

# Zion Lutheran Church of Lake Crystal, MN

211 E. Robinson St (PO Box 236), Lake Crystal, MN 56055

www.zionluthlakecrystal.org

507-726-2849

**Mission: To Make Jesus Known To All In Our Words and Actions**

**Fourth Sunday after Easter**

**May 3, 2020**

*In this time of world-wide crisis, congregations throughout this church are not able to gather for worship in our sanctuaries. We will gather as an online community for prayer and worship at 9:00 a.m., when our service is livestreamed on Zion's Facebook page.*

***This is the day the Lord has made! Christ is risen, and through him all creation is made new!***

*Today is sometimes called "Good Shepherd Sunday." Jesus is called the "gate" of the sheep in today's gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world's violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God's tender care to all creation.*

## **Welcome**

**P:** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C:** **He is risen indeed, Alleluia!**

**P:** Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are raised with him to new life. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God,  
for in the beginning you created us in your image  
and planted us in a well-watered garden.  
In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched,  
and you gave us water from the rock.  
When we did not know the way,  
you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters.  
At the cross, you watered us from Jesus' wounded side,  
and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.  
We praise you for your salvation through water,  
for the water in our font,  
and for all water everywhere.  
Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love.  
Satisfy the thirsty, and give us the life only you can give.  
To you be given honor and praise  
through Jesus Christ our Lord  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn - "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" (performed by Sheldon Meyer)**

*The King of love my shepherd is,  
whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his  
and he is mine forever.*

*In death's dark vale I fear no ill,  
with thee, dear Lord, beside me,  
thy rod and staff my comfort still;  
thy cross before to guide me.*

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is" ELW 502. Words by Henry Baker (1921-1877), Public Domain. Music: Irish tune (St. Columba), Public Domain.

### **Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray together.

**C: O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### **Reading: Acts 2:42-47** (Read by Lisa Barden)

*Today's reading is a description of life in the community following Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost, when the Spirit was poured out on God's people. The new community is sustained in worship and fellowship, shares what they have, and ensures that everyone has enough.*

<sup>42</sup>[The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

<sup>43</sup>Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles.

<sup>44</sup>All who believed were together and had all things in common; <sup>45</sup>they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. <sup>46</sup>Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, <sup>47</sup>praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

L: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 23** (Read by Nikki Lewis)

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd;  
I shall not be in want.

<sup>2</sup>**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures  
and leads me beside still waters.**

<sup>3</sup>You restore my soul, O LORD,  
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

<sup>4</sup>**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

<sup>6</sup>**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

**Gospel: John 10:1-10**

*Jesus uses an image familiar to the people of his day to make a point about spiritual leadership. Those who listen to Jesus are led to abundant life.*

P: The holy gospel according to St. John.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>1</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. <sup>2</sup>The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup>The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup>When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. <sup>5</sup>They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” <sup>6</sup>Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

<sup>7</sup>So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup>All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup>I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup>The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Homily**

**Music Offering:** “Rise Again” (performed by Gary Grindstaff)

*Go ahead, drive the nails in My hands;  
Laugh at me, where you stand  
Go ahead, and say it isn't Me;  
The day will come, when you will see*

*'Cause I'll rise, again  
Ain't no power on earth can tie Me down!  
Yes, I'll rise, again  
Death can't keep Me in the ground*

*Go ahead, mock My name;  
My love for you is still the same  
Go ahead, and bury Me;  
But very soon, I will be free!*

*'Cause I'll rise, again;  
Ain't no power on earth can keep Me down!  
Yes, I'll rise, again;  
Death can't keep Me in the ground*

*Go ahead, and say I'm dead and gone  
But you will see that you were wrong  
Go ahead, try to hide the Son;  
But all will see that I'm the One!*

*'Cause I'll come again!*

*Ain't no power on earth can keep me back!  
Yes, I'll come again;  
Come to take My people back*

“Rise Again” words and music by Dallas Holm © 1977 Going Holm Music Reprinted by permission under CCLI License #2388250

### **Apostle’s Creed**

**C: 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**

P: Separated in our residences but united by God’s promises of restoration, we pray for the church, the earth, the world, and all who are in need. *A brief silence.*

*You are invited to respond:*

P: Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### **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.

**Benediction and Sending**

P: May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead  
raise you to new life, fill you with hope,  
and turn your mourning into dancing.  
Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**\*Dismissal**

P: Christ is risen, just as he said.  
Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

**C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**You are invited to join us at 10:00 am for our Virtual Coffee Hour!** We will meet via Zoom, and you can join us by clicking this link: [Virtual Coffee Hour](#). (Note: If you will be connecting from a smartphone or tablet, you will need to download the Zoom Client app from [www.zoom.us/downloads](http://www.zoom.us/downloads))

## +Prayer Requests +

- For those who mourn: the family of Wally Geyer (brother of Karen Granger), as they grieve the death of his daughter Darrian.
- For those in need of help and healing: Ginny Midthun, Warner Beckmann, Mary Nell Preisler (sister of Jim Halvorson), Barry Jacques, Tim Anderson, Taylor Antony, Sadie and Elsie Sorensen, Tiana Iverson, John Greenough, Jan Barnick (daughter-in-law of Dorothy Barnick), Lonnie Honstad, Jeff Dunker, Cole Barden, Erin Visker, Donald Schmidt, Maddie Teigen, and Jed Visker;
- For those who are deployed: Evan Masters (brother of Chelsea Copeland).
- For all those impacted by the coronavirus pandemic, especially those who are sick or recovering, for the dying and those who grief, for those on the "front lines" of healthcare and public health, for the residents and staff of long-term care and nursing facilities, for those returning to work in the midst of fear and uncertainty, for those who are unemployed or facing reduced hours, and for all community leaders working to guide our city, county, state and nation with wisdom and for the protection of the most vulnerable among us.

## THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, May 3	Service of the Word (Facebook)	9:00 am
	Music from Sheldon Meyer (Facebook)	9:30 am
	Virtual Coffee Hour (Click this <a href="#">Zoom Link</a> )	10:00 am
Monday, May 4	Bible Study ( <a href="#">Zoom Link</a> )	11:00 am
Wednesday, May 5	Confirmation Student Gathering ( <a href="#">Zoom Link</a> )	6:00 pm
Sunday, May 10	Service of the Word (Facebook)	9:00 am

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Zion Food drive for the Sharing Shelf:** Collection dates set to pick up food are May 4<sup>th</sup> and May 5<sup>th</sup>. Pick up time will be after 10:00 am. We are looking for 3-4 volunteers to help pick up food and deliver it to the Sharing Shelf. Contact Rod Isebrand at 507-380-3351 to help or make a donation. **Food items currently needed: Canned Chicken, Canned Tuna, Peanut Butter, Flour, Sugar, Oil, Toilet Paper & misc. Canned Vegetables. (Please check expiration dates).** Food can be set out on your front step. Please put food in a box or bags. We have a Thrivent Action Team grant that will supplement any food donations collected for this worthy cause.
- **Caring Coins donations** will be received throughout the month of May and will be divided between *Partners for Affordable Housing* (April's designee for which gifts were not collected) and *Committee Against Domestic Abuse* (May's designee). Gifts can be given by check, cash or through regular eGiving options (online or the Give+ app). If paying by check or with cash, be sure to indicate that your gift is for Caring Coins so our weekly counters are aware. Thank you for your kindness and generosity during these challenging times!

- **The deadline for Zion Scholarships** has been extended to May 14. Forms are available on the church website. Be sure to turn your application and requested documentation in to be considered for this scholarship!
- **Thank you for your faithful financial support of Zion's ministries** during this challenging time. It's been wonderful to see how many of you have continued to share your offerings as you'd planned for 2020. Offering can be mailed to the Church Office (PO Box 236, Lake Crystal). Please consider our eGiving options for making one-time or recurring donations electronically. Details available at: <https://www.zionluthlakecrystal.org/giving>.
- **In-Person worship services continue to be suspended until further notice.** Worship services are being streamed via Facebook so that we can gather as a virtual community for prayer, reflection, and praise.
- **In-Person Zion activities are also suspended.** By agreement of the Congregation Council during the April 15 meeting, this suspension will continue while Minnesota's Stay at Home order is in effect (currently through May 17). We encourage groups to meet via videoconferencing; please contact Pastor Andrea if you'd like her assistance with setting up a "Zoom" meeting for your group.
- **The Church Office will be closed to visitors until further notice.** Mary will be working in the church building beginning on Monday, May 4 and can be reached by phone at 507-726-2849.
- **News and updates** are being shared primarily through the church website and Facebook and, when appropriate, by mail. The May newsletter will be mailed this week.
- **Pastor Andrea is available for conversation and prayer!** Please reach out to her by phone or text at 507-402-1114. She's also happy to schedule one-on-one pastoral visits via Zoom video conferencing.
- **The Monday "Dwelling on the Word" study has shifted to an online format.** You're invited to join us for a time of prayer, reflection and conversation as we consider the gospel reading for the upcoming Sunday. To join us on Monday at 11:00, please go to: <https://zoom.us/j/322134420>.

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