

ONE ANOTHER

John 13:35

Sunday, May 18, 2025 Fifth Sunday of Easter

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH Pastor Sara Stall-Ryan P.O. Box 202, 183 William Street Portland, CT 06480

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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

"The Risen Christ"

ELW 390

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 Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through 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 11:1-18

¹ Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the

Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ² So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³ saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" ⁴ Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, 5 "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. ⁶ As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷ I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' ¹⁰ This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹ At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹² The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. ¹³ He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴ he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' 15 And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶ And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' ¹⁷ If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" 18 When they heard this. they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 148

¹ Hallelujah! Praise the LORD | from the heavens; praise God | in the heights.

² Praise the LORD, | all you angels; sing praise, all you | hosts of heaven.

³ Praise the LORD, ¹ sun and moon; sing praise, all you ¹ shining stars.

- ⁴ Praise the LORD, heav- | en of heavens, and you waters a- bove the heavens.
- ⁵ Let them praise the name of the LORD, who commanded, and they were created,
- ⁶ who made them stand fast forev- | er and ever, giving them a law that shall not pass away.
- ⁷ Praise the LORD | from the earth, vou sea monsters | and all deeps;
- ⁸ fire and hail, | snow and fog, tempestuous wind, do- ing God's will;
- ⁹ mountains | and all hills, fruit trees | and all cedars;
- 10 wild beasts | and all cattle, creeping things and | flying birds;
- ¹¹ sovereigns of the earth | and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world; young men and maidens,
- old and | young together.
- ¹³ Let them praise the name of the LORD, whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven
- ¹⁴ The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all | faithful servants.

the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. | Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: **Revelation 21:1-6**

¹ I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saving.

"See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them:

they will be his peoples.

and God himself will be with them:

⁴ he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more:

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away."

⁵ And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." ⁶ Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

pg. 124

GOSPEL READING

John 13:31-35

The holy gospel according to John the 13th chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹ When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³² If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³ Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' ³⁴ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

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 "Where Charity and Love Prevail"

ELW 359

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.

Fill the church with the spirit of your redeeming love. Make us steadfast in our proclamation of your grace for all people without exceptions, especially those often overlooked in our communities. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Awaken joy in the beauty and abundance of your creation. Show us the wonder of your presence from the smallest flower to the tallest tree. Recommit us to preservation of wild places (local or regional places may be named). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Instruct all world leaders to protect the most vulnerable among us. Guide those in power toward equitable and just economic policies, so that all might have sufficient resources to live safely and with dignity. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Pour out your love on all in need of care: those mourning losses, enduring trauma, experiencing broken relationships, yearning for companionship, or facing illness (especially). Wipe away every tear. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Abide with all who are victims of racism, especially people who are doubly marginalized because of gender, sexuality, or ability. Destroy all forms of systemic oppression, and renew our commitment to healing the wounds of our collective body in this community and beyond. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give thanks for all the saints whose lives bear witness to your redeeming love (especially Erik, King of Sweden). Guide us by

their example, until we join them in your eternal home. 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

Please kneel or sit

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER pg. 134

pg. 129

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

"Let Us Go Now to the Banquet" ELW 523
"Best Be the Tie That Binds" ELW 656

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 "Sent Forth By God's Blessing" ELW 547

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:

Prayer List

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

SERVING TODAY

Geri Pearson - Lector Deb Gustafson - Worship Assistant Rick Borg, Donna Berndtson, Adam Stall-Ryan - Ushers/Greeters Marie DeGraff - Altar Guild Sarah Dzialo - Organist

Special Special Meeting of the

Meeting Congregation

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



Anyone interested in renting the Promised Land or Fellowship Hall, should call the church office for price and availability.



The Word in Season Daily Devotions for April, May and June are available in the Narthex and the Red Box outside the door with the doorbell.



Make sure to use a **Goodwill Good Neighbor Donation Card** whenever you donate to Goodwill. See Donna Berndtson for the donation cards and details.



Funerals Clara Williams

Thursday, May 22, 2025 10:00 a.m.



ALLEN HILL

Wednesday, June 4, 2025 11:00 a.m. **Today: May 18, 2025**

Fifth Sunday of Easter

9:00 a.m. Worship/Communion 10:15 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. The Chosen video

10:30 a.m. Special Meeting and Vote

11:30 a.m. True Vine Church

This Week:

Monday: 1:00 p.m. Grace Guild

6:00 p.m. N/A

Tuesday: **6:30 p.m.** Fife and Drum

7:00 p.m. Council

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

Next Sunday:



May 25, 2025

Sixth Sunday of Easter

9:00 a.m. Worship/Communion

10:30 a.m. Adult Education

11:30 a.m. True Vine Church

2:00 p.m. Memorial Day Parade

Attendance: Last week - 62; Last year - 50

Next weeks readings: Acts 16:9-15; Psalm 67; Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5; John 14:23-29

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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