# **DIVINE SERVICE SETTING ONE**

# ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

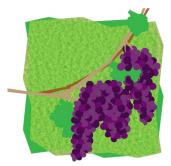
# STANDING STRONG + GROWING TOGETHER + REACHING OUT

# The Fifth Sunday Of Easter

May 2, 2021

# **AS WE GATHER**

The images Jesus uses as He proclaims the kingdom of God often come from the world of agriculture. His parables are filled with plants and trees and birds and animals. Grapes, grapevines, and vineyards are all used as illustrations by Jesus as He teaches the people who are His first hearers and us also. As people who have been grafted as branches into Christ the Vine through Holy Baptism, we seek ways to strengthen that connection as the Holy Spirit works in and through us. We now nourish our faith as branches in Christ's vineyard as we grow in Him by Word and Sacrament.



David Garcia, *organ* Pastor Stephen Heimer

# PRE-SERVICE MUSIC WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION TO WORSHIP

# PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"Alleluia! Jesus is Risen!" v.1-3 Lutheran Service Book 474



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### INVOCATION AND BAPTISMAL REMEMBRANCE

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

- $\mathbf{P}$  In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- Amen.

### **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

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

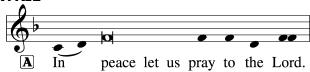
  Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- Amen.

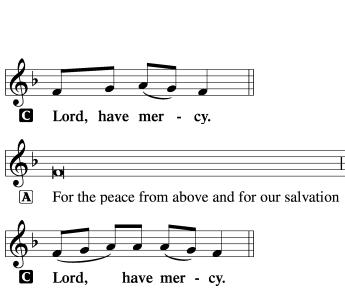
# + SERVICE OF THE WORD +



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### **KYRIE**







let us pray to the Lord.

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





Lord, have mer - cy.

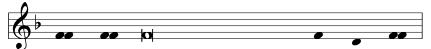


and for all who offer here their worship and praise For this holy house





Lord, have mer - cy.



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





al - le - lu - ia,

# SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

ia,

**P** The Lord be with you.

Al-le - lu

And also with you.

# **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. Risen and ascended Lord, You are the vine, and we are the branches. Apart from You there is no life. By Baptism, You have grafted us into Your gracious life. Cause Your Word to abide in us and make us fruitful to the glory of Your Father, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

al - le

C Amen.

#### FIRST READING

(Philip witnesses about Jesus to the Ethiopian official.)

lu

ia.

Acts 8:26-40

<sup>26</sup>An 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. <sup>27</sup>And 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

<sup>28</sup>and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" <sup>31</sup>And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. <sup>32</sup>Now 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. <sup>33</sup>In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."

<sup>34</sup>And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" <sup>35</sup>Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup>And 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?" <sup>38</sup>And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. <sup>39</sup>And 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. <sup>40</sup>But 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.
- Thanks be to God.

# **EPISTLE**

(An exhortation to lives of Christian love)

1 John 4

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.

<sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup>In 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. <sup>10</sup>In 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. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

<sup>13</sup>By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. <sup>16</sup>So 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. <sup>17</sup>By 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. <sup>18</sup>There 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. <sup>19</sup>We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup>If 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. <sup>21</sup>And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

# **ALLELUIA AND VERSE**



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



<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. <sup>2</sup>Every 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. <sup>3</sup>Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide 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. <sup>5</sup>I 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. <sup>6</sup>If 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. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>By 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.



# **CONFESSION OF FAITH**

The Nicene Creed

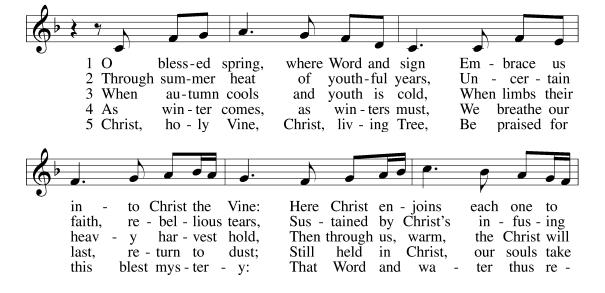
I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

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.

# **HYMN OF THE DAY**

"O Blessed Spring" LSB 595



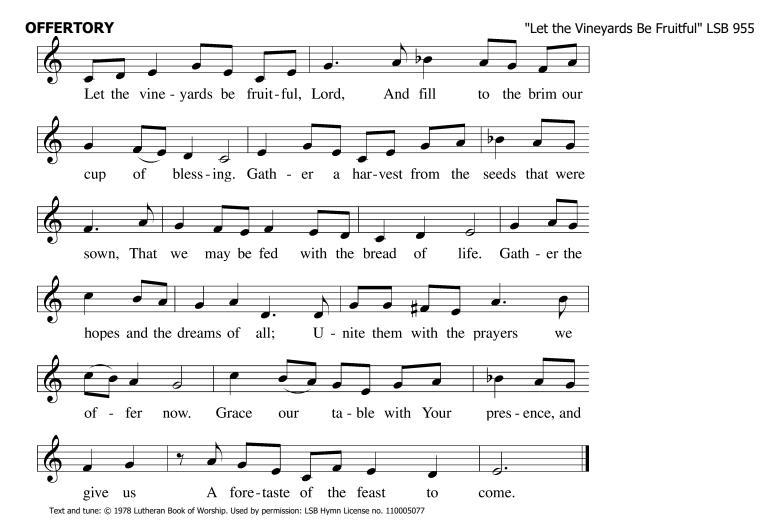


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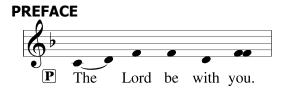
SERMON "Christ Sustains Us"

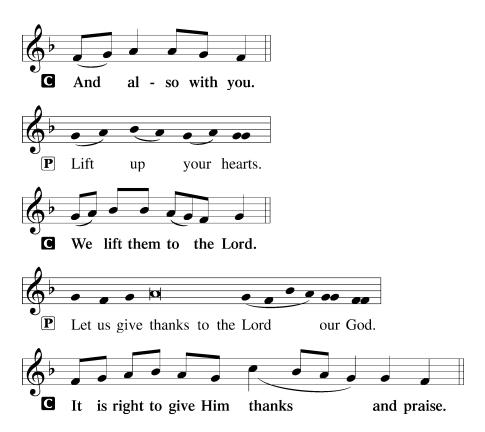
### **OFFERING**



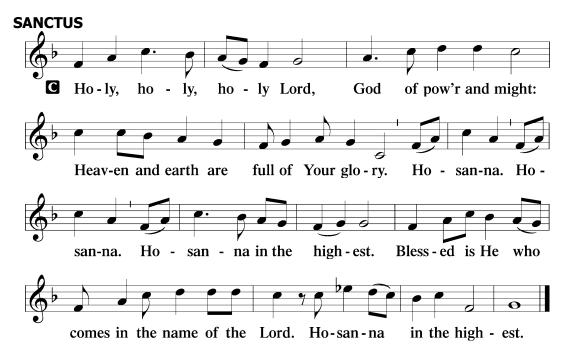
# **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

# + SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +



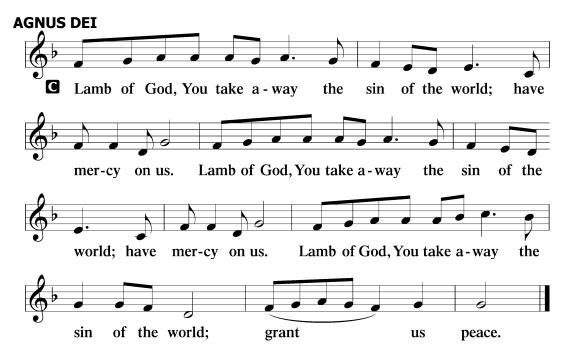


It is truly good, right, and proper that we should give thanks to You, Lord, our God, for You have shown mercy to all in Christ our Redeemer, the Vine divine. Receive our thanks that as branches of the Vine, we are created to bear fruit. Unite our praises with those of all the faithful who are connected to Christ and join them with the unending praise of the angels and archangels and all the company of heaven.



# **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.



# **BENEDICTION**



The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

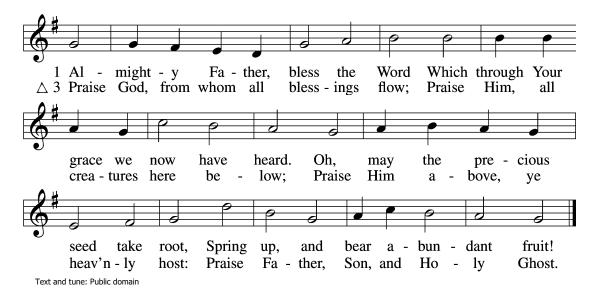
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.



# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# **CLOSING HYMN**

"Almighty Father Bless The Word" v.1,3 LSB 923



The Livestream comes to an end. The distribution of the service of the sacrament continues.

# **Today we celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion.**

Here our Heavenly Father promises anew His unconditional love, renews His pledge of forgiveness in Christ, and offers His Holy Spirit as strength for daily faith and life. If you are a visitor to Zion, we invite you in the Name of Jesus to commune with us. However, since God reminds us that thoughtless or faithless reception of the Sacrament can incur His judgment (1 Corinthians 11:27-32), the Scriptures call those who commune to personally examine themselves and in their communing publicly confess:

- **Ḥ** I am a baptized Christian and I trust in Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior.
- + I am a sinner in need of God's forgiveness.
- **⊥** I believe that Christ is truly present with His body and blood under the bread and wine offering me forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation.
- Through His grace and strength, I will live to God's glory, in ministry with His people, in mission to His world.

Children are invited to accompany parents to the altar for the blessing. We trust that your communion with Christ and His people will strengthen your faith, increase your love, and empower your witness to Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. If you have questions about your communing, please speak with the Pastor.



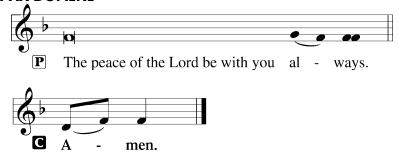
# PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, O Lord, our God, King of all creation, for You graciously invite us to call upon You with all boldness and confidence. Gathered at Your Table, grant that we receive Your body and blood, fully trusting in Your promises that are fulfilled in Christ, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Unite us to Christ the Vine that we live as fruitful branches and finally grant us a foretaste of the feast to come. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

# Amen.

# THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

# **PAX DOMINI**

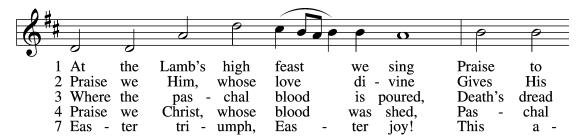


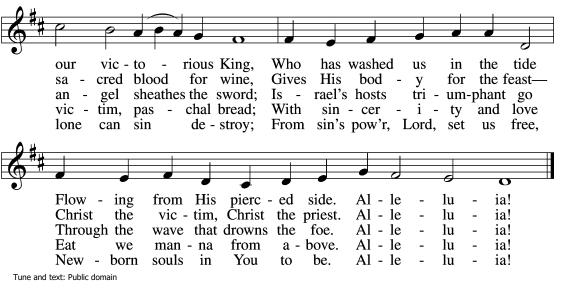
# **RECEPTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

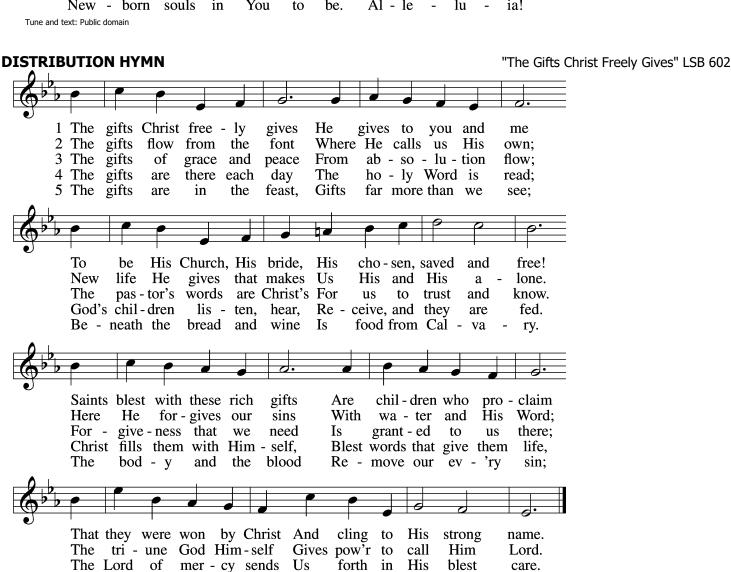
Ushers will guide one household a time forward to receive the Lord's Supper, which will be placed upon a stand before each communicant. Please remain standing. The plastic containers for the elements may be carried away with you and placed in baskets located to the left or right of the chancel area as you return to your seats.

# **DISTRIBUTION HYMN**

"At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing" v.1-4,7 LSB 633







Re - stor - ing and re - fresh - ing Them for this world's

His

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We leave His pres-ence in

peace, re-newed

strife.

gain.

a



Set

Glo

Thee, Lost

our

ry

in

hearts

won - der, love,

in

Tune and text: Public domain

its be - gin - ning, with - out ceas - ing,

crowns be - fore

at lib - er - ty. Thy per - fect love.

and praise!

# **DISTRIBUTION HYMN**

"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love" LSB 980



# POST-COMMUNION BLESSING



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



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



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



### POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

- P Heavenly Father, we thank You for having fed us with Your life-giving food. Strengthen us through the same and help us to rejoice in Your mercies that we grow daily as fruitful branches of Christ the Vine. Finally, in Your mercy, grant us a portion with the saints in light eternal. This we ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who with You and the Holy Spirit are one God, world without end.
- Amen.

#### **BENEDICAMUS**

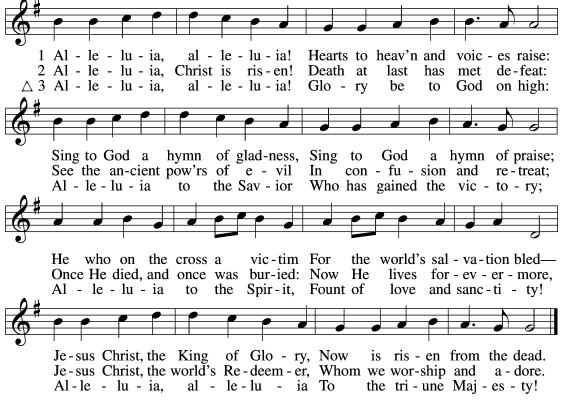
- **P** Let us bless the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

# **DISMISSAL**

- Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!
- Thanks be to God.  $\mathbf{C}$

# **RECESSIONAL HYMN**

"Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven" LSB 477



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# **POSTLUDE MUSIC**

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 <a href="www.zionelpaso.org">www.zionelpaso.org</a>. 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 and in thanks for His countless blessings!



**YLM Gala.** Thank you for the great donations for the YLM fundraiser! We have now set up the raffle and silent auction. Our virtual fundraiser is available at: **go.rallyup.com/ylm2021.** You'll

Raffle and Silent Auction

find a fun and secure site where you can support YLM Human Care projects and win great prizes! The auction and raffle will be open from until May 8th. Questions? Please contact Sharon Amastae at 915-203-1501.



### ZION STEWARDSHIP OF + TIME + TALENT + TREASURE

**Preacher & Celebrant:** Pastor Stephen Heimer

Organist: David Garcia
Elder: Jim Smith
Reader: Tim Kludt
Camera Operator: Jaden Heimer
Sound Director: Brenna Rodriguez
Offering Counter: Sharon Amastae

### THIS WEEK AT ZION

5/4	Tuesday	8:30 AM	Pastoral Circuit Meeting
	-	5:00 PM	Confirmation Class
		7:00 PM	Eastside Bible Study
5/5	Wednesday	10:00 AM	Visitation for Irene Matzke
		11:00 AM	Funeral Service of Irene Matzke
5/6	Thursday	7:00 PM	"Acts" Bible Study
5/9	Sunday	9:15 AM	"Exodus" Bible Study
	•	10:30 AM	Worship Service



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

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