

Zion Lutheran Church
925 5th Avenue - Rockford, Illinois

April 14, 2024 at 9:15am

www.facebook.com/zionlutheranrockford



ELCA

by Hillsong Worship

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

PRELUDE "Awesome In This Place"

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!

GATHERING SONG "Lord, I Lift Your Name on High"

Red Hymnal 857

Lord, I lift Your name on high. Lord, I love to sing Your praises.
I'm so glad You're in my life; I'm so glad You came to save us.

You came from Heaven to earth To show the way.
From the Earth to the cross, My debt to pay.
From the cross to the grave, From the grave to the sky;
Lord, I lift Your name on high.

Lord, I lift Your name on high. Lord, I love to sing Your praises.
I'm so glad You're in my life; I'm so glad You came to save us.

You came from Heaven to earth To show the way.
From the Earth to the cross, My debt to pay.
From the cross to the grave, From the grave to the sky;
Lord, I lift Your name on high.

You came from Heaven to earth To show the way.
From the Earth to the cross, My debt to pay.
From the cross to the grave, From the grave to the sky;
Lord, I lift Your name on high.

You came from Heaven to earth To show the way.
From the Earth to the cross, My debt to pay.
From the cross to the grave, From the grave to the sky;
Lord, I lift Your name on high.

KYRIE

Red Hymnal #151

- 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.

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. Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you 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 3:12-19

¹²[Peter] addressed the people, “You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?¹³ The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. ¹⁷“And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 4

(Congregation reads the bold)

¹Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause;
you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

²**“You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory;
how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?”**

³Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful;
the LORD will hear me when I call.

⁴**Tremble, then, and do not sin;
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.**

⁵Offer the appointed sacrifices,
and put your trust in the LORD.

⁶**Many are saying, “Who will show us any good?”
Let the light of your face shine upon us, O LORD.**

⁷You have put gladness in my heart,
more than when grain and wine abound.

⁸**In peace, I will lie down and sleep;
for you alone, O LORD, make me rest secure.**

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:1-7

¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. ⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION "Behold, What Manner of Love" (from TFF #218)

Behold what manner of love the Father has given unto us
That we should be called the sons of God
That we should be called the sons of God

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 24th Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 24:36b-48

^{36b}Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, "Peace be with you." ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you

see that I have.”⁴⁰ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet.⁴¹ While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?”⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish,⁴³ and he took it and ate in their presence.⁴⁴ Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.”⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures,⁴⁶ and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day,⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.”

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

SERMON Pastoral Intern Rachel Perkins-Gama

SERMON SONG “God Sent His Son (Because He Lives)” (from TFF #93)

1) God sent His Son, they called Him Jesus;

He came to love, heal, and forgive;

He lived and died to buy my pardon;

An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.

(Chorus) Because He lives I can face tomorrow;

Because He lives all fear is gone; Because I know He holds the future,

And life is worth the living just because He Lives.

2) How sweet to hold a newborn baby

And feel the pride and joy He gives; But greater still the calm assurance

This child can face uncertain days because He lives. (Chorus)

3) And then one day I’ll cross the river;

I’ll fight life’s final war with pain.

And then as death gives way to victory,

I’ll see the lights of glory and I’ll know He lives. (Chorus)

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.



TABLE BLESSING

"That We May Be Filled"

(from W&P #134)

Not as we ought but as we are a - ble, we
of - fer our thanks as we come to your ta - ble. Through
Word and Spir - it bless us; through bread and wine re - fresh us that
we may be filled, that we may be filled with love.

THE MEAL*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.***PRAYER**

Let us pray. Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, 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

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Holy Communion will be received up front. Please receive the wafer into your hand and take a cup from the communion assistant.

The inner ring is grape juice and the outer rings are wine.

Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

If you would like the individual prepared disposable communion, they are in a basket in the center of the worship space.

COMMUNION SONGS “Open Our Eyes Lord” (from W&P # 113)

Open our eyes Lord we want to see Jesus.
To reach out and touch Him
And say that we love Him.
Open our ears Lord, help us to listen.
Open our eyes Lord, we want to see Jesus.

“He Is Lord”

(From TFF #95)



1 He is Lord, he is Lord, he is ris-en from the dead and he is Lord;
2 To re-main in con-trol Christ did not con-sid-er some-thing to be held.
3 For our sins Je-sus died, tak-ing on our blame and shame up-on a cross.
4 He is Lord, he is Lord, he is ris-en from the dead and he is Lord;



ev-'ry knee shall bow, ev-'ry tongue con-fess that Je-sus Christ is Lord.
But he took the form of a hu-man child, more ser-vant than a lord.
Then God lift-ed Christ to the high-est place, that we could name our Lord!
ev-'ry knee shall bow, ev-'ry tongue con-fess that Je-sus Christ is Lord.

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

Let us pray: 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 Christ, our risen Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

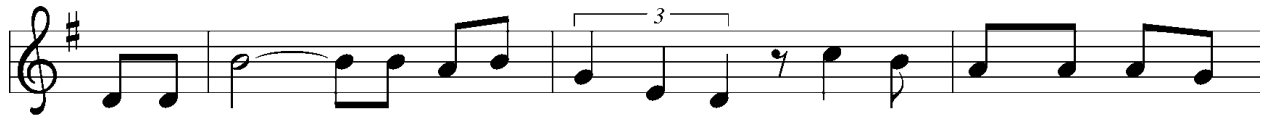
The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope ✝ bless you now and always.

Amen.

THE SENDING

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

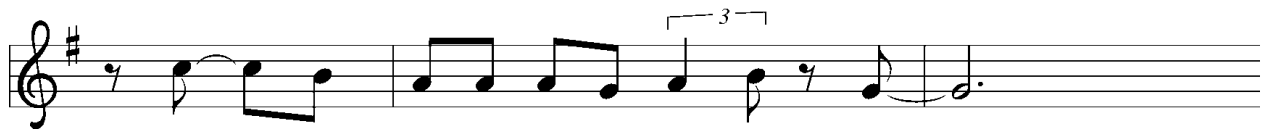
SENDING SONG "We Are Marching In The Light of God" Red Hymnal #866



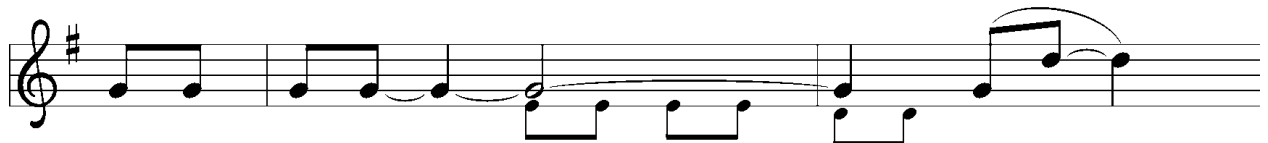
Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -
We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the



nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',
light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.



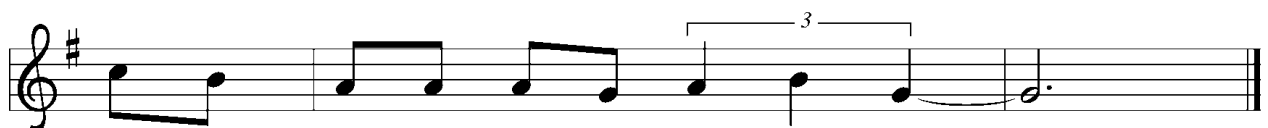
Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) oo
We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) oo



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.



Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) oo
We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) oo



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.

SENDING

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE "We Are Marching In The Light of God"

RETIREMENT PARTY

Mary Wedel
Faith Community Nurse

April 14th at 10:30am

Fellowship Hall
Retirement Celebration



The Women of Zion will be doing the retirement fellowship this Sunday. We will need volunteers to bring treats and help serve. Please let one of the WOZ board know if you can help.

WOZ SAVE THE DATES:

April 18th BUNCO at Zion (Corrected date)

May 16th Thursday Our annual salad luncheon

July 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.

WORSHIP LEADER'S

Communion Assistant:

Sound: Deangelo Brunson
Media: Cameron Kellermann
Music: Jodi Beach
Usher: Charles Dahlberg & Kamyra Brunson
Reader: Donna Raymond
Fellowship: Women of Zion

BAGGING FOR CORNUCOPIA

We are in 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.

THE MISSIONS AND EVANGELISM TEAM would like you to donate scarfs, gently used, knit, or crocheted. We will hang them on fences or railings around the church. We will have a little note on them saying "I'm not lost! If you are cold please take me to keep you warm." The back side says "From your friends at Zion Lutheran Church" If you have scarves to donate please drop them off in the office. Thank you.

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

You Tube

follow us on
twitter

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.

PROGRAMS AND MINISTRIES THIS WEEK

Sunday	9:15am	Worship
	10:30am	Mary Wedel Retirement Party—Fellowship Hall
Monday	8:00am	Miss Carly's Sandwich Making—Kitchen
	9:30am	Book Study—Library
Tuesday	8:30am	Staff Meeting
	3:30pm	Building and Grounds
Wednesday	8:00am	Bible Study—Stockholm Inn
	8:00am	Miss Carly's Sandwich Making—Kitchen
	11:00am	Mission Team
	12:00pm	Miss Carly's Board Meeting—Youth Center
Thursday	5:00pm	WOW—Fellowship Hall
	1:00pm	Finance Team
Friday	9:00am	Private Music Lesson—Youth Center
Saturday	1:00pm	Ruthie's Kitchen & Closet
Sunday	9:15am	Worship
	10:30am	Around the Tables—Fellowship Hall

Reprinted from *Words for Worship*, Copyright © 2022 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS004285. New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.

* Used by permission. Reprinted/Podcast/Streamed with permission under One License #A-726175

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

© Edition current as of 2005. Region Four South Archives, Seguin, Texas. Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.