

Zion Lutheran Church

Oldwick, New Jersey



Resurrection of Our Lord

April 5, 2026

WELCOME!

We are pleased you are worshipping with us today. As a Lutheran congregation, we are liturgical, which means we follow an order of worship which is found in the seasonal worship booklet. The weekly bulletin contains the lessons, gospel, and hymn numbers, and the hymns can be found in the red (ELW) and purple (ACS) hymnals. Children's activity bags are available in the narthex. Please let an usher know if you would like one. We hope you find our worship service meaningful.

Zion is a friendly, active, and generous congregation.

- We support each other ... meals, rides, visits and prayer.
- We support our community ... housing the homeless and feeding the hungry locally as well as around the world.
- We support the larger Lutheran church ... giving 11% of our budget to contribute toward the millions of dollars targeting world hunger, disaster relief, and the effort to end malaria. Through Lutheran Social Services, we touch 1 in every 50 Americans each year.

It is good to be gathered as God's people. If you would like more information about Zion or if you are interested in becoming a member of the Zion family, please talk to Pastor Kat.

WORSHIPING IN THE SEASON OF EASTER

Easter is the crown of the liturgical year and lasts seven weeks. Easter is one extended feast. The Ascension and the following Sundays are a continuation of the Easter celebration. The 40-day period of preparation for Easter is succeeded by the 50 days of rejoicing.

- + **The color for Easter** is white which symbolizes victory and purity and is the color of the resurrection. White traditionally suggests gladness, light, and joy.
- + **The tone of the liturgy** and hymns are joyful. The use of the word "alleluia" (which means "praise God") and the Hymn of Praise return on Easter Sunday. We confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed.
- + **During Easter, the Paschal Candle burns next to the baptismal font.** The candle is a sign of the presence of the risen Christ and remains burning through the Day of Pentecost.
- + The **Thanksgiving for Baptism** replaces the confession during this celebratory season.

CELEBRATING CHILDREN AT ZION

TO THE PARENTS OF YOUNG CHILDREN, MAY WE SUGGEST...

- Relax! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house. We claim the noise and activity of children as a sign of a healthy church. Children will always be welcome here!
- Sit toward the front where it is easier for your little ones to see and hear what's going on. They tire of seeing the backs of others' heads.
- Quietly explain the part of the service and the actions of the pastor, ushers, choir, etc.
- Sing the hymns, pray, and voice the responses. Children learn liturgical behavior by copying you.
- If you have to leave the service with your child, feel free to do so, but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."
- Remember that the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to the Church, to God, and to one another. Let them know that they are at home in this house of worship.

TO THE MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH

- The presence of children is a gift to the church, and they are a reminder that our congregation is growing.
- Please welcome our children and give a smile of encouragement to their parents.

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

"Easter Proclamation"

arr. D. Johnson

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Please stand, as you are able.

ENTRANCE HYMN

"Jesus Christ is Risen Today"

ELW 365

Handbells and trumpet by the Pepe Family

- 1 Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!
- 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
unto Christ, our heav'nly king, Alleluia!
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!
- 3 But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!
our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
now above the sky he's king, Alleluia!
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!
- 4 Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
praise eternal as his love; Alleluia!
praise him, all you heav'nly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

HYMN OF PRAISE



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

(continued on next page)

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



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

God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

CHILDRENS' TIME

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31:1-6

¹ At that time, says the LORD, I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be my people. ² Thus says the LORD: The people who survived the sword found grace in the wilderness; when Israel sought for rest, ³ the LORD appeared to him from far away. I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you. ⁴ Again I will build you, and you shall be built, O virgin Israel! Again you shall adorn yourself with your tambourines and go forth in the dance of the merrymakers. ⁵ Again you shall plant vineyards on the mountains of Samaria; the planters shall plant and shall enjoy the fruit. ⁶ For there shall be a day when sentinels will call in the hill country of Ephraim: "Come, let us go up to Zion, to the LORD our God."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Acts 10:34-43

³⁴Peter began to speak to the people: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

The word of the Lord.


Thanks be to God.

Please stand, as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL

Matthew 28:1-10

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ² And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³ His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. ⁴ For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵ But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷ Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." ⁸ So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹ Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

SERMON

Please stand, as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY *"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing"*

ELW 385

1 Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing!

Now is the triumph of our king!

To all the world glad news we bring:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day;

death's mighty stone is rolled away;

let all the world rejoice and say:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3 Praise we in songs of victory

that love, that life, which cannot die,

and sing with hearts uplifted high:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

(continued on next page)

4 Your name we bless, O risen Lord,
and sing today with one accord,
the life laid down, the life restored:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please be seated.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

8:30 a.m.

"Christ ist Erstanden"

J.S. Bach

11:00 a.m.

"In Christ Alone"

Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

In Christ alone, my hope is found. He is my light, my strength, my song.
This cornerstone, this solid ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when
strivings cease.

My comforter, my all in all, here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless Babe!

This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones He came to save.

'Til on that cross, as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied; for ev'ry sin on
Him was laid. Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain.

Then bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grave He rose again!

And as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me.

For I am His and He is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow'r of Christ in me.

From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.

No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from His hand.

'Til He returns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I stand.

Please stand, as you are able.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles - sing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

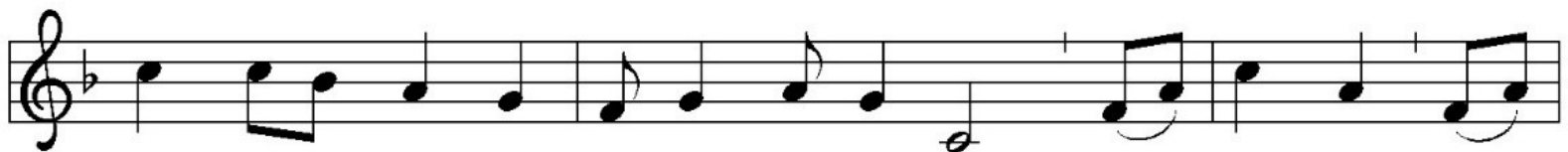
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

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

Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

Please be seated.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

Zion welcomes all who celebrate the presence of Christ to the Lord's Table for Holy Communion. You will receive a piece of bread (wafer) in your hand. Please dip the bread into the cup of wine (silver chalice) or grape juice (gold chalice). Please tell the pastor if you would like a gluten-free wafer. Those not receiving communion are invited to receive a blessing. Please let an usher know if you would like communion brought to you in the pew.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

8:30 a.m.	<i>"Offertoire"</i>	M. Rouher
11:00 a.m.	<i>"Glorious Risen Christ"</i>	Lloyd Larson

Before the sun had arisen, Mary mourned for the Lord alone,
but the darkened tomb was an empty room; the Son of God was gone!
Glorious, risen Christ! Alive and robed in majesty!
Yet the scars of the cross show the infinite cost, the miraculous touch of
Christ's love for us.

Mary heard His voice in the garden quietly calling her name.
She could not believe, nor her mind conceive that Jesus was alive.
Glorious, risen Christ! Alive and robed in majesty!

Yet the scars of the cross show the infinite cost,
the miraculous touch of Christ's love for us.
She reached for the hem of his garment; silent, astonished, she gazed;
His feet were torn that Easter morn. She bowed before her Lord, amazed!

Glorious, risen Christ! Alive and robed in majesty!

Yet the scars of the cross show the infinite cost,
the miraculous touch of Christ's love for us.

Glorious, risen Christ! Alive and robed in majesty!

Yet the scars of the cross show the infinite cost,
the miraculous gift, God's holy gift,
the life-changing touch of Christ's love for us.

Please stand, as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus,

Amen.

Please be seated.

SENDING

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand, as you are able.

BLESSING

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ✝ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

"Thine is the Glory"

ELW 376

1 Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won!
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.

Refrain

**Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won!**

2 Lo, Jesus meets thee, risen from the tomb!
Lovingly he greets thee, scatters fear and gloom;
let his church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for the Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting! ***Refrain***

3 No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life;
life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife;
make us more than conqu'rors, through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above. ***Refrain***

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

"Rejoicing"

G.F. Handel