Zion Lutheran Church

Mascoutah, Illinois May 29, 2022 Ascension 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

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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.

A Prayer to Begin Worship

Lord Jesus, Lord of glory, who redeemed us to God by Your death and resurrection, and who even now sits in power at God's right hand, receive our faltering earthly praise and honor, and hasten the day when the whole church on earth enters the Kingdom of Glory to sing the songs of heaven with the great retinue of cherubim and angels, seraphim and saints gathered around Your Throne; who with the Father and the Holy Spirit are one God with dominion over us forever.

LSB Divine Service Setting IV With Communion (p. 203)

Confession and Absolution

Hymn

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

LSB 493

- A hymn of glory let us sing! New hymns throughout the world shall ring: Alleluia, alleluia! Christ, by a road before untrod, Ascends unto the throne of God. Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!
- 2 The holy apostolic band Upon the Mount of Olives stand. Alleluia, alleluia! And with His faithful foll'wers see Their Lord ascend in majesty. Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!
- To them the shining angels cry, "Why stand and gaze upon the sky?"
 Alleluia, alleluia! "This is the Savior," thus they say;
 "This is His glorious triumph day!" Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!
- 4 "You see Him now, ascending high Up to the portals of the sky."
 Alleluia, alleluia! "Hereafter Jesus you shall see
 Returning in great majesty." Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!
- Be now our joy on earth, O Lord, And be our future great reward.

 Alleluia, alleluia! Then, throned with You forever, we
 Shall praise Your name eternally. Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!

Stand

6 O risen Christ, ascended Lord, All praise to You let earth accord: Alleluia, alleluia! You are, while endless ages run, With Father and with Spirit one. Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001344

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

Invocation LSB 203

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen

Exhortation LSB 203

- **P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C who made heaven and earth.
- P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- **©** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.
- P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Confession of Sins

- P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- 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

- 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. 27:1, 11a, 12; antiphon: Ps. 27:7a, 8b, 9a

- **P** Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud. Alleluia.
- **C** Your face, LORD, do I seek; hide not Your face from me. Alleluia.
- **P** The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
- The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
- P Teach me Your way, O LORD;
- **C** give me not up to the will of my adversaries;
- **P** for false witnesses have risen against me,
- **C** and they breathe out violence.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

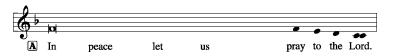
and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

- P Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud. Alleluia.
- **Q** Your face, LORD, do I seek; hide not Your face from me. Alleluia.

Kyrie



LSB 204

Kyrie continues on the next page.



- C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.
- A For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord.



- C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.
- A For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord.



- C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.
- A For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord.



- C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.
- A For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord.



- C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.
- A For those who labor, those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord.



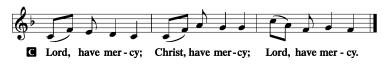
- C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.
- A For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord.



- C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.
- [A] For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord.



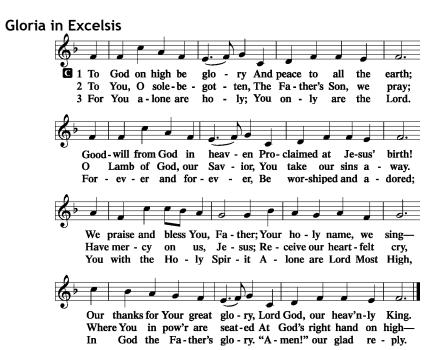
- C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.
- A For these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us gracious Lord.



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.



Salutation and Collect of the Day

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- **P** Let us pray.
 - O King of glory, Lord of hosts, uplifted in triumph far above all heavens, leave us not without consolation but send us the Spirit of truth whom You promised from the Father; for You live and reign with Him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

2 Kings 2:5–15

LSB 204

The sons of the prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take away your master from over you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know it; keep quiet."

Then Elijah said to him, "Please stay here, for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the sons of the prophets also went and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his cloak and rolled it up and struck the water, and the water was parted to the one side and to the other, till the two of them could go over on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Ask what I shall do for you, before I am taken from you." And Elisha said, "Please let there be a double portion of your spirit on me." And he said, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so for you, but if you do not see me, it shall not be so." And as they still went on and talked, behold, chariots of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them. And Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. And Elisha saw it and he cried, "My father, my father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" And he saw him no more.

Then he took hold of his own clothes and tore them in two pieces. And he took up the cloak of Elijah that had fallen from him and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. Then he took the cloak of Elijah that had fallen from him and struck the water, saying, "Where is the LORD, the God of Elijah?" And when he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over.

Now when the sons of the prophets who were at Jericho saw him opposite them, they said, "The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha." And they came to meet him and bowed to the ground before him.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Children's Choir

If I Were a Butterfly

Second Reading Acts 1:1–11

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when He was taken up, after He had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom He had chosen. To them He presented Himself alive after His suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

And while staying with them He ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, He said, "you heard from Me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

So when they had come together, they asked Him, "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by His own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." And when He had said these things, as they were looking on, He was lifted up, and a cloud took Him out of their sight.

(At this point the Paschal Candle--the large candle placed next to the Altar throughout the Easter season--is extinguished. The smoke from the extinguished candle rises toward heaven just as Jesus rose into heaven, giving us a visual reminder of Christ's ascension. For more information about the Paschal Candle, please see the announcement at the back of the bulletin.)

And while they were gazing into heaven as He went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw Him go into heaven."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand



LSB 205



Holy Gospel

Luke 24:44–53

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24th chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus] said to them, "These are My words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in His name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And behold, I am sending the promise of My Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

Then He led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up His hands He blessed them. While He blessed them, He parted from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped Him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple blessing God.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life 🕂 of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Hymn

Up Through the Endless Ranks of Angels

LSB 491

- 1 Up through endless ranks of angels, Cries of triumph in His ears, To His heav'nly throne ascending, Having vanquished all their fears, Christ looks down upon His faithful, Leaving them in happy tears.
- Death-destroying, life-restoring, Proven equal to our need, Now for us before the Father As our brother intercede; Flesh that for our world was wounded, Living, for the wounded plead!

Hymn continues on the next page.

3 To our lives of wanton wand'ring Send Your Spirit, promised guide; Through our lives of fear and failure With Your pow'r and love abide; Welcome us, as You were welcomed, To an endless Eastertide.

Stand

4 Alleluia, alleluia! Oh, to breathe the Spirit's grace! Alleluia, alleluia! Oh, to see the Father's face! Alleluia, alleluia! Oh, to feel the Son's embrace!

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Sit

Sermon Thus It Is Written

Hymn Look, Ye Saints, the Sight is Glorious

LSB 495

- 1 Look, ye saints, the sight is glorious; See the Man of Sorrows now! From the fight returned victorious, Ev'ry knee to Him shall bow. Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown become the victor's brow.
- 2 Crown the Savior! Angels, crown Him! Rich the trophies Jesus brings; On the seat of pow'r enthrone Him While the vault of heaven rings. Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown the Savior King of kings.
- 3 Sinners in derision crowned Him, Mocking thus the Savior's claim; Saints and angels crowd around Him, Own His title, praise His name. Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Spread abroad the victor's fame. Spread abroad the victor's fame.
- 4 Hark, those bursts of acclamation! Hark, those loud triumphant chords!
 Jesus takes the highest station; Oh, what joy the sight affords!
 Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! King of kings and Lord of lords! King of kings and Lord of lords!

Text: Public domain

Special Recognition of Jeff Fick, in honor of 40 years of Lutheran Education

Stand

Prayer of the Church

- P O Lord Jesus Christ, exalted far above all principalities, power, might, and dominion, at whose name every knee should bow, not only in this world but also in the world to come,
- **C** accept our praise and adoration.
- P We know that our praise cannot exalt You any higher than the position You already have at the right hand of God the Father,
- **©** yet we are bold enough to believe that You delight in the commendation of Your children.
- P Accept our humble thanks for giving us the privilege of being part of Your body, the Church.

- **©** For the many appearances You made after Your resurrection, proving to witnesses that You had risen from the dead, we are grateful.
- **P** We also thank You for assembling so many of the faithful to witness Your ascension.
- **C** These witnesses to Your resurrection and ascension inspire us to follow You.
- As the ascended Head of the Church, O Lord, You are aware of the many problems confronting the Church today.
- We do not ask that our work be made easier, but only for Your power to help us cope with the problems.
- P Help us to be Your hands, doing deeds of kindness.
- **G** Help us to be Your feet, running errands of mercy.
- P Help us to be Your mouth witnessing to Your love and salvation.

WE GO TO THE LORD IN PRAYER FOR

- † Daniel Bretz, Shirley Braeutigam, and Elizabeth Bretz as they celebrate their baptismal anniversaries this week
- Thanksgiving for Jeff Fick for 40 years of faithful service as a Lutheran school teacher, principal, and district executive.
- 4 Anna Mae Krausz, for rest, comfort and for the staff taking care of her at the nursing home.
- ♥Zion's VBS program, for the students and volunteers, that all may come to know and experience God's grace through this program.
- † International Student Ministry at SIU-E, as 70 new International students have arrived for the summer.
- All officers, board members, and committee members of Zion.
- ₱ Faithfulness in reception of Word and Sacraments.
- P When at last we have fulfilled Your purpose in our lives,
- take us to Your ascension throne, where we may share Your glory forevermore. Amen.

Offering

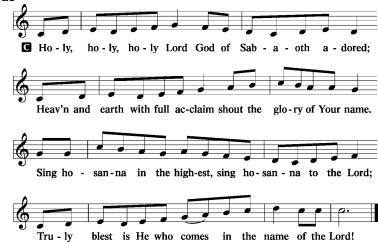
OFFERING OPTIONS: While we are not passing the offering plate during the service at Zion, here are three ways to share your offering for the Lord's work: 1. Place your offering in the plates on the table in the narthex on your way in or out of church. 2. Mail your offering to the church office. 3. Use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

Service of the Sacrament

Preface LSB 208

- **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.
- It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore 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 208



Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P In the beginning You created all things by Your Word; and in the fullness of time Your Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth.
- Let Your Word made flesh dwell richly among us that, faithfully eating His body and drinking His blood, we may receive the fullness of Your grace and truth in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

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.

The Words of Our Lord

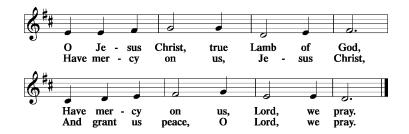
- P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
- In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when 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."

Pax Domini LSB 209

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.

Agnus Dei LSB 210





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

The Infant Priest Was Holy Born

LSB 624

- 1 The infant Priest was holy born For us unholy and forlorn; From fleshly temple forth came He, Anointed from eternity.
- 2 This great High Priest in human flesh Was icon of God's righteousness. His hallowed touch brought sanctity; His hand removed impurity.
- 3 The holy Lamb undaunted came To God's own altar lit with flame; While weeping angels hid their eyes, This Priest became a sacrifice.
- 4 But death would not the victor be Of Him who hung upon the tree. He leads us to the Holy Place Within the veil, before God's face.
- 5 The veil is torn, our Priest we see, As at the rail on bended knee Our hungry mouths from Him receive The bread of immortality.
- 6 The body of God's Lamb we eat, A priestly food and priestly meat; On sin-parched lips the chalice pours His quenching blood that life restores.
- With cherubim and seraphim Our voices join the endless hymn, And "Holy, holy," sing To Christ, God's Lamb, our Priest and King.

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- 1 Lord Jesus Christ, life-giving bread, May I in grace possess You. Let me with holy food be fed, In hunger I address You. Prepare me well for You, O Lord, And, humbly by my prayer implored, Give me Your grace and mercy.
- 2 To pastures green, Lord, safely guide, To restful waters lead me; Your table well for me provide, Your wounded hand now feed me. Though weary, sinful, sick, and weak, Refuge in You alone I seek, To share Your cup of healing.
- O bread of heav'n, my soul's delight, For full and free remission I come with prayer before Your sight In sorrow and contrition. Your righteousness, Lord, cover me That I receive You worthily, Assured of Your full pardon.
- 4 I do not merit favor, Lord, My weight of sin would break me; In all my guilty heart's discord, O Lord, do not forsake me. In my distress this comforts me That You receive me graciously, O Christ, my Lord of mercy!

Text: Public domain

Hymn

Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior

LSB 627

- 1 Jesus Christ, our blessèd Savior, Turned away God's wrath forever; By His bitter grief and woe He saved us from the evil foe.
- 2 As His pledge of love undying, He, this precious food supplying, Gives His body with the bread, And with the wine the blood He shed.
- 3 Jesus here Himself is sharing; Heed then how you are preparing, For if you do not believe, His judgment then you shall receive.
- 4 Praise the Father, who from heaven To His own this food has given, Who, to mend what we have done, Gave into death His only Son.
- 5 Firmly hold with faith unshaken That this food is to be taken By the sick who are distressed, By hearts that long for peace and rest.
- 6 Agony and bitter labor Were the cost of God's high favor; Do not come if you suppose You need not Him who died and rose.
- 7 Christ says: "Come, all you that labor, And receive My grace and favor: Those who feel no pain or ill Need no physician's help or skill.
- 8 "For what purpose was My dying If not for your justifying? And what use this precious food If you yourself were pure and good?"
- 9 If your heart this truth professes And your mouth your sin confesses, You will be your Savior's guest, Be at His banquet truly blest.

Hymn continues on the next page.

10 Let this food your faith so nourish That its fruit of love may flourish And your neighbor learn from you How much God's wondrous love can do.

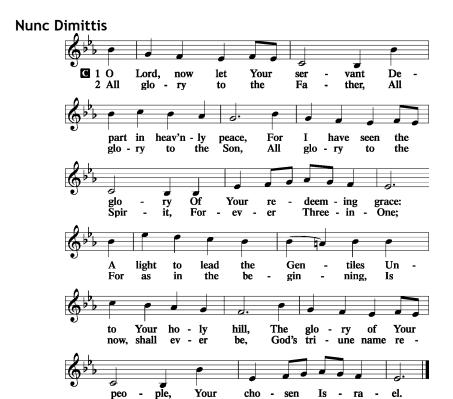
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In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

The Dismissal

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart \(\dagger in peace.
- \mathbf{C} Amen.



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.

ter

sen

е

C Amen.

Benedicamus and Benediction

LSB 212

LSB 211

- **P** Let us bless the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.
- **P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

Through

all

C Amen.

Hymn

LSB 492

- On Christ's ascension I now build The hope of my ascension; This hope alone has always stilled All doubt and apprehension; For where the Head is, there as well I know His members are to dwell When Christ will come and call them.
- 2 Since Christ returned to claim His throne, Great gifts for me obtaining, My heart will rest in Him alone, No other rest remaining; For where my treasure went before, There all my thoughts will ever soar To still their deepest yearning.
- 3 O grant, dear Lord, this grace to me, Recalling Your ascension, That I may serve You faithfully In thanks for my redemption; And then, when all my days will cease, Let me depart in joy and peace In answer to my pleading.

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LIFE AND LIVING ITEMS AT ZION

HONORING JEFF FICK

Jeff Fick started his service to the Lord in Lutheran Education 40 years ago as a teacher at Mt. Olive Lutheran School, Houston, TX in the fall of 1982. He also played organ and directed the church choir. In 1985, Jeff was called to serve Grace Lutheran School in Arlington, TX, as teacher and organist. In 1991, he was called to serve as principal at Immanuel Lutheran School in Springfield, IL and that started his career as a principal. In 1999, Jeff served at Trinity Lutheran School, Boone, IA and Elm Grove Lutheran, Elm Grove, WI starting in 2010. There was a big change in his career in 2017 when he was called to serve as Schools and General Executive for the Southern Illinois District. Jeff has quietly and faithfully served many students and families in many varied settings. He is a good listener and has always offered kind and faithful care in Christ's name to many students, parents, teachers, and congregations. We are proud to honor him this morning for 40 years of strengthening hundreds of families in God's Word and encouraging congregations in the Christian education of their children.

USE OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

The Paschal Candle (the large candle located near the Altar during the Easter season) plays a special role in the Ascension service as it is extinguished during the reading of Acts 1, and the rising smoke reminds us of Jesus' ascension. The Paschal Candle is theologically tied to the resurrection of Jesus. The candle is lit for three reasons: Baptisms, Funerals, and each service during the Season of Easter. What ties these three things together? The Resurrection of our Lord. This is obvious enough during the Easter Season. But also remember that at Baptism we are baptized into Jesus' death and resurrection, and His resurrection is promised to us (Romans 6). The promise made at Baptism is fulfilled at a Funeral, as those who depart in faith experience the glory of Jesus' resurrection. The Paschal Candle reminds us, every time it is lit, of how our life begins and ends rooted in the promise of Jesus' resurrection, and our life with Him.

THANK YOU FROM MARLENE LOCKWOOD

Thank you, Zion, for the wonderful retirement party, beautiful flowers, and delicious food. It was truly a memorable day! Most of all thank you for allowing me to be a part of Zion Preschool for so many years, educating God's precious little ones and sharing Jesus' love with them!

JUNE ECHO - NOW AVAILABLE

The June Echo is now available. Pick one up in the narthex today! *Note: For this month only, the Echo is printed in full color to feature our Graduates and their photos that are included in the Echo this month.* Next month the Echo will be printed in black and white again.

ZION TO HOST MONTHLY WORSHIP SERVICES AT BRIGHTLY

Zion is offering an exciting new opportunity for worship at Brightly! We are scheduled to have a worship service hosted by Zion Lutheran Church on the first Wednesday of every month at 1:30 PM. (We hoped to have our first Brightly service at the beginning of May, but this was cancelled because of a lockdown at Brightly due to a Covid outbreak there.) This service will include singing hymns, joining in responses, Scripture readings, a brief message, and prayers. The service will probably last about 20-30 minutes. If you have relatives, friends, or loved ones at Brightly, please encourage them to join in for this monthly service. The service will be open to all residents at Brightly, not just members of Zion. Feel free to join your loved ones for the service also! Our next attempt at our first service at Brightly will be this Wednesday, June 1, 2022, at 1:30 PM.

SEM. DON STEIN'S ORDINATION AND MEAL, JUNE 12

In thankfulness for the congregation's four years of support, Pastor-Elect Stein will be ordained a pastor here at Zion. The ceremony will be held Sunday afternoon, June 12, at 3:00 pm. All members of Zion are invited! A free meal will follow the service. Ordinations are not private events--the public is welcome and encouraged to attend! No RSVPs for the service are necessary whatsoever, but to ensure enough food is prepared, please sign up on the sheets on the table under the church office window in the narthex or respond on Facebook: https://fb.me/e/2qyFzwQ5d if you plan to attend the meal. It is rare to be able to celebrate an ordination in a congregation. Please make plans to attend this special service to support Pastor-Elect Stein and his family as he is placed into the Office of the Holy Ministry!

SEEKING "FRIENDSHIP FAMILIES" FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

If you are willing to be a "Friendship Family" who would meet once a month with one or two SIU-E students from other countries, please call Bessie Fick at 515-230-9937 or email her at Bessie.Fick@yahoo.com. Some students who arrived at SIU-E last fall are still waiting to be assigned a "Friendship Family." Please volunteer to help welcome these students who are far from home to make them feel at home here.

NEW PROCESSIONAL CROSS DONATED TO ZION

It is the custom in many Lutheran churches to have processions on special occasions of the church year. (Easter, Christmas, funerals, etc.) Historically, a cross is included in these processions. Yet Zion does not have one! As a thank you for the past four years of prayers, support, forgiveness and love, the Stein family has commissioned a processional cross for the congregation. It was designed with the help of Zion's Elders, Church Council, Altar Guild, and Pastor Clayton to match the woodwork and aesthetics of the sanctuary. It was hand-crafted by Rev. Dan Vines of Calvary Lutheran Church in Aberdeen, WA. God-willing, it will be a reminder of *Who* is preached every Sunday for generations. *Soli Deo Gloria!*

UPCOMING BIBLE STUDIES

For the last several months, Sem. Stein and Sem. Moellenhoff have led the congregation through an overview of all the books of the New Testament through an animated video and discussion each week. This brief walk-through of the New Testament concluded on May 22 with the Letter to Philemon. On May 29 and June 5, Pastor Clayton will lead a 2-week Bible Study on the topic of "In the World but not of It." We will explore together how the secular world and the church approach and respond to various situations and consider how the secular world at times sets the agenda for the church, and how the church can respond and provide light to the secular world. These two class sessions will be designed to be very open and discussion-oriented and should be an

engaging exchange of ideas. Please make plans to attend! Jeff Fick will lead Adult Bible Study on June 12-26, and then again on July 31 and August 7, on the topic of "Conflict Resolution and Reconciliation." Our Lord calls us to live in peace and forgiveness, and yet we often see stresses in our relationships with those around us. This study will help us learn from God's Word how we can all become peacemakers as we seek to share with each other a "ministry of reconciliation" as we rejoice to live together as one in the family of faith. We look forward to seeing you in Adult Bible Study in the Church Basement each Sunday morning at 8:45. We'll see you there.

<u>VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SUMMER SACK LUNCH PROGRAM</u>
Zion will be participating in the summer lunch program again this year. Zion's week will be June 20-24. There are three ways you can help. We need donations in order to buy the food needed. Please consider donating. You can put your donations in the sack on the table in the narthex. We need volunteers to help make sandwiches and fill the sacks, and/or drive the lunches to designated drop off points. This takes only a few hours in the morning, starting around 9 or 9:30. There is sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex. Please volunteer for one or more days. Ideally, we need four volunteers to help in the kitchen. Lastly, we need someone who has a Sam's card to take us shopping for the food in bulk. If you have any questions or want to help, please contact Gail Frey, home:618-566-7294 or cell: 618-806-7294, or Linda Hoskins at 618-210-6987. Thank you.

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.

ZION'S 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 at (618) 623-2360, Jordan Rehfeldt at (618) 980-8475, or Linda Hoskins at (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

YOU WANT 80 OF WHAT???

You will be seeing lots of info this year about the 80th birthday of the LWML, which Zion's Ladies Aid is part of. Every TWO MONTHS, as part of this celebration, we are choosing to collect "at least" 80 of specific items. We invite YOU to help us in this activity. May/Jun we will collect BOTTLES OF WATER for First **Responders** (police, firefighters, EMTs). There will be a collection box in the narthex for these items, or if you are bringing a large quantity package, please put it in the coatroom. We want to emphasize that you can donate **ANY size water bottles, not just the large ones.** Keep watching for future collections. Thanks in advance!!

40th ANNUAL HERITAGE DAYS IN OKAWVILLE

Okawville's annual "Heritage Days" is being held Saturday, June 11th and Sunday, June 12th from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Schlosser Complex Historic Site, 114 W. Walnut St. in Okawville. There is NO admission. There will be authentic German food, a Farmer's Market, games for the kids, heritage crafts, vendors, live entertainment, and an action auction Sunday at 2:00 PM. For more information, call 618-243-6213.

18th ANNUAL BOB STREUTER MEMORIAL GOLF SCRAMBLE

The Southern Illinois District is looking for golfers to play in the 18th Annual Bob Streuter Memorial Golf Scramble on Sat., June 11th, at RMB Golf Course in Okawville. Profits are used to give students financial grants if they are enrolled in one of our LCMS Universities or Seminaries and studying to be a full-time church worker. This year our planning committee decided to add sponsorship categories/amounts to support the tournament and the Student Aid Endowment Fund. Sponsorship forms are on the counter in the narthex. For more info call Dan

Roth at 618-972-8087, Wally Streuter at 618-973-8377, Ruth Waeltz at 618-317-2678, Amy Kurtz at 901-237-2678, or Drew Novara at 618-559-0556.

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 kfuo.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 & kfuo.org: Study Genesis 6-10 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m.), worship with us in Daily Chapel at 10:00 a.m., study Acts 12-15 on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m.) and dig into The Cause of Sin in Augsburg Confession Article XIX on Concord Matters (6/4 at 10:00 a.m.). Find programs live and on demand at kfuo.org and the KFUO Radio app!

SOLID, SERIOUS, SUBSTANTIVE...

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: The Sexual Abuse Scandal in the Southern Baptist Convention; Harold Frank's WWII Story of Faith & Courage; Rep. Nancy Pelosi Denied Communion by an Archbishop; The Mind of Christ and more. You can tune in live weekdays from 3-5 p.m. on KFUO, 850 AM in St. Louis. You can also listen at your convenience at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

 $\frac{\text{THE FLOWERS ON THE LORD'S ALTAR}}{\text{The flowers on the Lord's altar are given to the glory of God by Jeff and Bessie Fick, in honor of their <math>40^{\text{th}}$ anniversary.

THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY

Proclaimer: Rev. Kirk Clayton Lector: Pres. Timothy Scharr

Organist: Pinky Ahner Lori Clayton Sound Tech:

Altar Guild: Shirley Braeutigam & Lita Timmerman

Elder of the Month: Joe Bloomquist

THOSE WHO SERVE NEXT WEEK, JUNE 5

Proclaimer: Rev. Kirk Clayton Organist: Nancy Peterson Sound Tech: Nathaniel Clayton Joe Bloomquist Elder of the Month:

THINGS WE ARE DOING AT ZION

Bible Class on Zoom & In-Person	8:45 AM
Sunday School & Youth Bible Class	8:45 AM
Worship DS IV w/communion	10:00 AM
Office Closed	
Memorial Day Service	9:00 AM
	Sunday School & Youth Bible Class Worship DS IV w/communion Office Closed

Thurs. Church Council 7:00 PM Senior Meal Delivery Fri. 10:30 AM Bible Class on Zoom & In-Person Sun. 8:45 AM Sunday School & Youth Bible Class 8:45 AM Worship DS II n/communion 10:00 AM Men's Club 6:00 PM

ATTENDANCE MAY 22: Sunday: 152

Adult Bible Class: 18 High School: 7 Sunday School: 30