

"Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared"

SERVICE OF PRAYER AND MISSION - A.C.T.S.

Adoration + Confession + Thanksgiving + Supplication

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

STANDING STRONG + GROWING TOGETHER + REACHING OUT

The Third Sunday Of Easter

April 18, 2021

AS WE GATHER

"Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts?" (Luke 24:38). These are questions our risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ asked of His disciples in another resurrection appearance after that first Easter morning. They are questions that could also be asked of us numerous times in our daily lives as we face trouble and doubts. Yet as Jesus kept on appearing, He kept on showing them Himself, and more than that, He continued to teach and remind them that all that was written was fulfilled in and through Him. Though we cannot physically touch His hands and side, each time we gather, Jesus continues to speak to us, affirming His work, the Word fulfilled, and the worth of humanity for whom He came. Amid troubles and doubts, through Christ, we can "see what kind of love the Father has given to us" (1 John 3:1).



PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

David Garcia, organ

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION TO WORSHIP

Pastor Richard Schlak

OPENING HYMN

"I Know That My Redeemer Lives" v.1-3,5 Lutheran Service Book 461



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives; What com - fort
2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; He lives e -
3 He lives to bless me with His love; He lives to
5 He lives to si - lence all my fears; He lives to



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, He lives, who
ter - nal - ly to save; He lives all - glo - rious
plead for me a - bove; He lives my hun - gry
wipe a - way my tears; He lives to calm my



once was dead; He lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head.
in the sky; He lives ex - alt - ed there on high.
soul to feed; He lives to help in time of need.
trou - bled heart; He lives all bless - ings to im - part.

INVOCATION AND BAPTISMAL REMEMBRANCE

The sign of the Holy Cross may be made by all in remembrance and celebration of their baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

ADORATION

Psalm 30:1-5; antiphon: Psalm 16:11b

- P** In your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.
- C** **I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up and have not let my foes rejoice over me.**
- P** O LORD my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me.
- C** **O LORD, you have brought up my soul from Sheol; you restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.**
- P** Sing praises to the LORD, O you his saints, and give thanks to his holy name.
- C** **For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime.**
- P** Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.
- C** **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** In your presence there is fullness of joy;
- C** **at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.**

CONFESSION OF SINS AND ABSOLUTION

- P** "See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are." Gracious Lord, by Your name You have called us Your own children, and we are to pray, praise, and give thanks to You.
- C** **Yet we often choose not to see the love You have given to us, letting other things of this world impede our vision of Your mercy and grace in Christ. We do not always live as You have called us to be as Your children.**
- P** We confess our sins in repentance, turning from those things that lead us away, turning back to You in the love You've shown.

Silence for reflection.


- P** Almighty and ever-compassionate Lord,
- C** **we are by nature sinful and unclean. We confess our many failures as we have not followed You joyfully and trustingly. We have not loved others as You have first loved us, and our thoughts, words, and deeds have not been pleasing to You. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us to delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name.**
- P** "See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are." 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. As His children, may He keep you in His grace by the Holy Spirit and grant you a renewed life on earth and finally a triumphant life with Him in heaven forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C** **He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Thanks be to God!**

HYMN OF PRAISE

"Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia" v.1,5 LSB 466



1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia.
5 Christ has a - ris - en; He sets us free;



Re - jice and praise Him, al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, to Him prais - es be.



For our Re - deem - er burst from the tomb,
Je - sus is liv - ing! Let us all sing;



E - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.
He reigns tri - um - phant, heav - en - ly King.

Refrain



Let us sing praise to Him with end - less joy;



Death's fear - ful sting He has come to de - stroy.



Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!



Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P O almighty and eternal God, You have assured us of the completion of our forgiveness and new life in You through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus. You call us Your children through the waters of Baptism and give us eyes to see Your love for us in Your only-begotten Son. Give us the will to show forth in our lives the faith we profess with our lips; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

READINGS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

FIRST READING

(Peter preaches salvation through Christ.)

Acts 3:1–21

¹Now Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. ²And a man lame from birth was being carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple that is called the Beautiful Gate to ask alms of those entering the temple. ³Seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked to receive alms. ⁴And Peter directed his gaze at him, as did John, and said, "Look at us." ⁵And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them. ⁶But Peter said, "I have no silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!" ⁷And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. ⁸And leaping up he stood and began to walk, and entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. ⁹And all the people saw him walking and praising God, ¹⁰and recognized him as the one who sat at the Beautiful Gate of the temple, asking for alms. And they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

¹¹While he clung to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's, astounded. ¹²And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: "Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk? ¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And his name—by faith in his name—has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all.

¹⁷And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn again,

that your sins may be blotted out, ²⁰that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, ²¹whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING

(We are God's children now.)

1 John 3:1-7

¹See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ³And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

⁴Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he appeared to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

G **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P In Your presence there is fullness of joy;

G **at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore. Alleluia!**

GOSPEL READING

Luke 24:36-49

(Amid disciples' doubts, the resurrected Christ affirms the fulfillment of God's Word.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

G **Glory to You, O Lord.**

³⁶As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, "Peace to you!" ³⁷But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. ³⁸And he said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate before them.

⁴⁴Then he 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." ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And 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."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G **Praise to You, O Christ.**

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, 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.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Rise, Shine, You People" v.1-4 LSB 825



1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered
 2 See how He sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;
 3 Come, cel - e - brate, your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,
 4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent His Son to save us.



Our hu - man sto - ry; God in Him is cen - tered.
 He brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing.
 Your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark - ness hurl - ing.
 Tell of the Son, who life and free - dom gave us.



He comes to us, by death and sin sur -
 All men and wom - en, who by guilt are
 To all the world go out and tell the
 Tell how the Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry



round - ed, With grace un - bound - ed.
 driv - en, Now are for - giv - en.
 sto - ry Of Je - sus' glo - ry.
 na - tion His new cre - a - tion.

SERMON

OFFERING

"Here I Am, Lord" arranged by Mark Hayes

David Garcia & Samantha Fox, *Duet*

OFFERTORY

"Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings" v.1-2 LSB 782



1 Gra - cious God, You send great bless - ings
 2 By Your Word You formed cre - a - tion



New each morn - ing all our days. For Your mer - cies
 Filled with crea - tures large and small; As we tend that



nev - er end - ing, For Your love we of - fer praise.
 end - less trea - sure May our care en - cir - cle all.

Refrain



Lord, we pray that we, Your peo - ple Who Your gifts un - num - bered claim,



Through the shar - ing of Your bless - ings May bring glo - ry to Your name.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

- L** Lord God, Heavenly Father we lift up our hearts in gratitude to you, and for all your Loving kindness we bless your holy Name.
- L** For life and health, for love and friendship, and for the goodness and mercy with which you have guided us all the days of our life...
- C** **we thank you!**
- L** For the wonder and beauty of your creation, and for all things true and honorable, just and pure, lovely and gracious...
- C** **we praise you!**
- L** For the gift of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord; for the grace and truth that have come by Him; and for his obedience unto death, even death on a cross...
- C** **we worship you!**
- L** For His glorious resurrection and ascension to your right hand, and for His kingdom and glory and everlasting dominion...
- C** **we glorify you!**
- L** For the Holy Spirit, the Counselor, the Lord and Giver of life; for your holy Church throughout the world; for all the means of grace; and for the fellowship of the redeemed in heaven and on earth...
- C** **we thank you!**
- L** For the early leadership gifts to Your Church of Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors, Teachers, Deacons, Saints, Martyrs ... and for their lives of service to You and mission to a dying world we bless Your grace and thank You for their example to us as Servant Leaders...
- C** **we thank you!**
- L** For the Servant Leaders and the leadership gifts You have breathed so abundantly into this congregation in the past, now in the present, and toward a promising future...
- C** **we thank you!**
- L** We lift up our thanksgiving, praise, adoration and love to You, Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.
- C** **Amen!**

PRAYERS OF SUPPLICATION

- P** Almighty God, because you have committed to your people the ministry of intercession hear us as we pray for others, and fill our spirits with your grace:
- P** For your holy Church throughout all the world, that you would pour out upon Your ministers of Word and Sacrament the abundance of your grace and truth and that you would create in all your people a hunger for your Word, a love for your church, a passion for your mission and a compassion for those in need, Lord in your mercy,
- C** **Hear our prayer**
- P** For the nations and for our nation, especially our president Joe Biden, Congress, our state, city, and county leaders that you would breathe on them the spirit of peace and understanding: For those in authority, that you would inspire in them a true desire for peace, a zeal for Justice, a heart for the weak, and a love of concord, Lord in your mercy,
- C** **Hear our prayer**
- P** For all the schools and colleges of our nation and world; for all who teach in them and all who learn, that in humility of heart they may ever look to you, the fountain of all wisdom, Lord in your mercy,
- C** **Hear our prayer**
- P** For all in sickness and distress that you would give strength to the weary, relief to the suffering, and comfort to the dying ... today heavenly Father we remember before your throne of grace particularly Lord in your mercy,
- C** **Hear our prayer**
- P** (Here other supplications may be offered)
- P** For all your servants who have departed this life in your faith and fear we give you our highest thanks, and we pray you to give us grace to follow them as they followed Christ. Bring us, with them, into your eternal kingdom of peace and life and "to those things which eye has not seen, nor ear heard, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.
- C** **Amen**

LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

MISSION PRAYER

Almighty God, Heavenly Father as Your baptized children You call us again this Resurrection morning to praise and prayer for Your Church and world. We bring before You now in our hands and our hearts both the beauty and the brokenness of our suffering creation. Across this groaning planet are millions of Your creation who do not know You, and ignorant of Your peace hide behind locked doors in fear, loneliness, and emptiness. There are in our city and our communities thousands of your children who, mindless of your mercies, waste their days and their dreams in pursuit of a peace and a purpose only You can give. Grant us Your Spirit's Easter confidence not in our wisdom or strength but in your presence and promise to live in and for Your Mission to the lost. We pray in the precious Name of Jesus. Amen.

MORNING PRAYER

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

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.

G Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

"Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds" v.1-3 LSB 465



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds In
2 E - ter - nal is the gift He brings, There -
3 O fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love; Set



praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has tri - umphed!
fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has tri - umphed!
heart and will on things a - bove That we con - quer



He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of an - gels, loud and
He is liv - ing!" Now still He comes to give us
through Your tri - umph; Grant grace suf - fi - cient for life's



clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry
life And by His pres - ence stills all
day That by our lives we tru - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! Christ has tri - umphed!"
 strife. Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!
 say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

David Garcia, *organ*

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Offerings

You can contribute offerings using three main methods:

Online donations: You can make a secure contribution from your credit card or bank account at www.zionelpaso.org. We use Vanco, a reputable agency which specializes in donations to churches and nonprofits. Your contribution can be set up to be recurring, such as each week or month, or as a one-time donation.

Mail donations: Mail your check to the Zion church office at 2808 Pershing Drive, El Paso, TX 79903. The mail is checked every day.

Donations via an app: If you prefer using your phone or tablet, you can download the Vanco Give Plus app. You can easily set up an account and donation through the app.

Your offerings and support are crucial to our congregation and we are very grateful for your support!

Altar Flowers today are given to the glory of God in thanks for His countless blessings!

"Bagging Beans and Rice" Service Project. LWML extends a big THANK YOU to everyone who helped with the Beans and Rice Project last Sunday! Thanks to those who helped set up, who stayed after church and participated, to those who took rice home to bag, and to those who helped clean up and load the rice and beans to be delivered! With the help of many volunteers, we were able to bag 550 pounds of rice and beans in about 45 minutes! Thanks, again!



Thank you, Pastor Richard Schlak, for leading today's worship and Bible study! Pastor Schlak joins us for two Sundays while Pastor Stephen is away on a well-deserved vacation. Our office hours will remain the same during this time and are as follows: Tuesday-Friday, 10:00am-3:00pm.

Sun City Shredding. Do you have any old documents lying around that you do not need anymore? Are you looking for a safe and secure way to dispose of them? The Zion office will be shredding old, private documents using Sun City Shredding. If you have any documents that you would like shredded, bring them to the Zion office by Tuesday, April 27th, and we will include them with our documents. Staples and paper clips are not a problem. A full paper box will cost only \$4.00! The church office is open Tuesday through Friday from 10:00am to 3:00pm. Do not miss out on this opportunity to make progress on your spring cleaning!



Altar Flower Sign-Up. Now is the time to reserve your special Sundays to donate altar flowers! You can add your name to the calendar at the back of the sanctuary, or you can call or email the church office and we will add it for you! Consider recognizing an anniversary, birthday, or other special event, or just thank God for his many blessings! An altar bouquet costs \$20. You may donate either one or two arrangements. You can pay for the flowers closer to the time you have requested. We will check with you about any special dedications before the bulletin is printed that week. After the service, you are welcome to take the flowers home! If you wish, we will see that they are given to someone who could use a little love and know that we are thinking about them.



YLM Gala. The traditional YLM Gala was cancelled in 2020, however, a fun and safe **virtual fundraiser is being planned for May 1-8.** The planning committee is seeking donations of new and vintage items for the event. Items need not be especially expensive or valuable. Something small, such as an antique glass cake plate, can be combined with a bakery gift card to create a popular item. A nice gift you just cannot use, including restaurant and other gift cards, is perfect for our event.

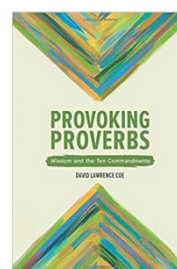
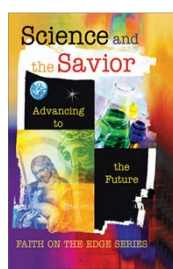
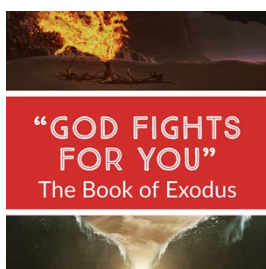


Because the event will be online, we will be able to sell tickets and reach out to participants from across the country, where there are many YLM supporters. Have something to donate? Please contact Sharon Amastae at 915-203-1501 or samastae@yahoo.com.

Join Any Zion Bible Study from Home!

We are working to continue being a channel for the Holy Spirit through God's word, and to help keep our Zion family connected.

*All are invited, please contact the Zion office for login information or questions.
Never attended an online meeting? No problem! Call 915.566.4667 for assistance.*



"Exodus" Bible Study - Sundays at 9:15am

Berea Bible Study - Every second and fourth Monday at 7:00pm

Eastside Bible Study - Tuesdays at 7:00pm

"Acts" Bible Study - Thursdays at 7:00pm

Women's Bible Study - Currently on break

+ + +

ZION STEWARDSHIP OF + TIME + TALENT + TREASURE

Preacher & Liturgist: Pastor Richard Schlak
Organist: David Garcia
Elder: Jim Smith
Reader: Mariann Porter
Camera Operator: Andrew Batts
Sound Director: Brenna Rodriguez
Offering Counter: Sharon Amastae

THIS WEEK AT ZION

4/20	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Eastside Bible Study
4/21	Wednesday	6:00 PM	Council Meeting
4/22	Thursday	7:00 PM	"Acts" Bible Study
4/25	Sunday	9:15 AM	Bible Study with Pastor Schlak
		10:30 AM	Worship Service



Zion Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 10:00am—3:00pm

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Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

2800 Pershing Dr. El Paso, Texas 79903
(915) 566-4667 + info@zionelpaso.org
www.zionelpaso.org