

Zion Lutheran Church
925 5th Avenue - Rockford, Illinois

April 21, 2024 at 9:15am

www.facebook.com/zionlutheranrockford



GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

PRELUDE “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us” arr. By Mark Hayes

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

Amen.

Look, here is water! **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden’s verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom’s land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water! **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus’ death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Look, here is water! **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**



1 Sav - ior like a shep-herd lead us; much we need your ten - der care.
 2 We are yours; in love be - friend us, be the guard-ian of our way;
 3 You have prom-ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;
 4 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor, ear - ly let us do your will;



In your pleas-ant pas-tures feed us, for our use your fold pre-pare.
 keep your flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.
 you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
 bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.



Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.



Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.

BLESSING

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.

We gather today and remember that Jesus is the Good Shepherd.

Jesus is the shepherd and we are the lost sheep.

This new life comes to us even when we don't open the door.

Jesus guards and protects the sheep.

Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed.

- 1 Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
- 2 Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
- 3 Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

SONG OF PRAISE

"You Are Holy"

Red Hymnal #525

1*



Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer
You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more



än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.
than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.



Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,
Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here



väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.

2



Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,
You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,



du är när - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!
you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!



Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,
Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!



ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.
Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

FIRST READING Acts 4:5-12

⁵The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?” ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. ¹¹This Jesus is ‘the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.’ ¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23

(Congregation reads the bold)

¹The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

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

³You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your 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 prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

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

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:16-24

¹⁶We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? ¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him. ²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION “Ancient Words”

Holy words, long preserved, for our walk in this world,
they resound with God's own heart, oh let the ancient words impart.

Chorus: Ancient words, ever true; changing me and changing you,
we have come with open hearts, oh let the ancient words impart.

Words of life, words of hope, give us strength, help us cope,
In this world where e're we roam,
ancient words will guide us home. (Chorus)

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 10th Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: John 10:11-18

[Jesus said:] ¹¹“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

The gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

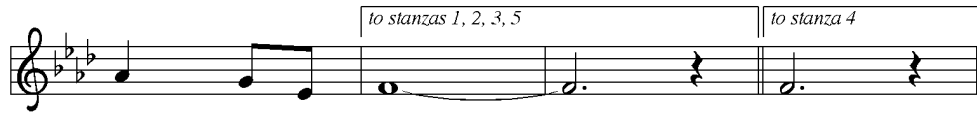
Pastor Michael Thomas

Refrain

All



Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be - yond my fears, from



death in - to life. life.

Leader or All



1 God is my shep-herd, so noth - ing shall I want, I
 2 Gent - ly you raise me and heal my wea - ry soul, you
 3 Though I should wan - der the val - ley of death, I



rest in the mead - ows of faith - ful - ness and love, I
 lead me by path - ways of righ - teous - ness and truth, my
 fear no e - vil, for you are at my side, your



walk by the qui - et wa - ters of peace.
 spir - it shall sing the mu - sic of your name.
 rod and your staff, my com - fort and my hope.

Refrain



4 You have set me a ban - quet of love in the face of



ha - tred, crown - ing me with love be - yond my pow'r to hold.

Refrain



5 Sure - ly your kind - ness and mer - cy fol - low me all the days of my life;



I will dwell in the house of my God for - ev - er - more.

Final refrain

All



Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -



yond my fears, from death in - to life.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs. Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

MUSIC & OFFERING

Offering envelopes are available in the pews at your seat to designate gifts toward the ministries of Zion. The Offering Box is near the back, pulpit side and you can also go online at www.zionrockford.com, or you can click on the QR code.

The Prayer Table is available for you to write a prayer request and place on the cross on the table. Prayer requests will be shared with a group of people who pray at Zion. You may take a prayer shawl from the worship space if you would like.



BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope ✝ bless you now and always.

Amen.

THE SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

SENDING SONG “He Leadeth Me”

(from LBW #501)



- 1 He lead - eth me: oh, bless-ed thought! Oh, words with heav'n-ly com-fort fraught!
- 2 Some-times mid scenes of deep-est gloom, some-times where E - den's bow-ers bloom,
- 3 Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine, nor ev - er mur - mur nor re - pine;
- 4 And when my task on earth is done, when by thy grace the vic-t'ry's won,



What-e'er I do, wher-e'er I be, still 'tis God's hand that lead - eth me.
by wa - ters calm, o'er trou-bled sea, still 'tis God's hand that lead - eth me.
con - tent, what-ev - er lot I see, since 'tis my God that lead - eth me.
e'en death's cold wave I will not flee, since God through Jor - dan lead - eth me.



He lead-eth me, he lead-eth me, by his own hand he lead-eth me.



His faith-ful fol-l'wer I would be, for by his hand he lead - eth me.

SENDING

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“He Leadeth Me”

SUNDAY WORSHIP LEADERS

Communion Assistant:

Sound: Deangelo Brunson
Media: Cameron Kellermann
Music: Jodi Beach
Usher: Charles Dahlberg & Kamyra Brunson
Reader: Brad Roos
Fellowship:
Worship Host:

BAGGING FOR CORNUCOPIA - We need of plastic shopping bags for the Pantry. Please drop off at the office and join us on the fourth Monday, at 1:00 PM, in the Youth Center for lots of fun while we fluff, & bag (Coffee & treats too) for Cornucopia Pantry! Thanks, Karen Kermgard.

WORSHIP LEADERS - Would you like to be a Communion Assistant, Reader, Sound, Usher, Greeter or Worship Host? You could have the assignment on the first, second, third or fourth Sunday of each month at the 9:15am worship service. Please let the church office know if you are available, interested or have a question.

WOMEN OF ZION - Join Women of Zion on May 16th Thursday for our annual salad luncheon. Mark your calendar for May 18th Thursday 1:00 Bunco. We have many fun Spring/Summer activities planned for the ladies of our church. Continue to look for more information in The Grapevine and weekly bulletins. WOZ Board: Karen Kermgard, Maggi Hallin, Kathy Rasch, Linda Reinhardt and Sue Drilling

WOZ & Food Pantry! Cornucopia Food is in need of **Bars of Soap, Tooth Paste, and Tooth Brushes** for the month of April to give out at the Food Bank. A grocery cart will be in the back of the worship space for donations or you can leave them in the church office.

OUR WORSHIP SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE

<https://www.facebook.com/zionlutheranrockford>

www.youtube.com/zionrockford

Please subscribe to the Zion YouTube channel

<https://twitter.com/ZionRockford>

facebook

YouTube

follow us on
twitter

PROGRAMS AND MINISTRIES THIS WEEK

Sunday	9:15am	Worship — Good Shepherd Sunday
	10:30am	Around the Tables—Fellowship Hall (Atlanta, GA)
Monday	8:00am	Miss Carly's Sandwich Making—Kitchen
	1:00pm	Bag Fluffing—Youth Center
Tuesday	8:30am	Zion Staff Meeting
	5:00pm	Human Resources—Library
	6:00pm	Church Council—Youth Center
Wednesday	8:00am	Bible Study—Stockholm Inn
	8:00am	Miss Carly's Sandwich Making—Kitchen
	12:00pm	Miss Carly's Board Meeting—Youth Center
	5:00pm	WOW—Fellowship Hall
Friday	9:00am	Private Music Lesson—Youth Center
Saturday	9:00am	Church Clean up Day
	1:00pm	Ruthie's Kitchen & Ruthie's Closet
Sunday	9:15am	Worship



GOLF OUTING

Wednesday, May 22

7:30 am Registration
8:00am am Shotgun Start



Timber Pointe Golf Club
5750 Woodstock Road, Poplar Grove, 20 minutes east of Rockford

\$100 per golfer

Includes cart, fees, golf balls, tees, lunch & gift bag
Performance prizes awarded

Funds Benefit Katie's Cup



Midtown Community Health Team

MIDTOWN FUN & HEALTH FAIR



Saturday
June 8, 2024
from 11am-2pm

Patriots Gateway Community Center
615 S. Fifth Street – Rockford, IL



CINCO DE MAYO NIGHT

Sunday, May 5, 2024 from 4-7pm

Food, drink, music, dance, cultural learning & advocacy

DONATION: \$5
BENEFITS LULAC,
A NON-PROFIT THAT SERVES
THE HISPANIC COMMUNITY



PARTICIPANTS
Trinadora & Other
Musicians &
Dance Groups

Sponsored by Katie's Cup
Located at
502 Seventh Street
Rockford, IL 61104



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* Pattern of Worship—resource from ELW pages 91-93

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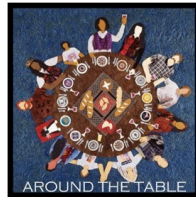


PRAYER CORNER!

WE ASK YOU TO PRAY FOR:

- ◇ The ELCA, Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Bishop Stacie Fidler, Pastor Thomas, Pastoral Intern Rachel Perkins, Pastor Emeritus Denver Bitner, the Zion Church Council, Pastor Caleb Uk of the Burmese congregation; the Zion Staff, Zion Outreach Board, Staff and Programs of Patriots Gateway Center, Katie's Cup and Zion Development Corporation.
- ◇ Pastor Cosmas Mujungu of Sepuka Parish
- ◇ Pastor Selvakumar and Arcot Lutheran Church in India and Sepuka/Msisi Church in Tanzania.
- ◇ For the Northern Illinois Synod; North Conference churches; Midtown Lutheran Parish, faculty and students of Rockford Lutheran Schools, Rockford Area Lutheran Ministries.
- ◇ For those who grieve the loss of loved ones: Shirley Simmons, Kevin, Sonja Brace, Joyce Shook, and Amy Cashmore.
- ◇ For healing: Eloise Anderson, Chiquita Bills, Phyllis Brynteson, Colette Buchert, Linda Callahan, Yolanda Churchill, Norma Daugherty, Jim Duhigg, Deanna Hartenberg, Vanda Nielsen, Linda Reinhardt, Wayne Spitzer, and Megan Zaphel.

If you have a prayer request or a prayer of thanksgiving to share, please notify Pastor Mike or Pastoral Intern Rachel. The prayer room is upstairs to the left of the sanctuary and is available during office hours and on Sunday before and after worship services.



Atlanta GA & Civil Rights

April 21, 2024 at 10:15am
Fellowship Hall

**LED BY ZION'S
MULTICULTURAL COMMITTEE**



Sponsored and Held at Zion Lutheran Church - 925 Fifth Avenue - Rockford, IL 61104



Around The Tables

May 19, 2024 at 10:15am
Fellowship Hall

**"WHY DO WE CELEBRATE
PRIDE MONTH"**

**LED BY EDED BROWN
THE LIAM FOUNDATION**



Sponsored and Held at Zion Lutheran Church - 925 Fifth Avenue - Rockford, IL 61104



"SOLAR ENERGY"

**LED BY BRAD ROOS
SUSTAIN ROCKFORD**

June 2, 2024
at 10:15am
Fellowship Hall



Sponsored and Held at Zion Lutheran Church - 925 Fifth Avenue - Rockford, IL 61104



**"Talking Trash
About Recycling"**

*Presented by
Corinne Sosso
Executive Director of
Keep Northern Illinois Beautiful*

June 9, 2024 at 10:15am

Sponsored and Held at Zion Lutheran Church - 925 Fifth Avenue - Rockford, IL 61104