

Zion Lutheran Church (LCMS)

504 S. Knoblock, Stillwater, OK 74074-3026

405.372.3703

zionluth2@gmail.com [www.zionlutheranstw.com](http://www.zionlutheranstw.com)

**Communion Service**

**8:00 am - 1st & 3rd Sundays**

**10:30 am - 2nd, & 4th, 5th Sundays**

**PASTOR**

Rev. John Wackler

580-817-0180

5th Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024

To our guests, we bid a warm welcome to our fellowship! We invite you to worship with us again soon. We request that the last three back pews be reserved for families with very young children.

**COMMUNION STATEMENT**

**If you are a Baptized Christian, have had your first communion, and have a Lutheran understanding of the Real Presence as taught in Scripture and explained in the Lutheran Confession, you are welcome to come to the Lord’s Table to receive Christ’s Body and Blood in, with, and under the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life everlasting, and eternal salvation. If you are not in agreement with this doctrine of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, or do not understand what we believe, teach, and confess, we ask that you visit with the Pastor before communing with us.**

**Assistive devices for the hearing impaired are available in the narthex. Please ask an usher for assistance.**

**Please fill out the Welcome cards found in the pews before service begins.**

Opening Hymn LSB 594 “God’s Own Child, I Gladly Say It”

**THE SERVICE OF THE WORD**

Divine Service I (pg. 151)

**Confession and Absolution**

**S**tand

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

P: In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

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)**

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.**

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**

**C: A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me. I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever. Every day I will bless you and praise your name forever and ever. The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your saints shall bless you! My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord, and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever. 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. A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me.**

**Kyrie**

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: 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 mercy.**

P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: **Amen.**

**This Is The Feast (sung)**

**C: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:**

**Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Salutation and Collect of the Day**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

**First Reading Acts 8:26–40**

26An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is a desert place. 27And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship 28and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. 29And the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and join this chariot.” 30So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” 31And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. 32Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this: “Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth.33In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.”34And the eunuch said to Philip, “About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” 35Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. 36And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?” 38And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. 39And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. 40But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual (spoken in unison)**

**C: Christ has risen from the dead. [God the Father] has crowned him with glory and honor. He has given him dominion over the works of his hands; he has put all things under his feet.**

**Epistle 1 John 4:1–21**

1Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. 2By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, 3and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. 4Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. 5They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. 6We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.7Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. 8Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. 9In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. 10In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. 11Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 12No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.13By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. 14And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. 15Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. 16So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. 17By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. 18There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. 19We love because he first loved us. 20If anyone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. 21And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**Alleluia (sung)**

**C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Holy Gospel John 15:1-8**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 15th chapter.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

1[Jesus said:] “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. 2Every branch of mine that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. 3Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. 4Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. 5I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. 6If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. 7If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

**The Nicene Creed (10:30)**

**C: I believe in one God,** (pause)

**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.**

**Apostles’ Creed (8:00)**

**C: I believe in God,** (pause)

**the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life (+) everlasting. Amen.**

**Children’s Sermon**

Hymn of the Day LSB 691 “Fruitful Trees, the Spirit’s Sowing”

Sermon “Pruning Produces More Produce”

**Offering**

**Offertory**

C: ***What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?***

***I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.***

***I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.***

***I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,***

***In the courts of the Lord’s house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.***

**Prayer of the Church**

**THE 8:00 AM SERVICE CONCLUDES WITH THE LORD’S PRAYER BEFORE THE BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION**

**SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT**

**Preface**

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 unto the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

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 (sung)**

C: **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow’r and might: Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

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.

**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.”

P: 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.”

P: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

**C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.**

**Pax Domini**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **Amen.**

**Agnus Dei (sung)**

C: **Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

**Distribution Hymns**

LSB 642 “O Living Bread from Heaven”

LSB 465 “Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds”

LSB 464 “The Strife Is O’er, the Battle Done”

LSB 463 “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia”

**Thank the Lord (sung)**

C: Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev’ryone what He has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name. He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

**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: **Amen.**

**Benedicamus and Benediction**

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: **Amen.**

Closing Hymn LSB 474 "Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen”

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**In Our Prayers**

**Joys, Cares, and Concerns**

Julaine Eick, Brecken Beck, Jesse Shields, June Fitch, Ken & Lucy Edmonds, Annette Ille, Pastor Mark Mozeik, Stacy Primeaux, Marion Couey,

**Military** Wes Anderton, Heather Piersing, Karl Piersing, Brigette Waltermire, Rick Beck, Zane Artstingstall

**Birthdays** Stacy Primeaux (4/30), Stan Benson (4/30), Gianna Hall (5/3), Justin Keeler (5/4), Vicki Ehlers (5/4)

**Anniversaries** M/M Roger Nobis (5/1)

**Worship Last Sunday** 43+91=134 **Communion 40**

**Ushers** Stan Benson & Jim Williams (10:30)

**Lector** Ann Hentges (8)

**Altar** Debbie Hooper

**Elder** Glen Hoecker

**Flowers on the Altar** this week are presented to the Glory of God by Jill Farley in memory of her mother Naida Miller.

**Hospitality Sign-up Sheet** is posted on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.

**LCMSU Meal Sign up Sheet** is posted on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.

**Worship Assistants** sign up board is located in the narthex. If you would like to volunteer to help please see the board for open opportunities.

**Monday – Thursday: Video devotions with Pastor: usually posted on Youtube and Facebook the evening before. Schedule of readings available.**

**IMPORTANT DATES**

**Zion Lutheran Spring 2024**

**Confirmation Class Sundays @ 9:15 am**

**Wednesdays Bible Study 10:30 am & 6:30 pm**

**LCMSU Bible Study & Meal Tuesdays @ 6:30 pm**

**Men’s Breakfast 7:00 am (2nd Friday of the month)**

 **SALT Bible Study 10:30 am (2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month)**

**Confirmation Sunday May 5th**

**Hymn Selection May 20th @ 5:00 pm**

**LWML May 21st @ 6:30 pm**