

**The Resurrection of Our Lord
Easter Sunday – April 4, 2021**

HOLY COMMUNION: *Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Setting Four*

Prelude and announcements.

GATHERING

Easter Greeting

The ministers gather at the open font to greet the assembly and lead the Thanksgiving for Baptism.

P Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

C **Christ is risen indeed!**

P Alleluia!

C **Alleluia!**

Thanksgiving for Baptism

All may make the sign of the Cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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

C **Amen.**

P Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

Blessed are you, holy God. You are the creator of the waters of the earth. You are the fire of rebirth. You poured out your Spirit on your people Israel. You breathe life into our dry bones. Your Son Jesus promised to send the Spirit to us that the world may know your peace and truth.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, and breathe new life into those who are gathered here. By your spirit adopt us all as your children, through our Saviour Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Processional Hymn #365 “Jesus Christ is Risen Today”

Greeting

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 “In peace, let us pray to the Lord” *Page 147*

Canticle of Praise “Worthy is Christ” *Page 149*

The Prayer of the Day

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

First Reading Isaiah 25:6-9 *The feast of victory*

⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. ⁷And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; ⁸he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. ⁹It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

A Word of God, word of Life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 Refrain - “On this day, the Lord has acted; we will rejoice and be glad in it!”

¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good; God’s mercy endures forever.

²**Let Israel now declare, “God’s mercy endures forever.”**

¹⁴The LORD is my strength | and my song, and has become my salvation.

¹⁵**Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous: “The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!**

¹⁶The right hand of the LORD is exalted! The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!”

¹⁷**I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.**

¹⁸The LORD indeed punished me sorely, but did not hand me over to death.

¹⁹**Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.**

²⁰“This is the gate of the LORD; here the righteous may enter.”

²¹**I give thanks to you, for you have answered me and you have become my salvation.**

²²The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

²³**By the LORD has this been done; it is marvelous in our eyes.**

²⁴This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 Witnesses to the risen Christ

¹Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ²through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

³For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, ⁴and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he

appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

A Word of God, word of Life. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation *Page 151a*

Gospel **Mark 16:1-8** *The resurrection is announced*

P The holy gospel according to Mark.

C **Glory to you O Lord.**

¹When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint [Jesus' body]. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." ⁸So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

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

Sermon

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!!

Easter is upon us and today with our ancestors of the faith, those saints of old, we gather now for over 2000 years on this Sunday morning, in defiance of death having the final word, and sing/praise and celebrate that Christ is alive! The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it!!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Whew...

The journey of Lent's 40 days I know was sometimes bleak:

- Still in the midst of a pandemic:
 - Fear/possible illness(flinching at every cough or sneeze)
 - Colour coded municipalities
 - Travel restrictions
 - Lock down
 - Isolation and loneliness
 - Mental health issues and crisis
 - School by computer/Zoom meetings/MS Teams
 - Sitting (the new smoking)
 - Death
- The usual Lenten meditations:
 - Die to the “old self’s” influences that distract us from God and our neighbour;
 - Die to selfish ways;
 - Discern how to be better aware of the plight of our neighbours local or global;
 - Die to the influences of racism and prejudice
- Or, perhaps this Lent we found new ways of doing community:
 - Cultivating our sense of Prayer:
 - either mid week with “Covid-19 rules” in place (masks and distancing”), or online communities that no longer feel like an oxymoron, Online (individuals)/Communities (collectives)!
 - Adding a walk for intentional self care and mindfulness;
 - Paying attention to those myriad of things we seldom even notice or take for granted: birds/buds/...spouses... (lol)

Lent is now over and Easter has arrived.

The Reading from Isaiah is one you may well recognize. It's used often at funerals in my experience. One might think it odd that we would read a “funeral reading” at Easter. It seems at first blush counter intuitive.

It is great for funerals to hear Isaiah's vision where, “the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.” It's a great vision, to be sure! Continuing on, Isaiah says, “the Lord God will wipe away the tears

from all faces. He will swallow up death, forever.” Even and especially for those who mourn (Again, a great funeral reading is it not?!)

As I considered these thoughts in preparation for today I realized that that’s backward thinking is it not; to think that we’d be reading a funeral reading for Easter?

Christian funerals are in fact ‘Celebrations of the Resurrection’. At funerals we celebrate the resurrection of Christ – that is, Easter – and in doing so we commemorate the lives of our loved ones and neighbours. At funerals then we are having family reunion with the risen Christ as our host – sharing tears, sharing stories, getting perhaps angry, perhaps even laughing. Yet in the end we are celebrating a new beginning in how we will live a new life in the absence of one we knew and I hope, confident in the reality of new life in Christ.

A pros pos then that at Easter we are celebrating the resurrection with the resurrected Christ as our host. We have laid to rest our “old-self” having worked through our Lenten disciplines (our “old-self’s” dying) only today to be with Christ reborn. The annual do-over that is all Christ’s doing for us as a gift!

It is as New people that we are gathered here despite our ongoing fears. We gather defiant of the world’s NO and so stand with Christ and God’s YES! Yes to Jesus. Yes to Jesus’ life and ministry. Yes to our new life (Baptism) and ministry(service): Love your God with all your heart soul mind and strength, and your neighbour as yourself. (Here we can properly apply the Covid-19 rules!!

We demonstrate our love of neighbour by:

- distancing,
- frequent hand washing,
- wearing a mask, and
- limiting our travel....

and all the while we still live abundant lives, resurrected lives.

Different than the old normal to be sure, but we are living new lives today!

So sing songs of joy! (even if only in your head!)

Give words of encouragement! (even if muffled by a mask)

Journey along side one another especially during our “times of trial” (albeit at a good 2 meters apart)!

Christ is alive. Christ is in you!

Live into this reality, this free gift – new and reborn!

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!!!

Hymn of the Day #367 *“Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds”*

Nicene Creed *Page 104*

Prayers of Intercession

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

A brief silence.

Praise to you for your power revealed in the resurrection! Fill your church with the power of your love that is stronger than death. Send us to tell the good news wherever death holds sway. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Praise to you for your life at work in the resurrection! Fill all of creation with your life. Bring it to blossom and flourish; use it to remind us of your persistent grace. Cultivate our care for what you have made. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Praise to you for the peace made possible in the resurrection! Fill the nations with your peace. Draw together people of all nations and languages; reveal new possibilities and inspire new beginnings. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Praise to you for the hope of the resurrection! Fill all in need with hope: those who are afraid or confused, those who are sick or suffering, those who are dying, and those who grieve; *especially*, Florence, Jason, Richard, Heather, Sheila, Albert, Addrienne, Robert, Dorian. Assure them of your promises. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Praise to you for the joy of your resurrection! Fill this assembly with joy as we are called your beloved in baptism. We remember especially young *Jay Deloughery* son of *Erica and Colin* baptized yesterday morning. Multiply

that joy so that we share it at home, at work, and in our community. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Offering

Offering music (*Variation on "Earth and All Stars" aka, Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen, ELW 377*)

Offering Prayer

A Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

MEAL

The Great Thanksgiving *Page 152 Prayer at the Table I with spoken responses: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again., and Amen. (See also pg. 108)*

Lord's Prayer

Communion (*The assembly may be seated. The bread may be broken for the communion.*)

Lamb of God *Page 154*

Communion Hymns **#364** - *"Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia" Mfurahini, haleluyu*

#366 - *"The Strife is O'er, the Battle Done"*

Prayer after Communion

A Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.
Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

Sending Song #376 - "Thine Is the Glory"

Dismissal

A Go in peace. Christ is risen!

C Christ is risen indeed!

A Alleluia!

C Alleluia!!

Postlude

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+ HAPPY EASTER +

News and Announcements

Please Pray for Those Who are Ill, in Hospital, or Requested Special Prayers: Florence Felske, Jason Godin, Richard Hubert, Heather Miller, Sheila Purdy, Albert Reiche, Addrienne Schroeder, Robert Schoof, Dorian Verch.

Please Pray For The Newly Baptized; especially, this day we pray for little Jay Deloughery, his parents, Erica (Rutz) & Colin Deloughery, and his

sponsor Owen LaRocque, that they may all grow in God's love and commitment.

EASTER LILIES

Due to a covid shut down in a warehouse where the Easter lilies are ordered from, we were unable to get Easter lilies this year. We did; however, get some hydrangeas and a couple potted various plants.

ZION LUTHERAN WOMEN – THIS MEETING HAS BEEN CANCELLED DUE TO COVID...NEXT ZLW MEETING IS WEDNESDAY, MAY 12 AT 2 P.M.

Our ZLW meet this Wednesday, April 7th at 2pm. Please join them for a program presented by Mona Zadow entitled "Living for Resurrection."

SERVICE BROADCAST ON COGECO

Cogeco Community Channel is now broadcasting Zion's services at 9:00 a.m. and 12 noon on Sunday mornings a week later.

COVID VACCINE

Have you made your appointment to have your covid vaccine? If not we are willing to help. Just call Susan Dupuis. 343-369-2057.... Jan Scheidt 519-752-9826...Ellen Vandersleen... 613-732-7649, and we will help

CONFIRMATION CLASS

Confirmation classes have resumed in the fellowship hall after Sunday Worship. The next class will be Sunday, April 11th at 11:30am.

UPDATES FROM CHURCH COUNCIL

Please remember that Pastor Leena is available to all for pastoral care during the next few months. This support may look different than we are accustomed to as she will be following all of the covid restrictions. She can be contacted at 613-631-1082

HELP FOR ONE OF ZION'S FAMILIES

It is with a caring and prayerful heart that the Social Ministry Committee is appealing to Zion's church family and friends to assist one of our young families.

Jason and Karen Godin, with their children Haley and Lucas are active members here at Zion. Jason is the son-in-law of Cheryl Sack and brother-in-law of Blaine Sack. Jason works as a Commissionaire Barrack Warden at Garrison Petawawa as well as a volunteer firefighter for Petawawa.

Jason recently received a Glioblastoma brain cancer diagnosis - the same type of cancer that Gord Downie battled. Jason will be needing radiation and chemotherapy treatment for this aggressive, incurable type of cancer. With the long road ahead; they could use some assistance as Jason's work benefits will not be enough to cover the many expenses that will be incurred in the foreseeable future. Therefore, we are asking for your help to soften the financial stress. Let us show them our love and support.

You can help with your contribution of cash, cheque or e- transfer.

- Make the cheque payable to Zion Lutheran Church, noting 'Karen and Jason Godin' on the envelope or the memo line. You can drop off the cheque at the church office or mail it to:

Zion Lutheran Church,
454 Miller Street,
Pembroke, ON K8A 5Z4.

**Please note that we will not be able to issue donation receipts for this appeal due to what the CRA refers to as "private benevolence". The CRA does not permit a charitable donation receipt under these circumstances.

- Use your online banking to send an e-transfer to:
["zionoffice@nrtco.net"](mailto:zionoffice@nrtco.net). Passwords are not required as auto deposit is set up. Please indicate that it is for Karen and Jason in the message box.

We pray for God's healing touch.

Thank You and blessings to each of you for your generosity!

SPECIAL EASTER DONATIONS

Easter Flowers Were Donated By

+ Debbie Sitkiewicz in loving memory of her dear parents, Ken & Vera Schizkoske – in thankfulness to God for having such wonderful parents

- + Peter & Patricia Wegner in thankfulness for God's many blessings
- + Pastor Stephen & Jan Scheidt in honor of their fathers George Scheidt and Jack House
- + Edie Brumm in thankfulness to God for Blaine & his small, but absolutely wonderful and powerful (choir!). She appreciates you all so much. Fantastic. And also to the **Building Fund** in thankfulness for all the volunteers who work so hard to keep the services organized and going, both so we can go to church, or see it on tv. She has seen the time and organizing it takes to do this every week. Thank you so much! And a big hug and thank you for a wonderful daughter, Susie, who takes her to church, doctors appointments, shopping, etc. She loves you!
- + Edgar & Aileen Roesler in loving memory of Aileen's sister & stepfather, Norma Resmer and Art Wendt
- + Debbie Wegner & Richard Faught in thankfulness to God for each member of the Call Committee and their great work. Together they were able to do God's work and everything fell into place, as they believe it was meant to
- + Viola Hill & Mark Hill in memory of loved ones

Donations Have Been Made Towards Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) By

- + Mervin & Martha McKibbon in fond memory of their parents William & Lydia Stalkie, Beatrice McKibbon and sister Vera Hoffman

Donations Have Been Made Towards The Good Shepherding Fund By

- + Angela Lubitz in honor of loved ones

Donations Have Been Made Towards The General Fund By

- + Sandra & Murray Sell in thankfulness to God for the many blessings that they and their family have enjoyed in spite of Covid 19

Donations Have Been Made Towards The Building Fund By

- + Ruth Thom in loving memory of her husband Roy and son Rick
- + Edward & Robbie Gorr in loving memory of a dear wife and mother Ellen Gorr, who passed away April 1, 2020 – *towards the repair of the steps*
- + Vera Krueger in loving memory of loved ones who have passed away
- + Marlyn Grodde in appreciation of a wonderful congregation whose members throughout a very difficult time continued to carry out the work of the church and God's Kingdom with commitment and grace

Donations Have Been Made Towards the Altar Care Fund By

- + Ruth Crigger in memory of loved ones

“Be joyful in the Lord all you lands serve the Lord with gladness and come before His presence with a song..” Psalm 100:1

Today's Video Has Been Brought To You By Zion Lutheran Church's Production Crew:

Presider: Pastor Michael Hackbusch

Musician: Blaine Sack

Worship Assistant/Reader – 8am -Debbie Wegner - **10:30am** – Brenda Dole

Projectionist: 8am -EllenVandersleen - **10:30am** – Diane Hammel

Recorder:10:30am – Ty Phannenhour

Sound Board Operator:8am -GerryVandersleen - **10:30am** – Murray Sell

Credit Researcher: Diane Hammel

Today's Worship Volunteers

Greeter: 8am - DebbieSitkiewicz - **10:30am** – Debbie Wegner

Sexton: 8am -KoitRull - **10:30am** – Don Boldt

Ushers: 8am -PhilipVandersleen, Heather Vandersleen - **10:30am** – Vince & Emma Rabishaw

