

Divine Service



Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 25, 2021

Zion Lutheran Church
Kearney, Nebraska

Welcome to Zion!

All worshippers please fill out an attendance card in the pew rack and let us know how we might be of service to you.

Holy Communion at Zion

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation as Jesus has given it. As he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes. *All communicants* need to register in the narthex prior to the service.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, are asked not to commune until they are able to speak with our pastor first. He is happy to visit with you about the Christian faith and how to receive the Lord's Supper for your good and for the good of others. Those not communing are invited to come to the altar, cross your arms in front of you, and bow your head to receive a pastoral blessing.

Jesus, the Good Shepherd, Lays Down His Life for the Sheep

The Lord Jesus is "*the good shepherd*" who "*lays down his life for the sheep*" (John 10:11). His life is not taken from Him, but He lays it down willingly, of His own accord, because He knows and loves the sheep. As the One sent by the Father, He has the "*authority to lay it down*" and the "*authority to take it up again*" (John 10:18). So has He done, and now He continues to love and serve as the Good Shepherd of the sheep by the voice of His Gospel. He thus calls all people into the fold of His Church, so that there may be "*one flock, one shepherd*" (John 10:16). That is why the apostles "*were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead*" (Acts 4:2). Since "*there is salvation in no one else,*" His voice rings out to this day through the preaching of His name, "*for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved*" (Acts 4:12). His voice comforts our hearts against all condemnation and gives us courage to "*love one another*" and "*to lay down our lives for the brothers,*" as He laid down His life for us (1 John 3:16, 23). .

Confession and Absolution

912 Christ Is Our Cornerstone



1 Christ is our cor - ner - stone, On Him a - lone we build;
2 Here may we gain from heav'n The grace which we im - plore,
△ 3 Oh, then, with hymns of praise These hal - lowed courts shall ring;



With His true saints a - lone The courts of heav'n are filled. On His
And may that grace, once giv'n, Be with us ev - er - more Un - til
Our voic - es we will raise The Three in One to sing And thus



great love Our hopes we place Of pres - ent grace And joys a - bove.
that day When all the blest To end - less rest Are called a - way.
pro - claim In joy - ful song, Both loud and long, That glo - rious name.

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

G Amen.

Exhortation

LSB 151

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

G 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 on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

LSB 151

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

G **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.**

Absolution

LSB 151

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

G Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 23; antiphon: John 10:14, 15b

I am the good | shepherd.*

I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life | for the sheep.

The LORD is my | shepherd;*

I | shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green | pastures.*

He leads me beside still | waters.

He re- | stores my soul.*

He leads me in paths of righteousness for his | name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are | with me;*

your rod and your staff, they | comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my | enemies;*

you anoint my head with oil; my cup | overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life,*

and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD for- | ever.

Glorify be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I am the good | shepherd.*

I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life | for the sheep.

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



C A - men.

This Is the Feast

LSB 155

Refrain



C 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
2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

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.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

Sit

First Reading

Acts 4:1–12

Peter and John Before the Council

¹As they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, ²greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. ³And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. ⁴But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.

⁵On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?” ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. ¹¹This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. ¹²And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Gradual

adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6

Christ has risen | from the dead.*

[God the Father] has crowned him with glory and | honor.

He has given him dominion over the works | of his hands,*

he has put all things un- | der his feet.

Epistle

1 John 3:16–24

¹⁶By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. ¹⁷But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? ¹⁸Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

¹⁹By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; ²⁰for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; ²²and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. ²³And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴Whoever keeps his commandments abides in him, and he in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

156



G 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.

Holy Gospel

John 10:11–18

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.



G Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹¹[Jesus said:] “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen

to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

709 The King of Love My Shepherd Is



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, Whose good - ness
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, My ran - somed
 3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, But yet in
 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill With Thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
 soul He lead - eth And, where the ver - dant
 love He sought me And on His shoul - der
 Lord, be - side me, Thy rod and staff my



I am His And He is mine for - ev - er.
 pas - tures grow, With food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
 gent - ly laid And home re - joic - ing brought me.
 com - fort still, Thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
 Thine unction grace bestoweth;
 And, oh, what transport of delight
 From Thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so through all the length of days
 Thy goodness faileth never;
 Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise
 Within Thy house forever!

Sermon

Stand

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life \neq everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Offertory

LSB 159



C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to



me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-



va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my

vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 160

P The Lord be with you.

G And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

G We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

G It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface (Full)

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 161



C 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.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

G 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.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ∇ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ∇ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

LSB 163

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

G Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 163



G 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.

Sit

Distribution

602 The Gifts Christ Freely Gives



1 The gifts Christ free - ly gives He gives to you and me
2 The gifts flow from the font Where He calls us His own;
3 The gifts of grace and peace From ab - so - lu - tion flow;
4 The gifts are there each day The ho - ly Word is read;



To be His Church, His bride, His cho - sen, saved and free!
New life He gives that makes Us His and His a - lone.
The pas - tor's words are Christ's For us to trust and know.
God's chil - dren lis - ten, hear, Re - ceive, and they are fed.



Saints blest with these rich gifts Are chil - dren who pro - claim
Here He for - gives our sins With wa - ter and His Word;
For - give - ness that we need Is grant - ed to us there;
Christ fills them with Him - self, Blest words that give them life,



That they were won by Christ And cling to His strong name.
The tri - une God Him - self Gives pow'r to call Him Lord.
The Lord of mer - cy sends Us forth in His blest care.
Re - stor - ing and re - fresh - ing Them for this world's strife.

5 The gifts are in the feast,
Gifts far more than we see;
Beneath the bread and wine
Is food from Calvary.
The body and the blood
Remove our ev'ry sin;
We leave His presence in
His peace, renewed again.

6 All glory to the One
Who lavishes such love;
The triune God in love
Assures our life above.
His means of grace for us
Are gifts He loves to give;
All thanks and praise for His
Great love by which we live!

710 The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want



1 The Lord's my shep - herd, I'll not want; He makes me
 2 My soul He doth re - store a - gain And me to
 3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, Yet will I
 4 My ta - ble Thou hast fur - nish - ed In pres - ence
 5 Good-ness and mer - cy all my life Shall sure - ly



down to lie In pas - tures green; He
 walk doth make With - in the paths of
 fear no ill; For Thou art with me,
 of my foes; My head Thou dost with
 fol - low me; And in God's house for -



lead - eth me The qui - et wa - ters by.
 righ - teous - ness, E'en for His own name's sake.
 and Thy rod And staff me com - fort still.
 oil a - noint, And my cup o - ver - flows.
 ev - er - more My dwell - ing place shall be.

Text and tune: Public domain

740 I Am Jesus' Little Lamb



1 I am Je - sus' lit - tle lamb, Ev - er glad at
 2 Day by day, at home, a - way, Je - sus is my
 3 Who so hap - py as I am, E - ven now the



heart I am; For my Shep - herd gent - ly guides me,
 staff and stay. When I hun - ger, Je - sus feeds me,
 Shep - herd's lamb? And when my short life is end - ed,



Knows my need and well pro - vides me, Loves me ev - 'ry
 In - to pleas - ant pas - tures leads me; When I thirst, He
 By His an - gel host at - tend - ed, He shall fold me



day the same, E - ven calls me by my name.
 bids me go Where the qui - et wa - ters flow.
 to His breast, There with - in His arms to rest.

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

The Dismissal

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

G Amen.

Thank the Lord

LSB 164



G Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



G A - men.

Benediction

LSB 166

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ~~+~~ give you peace.

G Amen.

711 Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us



1 Sav - ior, like a shep - herd lead us; Much we
 2 We are Yours; in love be - friend us, Be the
 3 You have prom - ised to re - ceive us, Poor and
 4 Ear - ly let us seek Your fa - vor, Ear - ly



need Your ten - der care. In Your pleas - ant pas - tures
 guard - ian of our way; Keep Your flock, from sin de -
 sin - ful though we be; You have mer - cy to re -
 let us do Your will; Bless - ed Lord and on - ly



feed us, For our use Your fold pre - pare.
 fend us, Seek us when we go a - stray.
 lieve us, Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
 Sav - ior, With Your love our spir - its fill.



Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, You have
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Hear us
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Ear - ly
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, You have



bought us; we are Yours. Bless - ed Je - sus,
 chil - dren when we pray. Bless - ed Je - sus,
 let us turn to You. Bless - ed Je - sus,
 loved us, love us still. Bless - ed Je - sus,



bless - ed Je - sus, You have bought us; we are Yours.
 bless - ed Je - sus, Hear us chil - dren when we pray.
 bless - ed Je - sus, Ear - ly let us turn to You.
 bless - ed Je - sus, You have loved us, love us still.

Tune and text: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2021 Concordia Publishing House.

Prayers for Our Members

Jade Florang, Monique Pohlman	Expectant Mothers
Norman Abels (<i>Brookestone Meadows - Elkhorn</i>)	Healing
Judy Ahrens	Healing
Vaughn Albrecht (Mount Carmel)	Healing
Tom & DyAnn Altwine	Healing
Lyle Colsden (<i>Mother Hull</i>)	Healing
Pat Flodine (<i>Cambridge Court</i>)	Healing
Vi Fox (<i>Prairie View</i>)	Healing
Verleen Gentry	Healing
Ruby Hatfield	Healing
Boyd Millsap	Healing
Michelle Millsap	Healing
Roger Riekenberg	Healing
Don Richmond	Healing
Marion Richmond	Healing
Ivan Bombeck	Cancer
Fran Junge	Cancer
Bertha Marienau	Cancer
Bev Nuttelman	Cancer
Kim Vos	Cancer

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

Pr. James DeLoach, Pastor + (308) 627-5260
james.deloach@zionkearney.org
 Pr. Doug Gaunt, Pastor + (308) 455-0552
doug.gaunt@zionkearney.org
 Tony Splittgerber, Principal + (308) 293-0168
anthony.splittgerber@zionkearney.org

Church Office

Administrative Assistant: Jessica Shiers
Email: school@zionkearney.org
Phone: (308)-234-3410 **Fax:** (308) 236-8100
Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:00pm
Radio Broadcast: Sunday @ 10:30 a.m. on 1460 AM
Website: www.zionkearney.com

Prayers for Our Members' Family & Friends

Dawn Gaunt (<i>Pr. & Carol Gaunt's daughter-in-law</i>)	Expecting
Nicole Teten (<i>Chris & Sarah Hoehner's daughter</i>)	Expecting
Naomi Wollberg (<i>Andy & Jeanne Wollberg's daughter-in-law</i>)	Expecting
Shannon Howell (<i>Quentin & Janel Lange's friends</i>)	Expecting
Mariah Rodriguez (<i>Quentin & Janel Lange friend</i>)	Expecting
Will Brennemann (<i>Jami Helmbrecht's father</i>)	Healing
Reg Duke (<i>Westman's brother-in-law</i>)	Healing
James Gentry (<i>Verleen Gentry's son</i>)	Healing
Roger Hoffman (<i>Marc's father</i>)	Healing
Sharon Kreutzer (<i>Richard's mother</i>)	Healing
Lyra Mais (<i>Zion student</i>)	Healing
Bailey Markowski (<i>Steve & Fran Junge's great niece</i>)	Healing
Mary Ann Mertz (<i>Pam's Uhlir's friend</i>)	Healing
Tim Powers (<i>Kim Wilken's brother</i>)	Healing
Roy Reynolds (<i>Verleen Gentry's son-in-law</i>)	Healing
Lynne Saathoff (<i>Verleen Gentry's sister-in-law</i>)	Healing
Randy Solomon (<i>Beth Rosenthal's father</i>)	Healing
Spellman Family (<i>Quentin & Janel friend</i>)	Healing
Janet Stalder (<i>Carol Florang's sister</i>)	Healing
Angela Well (<i>Charles Marineau's granddaughter</i>)	Healing
D.D. Dugger (<i>Sue Kaiser's brother</i>)	Cancer
Stuart Gronewoller (<i>Lonna's brother-in-law</i>)	Cancer
Ron Halvorsen (<i>Jeff's dad</i>)	Cancer
Carol Haubold (<i>Don Helmbrecht's sister</i>)	Cancer
Randy Jochum (<i>Ken Hockemeier's brother-in-law</i>)	Cancer
Fred Koch (<i>Pam Uhlir's cousin</i>)	Cancer
Lynda Kreutzer (<i>Rich & Carol's sister-in-law</i>)	Cancer
Sherman Luhn (<i>Kim Vos' father</i>)	Cancer
John Moore (<i>family of Susan Tonniges</i>)	Cancer
Sharon Mulhair (<i>Pam Uhlir's cousin</i>)	Cancer
Jeannie Schmidt (<i>Lisa Splittgerber's sister-in-law</i>)	Cancer
Tyrone Uhlir (<i>Pam's nephew</i>)	Cancer

Today's Radio Broadcast is given to the Glory of the Lord by
Vi Fox

Worship Assistants

Sunday, April 25 ~ 9:00am

Elder: Nathan Gaunt

Usher: Mike Wilkens & Jeff Strong

Engineer: Shawn Starkey

Announcer: Brooke Fisher

Altar Guild: Ellen Hockemeier & Rachael Burger

Sunday, May 2 ~ 9:00am

Elder: Eric Rosenthal

Usher: Fred Flessner & Lennis Hodgson

Engineer: Jamie Nikodym

Announcer: Jesse Florang

Altar Guild: Carolyn Westman & Linda Nuttelman

Our Response to the Gospel

Date: 04/18/2021

Offering: \$4,448.00

Weekly Need: \$7,542.37

This Week at Zion

Sun 04/25	9:00a 10:30a 10:30a	Divine Service Radio Broadcast 1460am Voters' Meeting
Mon 04/26	<i>Birthdays</i> <i>Anniversaries</i>	<i>Margaret Smith</i> ---
Tues 04/27	1:30p <i>Birthdays</i> <i>Anniversaries</i>	Sleeping Mats --- ---
Wed 04/28	8:30a 6:00p <i>Birthdays</i> <i>Anniversaries</i>	Chapel Confirmation Rehearsal <i>Waunita DeLaet</i> ---
Thurs 04/29	<i>Birthdays</i> <i>Anniversaries</i>	--- ---
Fri 04/30	<i>Birthdays</i> <i>Anniversaries</i>	<i>Alexis Wollberg</i> <i>Udeane Fischer</i> ---
Sat 05/01	5:00p <i>Birthdays</i> <i>Anniversaries</i>	Divine Service --- ---
Sun 05/02	9:00a 10:30a <i>Birthdays</i> <i>Anniversaries</i>	Divine Service Confirmation Sunday Radio Broadcast 1460am --- ---



Zion
Lutheran
Church

Where our Triune God strengthens us
through His mercy in faith toward Him and
in fervent love toward one another.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Voters' Meeting - TODAY - Zion will hold a voters' meeting directly following service. Please plan to attend if you are a member of Zion. Approving the annual budget and finalizing edits to the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws will be on the agenda. A copy of the Articles and Bylaws are available at the church office.

Confirmation Sunday - -Next Sunday, May 2nd we will be confirming seven youth.

Offering Options:

There are several options:

- 1) Place your offering in the basket as you leave
- 2) Go to zionkearney.churchtrac.com/give
- 3) Go to zionkearney.com and click on the ChurchTrac icon
- 4) Mail your gift to Zion Lutheran Church, 2421 C Ave, Kearney, NE 68847 or place it in the mail slot on the south side of the building.

A Bible Study - is prerecorded and available each Sunday, along with a study guide you can use to follow along. We are studying the three lessons for the day—the Old Testament, the Epistle, and the Gospel. Go to Zion's website www.zionkearney.com to access the video and study guide.

Bible Reading Cards - A new set of Bible reading cards for the new year can be picked up in the church entryway. Each card is a tool to keep track of your Bible reading progress as you mark each chapter you have read in 2021. God works through His Word.

Mission Offerings - The second quarter missions will support Higher Things and Issues Etc. If you would like to donate to these missions, please use the mission envelopes located in the narthex. Thank you for your support. To learn more about these organizations please visit:

<https://higherthings.org/about>

<https://issuesetc.org/support/>

Radio Broadcast - Please help Zion spread the Gospel! There are several open dates.

Church Management System - Zion is in the process of changing to a web-based church management system called ChurchTrac. Please pick-up a yellow sheet in the narthex to get setup.

Vacation Bible School - The date has been set for July 18-22 from 6:00-8:00pm . It will be for preschool to 5th grade. We will also be recruiting volunteers for anyone from 6th grade up to help out. There will be more information to come, please continue to watch the bulletin.

SCHOOL NEWS

Heartland Field Day - The Kindergarten to 8th grade students will participate in the Heartland Field Day on Friday, May 7th. The office will be closed that day.

Last Day of School - The last day of school for the students will be Wednesday, May 19th with an 11:30am dismissal.

Registration Open - Registration is now open for the 2021-2022. New this year is an all-day prekindergarten option! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the office. Please tell your family and friends about Zion. Enroll early to make sure you have a spot.

New Teacher Search - The search for another high quality Lutheran teacher has begun. Full time teachers in our school must be members of the LCMS (or willing to become so). The grade level will most probably be for the 3rd/4th grade. If you or someone you know might be interested in this position, please contact Mr. Splittgerber.

Scrip Cards - Scrip cards are still available during this time. Visit the office during normal hours to purchase your gift cards.



Nebraska
District LCMS
www.ndlcms.org

Two Concerns for the Church:

1 The Equality Act
currently before
Congress in
Washington D.C

**2 K-12 Health Education
Standards** proposed by
the Nebraska Department
of Education

What is it?

The Equality Act that is being considered by Congress sounds innocent. All Americans should enjoy equality and the protections of the U.S. Constitution. But in elevating sexual orientation to a protected class, the Equality Act will bring sweeping changes to current laws, to the great detriment of the religious and constitutional freedoms of biblically faithful churches, institutions, Christian schools and individuals.

In fact, those churches and institutions that are bound by the Word of God to the truth of marriage between a man and a woman could be punished for simply standing on our consistent beliefs. The Equality Act effectively outlaws the words of Christ and our free exercise of religion.

The Equality Act expands the definition of "public accommodation" and puts an ultimatum to individuals, religious non-profits, food banks, schools, charities, adoption agencies and others: "Change your faith-based practices or face government punishment."

*Read a letter from Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison and find additional information and resources at the link provided.

The Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) recently released a **first draft of K-12 Health Standards**. These standards are meant to guide curriculum for all Nebraska schools, including public and non-public schools.

The Health Standards are a deeply flawed, ideologically driven document. Should such standards be adopted by schools, children will be placed in peril, many educators will find their professional judgment and conscience under attack, and the culture will move toward a further normalization of child sexualization.

Read the proposed Health Standards and take special note of the "Human Growth and Development" section in each grade. Here are a few highlights:

- In Kindergarten, students will "discuss different kinds of family structures (e.g. single parent, blended, intergenerational, cohabitating, adoptive, foster, same-gender, interracial). Note that traditional marriage between a man and woman is not mentioned.
- In 1st grade, students "define gender, gender identity, and gender-role stereotypes."
- In 4th grade, students "distinguish between sex assigned at birth and gender identity and explain how they may or may not differ."
- In 8th grade, students would be taught that abortion is "reproductive care" and how to develop a plan to eliminate an unplanned pregnancy.

*Find the proposed Health Standards and additional information and resources at the link provided.

What can you do?

The Equality Act

1. Treat all people with kindness and respect (“You shall love your neighbor as yourself” Mark 12:31).
2. Become informed about the **Equality Act** and the issues of gender dysphoria.
3. Consider your role as Christian citizens and make your voice known to your elected officials. Our friends at Association of Christian Schools International (ASCI) have created a **simple web tool** to allow you to reach out to your congressperson.
4. Pray for our officials, government, and the church in these challenging days.

[Additional resources regarding the Equality Act:](#)

- **Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty**
- **Alliance Defending Freedom** — The True Impact of the “Equality Act”
- **Heritage Foundation** — 11 Myths About H.R. 5, the Equality Act of 2021

K-12 Health Education Standards

1. Pray for Christian teachers and staff serving in our public schools, that they may find opportunities to freely share their faith.
2. Double down on your commitment to Christian education for your own family.
3. Talk about your concern for the new health education standards with your friends. Make sure that they are aware of the educational standards being proposed for every public school in Nebraska.
4. The Nebraska Department of Education is seeking feedback about these standards. Please take some time to fill out the **NDE online survey** and speak up for all Nebraska kids!
5. Watch for local Health Education Standards.

Looking for more information?

* Full details and all resources mentioned can be found on the Nebraska District LCMS website at www.ndlcms.org/action-alert



Directions for Distribution of the Lord's Supper

1. Today we return to our normal way of distributing the Lord's Supper with a couple of exceptions, which are italicized and underlined below.
2. Before communing, please read our statement on Holy Communion inside the front cover of the bulletin. Please speak with our pastor after the service if you have any questions.
3. All communicants are asked to register for communion as you enter the sanctuary and mark whether you want to receive an individual cup or the common cup when you receive the precious blood of Christ.
4. We will close the chancel "gate" prior to communion.
5. Hand sanitizer is available in the aisle for you to use prior to communing.
6. Whoever does not want to climb the steps is asked to either sit in the first pew on either side or move there as the congregation sings the "Agnus Dei." Our pastor and elders will serve those communicants first before serving at the altar.
7. Those sitting in the south pews will commune on the right side of the altar.
8. Those sitting in the north pews will commune on the left side of the altar.
9. The usher will alternate between the south and north sides when releasing people to commune. Please allow the group from the other side to exit the aisle before you enter it so there is only one line at a time in the aisle.
10. Each side of the table will have a maximum of five or six people at a time (except when family members commune together) so we can keep an appropriate distance from others.
11. The first person of a group from the south side will move to the right side of the altar and the others will follow as they fill in around the right half of the altar.
12. The first person of a group from the north side will stand just left of the center of the communion rail and the others will fill around the left side of the altar.
13. The pastor will welcome you to the table of our Lord. You may bow slightly to show reverence to Jesus, who is present in His Supper. You may kneel or stand at the rail as the pastor distributes the holy body of Christ.
14. An elder will distribute the precious blood of Jesus in individual cups, which will be spread out in a tray. He will pause in front of each communicant. If you wish to receive an individual cup, then please take a cup from the tray as the elder holds it in front of you.
15. Someone will follow with the common cup. If you received an individual cup, please hold it in front of you so the one offering the common cup can see who still needs to be communed.
16. The pastor or elder will dismiss each side as per usual by saying: "Go in peace."
17. Please depart in the same order you arrived at the altar. Those receiving an individual cup are asked to place the empty cup in the basket as they depart.