



ZOAR LUTHERAN CHURCH

*"AmaZed by God, Energized by Jesus,
a Grateful Zoar Gathers, Grows and Gives"*

RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD: EASTER DAY

April 20, 2025 @ 8:30 and 11:00 am

Pastor Melanie Forrey and Pastor Paul Reichert

A photograph of several hands of different skin tones reaching up and interlocking to form a heart shape against a light blue sky background.

STATEMENT OF WELCOME

Beloved, welcome to Zoar!

We are glad you are here. Whether you are new, attend worship regularly, are just passing through, or haven't been here in years, you belong - you are wanted - you are loved, just as you are. You and all people are wonderfully made by God, created in goodness for goodness, and are a part of one vibrant Divine tapestry with all of creation.

At Zoar Lutheran Church, all are welcome, and all means all. We celebrate diversity and embrace people of all ethnicities, cultures, and colors, all gender identities and expressions, all sexual orientations, all abilities, all ages, and folks from all walks of life. We desire wellness, wholeness, and hopefulness for all people, and will not turn away from anyone in their time of need, whatever that looks like.

We are committed to advocating for justice, seeking equity, encouraging curiosity, and caring for the most vulnerable. We condemn racism, discrimination, and other forces, words, and actions that oppress, exclude, and harm. While we know that we still have a lot to learn, we endeavor to be accountable when we make mistakes. We will continue to grow in ways that help us take better care of each other and the planet.

With our whole hearts, we strive to share the abundant love of God, practice the unexpected and generous hospitality of Jesus, and be moved by the Holy Spirit toward meaningful change and a stronger relationship with our Creator, our neighbors, and all the earth.

No matter where you are in your faith journey, you are welcome here at Zoar!



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Introduction

This is the day the Lord has made! Christ is risen, and through him all creation is made new! Indeed, “God shows no partiality” (Acts 10:34): Christ’s resurrection truly brings life to everyone. We sing hymns of praise, gather around sacred words, and proclaim God’s faithfulness, power, and love in the feast of holy communion. With the women at the tomb, we are astonished, elated, and grateful. We depart with joy to proclaim the good news of God’s endless love.

WE GATHER

To celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord, and to enliven the spirits of the worshipping assembly, the music ministry of Zoar and our guest ensemble, the Tower Brass Quintet, will provide an extended period of festive music prior to our worship.

As you listen, we pray God’s presence dwell with you richly.

Prelude

Tower Brass Quintet

Welcome

*Greeting

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**



Harmony can be found in the red hymnal and may be sung on vs 1-3, unison vs 4

1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!

who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 now a - bove the sky he's king, Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

Easter Dialogue

Leader: The Lord is risen! Alleluia!

People: **He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!**

Leader: All the world rejoices because Christ is risen from the dead! Alleluia!

People: **The resurrection of God's Son brings joy to all the nations of the earth! Alleluia!**

Leader: An angel at the empty tomb declared,

People: **"Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him."**

Leader: And still today, we are witnesses to Jesus' Resurrection!

An empty tomb proclaims, "He is not here! He is risen!"

People: **Alleluia!**

Leader: Jesus Christ Himself proclaimed, "Peace be with you!"

People: **Alleluia!**

Leader: Our sins have been taken away, as far away as the east is from the west.

People: **Alleluia!**

Leader: Death has been swallowed up in victory!

People: **Alleluia!**

Leader: Our lives are made new by God's goodness and grace.

People: **We praise the Lord forever! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**



Hymn Of Praise

This is The Feast

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was
 slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.
Final refrain
 This is the feast of vic - to-ry for our God.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

Leader: God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Congregation may be seated.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

First Reading: Acts 10:34-43

³⁴Peter began to speak to [the people]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

Leader: Word of God, Word of Life.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 118

This is The Day

The congregation sings the refrain and the choir sings the verses.

This is the day the Lord has made;
let us re-joyce, let us be glad.

Vs 1 (sung by choir)

*Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good;
God's mercy endures forever.
Let the house of Israel say:
God's mercy endures forever. Refrain*

Vs 2 (sung by choir)

*The hand of the Lord has struck with
pow'r,
God's right hand is exalted.
I shall not die, but live anew,
Declaring the works of the Lord. Refrain*

Vs 3 (sung by choir)

*The stone that the builders rejected,
Has become the chief cornerstone.
The Lord of love and mercy,
Has brought wonder to our eyes! Refrain*

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:19-26

¹⁹ If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.
²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.
²¹ For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being;
²² for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ.
²³ But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ.
²⁴ Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power.
²⁵ For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.
²⁶ The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

Leader: Word of God, Word of Life.

People: Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Acclamation**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel Reading: Luke 24:1-12

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to Luke....

People: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ On the first day of the week, at early dawn, [the women] came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. ² They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³ but when they went in, they did not find the body. ⁴ While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. ⁵ The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. ⁶ Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷ that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." ⁸ Then they remembered his words, ⁹ and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰ Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. ¹¹ But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. ¹² But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People:

Praise to you, O Christ.

Congregation may be seated.

Sermon

Pastor Melanie Forrey

***Hymn Of The Day**

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

ELW #369

Harmony can be found in the red hymnal and may be sung on vs 1-3, unison vs 4



1 Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day; Al - le - lu - ia!
2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 Christ, the vic - tim un - de - filed, Al - le - lu - ia!
4 Chris-tians, on this ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!



Chris-tians, has - ten on your way; Al - le - lu - ia!
sin - less in the sin - ner's stead. Al - le - lu - ia!
God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled, Al - le - lu - ia!
all your grate - ful hom - age pay; Al - le - lu - ia!



of - fer praise with love re - plete, Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!
when con - tend - ing death and life, Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!



at the pas - chal vic - tim's feet. Al - le - lu - ia!
now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!
met in strange and awe - some strife. Al - le - lu - ia!
now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!

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 worshiped 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.**

Prayers of the Church

The minister will offer several petitions, ending with:

Leader: Lord, in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Passing of the Peace

Leader: This is the Good News - the grave is empty. Christ is risen.

People: **Alleluia!**

Leader: This is the Good News - the light shines in the darkness and the darkness can never put it out.

People: **Alleluia!**

Leader: This is the Good News - once we were no people, now we are God's people.

People: **Alleluia!**

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Christ is our peace, the indestructible peace we now share with each other.

Please greet one another with words of peace.

Congregation may be seated.

Announcements

Offering

Tithes and offerings are collected at this time.

Please sign and pass the pew pads during the offering and indicate whether you are receiving communion today.

Please fill out the pew pads with your name along with all who are present with you today.

Musical Offering Chancel Choir: *Awake Now Wintry Earth*, J S Bach, arr. Edwards

*Offertory Prayer

Risen One,

you call us to believe and bear fruit.

May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love.

Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. **Amen.**

WE SHARE GOD'S MEAL

Great Thanksgiving

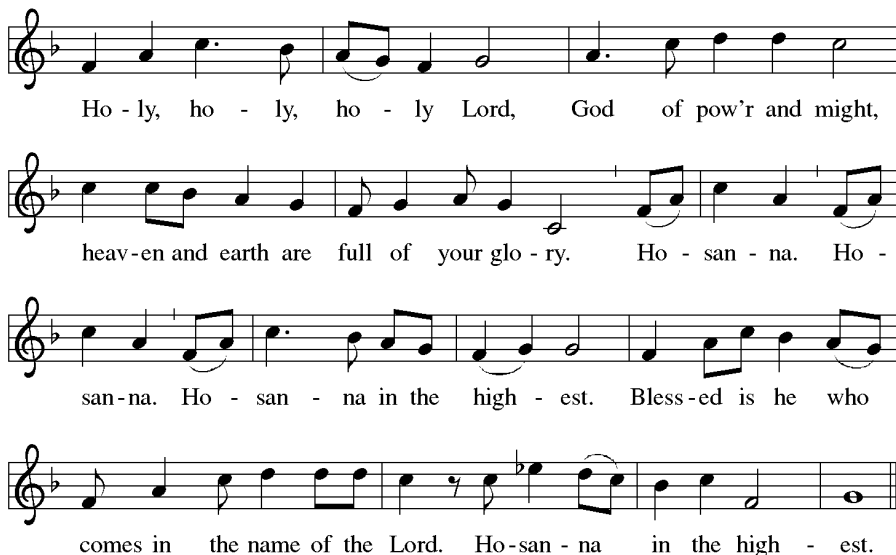
The Lord be with you. **And** al - so with you.

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.

Leader: It is our duty and delight..... we praise your name and join their unending hymn.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Thanksgiving at the Table

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.**

Sharing of Communion

Please follow the guidance of the ushers, who will direct worshippers beginning with the back rows. Communion today will be served via intinction. As you come forward, you will receive a wafer (a gluten free option is available), then you will be invited to dip your wafer into the chalice (one side will contain red wine, the other light colored grape-juice). All who believe in the true presence of Christ in the bread and wine are welcome to share communion. People of all ages and abilities are welcome to the table. People of any age who are not receiving Communion are always offered a blessing when coming forward during this part of the worship service. All are welcome, for Jesus invites us.

Music During Communion

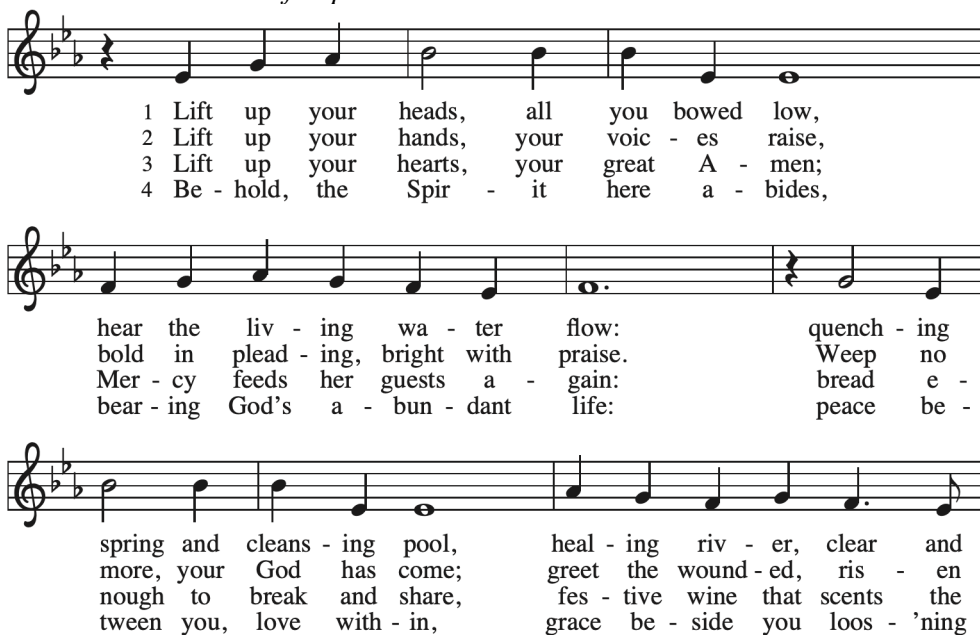
Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Lift Up Your Heads All You Bowed Low

ACS #1032



1 Lift up your heads, all you bowed low,
2 Lift up your hands, your voices raise,
3 Lift up your hearts, your great A - men;
4 Be - hold, the Spir - it here a - bides,
hear the liv - ing wa - ter flow: quench - ing
bold in plead - ing, bright with praise. Weep no
Mer - cy feeds her guests a - gain: bread e -
bear - ing God's a - bun - dant life: peace be -
spring and cleans - ing pool, heal - ing riv - er, clear and
more, your God has come; greet the wound - ed, ris - en
nough to break and share, fes - tive wine that scents the
tween you, love with - in, grace be - side you loos - 'ning

cool. How fresh it falls up -
 One, who bless - es you with
 air. Oh, taste and see what
 sin. Be - lov - ed, Christ a -

on your face, stream - ing from the font of grace.
 joy com - plete, dwell - ing in the Word of peace.
 once was lost ris - ing in this feast of love.
 mong you stands, mov - ing through your hearts and hands.

I Am the Bread of Life

ELW #485

***Post Communion Blessing**

Prayer After Communion

Leader: 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.

People: **Amen.**

WE ARE SENT

Prayer and Benediction

Leader: Almighty God, who raised our Lord Jesus from death, lift you up and restore you to wholeness.

People: **Amen. Alleluia!**

Leader: Jesus Christ, the Word of life,
 bless you and send you to be his witnesses.

People: **Amen. Alleluia!**

Leader: God the Holy Spirit, who renews the whole earth,
 refresh you in the gift of baptism this day and always,
 In the Name of the Father and + Son and the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen. Alleluia!**



1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the
2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he
3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-



vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment
greets thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness
out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,



rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes
hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

Refrain



where thy bod - y lay.
death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring
to thy home a - bove.



Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

Dismissal

Leader: Christ Is Risen!

People: **Christ Is Risen Indeed!**

Leader: Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Tower Brass Quintet



Ministers	The People of Zoar
Pastor	Paul Reichert
Pastor	Melanie Forrey
Administrative Manager	Kelley Allred
Director of Music	Jacob Henry
Youth Director	Corryn Short
Communications	Nicole Downey
Secretary	Jodi Calkins
Custodian	Paul Cannon

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