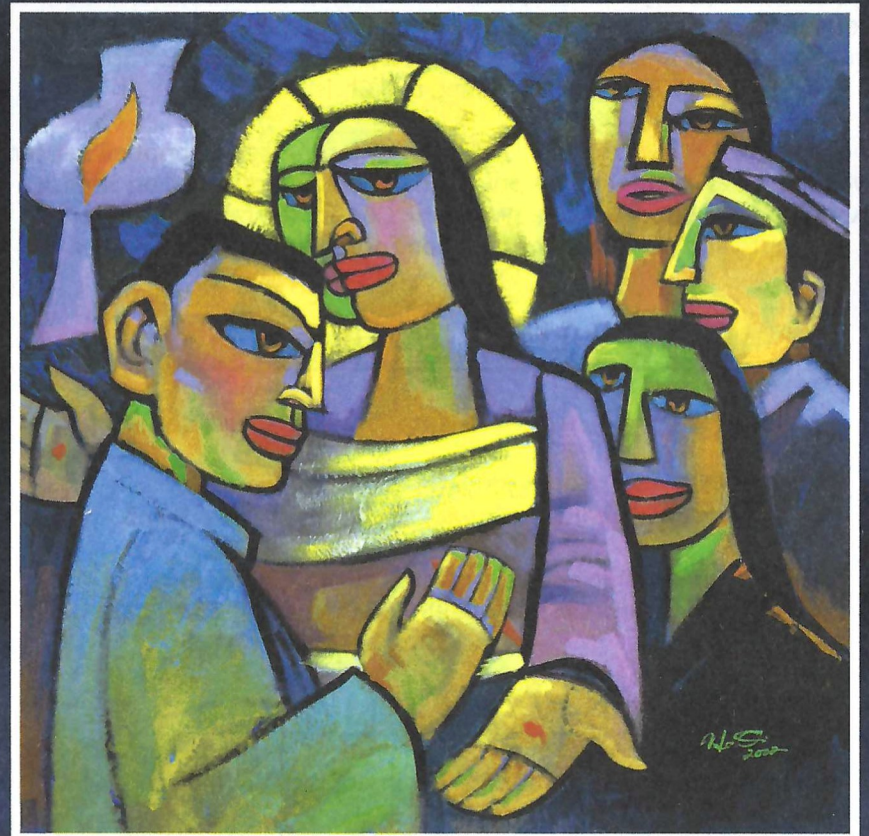


# DO NOT DOUBT BUT BELIEVE

JOHN 20:27



Edinburg Lutheran Parish  
St. Jacob's & Zion Congregations

April 12, 2026

Pastor Katie Gosswein Parsonage: 984-9260 Cell: 335-7758

<https://elpva.org/>



**Remembering those who have requested prayer:** Cleo Didawick, Donnie Cook, Belle Hamman, Goldie Lam, Donna Mumaw, Sherrie Ritenour, Ed Sine... **and we further**

**remember...** Steve Baker, Joan Bowers, Steve Campbell, Leannah Comer, Keith Cabbage, Burgess Dellinger, Roe Dias, James Drake & family, Jim Eastep, Todd Edgerton, Carla

Eickenhorst, Virginia Estep, Landon Fadely, Tammy Foltz, Diane Funkhouser,

Harper & Luther Gochenour, Peggy Graff, Podge Green, Terry Grigsby, Martha Harlow, Mike Harlow, Tim Harlow, Betty Helsley, Barbara Hollar, Ronnie Hoffman, Sonny Hovatter, Buck Jones, Danny Jones, Erica & Jim Lam, Dave Kosek, Brian Lear, Wade Ludwig, Keith Manich, Erich McMinn, Freddie Neal, Jerry Newland, Sharon Nichols, Anna Nilsen, Bob & Jane Perry, Jerry & Judy Polk, Larry Polk, Karen Polk, Ed & Bea Provost, Steve Ritenour, Laurie Robinson, Sandy Ross, Peter Shoemaker,, Dan Strother, Judy Sharp, John Wymer, and Christine Zuniga.

**We further remember** the family of Bonnie Mason, Steve Campbell's sister, who passed away on Friday, April 4 and will be memorialized on Sunday, April 9 in New Hope, Virginia. We thank God for the faith that gave her strength and may the same Lord comfort all those who loved her.

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**NEXT SUNDAY: – April 19 One location – St. Jacob's!**

**9:45 Adult Sunday School** meets at **St. Jacob.**

**11:00 Worship** will be a Service of the Word at **St. Jacob.**

Call- in worship is always offered at the 11:00 service.  
Conference call: (425) 436-6395 Toll Free: (844)-854-2222  
Access Code: 377656 #

## DID YOU KNOW ?

The very last word in the Old Testament is curse (Malachi 4:6)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**What's up with next Sunday!?!?** The Parish Council got to talking and decided we didn't need to wait until 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays to occasionally get together for worship. Soooooo ... next Sunday (April 19) we will have **Sunday School at 9:45 and one service at 11 AM at St. Jacob's!** No meal is planned. Come join us for learning & worship!

**St. Jacob's Council** will meet on Monday night at 6:30.

**Spring Forward**, our after school program, will resume on Tuesday, April 14, for the last quarter before summer hiatus. For more information about this outstanding program, call Jane Perry: 540-477-2088. We would still be happy to welcome new students!

**Wednesday in the Word** Bible Study will begin a new study on the Book of Ezekiel this Wednesday, April 15 at 6:00 PM. This prophet, who lived 5 centuries before Jesus walked the earth, is credited with keeping the faith of Abraham alive during some of the darkest times of exile for Israel. There is a chair waiting for you!

**Eating for good causes!** There are a lot of opportunities to enjoy a good meal in April!

**April 19** – 11 AM until we're sold out – **Fried Chicken Dinner** at the Edinburg Volunteer Fire Dept.

**April 25** - Hamburg Ruritan & Bethel Lutheran **fundraiser breakfast**, 7-10 AM, for Sonny Hovatter's medical expenses. Free will donation to eat in and \$15 for carry-out.

**April 25** – 4 PM until? – **Pork Tenderloin Supper** at Wakeman's Grove. \$15 for carry-out and free-will for those who stay and eat.

**News from Shenandoah Valley Local Ministries: Summer Food Boxes**

We will once again be offering weekly food boxes this summer in partnership with the Blue Ridge Food Bank. Both of our churches are distribution locations and times are still being finalized. We need **volunteers to distribute food boxes and/or help transport boxes** to distribution sites. If you're interested in helping in either way, please let Pastor Katie or Nancy Young (540-333-1180).

**Thrivent** is sponsoring a **free workshop on "Social Security: Timing Is Everything"** on Thursday **April 23 at 6:30 pm**. It will be held at the SC Parks and Recreation facility at 1195 Hisey Avenue, Woodstock. Key topics are: Timing your benefits; Implications for your family; Future employment and income; and Timing it with taxes. This is a free event and you can register on the SC Parks website or speak to Pastor Katie.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter**  
**Zion Lutheran Church**  
**April 12, 2026**



*First Easter light  
touching the window*

**Welcome!.**

P. (*boldly*) Christ is Risen!  
C. (*boldly*) He is risen  
indeed! Alleluia!

**Confession**

In the name of the Father,  
and of the + Son, and of the  
Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and

consolation, come to the help of  
Your people, turning us from our  
sin to live for You alone. Give us the power of Your Holy  
Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive Your  
forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ,  
our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

***Silence is kept for reflection.***

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to  
sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned  
against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we  
have done and by what we have left undone. We  
have not loved You with our whole heart; we have  
not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake  
of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.  
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may  
delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the  
glory of Your holy name. Amen.**


***Assurance and Forgiveness***

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore declare to You the entire forgiveness of all Your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**


**Gathering Hymn # 366** The Strife is O'er, The Battle is Done



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done; now is the vic - tor's  
 2 The pow'rs of death have done their worst; Je - sus their le - gions  
 3 The three sad days have quick - ly sped, Christ ris - es glo - rious  
 4 Christ closed the yawn - ing gates of hell; the bars from heav'n's high  
 5 Lord, by the stripes which wound - ed you, from death's sting free your



tri - umph won! Now be the song of praise be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 has dis - persed. Let shouts of ho - ly joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 from the dead. All glo - ry to our ris - en head! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 por - tals fell. Let hymns of praise his tri - umph tell. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 ser - vants too, that we may live and sing to you. Al - le - lu - ia!

*After the final stanza*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

**Apostolic Greeting**

**Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**  
 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.**

**Kyrie Eleison** (in English – “Lord have mercy”)

**Refrain:** **Kyrie eleison,**  
**on our world and on our way,**  
**Kyrie eleison, ev’ry day.**

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for  
the unity of all;

for this holy house, for all who worship and praise,  
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord **(Refrain)**

That we may live out Your impassioned response to the  
hungry and the poor;

that we may live out truth and justice and grace,  
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord **(Refrain)**

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for  
friends and family;

for life and for love, for our work and our play,  
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord **(Refrain)**

For Your Spirit to guide; that You center our lives in the  
water and the Word;

that You nourish our souls with Your body and blood,  
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord **(Refrain)**



## Canticle of Praise

(music is on page 187)

**Refrain:** This is the feast of vict'ry for our God,  
for the Lamb who was slain  
has begun His reign. Alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,  
whose blood set us free to be people of God.  
Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,  
and honor, blessing, and glory are His. (Refrain)

Sing with all the people of God,  
and join in the hymn of all creation:  
Blessing, honor, glory and might  
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. (Refrain)

## Prayer of the Day

### God's Word



## Today's Readings

Acts 2:14, 22-32

Psalm 16

1 Peter 1:3-9

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

# The Holy Gospel

Matthew 28:1-10

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 20<sup>th</sup> chapter, beginning with the 19<sup>th</sup> verse... **Glory to you, O Lord.**

## *The reading of the Gospel*

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

## Sermon



## Hymn of the Day

# 635

## *We Walk By Faith*



1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with  
 2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor  
 3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and  
 4 For you, O res - ur - rec - ted Lord, are  
 5 And when our life of faith is done, in



gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as  
 fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise  
 may our faith a - bound to call on you when  
 found in means di - vine: be - neath the wa - ter  
 realms of clear - er light may we be - hold you



none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."  
 we re - jice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"  
 you are near and seek where you are found:  
 and the word, be - neath the bread and wine.  
 as you are, with full and end - less sight.

## Prayers of Intercession

Lord, in Your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**



## Offertory Prayer

Risen One, You call us to believe and bear fruit.  
May the gifts that we offer here be signs of Your abiding love. Form us to be Your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. **Amen.**

## + Sacrament of Holy Communion +

### Great Thanksgiving

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.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to You, almighty and merciful God,  
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,  
the true Passover Lamb who gave Himself to take away  
our sin; who in dying has destroyed death,  
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the  
witnesses of the resurrection,  
with earth and sea and all their creatures,  
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,  
we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, 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, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## + Words of Consecration +



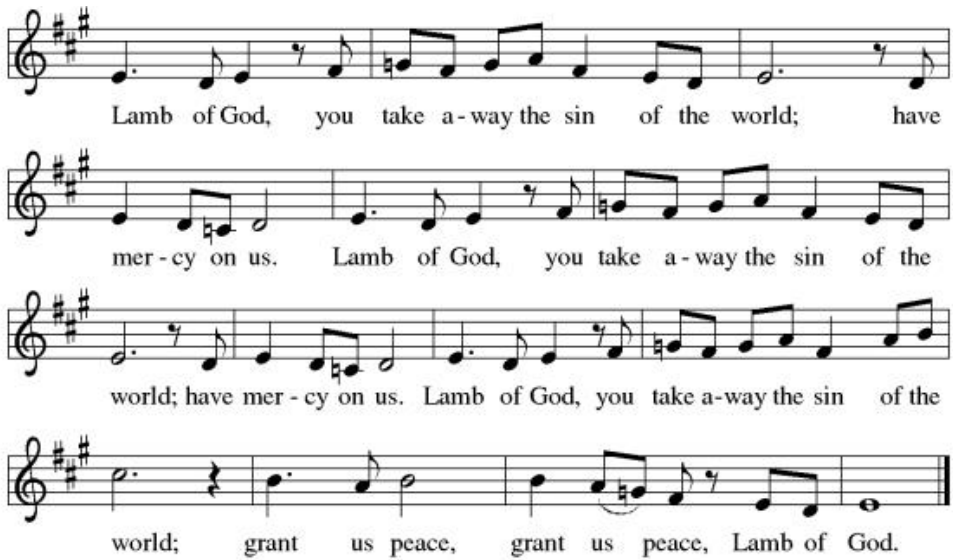
## The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

## Lamb of God



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, grant us peace, Lamb of God.



## Invitation to Communion

In Christ's presence, there is fullness of joy.  
Come, share in His presence.

## Partaking of Communion

*In the sanctuary, we will commune at the altar railing.  
Those at home are invited to commune at the  
beginning, as the Pastor invites them.*

## Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

We give You thanks, most gracious God, that You have fed us with the bread of heaven and given us a foretaste of Paradise. Enliven us to be Your body in the world and to serve those who are in need; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Blessing

*Numbers 6:24-26*

The Lord bless you and keep you;  
The Lord make His face shine upon you,  
And be gracious to you;  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you,  
+ and give you peace. **Amen**



**Sending Hymn** # 384 *That Easter Day with Joy ...*



1 That Eas - ter day with joy was bright; the  
2 O Je - sus, king of gen - tle - ness, with  
3 O Christ, you are the Lord of all in  
4 All praise, O ris - en Lord, we give to



sun shone out with fair - er light when, to their long - ing  
con - stant love our hearts pos - sess; to you our lips will  
this our Eas - ter fes - ti - val, for you will be our  
you, once dead, but now a - live! To God the Fa - ther



eyes re - stored, the a - pos - tles saw their ris - en Lord!  
ev - er raise the trib - ute of our grate - ful praise.  
strength and shield from ev - 'ry weap - on death can wield.  
e - qual praise, and God the Spir - it, now we raise!

**Sending**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace.

In Christ you are made new. Alleluia!

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



Thanks to everyone who joined us  
last week for Easter!

Remember...Easter isn't one day,  
but a way of life!!

# Easter Breakfast- 2026!





<sup>8</sup>I have set the LORD al-<sup>1</sup> ways before me;  
because God is at my right hand,  
I shall <sup>1</sup> not be shaken.  
<sup>9</sup>My heart, therefore, is glad,  
and my spir-<sup>1</sup> it rejoices;  
my body also shall <sup>1</sup> rest in hope.

<sup>10</sup>For you will not abandon me  
<sup>1</sup> to the grave,  
nor let your holy one <sup>1</sup> see the pit.  
<sup>11</sup>You will show me the <sup>1</sup> path of life;  
in your presence there is fullness of joy,  
and in your right hand  
are pleasures for-<sup>1</sup> evermore.

Second Reading

1 Peter 1:3-9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead <sup>4</sup>and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup>who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup>In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer

various trials, <sup>7</sup>so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. <sup>8</sup>Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, <sup>9</sup>for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Gospel

John 20:19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup>When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

mark of the nails and my finger in his side, I will not believe."

<sup>26</sup>A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

<sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup>But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

<sup>24</sup>But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the



# Today's Readings

Second Sunday of Easter  
April 12, 2026

Prayer of the Day

Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]:

<sup>22</sup>"Fellow Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know—<sup>23</sup>this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. <sup>24</sup>But God raised him up, having released him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. <sup>25</sup>For David says concerning him,

<sup>27</sup>For you will not abandon my soul to Hades  
or let your Holy One experience corruption.

<sup>28</sup>You have made known to me the ways of life;  
you will make me full of gladness  
with your presence.'

<sup>29</sup>"Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. <sup>30</sup>Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. <sup>31</sup>Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

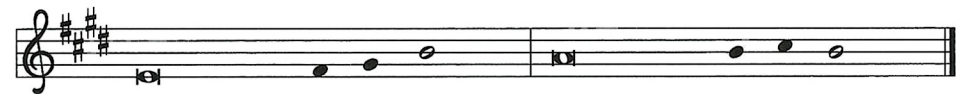
'I saw the Lord always before me,  
for he is at my right hand so that I  
will not be shaken;  
<sup>26</sup>therefore my heart was glad, and my  
tongue rejoiced;  
moreover, my flesh will live in hope.

'He was not abandoned to Hades,  
nor did his flesh experience corruption.'

<sup>32</sup>"This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

Psalm

Psalm 16; tone 4





**AND**

**Holy Trivia!**

**Friday, April 19**

**7 PM**

**Zion Lutheran Church**

**321 Headquarters Rd.**

**Everyone is welcome!**

**Bring a snack to share,**

**if you like.**

**Shenandoah County Pregnancy Center** is advertising the following job openings:

The **Client Care Director** provides strategic leadership and oversight of SCPC's client services and one-on-one care, ensuring high-quality, compassionate, and mission-aligned support for every client. 30 hours/week.

The **Lead Client Advocate** is a new position responsible for one-on-one client care and supervision of Volunteer Client Advocates, ensuring each client receives compassionate, high-quality, mission-focused support. 28 hours/week

The **Outreach and Development Coordinator** advances the Christ-centered, life-affirming mission of SCPC by building relationships with donors, community partners, and supporters, and helping secure financial resources in partnership with the Executive Director. 30 hours/week

If you know of anyone who might be interested, please have them reach out directly to me at [scpc.lisa@gmail.com](mailto:scpc.lisa@gmail.com) for an application. In addition to the applications, candidates must submit a resume and cover letter.