**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, WOODLAND, MI**

**Third Sunday of Easter, April 14, 2024**

**\*If listening in your car, please tune your radio to FM 87.7\***



**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM** *(Please stand)*

*\* All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the wellspring of grace,

our Easter and our joy.

**Amen.**

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

Immersed in the promises of baptism,

let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

**We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden’s verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea**

**into freedom’s land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.**

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

**At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus’ death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people.**

**We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you,**

**through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.**

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

**Gathering Song“The Day of Resurrection” HYMN # 361**



### 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 together*)

**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.**

(Be seated)

**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.”

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM Psalm 4:1-8

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.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL Acclamation**



**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.**

**CHILDREN’S MOMENT**

**Sermon  Pastor Jim Morgan**

**Hymn of the Day“With High Delight” HYMN # 368**



**CREED**

Joining with church in all times and places, let us affirm our faith.

**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

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

*A brief silence.*

O God our holy one, you feed our deepest hungers. As we share the holy meal that is the body and blood of Jesus given for us, lead us to share all that we have, and find, in generosity, abundant life. We pray especially for Harbor of Grace Lutheran Church in Muskegon and Rev. Jake Ferra. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

O God our creator, you bring forth all life on earth. Calm storms, bring water to parched places, and protect the climate, that this planet would sustain life in all its variety. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

O God our savior, you offer wisdom and guidance beyond all human knowledge. Instruct lawmakers, judges, and elected officials to make decisions grounded in your justice and care for all people. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

O God our elder, you care for all your children. Encourage those who are in times of transition, facing the loss of old ways and routines and anticipating change. Guide those who journey in grief, hope, and uncertainty. an end to racism and other oppression, and for a world where all are fed and safe. We pray for all who cry out in suffering or pain. We pray especially for all those affected by gun violence, Ukraine, Sudan, Turkey, Syria, and the Middle East. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

O God our center, you bring all people together in you. Help us to remember our identity and purpose in our ministry. Move us to love our neighbors as ourselves and to share in beloved community. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

O God our resting place, your Son Jesus promised that we are held in your love forever. We remember our beloved who have died. As we remember and share their love, comfort those who mourn. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

**Amen.**

### PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**Offering & OFFERING SONG**

The joy of the Lord is my strength,

The joy of the Lord is my strength,

The joy of the Lord is my strength,

The joy of the Lord is my strength.

**Offering Prayer**

Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name.

**Amen.**

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

**DIALOGUE**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**PREFACE** (*Pastor)*

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**



**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

**Lord’s Prayer**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.

Come and eat at God’s table.

**communion** \**continuous*

*\*People are welcome to kneel at the altar rail for a time of prayer after they receive their communion elements*

**SongS During Communion**

**“What a Friend We Have in Jesus” HYMN # 742**



**“One Bread, One Body” HYMN # 496**



**TABLE BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ

strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

**Amen.**

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

**Amen**.

**BLESSING**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope bless you now and always.

**Amen.**

**SENDING SONG “Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ” HYMN # 674**



**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share your bread.

**Thanks be to God.**

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**Thank you to all who served in worship today!**

**Presider: Pastor Jim Morgan Musician: Martha Yoder**

**Acolyte: Lexie Griffin Safety Person:**

**Elder: Buffy Meyers Trustee: Martha Yoder**

**Offering Counters: Doug Mackenzie & Mike Johnson**

**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, and especially **Harbor of Grace Lutheran Church in Muskegon, and Rev. Jake Ferra**

Prayers for our friends, for all who are sick or hospitalized and for all health care workers who care for them. We pray especially for all those affected by gun violence, Ukraine, Sudan, Turkey, Syria, and the Middle East. 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.

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**ONLINE GIVING**

Zion has received a QR code to facilitate online giving. If you are interested in donating online instead of bringing your donation to church, simply scan the QR code and it will direct you to the appropriate site. The code is on our website as well.

**This week at Zion:**

* ZLCW Circle, 1PM, Tuesday, April 16
* Men’s Coffee, 8 AM Wednesday, April 17

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

* **Thank you!** Thank you to all of you for the many cards, flowers and food items for my 100th birthday. You made me feel blessed and helped make my birthday special. Alice Morrow
* **Volunteer Recognition Sunday:** A special recognition for all our volunteers will be held on April 21st. Please plan to attend this important day to celebrate and appreciate all the work that is done to keep our church and ministries going. There will be a special time during worship to commemorate the work and contributions of everyone who contributes our church life at Zion. There will be appreciation gifts for all volunteers and a special coffee fellowship to honor everyone! Please plan to join this very special celebration!
* **Special Offering Designations:** The first quarter financial reports are being distributed and include a sticker with the special offering designations for you to affix to your offering envelop box. There are extra stickers in the narthex for those who do not use envelopes. The special offering designations are: Lent: World Hunger. Thanksgiving: Lakewood Ministerial Association. Advent: Manna’s Market. Christmas: Lakewood Community Council.
* **Door Locking Policy:** Our door locking policy relies on having a volunteer(s) each Sunday to serve as the Safety Person of the Day. On Sundays where no one has volunteered, if someone arrives at church and is willing to be the Safety Person of the Day, we will follow the door locking policy. If no one steps forward to serve as the Safety Person of the Day, the doors will not be locked as there will be no one to monitor the church cell phone and let late arrivals into the church. Please consider volunteering for this important duty
* **Church Musician Opening**: We have an opening for the position of church musician for two Sundays a month The musician would play liturgy and hymns for our Sunday worship services. If you are aware of anyone who may be interested in sharing their musical gifts with Zion, please contact Buffy Meyers. It is a paid position.
* **Call Committee Update:** The Call Committee continues to meet and research candidates from the synod. Please pray for wisdom and patience for the Call Committee and the congregation.