

*Feed My*

*Sheep*



**Sunday, May 4, 2025**  
*Third 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** “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”  
**ELW 807**

### **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**

Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we  
laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show  
yourself to us and inspire us to follow 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 9:1-20**

<sup>1</sup> Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the  
Lord, went to the high priest <sup>2</sup> and asked him for letters to the  
synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the  
Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup> Now  
as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light

from heaven flashed around him.<sup>4</sup> He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"<sup>5</sup> He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting."<sup>6</sup> But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do."<sup>7</sup> The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one.<sup>8</sup> Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus.<sup>9</sup> For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

<sup>10</sup> Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord."<sup>11</sup> The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying,<sup>12</sup> and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight."<sup>13</sup> But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem;<sup>14</sup> and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name."<sup>15</sup> But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel;<sup>16</sup> I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name."<sup>17</sup> So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit."<sup>18</sup> And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized,<sup>19</sup> and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus,<sup>20</sup> and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."

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

## **PSALM 30**

<sup>1</sup> I will exalt you, O LORD, because you have lift- | ed me up  
and have not let my enemies triumph | over me.

<sup>2</sup> **O LORD my God, I cried | out to you,  
and you restored | me to health.**  
<sup>3</sup> You brought me up, O LORD, | from the dead;  
you restored my life as I was going down | to the grave.  
<sup>4</sup> **Sing praise to the LORD, | all you faithful;  
give thanks in ho- | ly remembrance.**  
<sup>5</sup> God's wrath is short; God's favor | lasts a lifetime.  
Weeping spends the night, but joy comes | in the morning.  
<sup>6</sup> **While I felt se- | cure, I said,  
"I shall never | be disturbed.**  
<sup>7</sup> You, LORD, with your favor, made me as strong | as the  
mountains."  
Then you hid your face, and I was | filled with fear.  
<sup>8</sup> **I cried to | you, O LORD;  
I pleaded with | my Lord, saying,**  
<sup>9</sup> "What profit is there in my blood, if I go down | to the pit?  
Will the dust praise you or de- | clare your faithfulness?  
<sup>10</sup> **Hear, O LORD, and have mer- | cy upon me;  
O LORD, | be my helper."**  
<sup>11</sup> You have turned my wailing | into dancing;  
you have put off my sackcloth and clothed | me with joy.  
<sup>12</sup> **Therefore my heart sings to you | without ceasing;  
O LORD my God, I will give you | thanks forever.**

*Please stand*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

pg. 124

## GOSPEL READING

**John 21:1-19**

The holy gospel according to John the 21st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup> After he appeared to his followers in Jerusalem, Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. <sup>2</sup> Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. <sup>3</sup> Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.  
<sup>4</sup> Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did

not know that it was Jesus. <sup>5</sup> Jesus said to them, “Children, you have no fish, have you?” They answered him, “No.” <sup>6</sup> He said to them, “Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. <sup>7</sup> That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. <sup>8</sup> But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

<sup>9</sup> When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. <sup>10</sup> Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.” <sup>11</sup> So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. <sup>12</sup> Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, “Who are you?” because they knew it was the Lord. <sup>13</sup> Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. <sup>14</sup> This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

<sup>15</sup> When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.” <sup>16</sup> A second time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Tend my sheep.” <sup>17</sup> He said to him the third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” And he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. <sup>18</sup> Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” <sup>19</sup> (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, “Follow me.”

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 Who Once Were Dead” ELW 495

### 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.*

Your love sustains the church and its ministries. By that love, equip youth directors, Sunday school teachers, and all who guide formation in the church to nurture vibrant, living faith among your people. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your abundance is made known throughout creation. Preserve oceans and rivers, lakes and estuaries (local bodies of water may be named) so that all creatures living in them might flourish. Make us wise stewards of our local watersheds. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your wisdom guides all who strive for justice and peace. Strengthen the work of grassroots organizers, especially among communities on the frontlines of justice work. Amplify the voices of those most in need, that their leadership guides the way forward. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your compassion surrounds all who are in need. We pray for all people experiencing poverty and food insecurity, and for all struggling with debt and economic uncertainty. Reassure all who experience hopelessness or need your tender care (especially). **Your mercy is great.**

You invite all people to your table of grace. Make this a community of radical hospitality where all feel loved and celebrated. Show us how to better welcome visitors and bless the ministries of hospitality in this place (specific ministries may be named). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

We praise you for the witness of your saints of all times and places (especially Monica, mother of Augustine). May their lives of faith guide us in our own journeys with you, today and every day. 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 God, We Praise You”

**ELW 558**

“Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness”

**ELW 488**

*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** “Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen”

**ELW 548**

### **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**

Donna Cote - Lector  
Pauline Neumann - Worship Assistant  
Rick Borg, Donna Berndtson, Adam Stall-Ryan  
- Ushers/Greeters  
Marie DeGraff - 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	Diane E	Todd S
Bill B	Jessica A	Dick C	Michael C
Cathy L	Charlotte D	Karen R	Tyler G
Marion B	Jonathan A	Stacey T	Erik B
Lily V	Pauline N	Pat J	Justin Earl B
Holly N	Curt R	Lois B	Evan G
Dylan G	Matthew S	Bruce G	David P
Lisa A	Phil O	Peter W	
Aiden J	Peter W	Loee M	
Helen A	Joan A		



In baptism, we promise to strive for justice and peace. Zion is invited into conversations about justice and faith-based organizing with other local congregations and faith groups. A faith-based organizing informational session is being held **May 8 from 7-8:15 pm at First UCC in Middletown(190 Court St.)** If you are interested in finding out more ask Pastor Sara!

## *In Memory*

Alter Candles were donated in memory of  
Edward and Olivie Marlow  
by William, Donna and Olivia Marlow.



## 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: May 4, 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

**This Week:**

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

Wednesday: **6:30 p.m.** Property/Finance

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

**Next Sunday:**



**May 11, 2025**

**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

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

**10:30 a.m.** Adult Education

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

Attendance: Last week - 52; Last year - 43

Next weeks readings: Acts 9:36-43; Psalm 23;  
Revelation 7:9-17; John 10:22-30

**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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