# **Zion Lutheran Church**

Mascoutah, Illinois May 21, 2023 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 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
Email: ChurchOffice@ZionMascoutah.org
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, pagers, electronic devices, apps and games 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

God, whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven: Be ever present with Your servants who seek through art and music to perfect the praises offered by Your people on earth; and grant to them even now glimpses of Your beauty, and make them worthy at length to behold it unveiled forevermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

# MATINS LSB p. 219

Prelude Partita on 'Ascended Triumph' arr. Robert Hobby

Hymn Listen, God Is Calling LSB 833

ref Leader: Listen,

All: listen, God is calling Through the Word inviting, Offering forgiveness, Comfort, and joy.

1 Leader: Jesus gave His mandate:

All: Share the good news
Leader: That He came to save us
All: And set us free. Refrain

2 Leader: Let none be forgotten

All: Throughout the world.

Leader: In the triune name of God

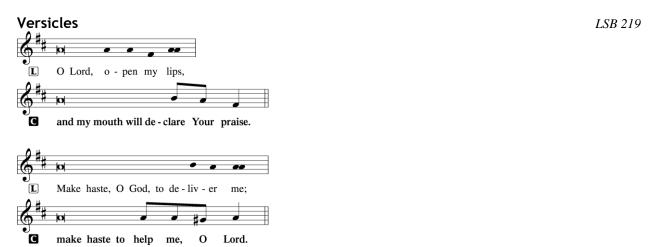
All: Go and baptize. Refrain

3 Leader: Help us to be faithful,

All: Standing steadfast,

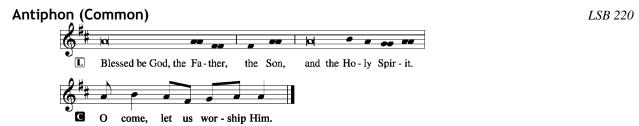
Leader: Walking in Your precepts, All: Led by Your Word. Refrain

Text: © Lutheran Theological College, Makumira, Tanzania. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001344

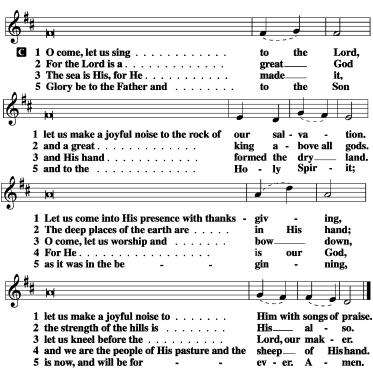




# **Psalmody**

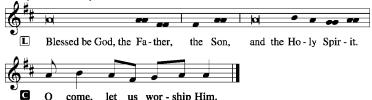


Venite LSB 220



5 is now, and will be for





Psalm 110:1–7

P The LORD says to my Lord:

C "Sit at My right hand,

P until I make Your enemies Your footstool."

C The LORD sends forth from Zion

P Your mighty scepter.

C Rule in the midst of Your enemies!

P Your people will offer themselves freely

C on the day of Your power,

P in holy garments;

C from the womb of the morning,

P the dew of Your youth will be Yours.

C The LORD has sworn

P and will not change His mind,

C "You are a priest forever

P after the order of Melchizedek."

C The Lord is at Your right hand;

P He will shatter kings on the day of His wrath.

C He will execute judgment among the nations,

P filling them with corpses; He will shatter chiefs

C over the wide earth.

P He will drink from the brook by the way;

C therefore He will lift up His head. 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.

Sit

#### Hymn

# Up through 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.
- 2 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.

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

First Reading 2 Kings 2:5-15

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 O Lord, have mercy on us.
- C Thanks be to God.

# Choir

#### The Power of the Cross

arr. Lloyd Larson

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 O Lord, have mercy on us.
- C Thanks be to God.

Third Reading

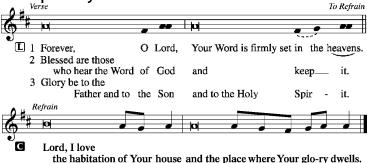
Luke 24:44-53

[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 O Lord, have mercy on us.
- C Thanks be to God.

**Common Responsory** 

LSB 221



#### 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. Crowns become the victor's brow.
- 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. Crowns become the victor's brow.

Hymn continues on the next page.

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! Crowns become the victor's brow.

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LSB 941

#### Sermon

#### Ascended, Not Absent

#### Offering

[Please fill out a sheet in the attendance book. Visitors, please include your address. If you have a prayer request for the church prayer chain, please write it at the top of the sheet.]

Stand

# **Canticle**



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# Prayer

**Kyrie** 

LSB 227



## Lord's Prayer

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.

#### Salutation

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.

# Collect of the Day

- P Almighty God, as your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ascended into the heavens, so may we also ascend in heart and mind and continually dwell there with Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

#### 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,
- C 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.
- C 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.
- P As the ascended Head of the Church, O Lord, You are aware of the many problems confronting the Church today.
- C 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.
- C 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

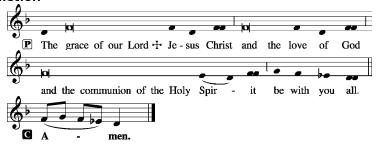
- \* Kylie Beville, Emma Brand, Karen Haas, Dale Wehmeyer, Jack Morra, and Ken Frey, as they celebrate their baptismal anniversaries this week.
- 4 Aurora and Brielle Merritt, born to Abigail and Daniel Merritt last Sunday.
- Tion's Men's Club, Ladies Aid, and Youth Group.
- Faithfulness in personal witness and evangelism.
- P When at last we have fulfilled Your purpose in our lives,
- C take us to Your ascension throne, where we may share Your glory forevermore. Amen.

#### **Collect for Grace**

- P O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.







Sit

#### Hymn

# **Crown Him with Many Crowns**

LSB 525

LSB 228

- 1 Crown Him with many crowns, The Lamb upon His throne; Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns All music but its own. Awake, my soul, and sing Of Him who died for thee, And hail Him as thy matchless king Through all eternity.
- 2 Crown Him the virgin's Son, The God incarnate born, Whose arm those crimson trophies won Which now His brow adorn: Fruit of the mystic rose, Yet of that rose the stem, The root whence mercy ever flows, The babe of Bethlehem.
- 3 Crown Him the Lord of love. Behold His hands and side, Rich wounds, yet visible above, In beauty glorified. No angels in the sky Can fully bear that sight, But downward bend their wond'ring eyes At mysteries so bright.
- 4 Crown Him the Lord of life, Who triumphed o'er the grave And rose victorious in the strife For those He came to save. His glories now we sing, Who died and rose on high, Who died eternal life to bring And lives that death may die.

Hymn continues on the next page.

5 Crown Him the Lord of heav'n, Enthroned in worlds above, Crown Him the king to whom is giv'n The wondrous name of Love. Crown Him with many crowns As thrones before Him fall; Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns, For He is king of all.

Text: Public domain

Postlude Crown Him with Many Crowns

arr. Westenkeuhler

#### **Acknowledgments**

#### Acknowledgments

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# LIFE AND LIVING ITEMS AT ZION

#### 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.

#### **COMMUNION FREQUENCY SURVEY**

For the last several months, Zion's Board of Elders has been praying about and discussing the frequency of Communion at Zion, how often we have the opportunity to receive the Lord's blessings in the Lord's Supper. On May 21 and 28, survey sheets will be available with the bulletins to gauge how strong of an interest there is in the congregation to move toward more frequent opportunities to receive God's grace and blessings in the Lord's Supper. (This is not a vote with 51 percent determining the outcome, this is a survey to gauge the thoughts of the congregation and to serve as the basis of future consideration and discussion.) This survey will be open to all confirmed members of Zion, all who are eligible to receive the Lord's Supper. Please fill out one survey and

#### **CHANGE IN EMAIL LISTS**

For those who are on the Zion Prayer Chain and the Zion Announcements email lists, you have hopefully noticed a change in the past week. We are switching from using Yahoo to using a mass email platform to distribute these emails. The reason for this is because the Yahoo account has been locking meus out several times a month. (That is why some emails in recent months have come from Pastor Clayton's personal email account instead of from the Zion Prayers email account.) In order to try to get more reliable access, we will be switching all the prayers, devotions and announcements to a mass email platform. The new platform will come from the Pastor@ZionMascoutah.org email address. If you don't see those emails, please check your spam folder and tell it to recognize the emails and send them to your inbox. Please let us know if you have any difficulties with this transition. Thanks!

#### VBS SAVE THE DATE—JUNE 26-30

VBS will be held during the evenings from June 26-30 at Zion this year. We will start with a meal together in the gym at 5:30, followed by the Opening in the Sanctuary at 6:00 each evening. Our VBS Director this year is Abby McDaniel. Please say a big "thank you" to Abby for stepping up to lead VBS, and please show your thanks by volunteering to help!

### PERRY COUNTY LUTHERAN CHORALE CONCERT ON JUNE 4

Please join the Perry County Lutheran Chorale for a Summer Concert on Sunday, June 4th, 2023 at 3:00 p.m here at Zion Lutheran Church, Mascoutah. The chorale will present many familiar favorites such as Be Still My Soul, Now Thank We All Our God, and Just A Closer Walk With Thee, as well as arrangements of Cantate Canticum Novum and Achieved. The concert will have something for everyone - Please join us! Admission is free. A free-will offering will be taken in support of the Chorale.

#### ZION GRADUATE RECOGNITION JUNE 4

On June 4 during the Sunday morning worship service, Zion would like to recognize our graduates, at all levels from Preschool to Postgraduate! We especially invite our High School graduates to join in this recognition. All graduates—and especially High School graduates—are welcome to wear their graduation robes for this service. We look forward to celebrating your graduation with you!

#### **CONCORDIA SEMINARY FOOD BANK**

The Concordia Seminary Food Bank is always in need of donations, even over the summer. With so many young families, they have a particular need for baby items such as diapers (especially sizes 4 and up), wipes and baby food. We take donations there once a month so if you would like to contribute, you can leave your items in the shopping cart downstairs or in the coatroom and we will take them the next time we go. Thanks! Ray and Jean Kemezys

#### LOST CONFIRMATION PHOTO BOOK

Zion's Confirmation photo book is still missing. If you possibly have it or know where it might be, please let us know. Thanks.

# NEEDED: SOUND TECH AND VIDEO TECH

Within the next several months, Zion will need help with the sound board and with the Facebook video feed each week. If you are interested in learning these positions, please sign up on the sheet in the narthex and we will schedule a training session so everyone who volunteers feels comfortable in the positions. Thanks in advance for your engagement to serve in this way!

## 19th ANNUAL BOB STREUTER MEMORIAL GOLF SCRAMBLE

The Southern Illinois District is looking for golfers to play in the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Bob Streuter Memorial Golf Scramble on Sat., June 10<sup>th</sup>, 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, or Ruth Waeltz at 618-317-2678.

#### JOB OPENING - TRINITY LUTHERAN, EDWARDSVILLE

Trinity Lutheran in Edwardsville is hiring a first-grade classroom teacher. Teachers are required to have or acquire an Illinois Teacher's License. To apply please email resume to principal: Ken Krueger at <a href="mailto:kkrueger@trinitylutheranministries.org">kkrueger@trinitylutheranministries.org</a> or call 618-656-7002 for more info. Following interviews, applicants must provide: Teaching license, Transcripts, and 3 references. Position application closes Aug 1, 2023.

# PASTORS IN NORWAY MISSION PROJECT - 4,308 MILE VIRTUAL RUN/WALK

May 1-July 31, 2023, St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Troy IL will be hosting a virtual distance challenge from May to July to help raise funds for the efforts of the new pastors heading to Norway to help rebuild the church and assist in humanitarian efforts. The distance challenge will be like a combined 5k, except the distance we are

hoping to collectively achieve will be the distance from St. Louis to Oslo Norway, or 4,308 miles. There will be prizes for the top group and top individual participants who walk/run the longest distance. Sign-up now to begin logging your distances on May 1st. Everyone who registers will receive a T-shirt. To register, visit https://runsignup.com/Race/IL/Troy/Pastors4Norway.

#### SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Lutheran Hour Ministry of the Southern Illinois District has scholarships available for college juniors or older who are going into church work. If interested, please contact Steve Kasten at <a href="mailto:smkasten@netwitz.net">smkasten@netwitz.net</a> or at 21237 Sassafras Road, Hoyleton, IL 62803. The application deadline is June 15, 2023.

#### ISSUES ETC.

ACTS BIBLE STUDY... The Word of the Lord Endures Forever is a daily 15-minute verse-by-verse Bible study produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Will Weedon. Pastor Weedon begins a study this week on The Book of Acts. You can listen at your convenience at thewordendures.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

#### 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 <a href="https://kfuo.org">kfuo.org</a> and wherever you get your podcasts! Find us on social: @KFUOradio on <a href="https://kfuo.org">Facebook</a>, <a href="https://kfuo.org">Twitter</a>, and <a href="https://kfuo.org">Instagram</a>. CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUO AM850 & kfuo.org: Study Revelation 4-7 on Sharper Iron's "Come Lord Jesus!" (Weekdays at 8:00 a.m.), study 1 Samuel 17-21 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m.) and hear how our Lutheran theology is for the instruction and consolation of a disturbed conscience on Concord Matters (5/27 at 10:00 a.m.). Find your favorite programs on demand at kfuo.org or the KFUO Radio app!

# THE FLOWERS ON THE LORD'S ALTAR

The flowers on the Lord's altar are given to the glory of God by Joyce Hendrix, in celebration of their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

## THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY

Proclaimer: Rev. Kirk Clayton
Organist: Nancy Peterson
Sound Tech: Nathaniel Clayton

Acolytes: Rosemary Peterson & Brady Twenhafel

Elder of the Month: Joe Bloomquist

# THOSE WHO SERVE NEXT WEEK, MAY 28

Proclaimer: Rev. Tony Troup
Organist: Nancy Peterson
Sound Tech: Lionel Timmerman

Acolytes: Chloe Pannier & Dalton Wambold

Altar Guild: Karen Eldridge Elder of the Month: Joe Bloomquist

## THINGS WE ARE DOING AT ZION

1 1 1	OF THE BORTS HE EIGH	
Sun.	Bible Class	8:45 AM
	Sunday School & Youth Bible Class	8:45 AM
	Worship Matins	10:00 AM
Mon.	Board of Ed	6:30 PM
Fri.	Senior Meal Delivery	10:30 AM
Sun.	Bible Class	8:45 AM
	Sunday School & Youth Bible Class	8:45 AM
	Worship DS III w/communion	10:00 AM

ATTENDANCE MAY 14: Sunday: 115

Adult Bible Class: 17 High School: 3 Sunday School: 24