

**Zion Lutheran Church
Glen Rock, PA
Third Sunday of Easter
LBW Setting Two
Sunday, April 26, 2020**

Introduction to the day

Today's gospel begins with two disciples walking to Emmaus, overcome with sadness, loss, and disappointment. They had hoped Jesus, who was crucified, would be the one to redeem Israel! Yet the risen Christ walks with them and then opens their eyes in the breaking of the bread. Each Sunday our hearts burn within us as the scriptures are proclaimed and Christ appears to us as bread is broken and wine is poured. The story of Emmaus becomes the pattern of our worship each Lord's day.

***BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (LBW p. 77)**

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are in bondage 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

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, 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**

***PRAYER OF THE DAY (LBW p. 82)**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world, rescuing us from the hopelessness of death. Grant your faithful people a share in the joys that are eternal; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

FIRST LESSON: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Today's reading is the conclusion of Peter's sermon preached following the giving of the Holy Spirit to the apostles on the day of Pentecost. The center of his preaching is the bold declaration that God has made the crucified Jesus both Lord and Christ.

^{14a}Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd],

³⁶“Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

³⁷Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” ³⁸Peter said to them, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” ⁴⁰And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” ⁴¹So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 116:1-3, 10-17

¹I love the LORD, because he has heard the voice of my supplication,
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.

²**The cords of death entangled me; the grip of the grave took hold of me;**

I came to grief and sorrow.

³Then I called upon the name of the LORD:
“O LORD, I pray you, save my life.”

¹⁰**How shall I repay the LORD
for all the good things he has done for me?**

¹¹I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call upon the name of the LORD.

¹²**I will fulfill my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all his people.**

¹³Precious in the sight of the LORD
is the death of his servants.

¹⁴**O LORD, I am your servant;**

**I am your servant and the child of your handmaid; you have freed me
from my bonds.**

¹⁵I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call upon the name of the LORD.

¹⁶**I will fulfill my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all his people,**

¹⁷in the courts of the LORD’s house,
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!

SECOND LESSON: 1 Peter 1:17-23

The imagery of exile is used to help the readers of this letter understand that they are strangers in a strange land. Christians no longer belong to this age. Through the death of Christ we belong to God, so that our focus, faith, and hope are no longer on such things as silver or gold.

¹⁷If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

²²Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart.
²³You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Luke 24:13-35

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The colorful story of Jesus' appearance to two disciples on the road to Emmaus answers the question of how Jesus is to be recognized among us. Here, he is revealed through the scriptures and in the breaking of bread.

¹³Now on that same day [when Jesus had appeared to Mary Magdalene,] two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" ¹⁹He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²²Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." ²⁵Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" ²⁷Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us,

because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” ³³That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

***APOSTLES CREED (LBW p. 84)**

With the whole church, we confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.*

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again 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**

***THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (LBW p. 85)**

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

For those whose hearts are fervent with love for your gospel, that they are empowered to tell the story of your love in their lives and to show hospitality in response to this love. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For the diverse natural world: for jungles, prairies, forests, valleys, mountains, and for all the wild and endangered animals who call these spaces home, that they are nurtured and protected. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For broken systems we have inherited and that we continue to perpetuate, forgive us. Restrain the nations from fighting over limited resources. Redeem us from the cycles of scarcity and violence. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For all who call upon your healing name, give rest. Stay with us, and walk with all those who are hungry, friendless, despairing, and desiring healing in body and spirit (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For the faith forming ministries of this church. For those preparing for baptism, first communion, confirmation, and membership. For those who participate in Sunday school and adult education; guide and inspire learners of every age and ability. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Create in our hearts a yearning to rest in your promise of eternal and resurrected life. Give us thankful hearts for those who have died, even as we look forward to the hope of new life with you. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

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

Amen.

***PEACE (LBW p. 86)**

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

***LORD'S PRAYER (LBW p. 91)**

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

**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.**

***BLESSING (LBW p. 94)**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and [†] give you peace.

Amen

***DISMISSAL (LBW p. 94)**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SCRIPTURE TEXT FOR SUNDAY 5/3/20

Acts 2:42-47, Psalm 23, 1 Peter 2:19-25, John 10:1-10

PRAYER REQUESTS

Mary Bailey, Lee Cook, Brian Dell, Betty Gaither,
Shannon Hildebrand, Don Miller, Jim Ream, Kenny Rohrbaugh,
Susette Stallard, Karen Stine, Earl Williams, Sally Zimmerer

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Barry Ream, brother to Jim Ream and uncle to Bill Ream, passed away on Sunday, April 19th.

Karen Landis, sister of Pam Spangler, passed away on Monday, April 20th. Please keep both of these families in your thoughts and prayers.

The office was recently notified that Sally Zimmerer, a longtime, active member of Zion before moving to Idaho, has been diagnosed with Stage IV Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. When presented with treatment options, Sally chose not to seek treatment. Two of Sally's children, Molly, and Joel, are currently staying with Sally. Hospice is providing comfort care to Sally at her home. The family is requesting no phone calls, but cards and letters are appreciated. Sally Zimmerer, 939 Grelle Ave, Lewiston, ID 83501.

The Well, an outreach ministry of Immanuel UMC, Glen Rock, continues to offer "Grab & Go" meals, Monday – Friday from 11:30am-1:00pm for anyone in the local community. Due to the increase in the amount of meals they are preparing daily, volunteers from the ministry reached out to local churches and businesses to seek help with their efforts to continue to provide these daily meals. Zion's council recently voted to donate \$1,000.00 to The Well to support this ministry. (The money donated by Zion was taken from an already existing dedicated fund set up for Community Outreach, not money given to support the yearly budget.) If you or someone you know could benefit from a "Grab & Go" meal, please do not hesitate to go to The Well at 32 Hanover St., Glen Rock.

Remote worship options are available in this time of physical separation from each other.

If you have an internet connection, click or copy the link provided below. Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/7527077666>
Meeting ID: 752 707 7666

The start time for the live streaming service on Sunday, 4/26, is 10am.

If you do NOT have internet connection, use the phone number provided below to join. The new toll-free number for worship service on Sundays at 10 am is: (862) 799-9807

Recorded services are also available on Zion Lutheran Church's Facebook page.

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, York broadcasts their 11:00am Sunday service on FM 98.9 radio station. Some familiar names to many at Zion, Rev. Kevin Shively and Rev. Keith Fair, both serve at St. Matthew's.

Many of you are mailing or dropping off your regular church offering, and for that we are very thankful. Although the church building is closed to the public, Zion continues to have day to day expenses for providing ministry, and

your contributions are used to make sure ministry continues at Zion. The church's mailing address is 47 Hanover St., Glen Rock, PA 17327.

To make remote giving even easier, Zion has recently set up E-giving. On Zion's home page of the website, there is an "Online Giving" button. You can make a one-time donation or set up reoccurring donations. You will also have the option to offset the processing fees. (If you choose to cover the fees of your transaction, your yearly contribution statement will reflect the fees paid, in addition to your contributions.) "Give Plus" mobile app by Vanco is also available for download to access online giving. At this time, online giving is only set up for regular contributions. In the future, you will be able to make online contributions for flowers, World Hunger, Memorial Gifts, and almost all other dedicated accounts.

If you desire pastoral care or conversation, please contact Pastor Katie Brantner at 717-420-0779.

Have ideas for Zion's worship service? Concerned about something that needs to be fixed? Got questions about Zion's day to day operations? We are here for you! Please reach out to Bill, Donna or Joy anytime with your ideas, concerns and questions. They will listen and work toward continuous improvement. Small changes make big impacts and your ideas are valuable.

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COUNCIL MEMBERS

Joy Keller-Brown, Donna Price, Bill Ream, Tom Bailey, Susan Hengst, George Brown, Carrie Miller, Edgar Davis and Gevene Harden

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