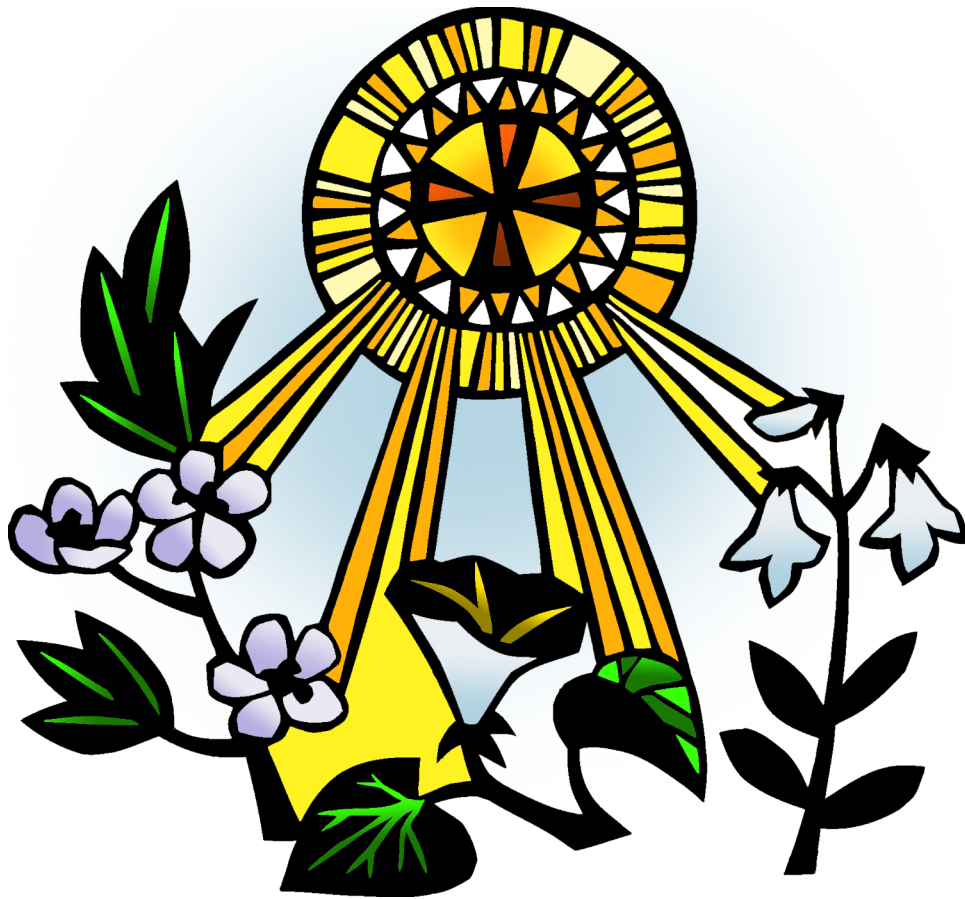


Zion Lutheran Church

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



Season of Easter

9:30AM Contemporary Worship Service

Welcome to worship at Zion

We are glad you are here! Every congregation has slightly different worship practices and below are a few of ours.

HEARING ASSISTIVE DEVICES: Available in the narthex.

HOLY COMMUNION: Believing in the “real presence” of Christ, this church practices Eucharistic hospitality; that is, all baptized persons are welcomed to Communion.

***Children** who have not had Communion instruction are invited to receive a blessing. Children who already receive Communion in another congregation may commune here, too.

***Ushers** will direct you to come forward. Please return to your seats by the opposite aisle.

* If you are unable to get to the Communion rail, please tell an usher so that Pastor might, bring Communion to your pew.

*We offer both wine (red) and grape juice (white). Please let the Communion Assistant know if you prefer grape juice.

***Gluten-free wafers** are available by request. The wafers are made of sweet potato and rice flour and are also free of wheat, casein, dairy and yeast.

CHILDREN: We invite children to participate in worship at whatever level they are able, including reading along with the bulletin.

* **Children’s sermon:** Typically, children up to 5th grade come forward. If new or your child is shy, you might consider coming up with child/ren.

* **Childcare** is available after children's time until before Communion. It’s held in Fields Hall, behind the sanctuary.

All music used by permission CCLI#1684027



SEASON OF EASTER 2024

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

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as people of God.

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins. The assembly stands

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
by whose hand we are given new birth,
by whose speaking we are given new life.
Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism:

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring. In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and we are born anew.

**Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.
Empower our witness to your resurrection.**

Satisfy our need through your living water.
Where guilt and sin debilitate, grant mercy and faith.
Where despair prevails, grant hope.
We ask this through Christ,
who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG: "Only by Grace"

verse 1

On-ly by grace can we en - ter, on - ly by grace can we stand;
 not by our hu - man en - deav - or,
 but by the blood of the Lamb. In - to your pres - ence you call
 us, you call us to come.
 In - to your pres - ence you draw us, and now by your grace we come,
 now by your grace we come.
 Lord, if you mark our trans - gres - sions, who would
 stand? Thanks to your grace we are cleansed
 by the blood of the Lamb.

D.C. al fine

CALL TO WORSHIP

The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the Lord's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

PEACE

The pastor and the congregation greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ. with a sign of Christ's peace, shaking hands or using American Sign Language, etc

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

GATHERING SONG: "Only by Grace"

*see page 4
verse 2*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Response after the prayer. Amen.

The congregation is seated.

Word

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.

CHILDREN'S SERMON:

CONTEMPOARY ANTHEM

READINGS

See Insert

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

SERMON

SONG OF THE DAY

See insert

The congregation stands.

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic* and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**catholic with a small “c” refers to the universal church, as the Greek word “katholikos” means universal or whole. “Catholic” with a capital “C” refers to the Roman Catholic Church.*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each portion of the prayer ends with these words.

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

The pastor concludes the prayer:

Into your hands.....through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

The congregation is seated.

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

CHOIR ANTHEM

The congregation stands.

Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,
give thanks be-cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.
And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am
rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us.

OFFERING PRAYER

Generous God,
in this meal you offer your very self.
We give thanks for these gifts of the earth.
In the breaking of this bread
reveal to us the Risen One.
In the pouring of this wine
pour us out in service to the world;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The pastor greets the congregation and invites all present to give thanks.

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 our thanks and praise.
Blessed are you, O King of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting,
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

In the night in which he was betrayed...Do this for the remembrance of me.

Great Thanksgiving concludes with the Lord's Prayer.

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.

INVITATION COMMUNION

Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.

COMMUNION SONG: “*Come to the Table of Mercy*”



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say:

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious God,
in you we live and move and have our being.
With your word and this meal of grace,
you have nourished our life together.
Strengthen us to show your love
and serve the world in Jesus' name.
Amen.

Sending

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

BLESSING

The pastor proclaims God's blessing.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

See insert

The congregation is seated.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

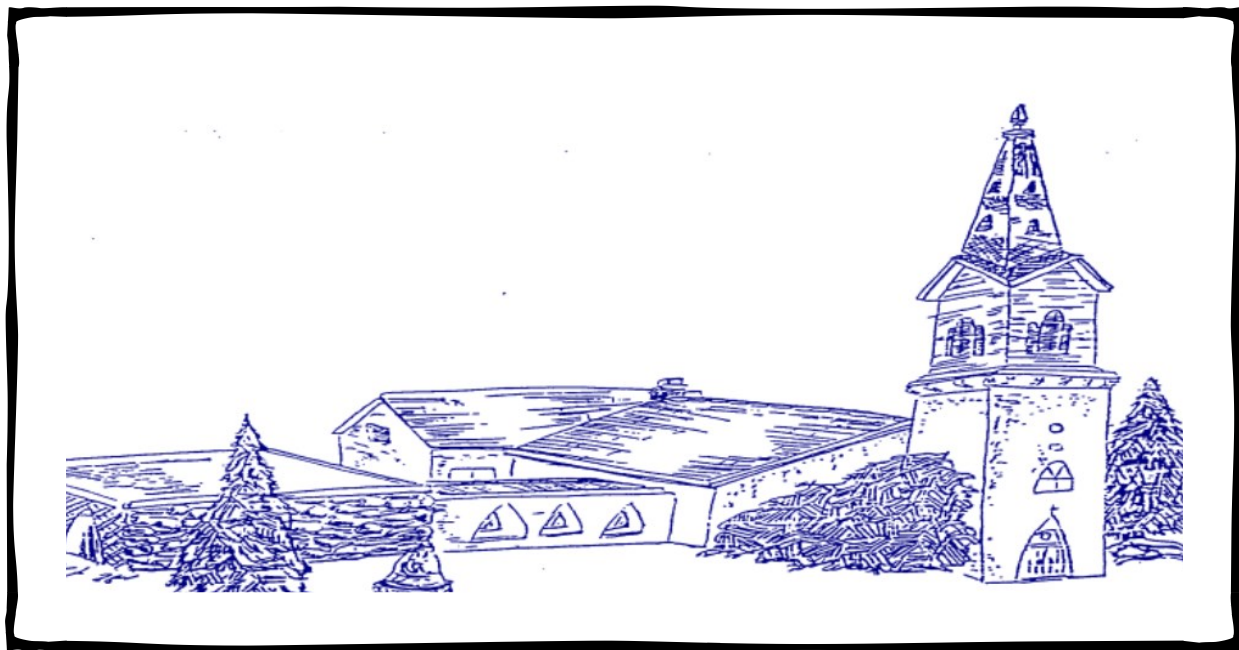
The pastor sends the congregation into mission.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

Thanks be to God.



Staff

The Rev. Ingrid Wengert, Pastor
Marilyn Hibler, Music Director
Sarah Scudese, Parish Secretary

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***Please return this bulletin to the narthex
at the conclusion of worship.***