.girlsconference.net.

LISTEN TO WORLDWIDE KFUO AM850

KFUO Radio, the broadcast voice of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere on KFUO.org via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. Find programs on demand at kfu.org and wherever you get your podcasts! Find us on social: @KFUOradio on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUO AM850 & kfu.org: Begin studying the book of Acts on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m.), study various Psalms on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m.), and study Article XVI: Civil Government in the Augsburg

Confession (4/30 at 10:00 a.m.). Find your favorite programs on demand at kfuo.org or the KFUO Radio app!

EXPERT GUESTS, EXPANSIVE TOPICS, EXTOLLING CHRIST...

Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's topics include: Faith & Perseverance in the Early Soviet Union; The Table of Duties from "Luther's Small Catechism;" Christ's State of Humiliation & Exaltation; Lutheran Preaching and more. You can tune in live weekdays from 3-5 p.m. on KFUO, 850 AM in St. Louis. You can also listen on-demand at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

THE FLOWERS ON THE LORD'S ALTAR

The flowers on the Lord's altar are given to the glory of God

THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY

Proclaimer:	Rev. Kirk Clayton
Lectors:	Sem. Don Stein & Sem. Kyle Moellenhoff
Organist:	Nancy Peterson
Sound Tech:	Nathaniel Clayton
Altar Guild:	Lita Timmerman & Karen Eldridge
Elder of the Month:	Jeff Fick

THOSE WHO SERVE NEXT WEEK, MAY 1

Proclaimer:	Sem. Kyle Moellenhoff
Lectors:	Rev. Kirk Clayton & Sem. Don Stein
Organist:	Nancy Peterson
Sound Tech:	Nathaniel Clayton
Elder of the Month:	Joe Bloomquist

THINGS WE ARE DOING AT ZION

Sun.	<i>Youth Confirmation</i>	
	Youth Confirmation Questioning	8:45 AM
	Sunday School & Youth Bible Class	8:45 AM
	Worship DS I w/communion	10:00 AM
Wed.	Choir Rehearsal	7:00 PM
	Hand Chime Rehearsal	8:00 PM
Fri.	Senior Meal Delivery	10:30 AM
Sun.	Bible Class on Zoom & In-Person	8:45 AM
	Sunday School & Youth Bible Class	8:45 AM
	Worship DS II n/communion	10:00 AM

ATTENDANCE APRIL 16: Easter Vigil Saturday: 29

ATTENDANCE APRIL 17: Easter Sunday: 211
Adult Bible Class: 8 High School: 4 Sunday School: 37