**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, WOODLAND, MI**

**Third Sunday of Easter, April 18, 2021**

**\*If you are listening in your car, please tune your radio to 1620 AM\***

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRELUDE**

**Gathering**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

**Confession and Forgiveness**

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**Amen.**

**Gathering Song“Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen” ELW 377**





**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.**

**Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection 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.**

**First Reading**    **Acts 3:12-19**

A reading from Acts.

12[Peter] addressed the people, “You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?13The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. 14But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, 15and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. 16And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.  
  17“And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. 18In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. 19Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm  Psalm 4**

1Answer me when I call, O God, defender | of my cause;  
  you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and | hear my prayer.  
**2“You mortals, how long will you dishon- | or my glory;  
  how long will you love illusions and seek | after lies?”**  
 3Know that the Lord does wonders | for the faithful;  
  the Lord will hear me | when I call.  
**4Tremble, then, and | do not sin;  
  speak to your heart in silence up- | on your bed.**   
 5Offer the appointed | sacrifices,  
  and put your trust | in the Lord.  
**6Many are saying, “Who will show us | any good?”  
  Let the light of your face shine upon | us, O Lord.**  
 7You have put gladness | in my heart,  
  more than when grain and | wine abound.  
 **8In peace, I will lie | down and sleep;  
  for you alone, O Lord, make me | rest secure.**

**Second Reading**  **1 John 3:1-7**

A reading from 1 John.

1See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. 2Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. 3And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.  
  4Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. 5You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. 6No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. 7Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia**

**Gospel** **Luke 24:36b-48**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

36bJesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, “Peace be with you.” 37They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. 38He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? 39Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost 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. 41While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” 42They gave him a piece of broiled fish, 43and he took it and ate in their presence.  
  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, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” 45Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, 46and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, 47and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. 48You are witnesses of these things.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON Jolene Griffin**

**Hymn of the Day “Lord You Give the Great Commission” ELW 579**



**cREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,**

**creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead.\***

**On the third day he rose again;**

**he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

**and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

\*Or, “he descended into hell,” another translation of this text in widespread use.

**prayers of Intercession**

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

*A brief silence.*

Living God, in the midst of Easter joy we are still filled with questions and wondering. Open our hearts and minds as we encounter the scriptures, so that the church embodies repentance and forgiveness in the name of Jesus to all nations. We pray especially for St. Thomas Ev. Lutheran Church and Rev. David Hueter. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Creating God, like a master artist you have fashioned the universe out of your love and delight. Heal your creation where it is in need of restoration Provide all the inhabitants of earth a peaceful and sustainable home. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of all, the nations hunger and thirst for your righteousness. Many call on you for guidance and strength. Answer their hopes with the peace of Christ and give your lovingkindness to national, state, and local leaders of people. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Healing God, you hear the cries of those in need and answer them in their distress. Grant to those who are sick and suffering your compassion and nurse them back to health and wholeness. We pray especially for Marie Brodbeck, Sheila Hayes, the family of Irene Ames, the family and friends of Dana Traub, Christina, the family of Erika Main Bailey, Marie Stranad, Deb Smith, Justine Sleight, Dave LaNew, Mary Smith, Ron Campbell and his family, Patty Olmstead, Laura Lynch-Halliburton, Lisa Hetchler, Terry Speese, Janine Kaufman, Brian Smith, Cort Zylstra, Jerry Southgate, Vi Aho, and Chris and Charles Farlee. Be close to the hearts of the lonely. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Loving Parent, you have given us such love that we should be called the children of God. Reveal yourself to us so that we in this community of faith will become more and more like you in our mutual love and bold witness. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of all times and ages, those who have died in you now see you as you are. We thank you for their lives among us (especially). Assure us of the peace you have promised, that we may join them in everlasting life. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**Offering & Offering Prayer**

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**Thanksgiving for the Word***.*

Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

**we give you thanks and praise.**

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

**we give you thanks and praise.**

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,

**we give you thanks and praise.**

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

**Amen.**

**Lord’s Prayer**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven,**

**hallowed be your name,**

**your kingdom come,**

**your will be done,**

**on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins**

**as we forgive those**

**who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial**

**and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,**

**and the glory are yours,**

**now and forever. Amen.**

**Sending**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

**Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy.

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

**Amen.**

**Sending SonG “Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing” ELW 389**



**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2017 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO SERVED TODAY:**

**Presider: Jolene Griffin**

**Musician: Martha Yoder**

**Elder: Dan Utterback**

**Trustee: Jerry Engle**

**Safety Team Member: Jerry Engle**

**Offering Counters: Diane Griffin & Carlotta Willard**

**PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL**

With thanks for all God’s blessings and his love for all people. Our Bishops, Craig Satterlee Elizabeth Eaton, and the congregations of the North/West Lower Michigan Synod. **St. Thomas Ev. Lutheran Church in Cheboygan and Rev. David Hueter.**

Prayers for our friends, especially for Marie Brodbeck, Sheila Hayes, the family of Irene Ames, the family and friends of Dana Traub, Christina, the family of Erika Main Bailey, Marie Stranad, Deb Smith, Justine Sleight, Dave LaNew, Mary Smith, Ron Campbell and his family, Patty Olmstead, Laura Lynch-Halliburton, Lisa Hetchler, Terry Speese, Janine Kaufman, Brian Smith, Cort Zylstra, Jerry Southgate, Vi Aho, and Chris and Charles Farlee. All those members of Zion’s family traveling; all those homebound or in frail health; all those suffering with quiet, unknown needs or worries.

For those who serve on our behalf: public safety, utility workers, medical personnel, military personnel. For those who might be forgotten.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

* + “Thank you for the beautiful geranium planter and gift card that was given for my birthday! I really appreciate your thoughtfulness!” ~ Pastor Becky
  + The 2021 Lakewood Area Crop Hunger Walk is once again virtual. In the past, Zion has been represented by many congregational members and collected donations at church prior to the walk. The need is more prevalent than ever. We’re participating in the 2021 CROP Hunger Walk to support CCWS and help families who are struggling with hunger. We’re asking you to join us – with your steps and your donations – to provide more meals for the growing number of people in our community who need them, and greater food security in communities around the world. Please prayerfully consider donating to our team either on our team web page at [https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2021/team/zion-evangelical-lutheran-church](https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2021/team/zion-evangelical-lutheran-churchor) or, if you prefer, designating your donation on your offering envelope. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Karen Heise. Thank you.
  + In the month of May, Zion will be doing another collection for Manna's Market. This Action Team project is for supplies used in the bathroom. We all take for granted items we use in the bathroom every day. We can help Manna's Market provide free needed items for others in our community. Jerry Engle has been given a $250 grant from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans to purchase some of the supplies. The items most needed are toilet paper, facial tissue, paper towels and all sizes of garbage bags. Other items to donate are shampoo, cream rinse, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, razors, shave gel, toilet bowl cleaner, cleaning wipes and any other items you know would be useful.  You may also donate cash to be given to Manna's Market. A table will be set up in the Fellowship Hall for all donated items. Sunday, May 23rd. will be the last day to bring items. That week the action team will pack everything up and deliver it all to Manna's Market.
  + **Zion to host Christmas tree farm:** As you start spring cleaning or visiting garage sales, be on the lookout for artificial Christmas trees and ornaments to donate. In conjunction with the Christmas Around the Town we will host a Christmas Tree Farm at Zion for those in need to get the decorations to bring some holiday cheer to their homes. We’ll share more details as it gets closer. Please contact Martha or Jolene with questions.
  + **Zion is starting a tech team to do the live stream for our services. Paul Meade will be glad to train people. Please let Pastor Becky or Paul know if you would like to serve in this way.**