

*We must obey God rather  
than human beings!*

*~ Acts 5:29*

**Sunday, April 27, 2025**  
*Second Sunday of Easter*

**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Pastor Sara Stall-Ryan**  
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## HOLY COMMUNION

*Setting Two*

*Regular font: Worship Leader; **Bold font: Congregation***

### WELCOME

*Please stand*

## GATHERING

### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**

In the name of + the One  
who was, who is, and who is to come.

**Amen.**

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection,  
and called to live the baptized life,  
let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God,  
we give you thanks for the waters of baptism,  
waters that make a people your own,  
that restore to wholeness,  
and empower us to be witnesses in your name.  
Baptized into you, O Living One,  
**make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,  
waters that strengthen believers  
and give new life to beloved servants of your church;  
waters that extend your boundless love  
and cross barriers of our own making.  
Baptized into you, O Living One,  
**make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,  
waters that open the hearts of believers  
and give a voice in the night to those in captivity;

waters that set your people on a new path,  
rejoicing in the Spirit's power.  
Baptized into you, O Living One,  
**make us one as you are one.**

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One,  
that our every day is shaped by these waters  
that give us our very lives in you.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.  
**Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN** "Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart"  
**ELW 800**

### **GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the  
communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

**KYRIE** **pg. 120**

**HYMN** "This is the Feast" **pg. 122**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded  
hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in  
your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus  
Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the  
Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## **WORD**

*Please be seated*

### **FIRST READING** **Acts 5:27-32**

<sup>27</sup> When they had brought the apostles, they had them stand before the  
council. The high priest questioned them, <sup>28</sup> saying, "We gave you  
strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled  
Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this  
man's blood on us." <sup>29</sup> But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must

obey God rather than any human authority. <sup>30</sup> The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. <sup>31</sup> God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. <sup>32</sup> And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.”

Word of God. Word of Life.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM 118:14-29**

<sup>14</sup> The LORD is my strength | and my song,  
and has become | my salvation.

<sup>15</sup> **Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents | of the righteous:**

**“The right hand of the | LORD acts valiantly!**

<sup>16</sup> The right hand of the LORD | is exalted!  
The right hand of the | LORD acts valiantly!”

<sup>17</sup> **I shall not | die, but live,  
and declare the works | of the LORD.**

<sup>18</sup> The LORD indeed pun- | ished me sorely,  
but did not hand me o- | ver to death.

<sup>19</sup> **Open for me the | gates of righteousness;  
I will enter them and give thanks | to the LORD.**

<sup>20</sup> “This is the gate | of the LORD;  
here the righ- | teous may enter.”

<sup>21</sup> **I give thanks to you, for you have | answered me  
and you have become | my salvation.**

<sup>22</sup> The stone that the build- | ers rejected  
has become the chief | cornerstone.

<sup>23</sup> **By the LORD has | this been done;  
it is marvelous | in our eyes.**

<sup>24</sup> This is the day that the | LORD has made;  
let us rejoice and be | glad in it.

<sup>25</sup> **Hosanna! | O LORD, save us!  
We pray to you, LORD, pros- | per our days!**

<sup>26</sup> Blessed is the one who comes in the name | of the LORD;  
we bless you from the house | of the LORD.

<sup>27</sup> **The LORD is God and has giv-<sup>l</sup> en us light.**

**Form a procession with branches up to the corners<sup>l</sup> of the altar.**

<sup>28</sup> You are my God, and <sup>l</sup> I will thank you;  
you are my God, and I <sup>l</sup> will exalt you.

<sup>29</sup> **Give thanks to the LORD, for the<sup>l</sup> LORD is good;  
God's mercy en-<sup>l</sup> dures forever.**

*Please stand*

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**pg. 124**

### **GOSPEL READING**

**John 20:19-31**

The holy gospel according to John the 20th chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>19</sup> When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup> When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

<sup>24</sup> But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

<sup>26</sup> A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." <sup>28</sup> Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup> Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have

not seen and yet have come to believe.”

<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup> But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated*

## **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

### **SERMON**

*Pastor Sara Stall-Ryan*

*One Minute of Silence is kept for reflection.*

*Please stand*

### **HYMN OF THE DAY**

“We Walk by Faith”

**ELW 635**

### **NICENE CREED**

**pg. 126**

### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

Inspire the church with the breath of your Holy Spirit, that we sing the good news of the resurrection. Inspire deacons and pastors, lay leaders and bishops to boldly proclaim your love for all people. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Preserve the earth as a safe home for all creatures. Restore habitats contaminated by pollution or overuse, strengthen efforts to shape more sustainable communities, and make us mindful of the impacts of our daily lives on the well-being of creation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Kindle in the nations a spirit of cooperation and mutual care. Raise up creative and courageous leaders committed to shaping just solutions

to complex challenges in our local and global communities (current issues of concern may be named). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Embrace all who carry wounds, that they might know your compassion. Draw near to those with chronic pain or anxiety, and all for whom death is near. Comfort individuals and communities suffering in any way (especially). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Transform our fear into curiosity and love, especially across differences in race, religion, sexuality, gender identity, and economic situation. Unravel stereotypes that lead to discrimination, and destroy oppressive systems that marginalize vulnerable communities. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

We remember the faithful departed from all times and places. Confident that you are the Alpha and Omega, we pray for your wisdom and guidance until our earthly pilgrimage is complete. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

**PEACE**

pg. 128

**MEAL**

*Please be seated*

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY HYMN**

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Risen One,  
you have gathered us around your table of grace  
along with these gifts we bring.

Come among us again,  
breathe your life into us,  
and enliven us with this meal,  
that we may live as your risen body in the world. **Amen.**

*Please Stand*

**GREAT THANKSGIVING** **pg. 129**

*Please kneel or sit*

**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER** **pg. 134**  
It is indeed right...

**LORD'S PRAYER** **pg. 134**

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

**DISTRIBUTION**

*Please be seated*

**LAMB OF GOD** **pg. 135**

*Please kneel or sit*

**COMMUNION HYMNS**

“Lord Of All Hopefulness” **ELW 765**

“Just As I Am, without One Plea” **ELW 592**

*Please stand*

**BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION**

**HYMN AFTER COMMUNION** “Come with Us, O Blessed Jesus”  
**ELW 501**

**SENDING**

**BENEDICTION**

The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come,



Sovereign, + Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always.  
**Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN** “Glorious Things of You Are Spoken”  
**ELW 647**

**DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Postlude:*

**SERVING TODAY**

Howard Swanson - Lector

Michelle Schneider - Worship Assistant

Rick Borg, Donna Berndtson, Adam Stall-Ryan

- Ushers/Greeters

Carol Murphy - Altar Guild

Sarah Dzialo - Organist

**Prayer List**

<b>For Health:</b>	Matthew A	Milluzzo and	<b>For Safety:</b>
Clara W	Bud J	Neri families	Andrew C
Joyce G	Marjorie F	Shirley C	Todd S
Bill B	Jessica A	Diane E	Michael C
Cathy L	Charlotte D	Dick C	Tyler G
Marion B	Jonathan A	Karen R	Erik B
Lily V	Pauline N	Stacey T	Justin Earl B
Holly N	Curt R	Pat J	Evan G
Dylan G	Matthew S	Lois B	David P
Lisa A	Phil O	Bruce G	
Aiden J	Peter W	Peter W	
Helen A	Joan A		

# Italian

# Night



## Zion Lutheran Church Italian Night 2025

Sunday, April 27

Social Hour: 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Dinner: 5:00 p.m.

(To-Go orders available - Please indicate To-Go at time of ticket order)

### Live Music by Jonny Rox

Over 12: \$15    12 and Under: FREE

If you cannot attend but would like to donate toward this wonderful event, please

Venmo **@Michelle-Schneider-24** or make out a check to Zion Lutheran Church with a memo of "Italian Night 2025".

After church today Grace Guild members will be selling tickets for the raffle being held at the Italian Dinner.

YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE PRESENT AT THE DINNER TO WIN.



**Life Line Screening** will be here at Zion on **Tuesday, April 29th** from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. If

you would like to register for an appointment call 1-800-640-6307 or visit [LLSA.SOCIAL/HC](http://LLSA.SOCIAL/HC)



## May 17 Work Day

9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

Bring work gloves, rakes, shovels, cleaners, ect. or any supplies to clean up the church for the spring.

### Special Meeting Notice

### Special Meeting of the Congregation

On May 18th right after the church service, there will be a special meeting about the bell project and a vote.



## Americans With No Address

DOCUMENTARY AND DISCUSSION ON HOMELESSNESS



A production team embarked on a dangerous cross-country mission to witness and film a documentary on the homeless crisis in America.

#### DISCUSSION CO-LEADERS

**Wallace Collins** AND **Marjorie Barrett**

Streetfire Administrator

Streetfire Volunteer



April 28th, 2025 | 5:45 to 8:30 pm



### PORTLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

Mary Flood Room, 20 Freestone Ave., Portland, CT

REGISTER by calling (860) 342-6770 or at  
<https://portlandct.libcal.com/event/14207549>

**Today: April 27, 2025**

**Second Sunday of Easter**

**9:00 a.m.** Worship/Communion

**10:30 a.m.** Adult Education - The Chosen video

**11:30 a.m.** True Vine Church

**4:00-5:00 p.m.** Italian Night Social Hour

**5:00 p.m.** Italian Night Dinner

**This Week:**

**Monday:**

**6:00 p.m.** N/A

**5:45 p.m.** Americans with No Address at Portland Library

**Tuesday:**

**8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.** Lifeline Screening

**Thursday:**

**7:00 p.m.** National Day of Prayer at St. Mary's Church

**Friday:**

**7:00 p.m.** N/A

**Next Sunday:**

**May, 2025**

**Third Sunday of Easter**

**9:00 a.m.** Worship/Communion

**10:15 a.m.** Sunday School

**10:30 a.m.** The Chosen video

**11:30 a.m.** True Vine Church



**Attendance: Last week - 68; Last year - 44**

**Next weeks readings: Acts 9:1-6 [7-20]; Psalm 30;  
Revelation 5:11-14; John 21:1-19**

**MISSION STATEMENT**

As members of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, we exist to honor and proclaim the life of Jesus Christ through our words, actions and deeds.

**VISION STATEMENT**

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church shall be a prominent magnet in the community to draw people to a new life in Jesus Christ.

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