

## **Worship Plan for Sunday, April 11, 2021**

Second Sunday Easter

Zion Lutheran Church



### **GATHERING**

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed, alleluia!**

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed, alleluia!**

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed, alleluia!**

### **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**+Welcome! On behalf of Zion, a special welcome to those who are newer to our community. Your presence enriches this community in so many ways. If you would like to get more deeply connected, please send us a note!**

**+For this morning's worship, you need bread & wine, a small bowl of water, and a candle. During the prayers of the people, you will be invited to put your prayer requests in the chat box.**

**+This morning, we hear John's story of Jesus' post-resurrection appearance to the disciples, then to Thomas specifically. It's an incredible thing that Jesus came a second time specifically for Thomas. What does it mean that Jesus knows what we need and comes to us differently?**

### **MOMENT OF SILENCE AND CENTERING**

*You are invited to center yourself in this worship through a moment of prayer.*

- *Breath prayer – breathe deeply, recognizing God's own breath in your breath, God's presence within and beside you*

*Or*

- *Word Prayer – you are invited to silently repeat Jesus' words to his disciples, "Peace be with you"*

## THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

*For the Thanksgiving for Baptism, you will need a small bowl of water.*

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

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

P Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,  
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

*Please pour water into your bowl...*

P We thank you, risen Christ,  
for these waters where you make us new,  
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us  
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,  
like rains to our thirsting earth,  
like streams that revive our souls,  
like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.  
Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.  
Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

Make us one, risen Christ.  
Cleanse our hearts.  
Shower us with life.

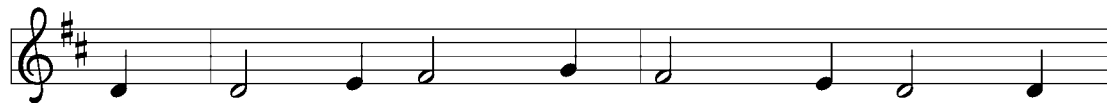
To you be given all praise,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God,  
now and forever.

*You are invited to dip your fingers into the bowl of water and make the sign of the cross on your forehead...*

C **Amen**

## GATHERING SONG

### That Easter Day



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!

## 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.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

## WORD

### FIRST READING:

The first reading is from Acts 4:32-35

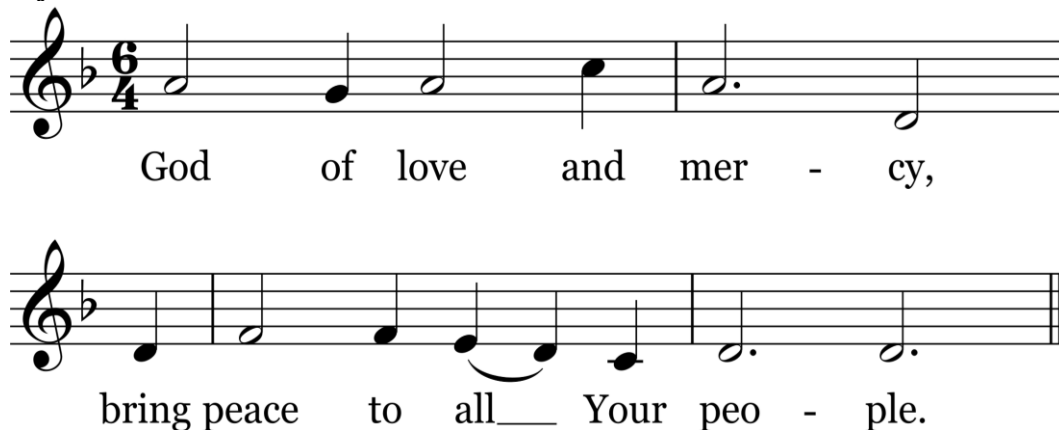
A <sup>32</sup>Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. <sup>33</sup>With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup>There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. <sup>35</sup>They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM: 133

#### *Refrain*



### SECOND READING:

*The second reading is from 1 John 1:1--2:2*

<sup>1</sup>We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—<sup>2</sup>this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—<sup>3</sup>we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

<sup>5</sup>This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup>If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; <sup>7</sup>but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup>If we say that we have no sin, we deceive

ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup>If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup>If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

<sup>2:1</sup>My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; <sup>2</sup>and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Word of God, word of life.

**C     Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Alleluia, Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia*

## **GOSPEL**

### **JOHN 20:19-31**

**P     The Holy Gospel according to John.     C     Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>19</sup>When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked 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."

<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 mark of the nails and my hand 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, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup>But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

**P     The Gospel of the Lord.**

**C     Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

## SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

## HYMN OF THE DAY

### 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 - joice, 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.

## THE CREED

*Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed, hearing again the love story of God.*

**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 INTERCESSION**

- P** On this second Sunday of Easter, let us pray for all in any need, responding to each petition with the words “Send us your peace, O God.” You are invited to write your prayer requests in the chat box - both joys and thanksgiving, as well as needs and sorrows.
- A** O faithful God, grant the joy of your peace to all who lead us, including the Zion staff and Advisory Board. Guide the work of the Strategic Planning Team, the HIM Food Pantry, and the Zion Preschool, and open our hearts and ears to your dreams for Zion. Hear our prayers for the church:
- C** **Send us your peace, O God.**
- A** Grant the power of your peace to the nations of the world. Halt all impulses toward violence between nations, in our Houston streets, and inside our homes. Lead our government into wise decisions concerning migrants, especially children. Hear our prayers for this country:
- C** **Send us your peace, O God.**

A Grant the abundance of your peace to all agencies of care in church and government. Bless the work of Houston Lutheran Campus Ministry and all of our synod's campus ministries. Hear our prayers for our community:

C **Send us your peace, O God.**

A Grant the well-being of your peace to all who suffer. Visit all who are ill, especially those suffering from Covid-19, those without access to the vaccines, and those with strained medical resources. Comfort with your merciful presence those who are distanced from family and friends and all who are lonely or distressed. Receive our prayers especially Doris, Betty, Kathy, Harold, Joshua, Kristen, Ron, Rhonda, Alex, Max, family of Helmuth. Hear our prayers for the sick:

C **Send us your peace, O God.**

A Grant each of us the hope that comes with your peace. Comfort each of us in sorrow, and receive now our requests (pause for prayer requests from chat box). Hear us as we pray for ourselves:

C **Send us your peace, O God.**

P In thanksgiving for the new life of the resurrection, we raise these prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen**

## **OFFERING**

Zion is receiving offerings by the Tithely app or by mail.

## **SECOND SUNDAY INTERVIEW**

*Pastor Morgan Gates, Houston Lutheran Campus Ministry*

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

A Let us pray together. God of love,

C **you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table. Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

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.

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

P     Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray, as Jesus taught us:

**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.**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P     The risen Christ invites us to this table.  
Come, eat and be satisfied.

### **TABLE BLESSING**

P     Now that you have tasted the goodness of God in bread and wine, let us be the  
body of Christ, blessed and broken for the whole world.

**C     Amen.**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

A     Let us pray. Wellspring of joy,  
through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts.  
Satisfy the hunger still around us,  
and send us as joyful witnesses,  
that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C     Amen.**

# BLESSING & GRATITUDE FOR ZOOM & HOME WORSHIP SPACE

Congregational Announcement

Invited Reflections through Chat Box

*Blessing of Home Liturgical Space*

*Extinguishing of Candle*

## SENDING

### SONG

Thine is the Glory



- 1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the
- 2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he
- 3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-



vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment  
greet thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness  
out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,



rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave-clothes  
hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;  
through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

#### Refrain



where thy bod - y lay.  
death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring  
to thy home a - bove.



Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **BLESSING**

- P May our glorious God grant us a spirit of wisdom  
to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.  
The God of life,  
Father, + Son and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

## **DISMISSAL & PEACE**

- A Alleluia. Christ is Risen.
- C **Christ is Risen indeed. Alleluia.**
- A Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!
- C **Thanks be to God. (*AND WE WILL!*) Alleluia!**
- A Please share the peace with one another.