



# **Fifth Sunday of Easter**

April 28, 2024

9:15 am Worship

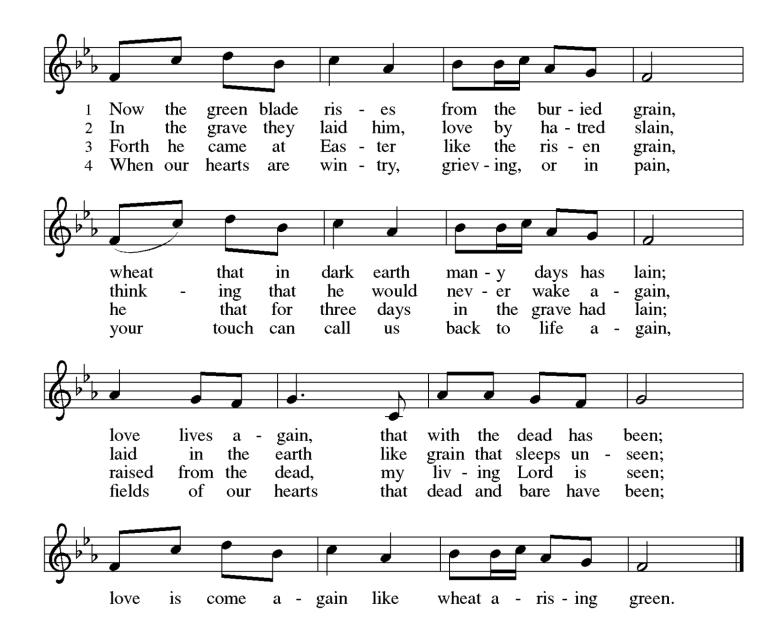
Live streamed on Zion's facebook page Or posted at <u>www.zionmanheim.com</u> (Ministry Tab, then video) to view

# Order for Worship

#### PRELUDE

#### WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### \*GATHERING HYMN "Now the Green Blade Rises"



# \* ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, 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 cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Most merciful God,

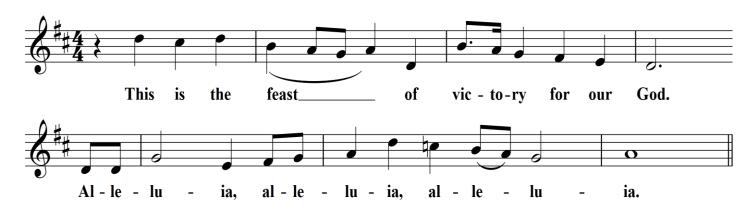
we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, 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.

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 

# \*GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

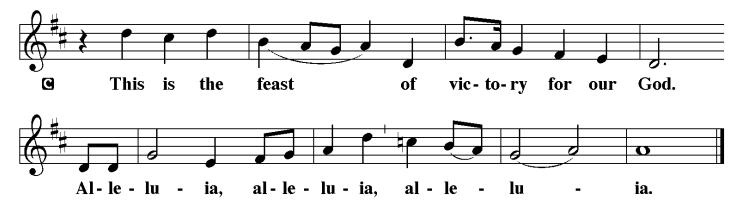
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.** 



1 Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

refrain

- 2 Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing and glory are his. *refrain*
- 3 Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. *refrain*
- 4 For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.



# \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

# FIRST READING: Acts 8:26-40

<sup>26</sup>An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) <sup>27</sup>So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup>and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" <sup>31</sup>He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. <sup>32</sup>Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer,

so he does not open his mouth.

<sup>33</sup>In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

<sup>34</sup>The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" <sup>35</sup>Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup>As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" <sup>38</sup>He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. <sup>39</sup>When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. <sup>40</sup>But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

#### PSALM 22:25-31

<sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

<sup>26</sup>The poor shall eat and be satisfied,

Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!

<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;

all the families of nations shall bow before God.

<sup>28</sup>For dominion belongs to the LORD, who rules over the nations. <sup>29</sup>Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;

all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD. <sup>30</sup>**Their descendants shall serve the LORD,** 

### whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.

<sup>31</sup>They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

# SECOND READING: 1 John 4:7-21

<sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup>God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

<sup>13</sup>By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. <sup>16</sup>So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. <sup>17</sup>Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. <sup>18</sup>There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. <sup>19</sup>We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup>Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup>The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



The Holy Gospel according to John, the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

#### \*GOSPEL: John 15:1-8

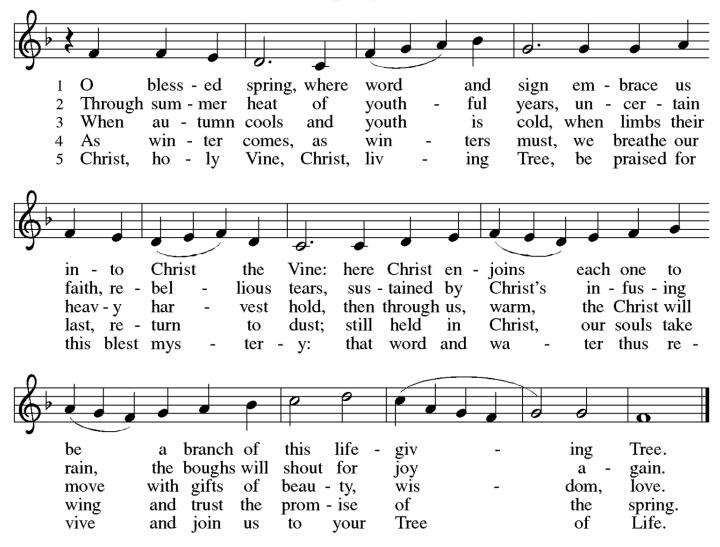
[Jesus said:] <sup>1</sup>"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. <sup>2</sup>He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Kate

\*HYMN OF THE DAY "O Blessed Spring"



#### **\*NICENE CREED**

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

- 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.

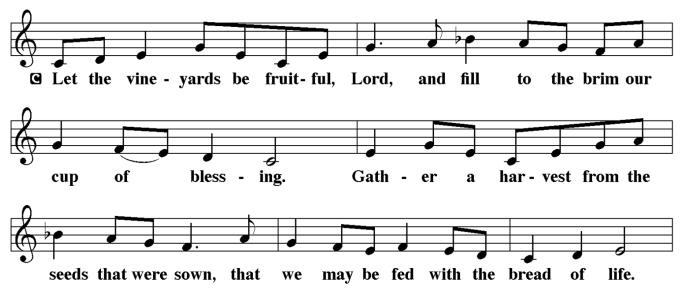
- On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
- He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.
- We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who 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 PEOPLE

Each petition ends "God of grace" and the congregation responds "Hear our prayer."

#### **\*SHARING THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. And also with you.



**OFFERTORY CANTICLE** (remain seated)



<u>A stewardship note</u>: Offering plates have been placed near the entrance to receive your gifts. An additional offering plate is on the stand near the organ. If you miss the chance to drop off your offering when you arrive, you are welcome to place your offering in the plate at the close of the service.

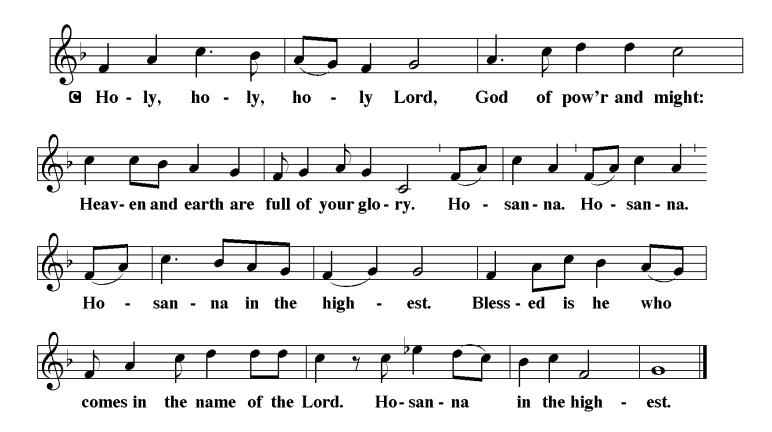
#### OFFERING PRAYER

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.

#### GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.** It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,...

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



#### EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

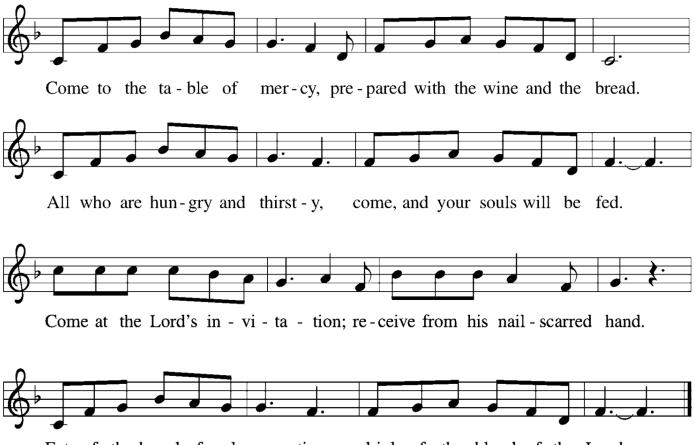
#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION and DISTRIBUTION

We gather at the Lord's Table and all are welcome. Communion will be distributed by continuous progression at the front of the sanctuary, and you are welcome to come forward <u>by side</u>, as directed by the pastor. In addition to the pre-poured cups of wine, grape juice (darker in color) is available in the center of each tray, and gluten free wafers are available upon request. You are welcome to kneel at the rail for prayer after receiving the elements. The communion cups may be placed in the small baskets near the end of the pews as you return to your seat.

#### COMMUNION HYMNS



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

#### QUIET MUSIC

#### \*POST COMMUNION BLESSING

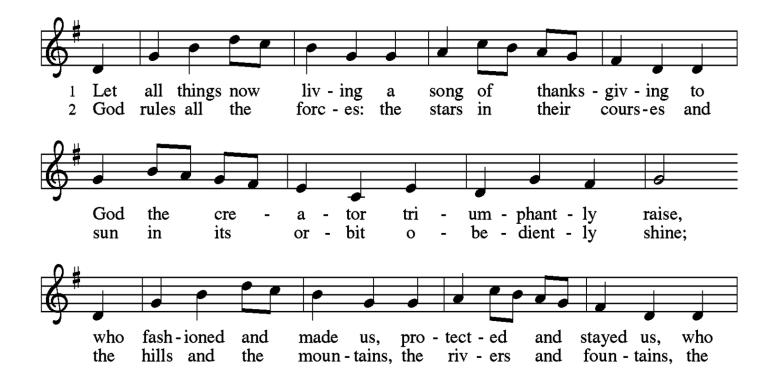
#### **\*POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

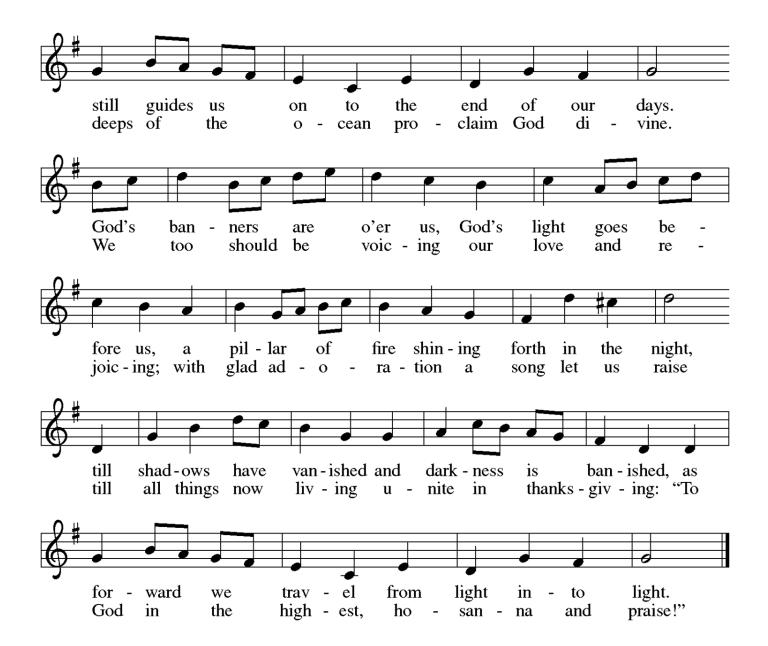
Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. Amen.

#### **\*THE 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.

#### \*CLOSING HYMN "Let All Things Now Living"





\*THE DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Go in peace. Share the good news! Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

#### Flowers are presented by Marc & Carol Phillips in celebration of their 51<sup>st</sup> anniversary

#### Bulletins are sponsored by Susan & Jim Scales

#### TODAY'S WORSHIP TEAM: Pastor Kate, Carol Atherholt Ushers/Greeters – Jim & Susan Scales Lay Reader – Brian Miller Communion Assistant – Denny Valins

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Weekly Record	Last week	Mo. Total	Budget
Attendance (in-person)	47	132	
Attendance (on-line)	n/a	n/a	
General Fund offering	2,885	11,615	18,963
Greater Zion Fund offering	102	1,812	



I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. John 15:5

# Announcements

**Following worship** we continue a study focusing on the Bible's understandings of peace as a cornerstone for faithful living in a violent world.

<u>Thanks go to Carol Atherholt today</u> for filling in for Karen while she is away. We appreciate sharing your gift of music with us.

# Summer Lunch Planning Meeting will be held Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11:30am.

<u>We will hold a congregational meeting after worship on May 5<sup>th</sup></u> to vote on the proposed purchase of a new boiler system. After reviewing three proposals, one was chosen and approved at the Council meeting on April 8<sup>th</sup>. Please plan to attend, as we will present the information about and vote on the new boiler at that time.

We are in need of some flower sponsors for the month of May. Please check the poster and add your names to the list on the bulletin board on your way home from church today. Thank you.

**Zion's Camping Group** is planning another camping weekend on May 10-12, this time to Harper's Ferry, WV. If you'd like to join in the fun, or for more information, please contact Sharon Lynes at 717-413-0895.

<u>MC Food Pantry Needs</u> for the month of April are: diapers, applesauce, Spam, soup, and canned fruit. They could use some reusable grocery bags. At this time they do not need any one-use plastic bags. Please make sure any donations are not out of date. You may place your food donations in the shopping cart outside the church office. Thank you.



Phone: 717-665-5880 E-mail: zmanheim@ptd.net Zion's web page: <u>www.zionmanheim.com</u> <u>https://www.facebook.com/ZELCManheim</u> Check out Zion's YouTube channel @ Zion Lutheran, Manheim PA