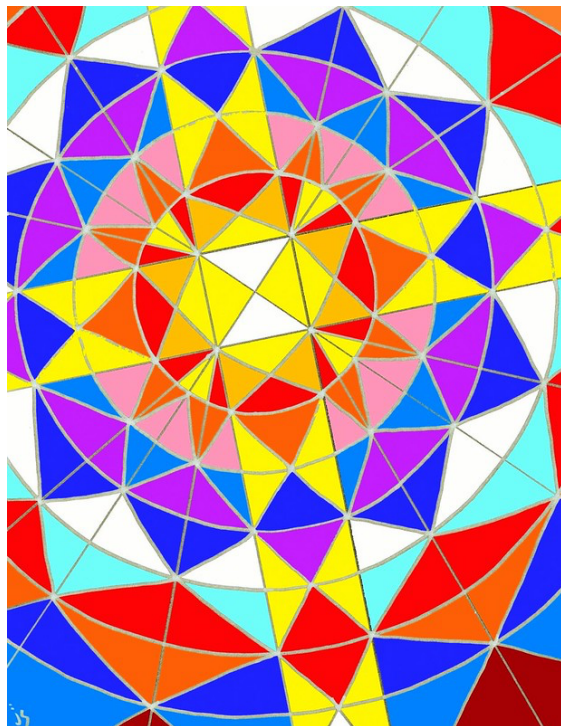


Sixth Sunday of Easter
Happy 66th Anniversary, Zion!
May 5, 2024



This Sunday's image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit.



ZION
Ministries Under the Cross

959 SE 6th Avenue • Deerfield Beach, FL 33441
(954) 421-3146 • www.zion-lutheran.org

Welcome to Zion!

But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ! (1 Corinthians 15:57)

Welcome – whether this is your home congregation or your first visit, we're glad you're here!

We welcome all people in the name of Christ to experience God's goodness and grace in Word, water, and meal. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, there is a place for you to belong at Zion.

Get Connected at Zion

The best ways to stay connected are to visit our website, follow us on social media (@zionchurchdfb on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter), and subscribe to our weekly newsletter.

Children in Worship

Children are God's gift to our church! They are not the future of our church; they are the right now. The way we welcome children here directly affects the way they respond to the Church, to God, and to one another.

We welcome children and their families to sit near the Playground at the front of the sanctuary. There are coloring activities, puzzles, books, and a toolbox to engage in our worship together.

Giving

We appreciate your stewardship of treasure, talent, and time at Zion. You may leave your offerings in the offering plates or give online via our website or this QR code.



Livestreaming

Zion livestreams all our services on Facebook and YouTube. Any person present gives consent to being filmed or photographed.



Zion is a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) community, and extends God's radical welcome to all people, because we're all created in God's image.

We Gather

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

This is the day that the Lord has made;

let us rejoice and be glad in it.

We have gathered to celebrate the good news of God's love!

We are called to be Easter people!

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

GATHERING HYMN

Hymn #708

"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"

APOSTOLIC 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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

ELW pp. 140-141

In festival seasons, we sing a Hymn of Praise. "This is the Feast" recalls John's vision of the new heaven and earth in Revelation 5.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together... **O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

We Hear & Respond to God's Word

PRAYER FOR ANNIVERSARIES & HYMN

Hymn #429

"In Our Day of Thanksgiving"

FIRST READING

Acts 10:44-48

...The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

SECOND READING

1 John 5:1-6

...The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

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.

GOSPEL

John 15:9-17

Before the reading: The Holy Gospel according to John...

Glory to you, O Lord.

After the reading: These are the words of our Lord. They are true and can be trusted. **Praise to you, O Christ!**

GOD'S MESSAGE FOR ALL

HYMN OF THE DAY

Hymn #595

"Jesus Loves Me"

NICENE CREED

Together with all Christians of every time, place, and space, let us confess our faith, using the words of the Nicene Creed: **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and**

the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SHARING OF PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always! **And also with you.**

OFFERING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

We Feast at the Lord's Table

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

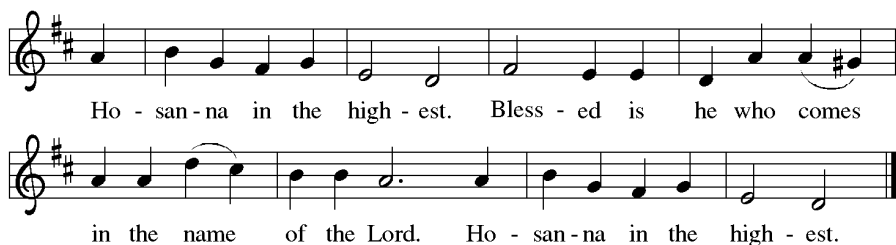
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God 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 Paschal 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, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,". The second staff contains the melody for the second line: "heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry." The lyrics are written below the notes.



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

O God most mighty, O God most merciful, O God our rock and our salvation, hear us as we praise, call us to your table, grant us your life.

When the earth was a formless void, you formed order and beauty. When Abraham and Sarah were barren, you sent them a child; When the Israelites were enslaved, you led them to freedom. Ruth faced starvation, David fought Goliath, and the psalmists cried out for healing, and full of compassion, you granted the people your life. You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother. He was born among the poor, he lived under oppression, he wept over the city. With infinite love, he granted the people your life.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his death, we cry out: **Amen.**

Celebrating his resurrection, we shout: **Amen.**

Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead: **Amen.**

O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal.

O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself.

O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one.

O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope.

O God most majestic, O God most motherly, O God our strength and our song, you show us a vision of a tree of life with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations. Grant us such life, the life of the Father to the Son, the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior, life in you, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Music by Cantor Peter J. Rizzo

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

Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal-low - ed be your
name, hal-low - ed be your name. Your king - dom come, your
will be done, on earth as it is in hea - ven, on earth as it is in hea - ven.
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread and for - give us all our
sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us, as we for - give those who sin a -
gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al and de - liv - er us from
e - vil, de - liv - er us from e - vil. For yours is the
king - dom, the pow - er and the glo - ry, for - e - ver and e - ver, for
e - ver and e - ver. A - men, a - men. A - men.

SHARING THE MEAL

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.
Come and eat at God's table.

“Holy God, Holy and Glorious”

Hymn #637

We Are Sent into the World

BLESSING FOR STRENGTH

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ comfort, strengthen, and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together...**Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. Amen.**

BLESSING

Go now as God's chosen witnesses to testify that Christ has been raised and that we are raised with him. Do not look for him among the dead but be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

May God raise you from all that would entomb you;
May Christ Jesus ☩ call you by name and go ahead of you;
And may the Holy Spirit empower you for all that is good. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

by Cantors Peter J. Rizzo & Kurt R. Schmidt

"Hallelujah, He is Risen!"



Ha - le lu - jah, He is ri - sen; He is ri - sen, in - deed! Ha - le -
We've been fed at the ta - ble, God's grace we re - ceive, God's



lu - ia, He is ri - sen, from sin we are freed. Let us sing a joy - ful chor - us with
strength and God's pow - er for all who be - lieve. We are sent forth with cour - age to



all the re - deemed: Ha - le - lu - jah, He is ri - sen; He is ri - sen, in - deed!
serve those in need. Ha - le - lu - jah, He is ri - sen; He is ri - sen, in - deed!

DISMISSAL

The worship has ended. Now the service begins. Go in peace.
Share the good news that Christ is risen! **Thanks be to God.**
Alleluia! Alleluia!

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Holy Communion at Zion

Christ's table is open to all! We offer grape juice for those who desire. If, for reasons of conscience or health, you are unable to receive either the bread or the wine, please know that the Church affirms the full presence of Christ in each element.

For Whom & For What Shall We Pray?

If you would like to submit a name(s) to include in our **Prayers of the People**, please use an index card from the Welcome Table and place it in the prayer basket at the altar **before the Hymn of the Day**. In order to keep our prayer list current, all names must be resubmitted each week if you desire continued prayers.

Opportunities to Serve Joyfully & Give Selflessly

2024 Florida-Bahamas Synod Assembly Service Project

Every year, the congregations of our synod participate in a service project benefitting the local community of the host site. This year, we will be collecting boxes of mac and cheese, toothbrushes, and toothpaste for the Orlando Union Rescue Mission.

Gail & Kurt Schmidt will be bringing items to the Synod Assembly on Zion's behalf. All items must be brought in by Sunday, May 26th. We are the Church together!

Thank You!

Because of all the generous contributions, we received \$775 toward Shayne's summer at LSM. This will allow Zion to fulfill the match with Lutheran Summer Music with some money left over for the expense of flights to Chicago, en route to Valparaiso University. Stay tuned to hear from Shayne (musically and otherwise) and for a special commissioning in June.

Sign Up to Serve

Sunday Morning Worship Leadership (Greeters,
Assisting Ministers, Readers, Coffee Fellowship)



Prayer Team at Nina's Place!

Nina's Place is always in need of volunteers! To get connected for our Thursday & Friday food deliveries, speak to Cantor Kurt Schmidt to be added to the What's App group. To sign up for a Saturday volunteer spot, visit www.ninasplacedfb.org.



Today's Readings

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 5, 2024

Prayer of the Day

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading

Acts 10:44-48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling

God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷"Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" ⁴⁸So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Psalm

Psalm 98; tone 9



Sing a new song to the LORD,
who has done ¹ marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm
have ¹ won the victory.

²**O LORD, you have made ¹ known
your victory,
you have revealed your
righteousness
in the sight ¹ of the nations.**

³You remember
your steadfast love and faithfulness
to the ¹ house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth
have seen the victory
¹ of our God.

⁴**Shout with joy to the LORD,
¹ all you lands;
lift up your voice, re- ¹joice,
and sing.**

⁵Sing to the LORD ¹ with the harp,
with the harp and the
¹ voice of song.

⁶**With trumpets and the sound
¹ of the horn
shout with joy
before the ¹ king, the LORD.**

⁷Let the sea roar,
and ¹ all that fills it,
the world and those
who ¹ dwell therein.

⁸**Let the rivers ¹ clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy
before the LORD,
who comes to ¹ judge the earth.**

⁹The LORD will judge the ¹ world
with righteousness
and the peo- ¹ ples with equity.

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And

this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Gospel

John 15:9-17

[Jesus said:] “As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹²“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you

do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”