

# April 28, 2024 – Fifth Sunday of Easter



## WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

We are glad to be gathered with you. If you are visiting with us for the first time, please ask an usher to answer any questions you may have. Cameras are in use for the livestream of the worship service.

The altar flowers are given by Audrey Ruland, in memory of her beautiful daughter, Andrea Ehmann.

### 8:30 a.m.

Assisting Minister — Jeff Livingston  
 Acolyte — Jade DiCriscio  
 Greeters — Don & Jen Dalgauer  
 Ushers — Gerry Dehkes & Steve Surhoff  
 Altar Guild — Bonnie Stanski

### 11:00 a.m.

Assisting Minister — David Wintemute  
 Acolyte — Natalie Ronaldo  
 Greeters — Mike & Anissa Mikitiuk  
 Ushers — John & Wendy Minerowicz  
 Altar Guild — Lynn Fuller & Dorothy Wuest

### 8:30 a.m.

Entrance Hymn	<i>"We Know that Christ is Risen from the Grave"</i>	ELW 449
Hymn of the Day	<i>"To Christ Belong, in Christ Behold"</i>	ACS 958

### 11:00 a.m.

Entrance Hymn	<i>"We Know that Christ is Risen from the Grave"</i>	ELW 449
Hymn of the Day	<i>"To Christ Belong, in Christ Behold"</i>	ACS 958
Sending Hymn	<i>"Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"</i>	ELW 367



## April 21st Attendance

<u>8:30 a.m.</u>	<u>11:00 a.m.</u>
28	53



Give to Zion from your phone!

Scan the QR code to be directed to Tithely's electronic giving site.



**New members** are joining our congregation this morning! At 8:30 a.m., new members are Jay & Sarah Chardoussin, Courtney Murgittroyd, and Jenna Tolzmann. At 11 a.m., Ken & Liz Degen, Alex & Amanda Valvezan, and Jaime VanNostrand will join the church. The **baptisms** of Madelyn and Henry Valvezan are being celebrated at 11 a.m. Welcome to all!



Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, will be the first of three **Endowment Sundays** for 2024. The other Endowment Sundays will be on Father's Day, June 16<sup>th</sup>, and All Saints Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. As a tribute to all mothers, please consider giving what you can to the Zion Lutheran Church Endowment Fund on Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup>. Please remember, too, that the church will accept non-cash contributions, toward the endowment. If you have any questions.

please feel free to contact the Parish Office or a member of the Endowment Committee. Envelopes marked "Endowment Fund" are currently available at the back of the church and will be handed out by the ushers on Endowment Sunday.



**First quarter contribution statements** are available at the back of the church. If you elected to receive yours electronically, a paper copy was not printed for you. Please contact Financial Secretary John Rustwick with any questions. John can be reached at [justwick@gmail.com](mailto:justwick@gmail.com) or 908-638-6339.

## Financial Summary YTD

INCOME  
\$94,683

EXPENSES  
-\$107,091

DIFFERENCE  
-\$12,408

## First Reading: Psalm 22:25-31

<sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

<sup>26</sup>The poor shall eat and be satisfied, Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!

<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; all the families of nations shall bow before God.

<sup>28</sup>For dominion belongs to the LORD, who rules over the nations.

<sup>29</sup>Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;

all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.

<sup>30</sup>Their descendants shall serve the LORD, whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.

<sup>31</sup>They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## Second Reading: 1 John 4:7-21

<sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup>God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

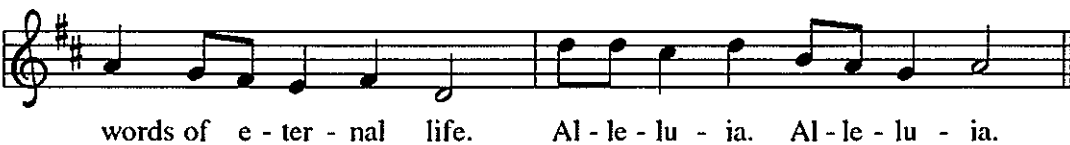
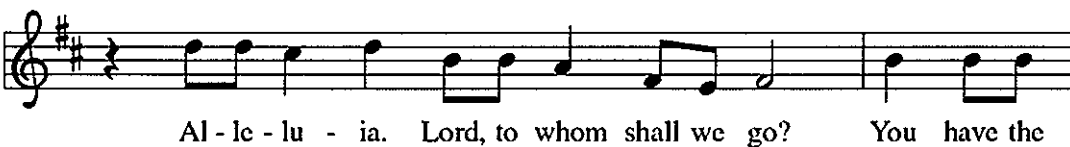
<sup>13</sup>By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. <sup>16</sup>So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. <sup>17</sup>Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. <sup>18</sup>There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. <sup>19</sup>We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup>Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup>The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## Gospel Acclamation



## Gospel: John 15:1-8

[Jesus said:] <sup>1</sup>"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. <sup>2</sup>He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."



OFFERTORY ANTHEM (11 a.m.)

*"A Vineyard Grows"*

K. Lee Scott

Amid the world's bleak wilderness a vineyard grows with promise green,  
The planting of the Lord himself, the planting of the Lord.  
His love selected this terrain, His vine with love he planted here to bear the choicest fruit for him.  
We are his branches, chosen, dear, and though we feel the dresser's knife,  
We are the objects of his care, the objects of his care.  
From him we draw the juice of life, for him supply his winery with fruit from which true joys derive.  
Vine, keep what I was meant to be: Your branch, with your rich life in me.



This Friday, May 3rd, at 1:00 p.m., there will be a memorial service at the church for Peggy Eppley, former member of Zion. All are invited to the reception to follow at the CEB.



Are you a lifelong camper, your faith formed by yearly trips into the woods? Or perhaps you have never been to camp and wonder what all the fuss is about. Whatever your background, you are invited to experience the joy of outdoor ministry at Zion's **Camp Sunday** services on May 12th at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. We will be led in worship by Anthony Briggs, Executive Director at Cross Roads Camp & Retreat Center, as we shine a light on the things God is doing outside our walls. Please wear your best camping clothes as we gather in worship, song, and celebration!



Following the last Sunday School event on May 19th, Zion's youth, families, and mentors are invited to go **miniature golfing!** We'll gather in the Great Room at 12:15 for a pizza lunch and then head to Farmview Golf Center in Hackettstown for fun and fellowship! The cost is \$10 per person. Please sign up via the link that was emailed from the Parish Office to let us know whether you can attend, and contact Jaime VanNostrand with any questions you may have.



The **Feed My Starving Children MobilePack** is coming to Zion on May 31st—June 1st. Many volunteers are needed to make this event a success. Sign up via the link that was emailed from the Parish Office. Please contact Rebecca Melick at [rrmelick@gmail.com](mailto:rrmelick@gmail.com) or 908-229-3744 with any questions you may have.



If you find yourself missing the fun and fellowship of Sunday School after our summer schedule begins, you're in luck! The second Sunday of the summer schedule, Sunday, June 2, will be packed with fun! First we will celebrate the young people of our congregation with a special **Youth Sunday** single service at 9:30 a.m. After worship everyone is invited down to the CEB where we will all work together to assemble shoebox-style gift packages for **Operation Christmas Child**. This event is open to people of all ages - a perfect opportunity for the whole family to work together and have some fun!

