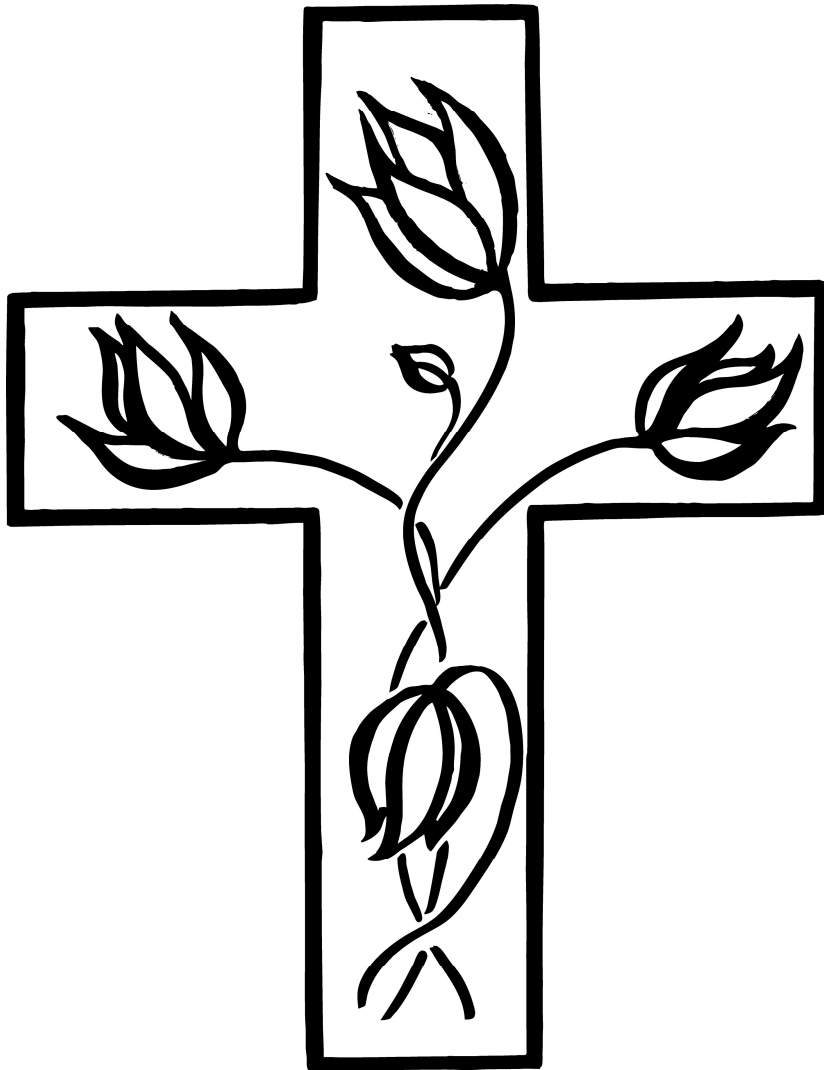


Zion Lutheran Church

Oldwick, New Jersey



Season of Easter

Communion Worship Service

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, feeding the hungry locally as well as around the world, and providing camp scholarships to needy children.
- 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 the season lasts seven weeks. The 40-day Lenten 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") returned 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

WELCOME

Please stand, as you are able.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!

Amen.

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.

You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for waters that nourish us. Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys.

We praise you for your life-giving death and resurrection. We thank you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.

Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace.

Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN

see weekly bulletin

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain



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.

Refrain



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



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain



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



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was



slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic-tory for our God.

Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

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

Please be seated.

WORD

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

CHILDREN’S TIME

FIRST READING

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

see weekly bulletin

SECOND READING

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

see weekly bulletin

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

see weekly bulletin

The holy gospel according to ...

Glory to you, O Lord.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Please stand, as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

see weekly bulletin

APOSTLES' 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.

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.**

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you."

Please be seated.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Please stand, as you are able.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE



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



bless - ing. 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.

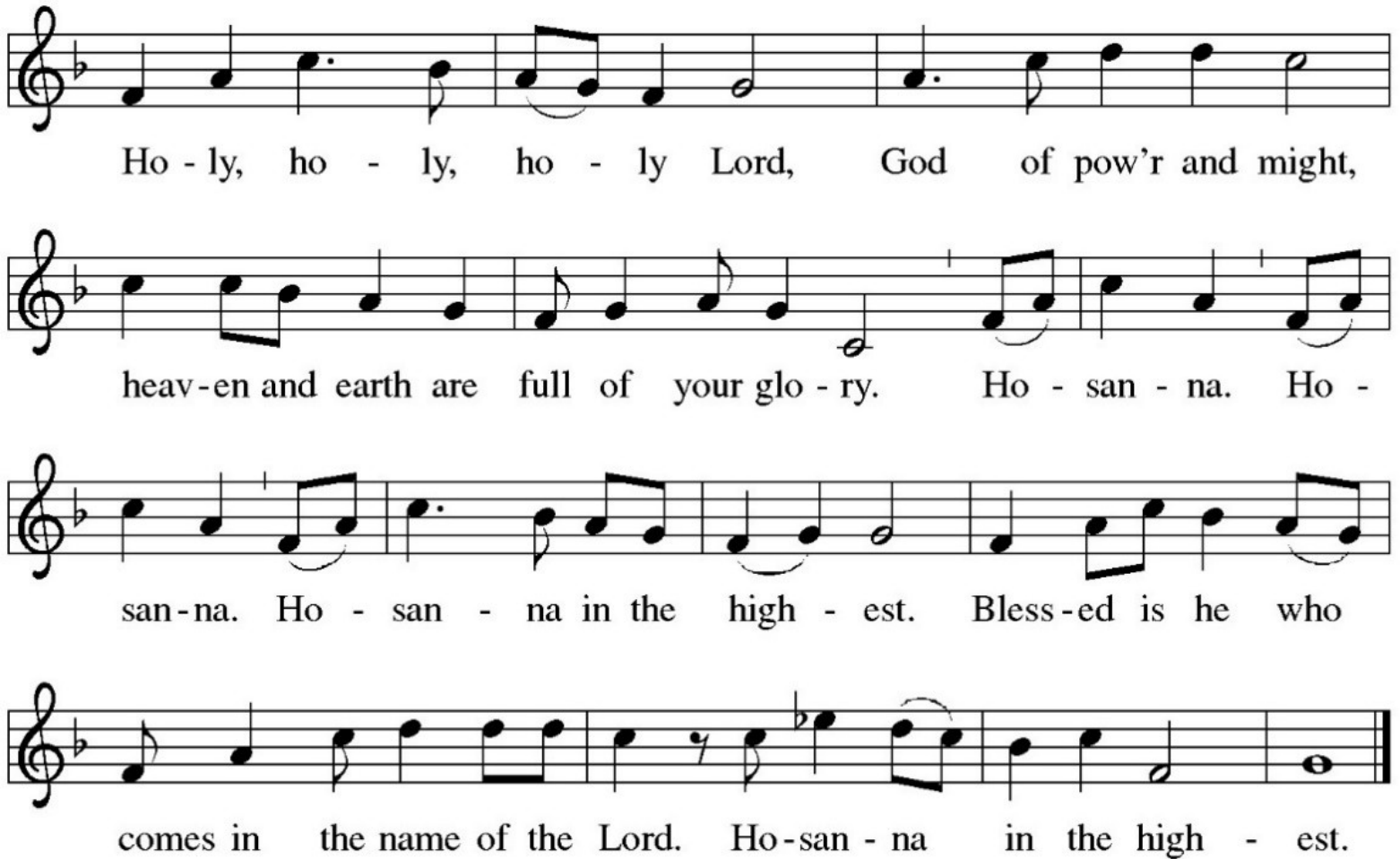
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ...

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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.**

Please be seated.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table of new life.
Receive the risen Lord.

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 MUSIC



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

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 Holy Spirit, our advocate and peace, ✝ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN (11 a.m.)

see weekly bulletin

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!