# April 27, A.D. 2025 The Second Sunday of Easter 8:00 Morning Prayer 10:30 Divine Service I



The Vision of Zion Lutheran Church and School is a Christ-centered, growing, spiritual home for † Worshiping God † Proclaiming the Gospel † Nurturing faith † Educating † Loving and Caring for people

WELCOME VISITORS! — We are so glad you came to Zion today and hope you will come again soon. We would love for you to scan the code and fill out a Connect Card! If you live in this area and do not have a regular church home, I would be most pleased to talk with you about membership at Zion Lutheran Church. —Rev. James Ebersole, Pastor



ZION'S NURSERY — We welcome all children and infants to our worship services and encourage their attendance. If the need arises to take your child out of the service, please feel free to use the staffed nursery located through Trinity Hall.

HOLY COMMUNION — As Christians we believe in the real presence of the body and blood of Christ, together with the Bread and Wine, in the Sacrament, given to us for the forgiveness of sins, the strengthening of our faith, and as an expression of the unity of our faith. Those who profess this faith, are baptized, penitent, and acknowledge Christ as their Savior are welcome to participate in the Sacrament.

THE EVERGREEN THREAD —A meditation on today's lectionary and appointed psalm (148) from an evangelistic perspective— Now What? Jesus was gone. Now what? Jesus' disciples are living in fear behind locked doors. And there He appears to His friends to comfort them, to reassure them and to remind them of their mission. He returned decades later to John as he suffered in exile, to reassure him that He was still with him and to further his mission toward "the seven churches" (i.e., to us). Knowing Jesus the eternal God was still with them, the Apostles continued His mission! They spread the Good News and brought friends and neighbors into fellowship with them. And even though there were many who viciously sought to persecute and to silence them, they continued anyway. Jesus was never gone. "The only begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds" had come to do what He had always done, and what He continues to do today: to be about His Father's business, which is the salvation of His people. "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." He said to Thomas. But "how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent?" (Ro10:14a-15b). Just as the eleven were sent, so are we. Our mission is the same: it was and continues to be His mission. And Jesus will be with us on His mission "until the end of the age" (Mt28:20).

## 

**PRESERVICE** 

O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing! Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart

arr. Valerie Stephenson arr. Sandra Eithun

Please stand and face the Processional Cross, turning as it passes by.

#### **PSALMODY**

VENITE						LSB 236
OFFICE HYMN Sit		O Sons and Daughters of the King			LSB 470	
	St. 1 – All		St. 2 – Women	Ì	St. 3 – All	
	St. 4 – Men		St. 5 – All		St. 6 – Men	
	St. 7 – All		St. 8 – Women		St. 9 – All	

#### **READINGS**

#### A READING FROM ACTS

Acts 5:12-32

Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem. And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, so that they even carried out the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed.

But the high priest rose up, and all who were with him (that is, the party of the Sadducees), and filled with jealousy they arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life." And when they heard this, they entered the temple at daybreak and began to teach.

Now when the high priest came, and those who were with him, they called together

the council and all the senate of Israel and sent to the prison to have them brought. But when the officers came, they did not find them in the prison, so they returned and reported, "We found the prison securely locked and the guards standing at the doors, but when we opened them we found no one inside." Now when the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these words, they were greatly perplexed about them, wondering what this would come to. And someone came and told them, "Look! The men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people." Then the captain with the officers went and brought them, but not by force, for they were afraid of being stoned by the people.

And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest questioned them, saying, "We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man's blood upon us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

- P O Lord, have mercy on us.
- Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING Revelation 1:4–18

John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.

"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet saying, "Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to

Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea."

Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. The hairs of his head were white like wool, as white as snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.

When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.

- P O Lord, have mercy on us.
- Thanks be to God.

#### HOLY GOSPEL (We remain seated for the Gospel.)

John 20:19-31

On 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." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld."

Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So 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."

Eight 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." Then 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." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but 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 O Lord, have mercy on us.
- Thanks be to God.
- In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.
- But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

#### CHILDREN'S HOMILY

HOMILY "This is What He Did" John 20:19-31

- 1. This Is What He Did; "A Peace Full" Meeting for Resurrection Affirmation
- 2. This Is What He Did; "A Peace Full" Meeting for Resurrection Confirmation

CANTICLE Stand Benedictus LSB 238

OFFERING/VOLUNTARY Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia arr. Patricia Hurlbutt

## PRAYER LSB 241

#### COLLECT OF THE DAY Stand

- Let us pray. 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.
- Amen.

#### ADDITIONAL COLLECTS OF INTERCESSION AND THANKSGIVING

#### COLLECT FOR GRACE

- O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

#### LORD'S PRAYER

RECESSIONAL HYMN This Joyful Eastertide LSB 482

POSTLUDE That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright arr. Cathy Moklebust

WELCOME OF VISITORS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Audio and Facilities Arrangements

#### **SERVING TODAY IN WORSHIP**

Liturgist Rev. James Ebersole Homilist Rev. Fred Gersch Children's Homilist DCE Amy Heuer Lector Cade Schnegelberger Organist Dr. Scott Hyslop Parish Handbells Ensemble Instrumentalist Matt Otte, trumpet Ushers **Board of Elders** 



10:30

PRESERVICE O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing! arr. Valerie Stephenson
Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart arr. Sandra Eithun

### DIVINE SERVICE I LSB 151

Stand

PROCESSIONAL HYMN Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

LSB 465

Larry Wagner

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

# SERVICE OF THE WORD LSB 152

HYMN OF PRAISE This Is the Feast LSB 155

#### SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY





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.



FIRST READING Acts 5:12–32

Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem. And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, so that they even carried out the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed.

But the high priest rose up, and all who were with him (that is, the party of the Sadducees), and filled with jealousy they arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought

them out, and said, "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life." And when they heard this, they entered the temple at daybreak and began to teach.

Now when the high priest came, and those who were with him, they called together the council and all the senate of Israel and sent to the prison to have them brought. But when the officers came, they did not find them in the prison, so they returned and reported, "We found the prison securely locked and the guards standing at the doors, but when we opened them we found no one inside." Now when the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these words, they were greatly perplexed about them, wondering what this would come to. And someone came and told them, "Look! The men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people." Then the captain with the officers went and brought them, but not by force, for they were afraid of being stoned by the people.

And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest questioned them, saying, "We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man's blood upon us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

- This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING Revelation 1:4–18

John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.

"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient

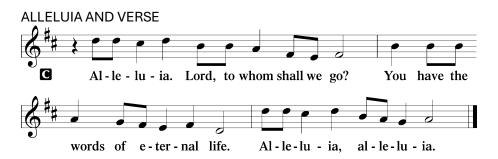
endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet saying, "Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea."

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- This is the Word of the Lord.
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#### Stand



HOLY GOSPEL John 20:19–31

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

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#### HYMN OF THE DAY

#### O Sons and Daughters of the King

LSB 470

St. 1 – All	St. 2 – Women	St. 3 – All
St. 4 – Men	St. 5 – All	St. 6 – Men
St. 7 – All	St. 8 – Women	St. 9 – All

HOMILY

"This is What He Did"

John 20:19-31

- 1. This Is What He Did; "A Peace Full" Meeting for Resurrection Affirmation
- 2. This Is What He Did; "A Peace Full" Meeting for Resurrection Confirmation

NICENE CREED Stand LSB 158

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Sit

OFFERING/VOLUNTARY

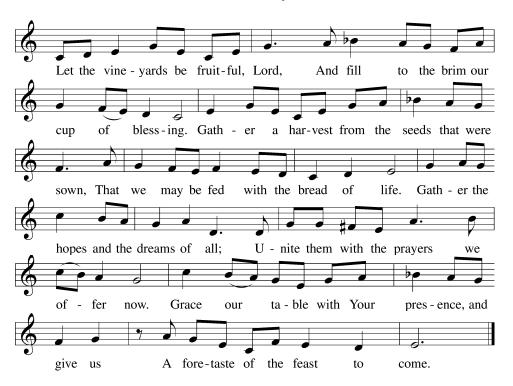
Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

arr. Patricia Hurlbutt

**OFFERTORY Stand** 

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

LSB 955



# SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT LSB 160

**DISTRIBUTION HYMNS** 

I Know That My Redeemer Lives Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia LSB 461 LSB 463

Stand

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE Thank the Lord

LSB 164