

# Zion Lutheran Church

*Passing on the faith in the heart of Long Valley since 1760*



**Season of Easter**

*Service of the Word*



# Sundays of Easter

*Note: Words in bold are spoken by the congregation.*

## Gathering

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*The Holy Spirit calls us together as people of God.*

### WELCOME

### GREETING

*The congregation stands.*

*During this time, the presiding minister and the members of the congregation greet each other.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

### CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.*

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Almighty God...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 cleans us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive 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.**

In the mercy of almighty God...and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN**

*See insert*

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*Response after the prayer: Amen.*

## **Word**

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

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**Pastor Ingrid Wengert**

**READINGS**

*See insert*

**SERMON**

**Pastor Ingrid Wengert**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*See insert*

**APOSTLES' CREED**

**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 to the dead.**

**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.**

\*catholic with a small "c" refers to the universal church, as the Greek word "katholikos" means universal or whole. When capitalized, "Catholic" refers to the Roman Catholic Church.

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*Each petition ends with these words.*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

## **PEACE**

*The pastor and the congregation greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.*

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, using American Sign Language.*

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

*Offerings can be placed in the plates in the narthex & Fields Hall. Offerings are gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.*

God of mercy and grace,

**the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing.**

**Fill us with good things at your table,**

**that we may come to the help of all in need,**

**through Jesus Christ, our savior and Lord. Amen.**

## **Sending**

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*God blesses us and sends us into the world to serve our neighbor.*

## **BLESSING**

The God of life,

Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,

bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

*See Insert*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

