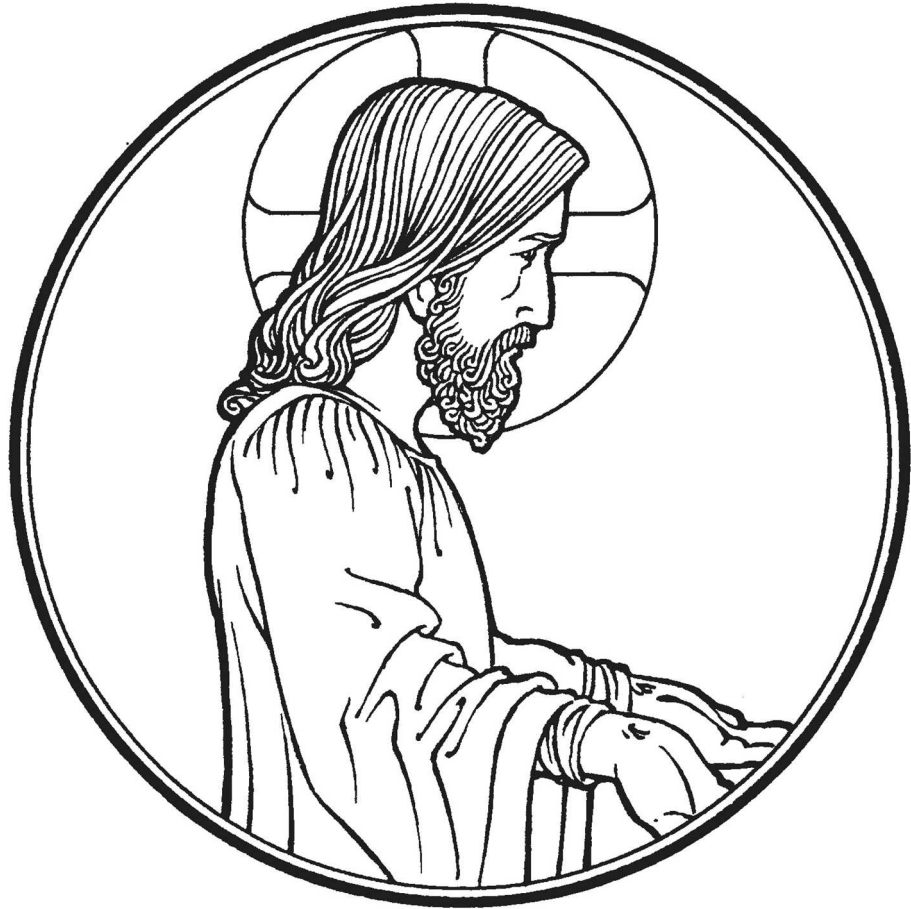


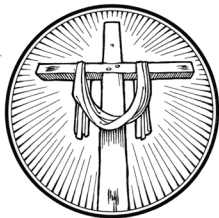
**A Prayer
Upon Enter-
ing Church**
Father, by the
love of Your
Spirit, may
we who have
experienced
the grace of
the Lord's
resurrection
rise to the
newness of
life in joy.
Grant this
through our
Lord Jesus
Christ, Your
Son, Who
lives and
reigns with
You and the
Holy Spirit,
one God, for-
ever and ev-
er. Amen



The Second Sunday of Easter

Quasimodo Geniti + April 7, 2024 + 9:00 A.M.

Welcome to the Lord's Day. Someone once described the difference between a dead and living person in this way: a living person can still surprise us. Jesus surprised the disciples following His death, confirming the truth of His resurrection. Still today He surprises the world, forgiving sins where the world would hold a grudge, reconciling enemies, giving hope to the dying, comforting the grieving, unleashing charity and acts of love, and nourishing countless souls in faith. Alleluia! Christ is risen!



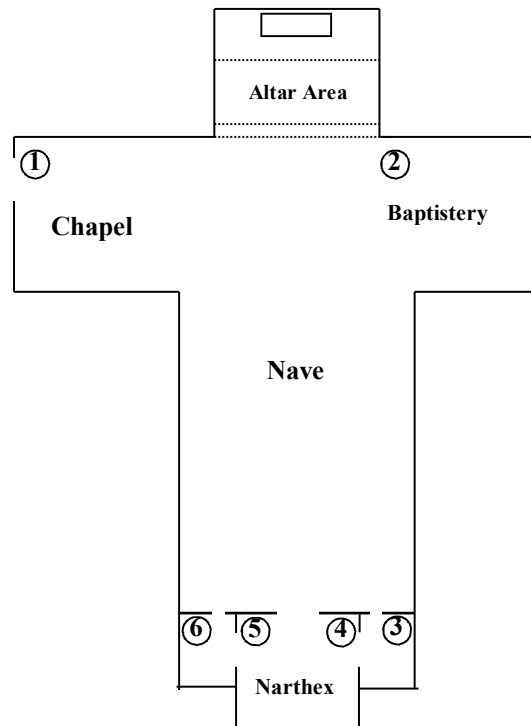
Sharing God's Blessings Today

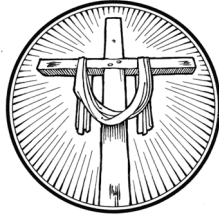
- The sponsor charts for 2024 Radio Broadcasts, Flowers and Bulletins are available for you to sign up. The charts are by the stairs by the northwest entry.

To Share Your Offering

Offerings are received in Zion's wooden offering boxes built into the walls of the church. Please see the map, where the boxes are labeled by number (1-6) or ask an usher for assistance.

This returns us to an older and beautiful tradition of the Lutheran church in which offerings are not collected during worship so as to focus more intently on God's gifts and offerings to us.





PRELUDE

Three Interpretations on "Christ the Lord is Risen Today, Alleluia!"
... Kevin Hildebrand, Jeffrey Blersch, Albert L. Travis

RINGING OF THE BELLS

Please stand and turn toward the cross as it is carried into the sanctuary.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"Christ the Lord is Risen Today, Alleluia!" ... LSB #463

GREETING

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

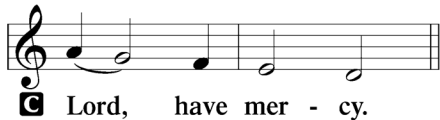
C: **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

KYRIE

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

The Sundays following Easter Day, which used to be counted "after Easter," are now counted as Sundays "of Easter," because Easter is to be understood as one long and great Sunday, a week of weeks, comprising the 50 days of rejoicing.
~ Philip H. Pfatteicher, Journey into the Heart of God, 2013 A.D.

The feast of victory not only refers to the Liturgy of the Lord's Supper, but to both Word and Sacrament, because table fellowship with God in both Old and New Testaments and in our own churches today involves three essential elements: the presence of God in Jesus, in His teachings at the table, and in the breaking of the bread . . .



P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the holy Church, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

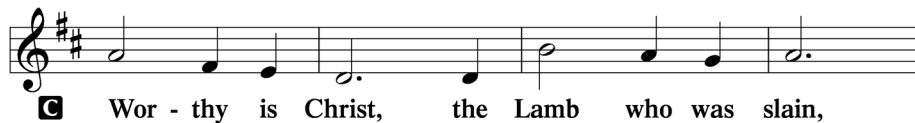


P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us gracious Lord.



HYMN OF PRAISE

L: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.



Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and strength and

hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are His.

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

lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be to

God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

This is the feast of vic - to-ry for our God,

for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun His reign.

... And because we share this fellowship at table with Him now, we have a "foretaste of the feast to come" where we shall "celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end."
~ Arthur
Just, Heav-
en on
Earth: The
Gifts of
Christ in
the Divine
Service

So strong was the early Christians' belief that the dead were "asleep," waiting to be resurrected, that they called every burial place a "koimeterion" a word borrowed from the Greek that meant a dormitory where people slumbered . . .



SALUTATION AND COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P: Let us pray . . . Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

Please be seated.

OLD TESTAMENT Ezekiel 37:1-14

¹The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. ²And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. ³And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." ⁴Then he said to me, "Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD." ⁷So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had

come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army. ¹¹Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are clean cut off.' ¹²Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD."

L: The Word of the Lord.
 C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALMODY *Psalm 33*

L: Shout for joy in the LORD, O you | righteous!*
 Praise befits the | upright.
 Give thanks to the LORD | with the lyre;*
 make melody to him with the harp of | ten strings!

C: **Sing to him a | new song;***
play skillfully on the strings, with | loud shouts.
For the word of the LORD is | upright,*
and all his work is done in | faithfulness.

L: He loves righteousness and | justice;*
 the earth is full of the steadfast love | of the LORD.
 By the word of the LORD the heav- | ens were made,*
 and by the breath of his mouth | all their host.

... "Koi-
 meterion" be-
 came
 "cemetery," in
 the English
 language.
 Thus, every
 time people
 use the word
 "cemetery,"
 they are using
 a term that
 harks back to
 the early
 Christians and
 their belief that
 the dead are
 merely slum-
 bering until
 their day of
 resurrection.
 ~ Alvin J.
 Schmidt,
How Chris-
 tianity
Changed the
World

- C:** He gathers the waters of the sea | as a heap;*
he puts the deeps in | storehouses.
Let all the earth | fear the LORD;*
let all the inhabitants of the world stand in | awe of
him!
- L:** For he spoke, and it | came to be;*
he commanded, and it | stood firm.
The LORD brings the counsel of the nations to | nothing;*
he frustrates the plans of the | peoples.
- C:** The counsel of the LORD stands for- | ever,*
the plans of his heart to all gener- | ations.
Blessèd is the nation whose God | is the LORD,*
the people whom he has chosen as his | heritage!
- L:** The LORD looks down from | heaven;*
he sees all the chil- | dren of man;
from where he sits enthroned he | looks out*
on all the inhabitants | of the earth,
- C:** he who fashions the hearts | of them all*
and observes | all their deeds.
The king is not saved by his great | army;*
a warrior is not delivered by his | great strength.
- L:** The war horse is a false hope for sal- | vation,*
and by its great might it cannot | rescue.
Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who | fear him,*
on those who hope in his | steadfast love,
- C:** that he may deliver their | soul from death*
and keep them alive in | famine.
Our soul waits | for the LORD;*
he is our help | and our shield.

L: For our heart is | glad in him,*
because we trust in his | holy name.
Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be up- | on us,*
even as we | hope in you.

All: **Glory be to the Father and | to the Son,***
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen

EPISTLE 1 John 5:4-10

⁴For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. ⁵Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? ⁶This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. ⁷For there are three that testify: ⁸the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree. ⁹If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that he has borne concerning his Son. ¹⁰Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning his Son.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

VERSE

L: Alleluia. He has risen | from the dead, *
and behold, he is going before you to Galilee. Alle | - luia.
Eight days later Jesus came and stood among | them and said,*
“Peace be with you.” Alle | - luia.

*God of everlasting mercy, who renews the faith of your holy people by the yearly return of the paschal feast: Increase in us the grace you have bestowed, that we may comprehend more fully in whose font we have been cleansed, through whose Spirit we have been reborn, and by whose blood we have been redeemed; even your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen
~ Missale Gothicum, a western European worship book, from around 700 A.D.*

It was not an accident that that particular disciple was not present. The divine mercy ordained that a doubting disciple should, by feeling in his Master the wounds of the flesh, heal in us the wounds of unbelief. The unbelief of Thomas is more profitable to our faith than the belief of the other disciples. For the touch by which he is brought to believe confirms our minds in belief beyond all question.

*~ Gregory the Great,
540-604
A.D.*

GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 20th chapter.



¹⁹On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." ²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld." ²⁴Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe." ²⁶Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." ³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



NICENE CREED

P: Let us confess the faith with one heart:

C: **I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation
came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory
to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together
is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.**

Where is
Christ's body,
if it needs no
spatial heaven
and is not
restricted in
its presence
by created
spatial dis-
tance? Al-
though Paul
clearly thinks
of the Lord as
in some sense
visibly locat-
ed in a heav-
en spatially
related to the
rest of crea-
tion, the only
body of Christ
to which Paul
ever actually
refers is not
an entity in
heaven but
the Eucha-
rist's loaf and
cup and the
Church as-
sembled
around them .
..

Please be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"O Sons and Daughters of the King"
The Choir will sing Stanzas 4 & 6

... LSB #470

SERMON "Witnesses Aplenty"

Please stand.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Standing in the glorious light of the resurrection, let us pray.

P: ... O Lord of life,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Hear our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ, our crucified and risen Savior.

C: Amen

Please be seated.

OFFERTORY

"Now the Green Blade Rises"

... French Carol

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray ... Living God,

C: in Christ you will raise us up from death to eternal life. Send your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in His body and blood. Amen

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

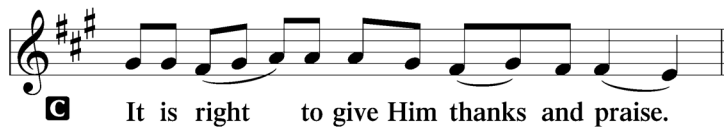


C And al-so with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

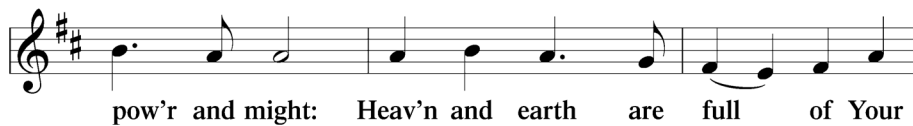
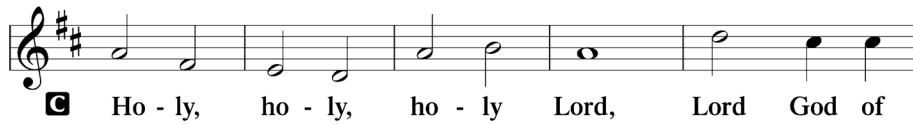


P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



P: It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising you and saying:

SANCTUS ("Holy")



. . . The Church, according to Paul, is the risen body of Christ. She is this because the bread and the cup in the congregation's midst is the very same body of Christ . . . "Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread" (1 Cor. 10:17) . . . Heaven is where God takes space in His creation to be present to the whole of it; He does that in the Church.
~ Robert Jenson, Systematic Theology, 1997 A.D.

*Let no one
mourn that
he has fallen
again and
again; for
forgiveness
has risen
from the
grave.
~ John
Chryso-
stom,
d. 407 A.D.*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me."

In the same way also he took the cup after the supper, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink of it, in remembrance of me."

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C: 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

ACCLAMATION

P: This is the feast of victory for our God.

C: Alleluia!

SEQUENCE HYMN "Christ Is Arisen"

1 Christ is a - ris - en From the grave's dark
pris - on. So let our joy rise full and free;

The image shows two staves of musical notation in treble clef. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn, with lyrics '1 Christ is a - ris - en From the grave's dark' written below. The second staff contains the melody for the second line, with lyrics 'pris - on. So let our joy rise full and free;' written below. The notes are simple, using quarter and eighth notes, with some rests and a fermata over the 'en' in the first line.

Christ our com - fort true will be. Al - le - lu - ia!

2 Were Christ not a - ris - en, Then death were still
our pris - on. Now, with Him to life re - stored,
We praise the Fa - ther of our Lord. Al - le - lu - ia!

3 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia! Now let our joy rise full and free;
Christ our com - fort true will be. Al - le - lu - ia!

*Forgiveness of
sins comes
through the
resurrection.
~ Theodore of
Mopsuestia,
350-428 A.D.*

Please be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

The congregation is ushered forward for Communion. If you cannot use the steps to the altar, you may either ask an usher to have Communion brought to you, or you may go to the altar in the side (west) chapel. Those not communing may cross their arms over their chest for a blessing.

Holy Communion is the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ which He joyfully gives to His Church to eat and to drink. This gift bestows tremen-

dous benefits. His Body and Blood forgives ours sins, strengthens our faith, binds us to the Lord, and unites us with each other. In this is life and salvation.

The Lord therefore invites to His altar baptized Christians who trust that they will receive in Holy Communion all that He promises there: His body and blood, the forgiveness of sins, union with Christ and His Church, life, and salvation. Know that He gives it to you with great joy.

COMMUNION HYMNS

“O Lord, We Praise Thee”

... LSB #617

“Peace, to Soothe Our Bitter Woes”



1. Peace, to soothe our bit - ter woes, God in Christ on
2. Peace with - in the Church still dwells In her wel - comes



us be - stows; Je - sus bought our peace with God
and fare - wells; And through God's bap - tis - mal pow'r



With his ho - ly, pre - cious blood; Peace in him for
Peace sur - rounds our dy - ing hour. Peace be with you,



sin - ners found Is the God - pel's joy - ful sound.
full and free, Now and through e - ter - ni - ty.

“Alleluia! Jesus is Risen”

... LSB #474

“We Know That Christ is Raised”

... LSB #603

Please stand after all have received the sacrament.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen**

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Alleluia!

C: **Christ is risen. Alleluia!**

Please turn toward the cross as it is carried out of the sanctuary.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

"This Joyful Eastertide"

... LSB #482

SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE

"This Joyful Eastertide"

... John A. Behnke

+ Soli Deo Gloria +
To God alone be glory

A Prayer

As You Go

Christ is Risen:
The world below lies desolate.

Christ is Risen:
The spirits of evil are fallen.

Christ is Risen:
The angels of God are rejoicing.

Christ is Risen:
The tombs of the dead are empty.

Christ is Risen
indeed from the dead, the first of the sleepers.

Glory and power are his forever and ever. Amen.
~ Hippolytus of Rome, 190-236 A.D.

Serving at Worship

<u>Presiding:</u>	The Rev. Christopher S. Johnson
<u>Preaching:</u>	The Rev. Dr. Steven K. Gjerde <i>(Pr. Johnson to Bethany at 10:30 am)</i>
<u>Organist:</u>	Kantor Irene Beethe
<u>Flute:</u>	Jacob Roseman
<u>Choir:</u>	Ivan Beethe, Ted Gulhaugen, Jim Speckhard, Steve Zeinemann
<u>Radio:</u>	Dick Ames, Adam Holzschuh
<u>Lector:</u>	Jewell Holdorf
<u>Acolytes:</u>	Noah Harter, Joselyn Joanis, Troy Joanis
<u>Communion:</u>	Sally Christoffersen, Grace Mueller
<u>Elder:</u>	Tim Pagel
<u>Ushers:</u>	Amy Meyer, Brant Meyer, Jessica Pagel, Tyler Pagel
<u>Altar Guild:</u>	Barb Leader, Anna Mae Zeinemann

Acknowledgements

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“Peace, to Soothe Our Bitter Woes”: Text and Tune: Public Domain.

Zion Lutheran Church

Sixth and Grant Streets, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403

Those who trust in the Lord shall be like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but abides forever. (Psalm 125:1)

Church Telephone: 715-848-7286

Senior Pastor Steven K. Gjerde
Associate Pastor Christopher S. Johnson
Kantor Irene Beethe
Office Manager Jessica G. Ray
Custodian Cody Augustine
Deployed Chaplain Joseph C. Pinzl
Pastor Emeritus Theodore B. Gulhaugen

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To visit our webpage:
www.zionlutheranwausau.com

Host of the Wausau Lutheran Hour
Sundays, 9:00 am, WSAU Radio 550AM (or
click "Listen Live" at www.wsau.com)

**Member Congregation of Lutheran Con-
gregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC)**