

**Zion Lutheran Church
Glen Rock, PA
Fourth Sunday of Easter
LBW Setting Two
Sunday, May 3, 2020**

Introduction to the day

Today is sometimes called “Good Shepherd Sunday.” Jesus is called the “gate” of the sheep in today’s gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world’s violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God’s tender care to all creation.

***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.

God of all power, **you called from death our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep. Send us as shepherds to rescue the lost, to heal the injured, and to feed one another with knowledge and understanding; 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 2:42-47

Today's reading is a description of life in the community following Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost, when the Spirit was poured out on God's people. The new community is sustained in worship and fellowship, shares what they have, and ensures that everyone has enough.

⁴²[The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

⁴³Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. ⁴⁴All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved. The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 23

¹The LORD is my shepherd;

I shall not be in want.

²**He makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

³He revives my soul

and guides me along right pathways for his name's sake.

⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear
no evil;**

for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

⁵You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

SECOND LESSON: 1 Peter 2:19-25

Doing the right things does not guarantee that one will not experience difficulties, hardships, rejection, or even suffering. Here Christ is presented as the model for our path of endurance and loyalty to God, particularly amid adversity.

¹⁹It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

²²"He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth."

²³When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: John 10:1-10

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 10th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus uses an image familiar to the people of his day to make a point about spiritual leadership. Those who listen to Jesus are led to abundant life.

[Jesus said:] ¹"Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not

understand what he was saying to them.

⁷So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

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.

Shepherding God, we thank you for the educational ministries of your church. Enrich the work of teachers, professors, mentors, advisors, and faculty at colleges, seminaries, and learning sites. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Creating God, we praise you for those who maintain and operate farm equipment, for those who plant and harvest crops, for local farmers' markets, and for those involved in agriculture of any kind. Strengthen their hands as they feed the world. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Guiding God, no one should be in want. Bid the nations to return to your paths of righteousness and inspire our leaders to walk in your ways, so that all may have the opportunity to live abundantly and sustainably. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Comforting God, you carry us tenderly. We pray for those who walk through dark valleys overshadowed by anxiety and overwhelmed with suffering (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Nurturing God, you desire justice for the hungry. Bless advocacy work, food pantries, and feeding ministries in our congregations. May none of our neighbors lack for basic needs. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Everlasting God, your beloved have heard your voice; you have called them by name and guided them to your side in death. We thank you for their lives of faithful witness. 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 5/10/20

Acts 7:55-60, Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16, 1 Peter 2:2-10, John 14:1-14

PRAYER REQUESTS

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Throughout the month of March, Zion collected funds to help three Glen Rock families. The total collected was \$1,305.00. Thank you to everyone who supported these families.

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, 5/3, 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.

Zion 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. If you choose to pay with a credit/debit card, the fee is 2.35% + \$0.35 per transaction. If you choose to pay with a checking account, the processing fee is only .80% + \$0.35 per transaction.

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.

Joy Keller-Brown, Council President
joykb@keller-brown.com
717-235-7044

Donna Price, Council Vice President
momcat05@gmail.com
717-235-5465

Bill Ream, Council Member
wreamjr@aol.com
717-871-4821

COUNCIL MEMBERS

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

FINANCIAL Information for YOU

Monthly Contributions and Expenses

2020 Weekly contribution goal to cover budget expenses: \$2,464.00

March Regular Contributions \$ 7,460.00
Other Contributions/Gifts +\$ 378.77
-\$ 1,636.77 *Dedicated Dollars*
\$ 6,202.00 Contributions to cover Expenses

March's Expenses: \$ 7,413.83

April's Regular Contributions \$ 8,262.15
Other Contributions/Gifts +\$ 120.00
-\$ 517.15 *Dedicated Dollars*
\$ 7,865.00 Contributions to cover Expenses

April's Expenses: \$ 5,684.38

Cumulative Contributions and Expenses for 2020

Regular Contributions \$ 31,849.89
Other Contributions/Gifts +\$ 5,925.38
Dedicated Dollars - \$ 7,204.70
Contributions to cover Expenses \$ 30,570.57
Expenses to date: \$ 44,998.87

Zion Lutheran Church

47 Hanover Street

Glen Rock, PA 17327

Office Phone: 717-235-3276

Website: www.zionglenrock.org

Email: office@zionglenrock.org