

## **THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**The Sunday of Jesus' Appearances to the Disciples**

**April 6, 2024**

## ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

Wenona, Illinois

The First Sunday of Easter

Rev. Jonathan P. Boehne (Vacancy Pastor)

April 6, 2024

Phone: 309.361.7578 Email: jonboehne@hotmail.com

**WELCOME** to all who are worshiping with us. If you are a guest, please sign the guest book, including your home address and congregation. We welcome to our altar all those who share our confession of faith within the fellowship of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod.



THE OPENING HYMN:	"Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain"	<b>Hymn #487</b>
DIVINE SERVICE, Setting One		page 151
THE INVOCATION		pg. 151
THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION		pg. 151
THE INTROIT	(chanted responsively)	<b>Back of Insert</b>
THE KYRIE		pg. 152
THE HYMN OF PRAISE	"This is the Feast"	pg. 154-155
THE SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY		pg. 156
THE OLD TESTAMENT READING		
THE EPISTLE		
THE ALLELUIA		pg. 156
THE HOLY GOSPEL		
HYMN OF THE DAY:	"O Sons and Daughters of the King"	<b>Hymn #470</b>
THE SERMON:	(see sermon insert)	
THE NICENE CREED		pg. 158-159
THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH		
THE OFFERTORY:	"What Shall I Render to the Lord"	pg. 159
THE PREFACE		pg. 160
THE SANCTUS		pg. 161
THE LORD'S PRAYER		pg. 162
THE WORDS OF OUR LORD		pg. 162
THE PAX DOMINI		pg. 163
THE AGNUS DEI		pg. 163
THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION		
THE POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE:	"Thank the Lord"	pg. 164
THE COLLECT	(spoken by the Pastor)	pg. 166
THE BENEDICTION		pg. 166
THE CLOSING HYMN:	"Alleluia! Jesus is Risen"	<b>Hymn #474</b>



**The offering plate** is on the table in the narthex. Thank you for your continued contributions.

**IN OUR PRAYERS**, we remember Starr Barke, Kristin Bosteels, Vic Bosteels, Katie Jones, Rick Salz, Bill Simmons, Andy Volker, Cindy Volker, and Ken Welch.

**THIS WEEK AT ZION AND ST. PAUL'S:**

TODAY (SATURDAY)	Zion Sunday School	3:45PM
	Zion Service with Holy Communion	5:00PM
SUNDAY	St. Paul's Service with Holy Communion	8:30AM
	St. Paul's Sunday School and Bible class	9:45AM
MONDAY	<i>(No Zion Bible Class – Pastor out of town)</i>	
WEDNESDAY	Zion Bible Class <i>(moved here from Monday)</i>	1:00PM
SATURDAY	Zion Sunday School	3:45PM
	Zion Service with Holy Communion	5:00PM
SUNDAY	St. Paul's Service with Holy Communion	8:30AM
	St. Paul's Sunday School and Bible class	9:45AM

**ATTENDANCE** last week: 25      Holy Communion: 22      Offering: \$775  
Maundy Thursday: 20      Offering: \$228  
(Zion needs about \$1,157 in weekly offerings to cover expenses)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Monday Bible Class Moved to Wednesday** We're moving Bible Study to Wednesday at 1pm because Pastor Boehne needs to make an unexpected trip down to Southern IL. There also won't be Bible Study on April 15 due to the Central IL District Pastors' Conference in Springfield.

**The Ladies Aid will hold a garage sale** and food stand at Zion during the Wenona spring garage sales on May 3-4. If you have items that you could donate for the sale, please bring them to church. Please help with this event if you are able. A sign-up sheet is in the narthex.

**IL March for Life** will be in Springfield on Wednesday, April 17. Southern Illinois District President Timothy Scharr will preach at a Matins service at Trinity Lutheran Church (220 South Second St., Springfield, 62701) at 10:00; a light lunch will be available at the State House Inn ballroom (101 East Adams St.) at 11:00 (*recommended donation: \$5; please bring a \$5 bill*); rally commences at noon on capitol front lawn; actual march steps off at 1:00 p.m. Free parking for those attending Matins and the following activities is available in State House Inn's parking lot, in the block west of the hotel building, across First Street. ***A group is going from Trinity Lutheran in El Paso and you're welcome to join us. If you'd like to be part, please let Pastor Boehne know as soon as possible.***

**Stop by your church mailbox** and pick up your 1<sup>st</sup> quarter giving statement.

**Thanks** to all who brought items for the Wenona Food Pantry. It is appreciated!

## Ezekiel 37:1-14

<sup>1</sup>[In those days:] The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup>And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. <sup>3</sup>And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." <sup>4</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. <sup>5</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup>And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD."

<sup>7</sup>So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup>And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." <sup>10</sup>So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

<sup>11</sup>Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are clean cut off.'

<sup>12</sup>Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup>And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup>And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD."

## 1 John 5:4-10a

<sup>4</sup>[Dearly beloved:] Everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

<sup>6</sup>This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. <sup>7</sup>For there are three that testify: <sup>8</sup>the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree. <sup>9</sup>If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that he has borne concerning his Son. <sup>10</sup>Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself.

## John 20:19-31

<sup>19</sup>[At that time:] On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."

<sup>20</sup>When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you."

<sup>22</sup>And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld."

<sup>24</sup>Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe."

<sup>26</sup>Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe."

<sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

<sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; <sup>31</sup>but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

## SERMON ON JOHN 20:19-31



© 2013 Ian M. Welch. All Rights Reserved. Paramentics.com

# “JESUS IS TOUGHER THAN EVERYTHING WE’RE AFRAID OF”

<p>What all are you afraid of?</p>	<p><i>“...the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews...”</i></p> <p><i>Thomas said, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe!”</i></p>
<p>How does Jesus show His toughness?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Through locked doors</li><li>▪ Giving Peace</li><li>▪ Showing His scars</li><li>▪ Breathing the Spirit</li><li>▪ Giving Forgiveness of Sins</li></ul>	<p><i>“Peace be with you.” When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.</i></p> <p><i>He breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven.”</i></p>
<p>What is meant by “The Office of the Keys”?</p>	<p><i>Matthew 16:19 “I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”</i></p>
<p>How does forgiveness answer everything we’re afraid of?</p>	<p><i>“As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.”</i></p>

## DOCTRINE FOR THE DAY – FORGIVENESS

*From Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation, CPH, 2017.*

### **209. When my sins condemn me and I am doubting, how can I be sure of my forgiveness and salvation?**

I cannot and should not rely on myself in any way—my thoughts, feelings, words, or deeds.

A. Rather, I can be sure because God, who has promised the forgiveness of sins for Christ's sake, always keeps His promises.

B. I can be sure because Jesus has shed His precious, divine blood for my forgiveness and for the forgiveness of all sinners, a sacrifice of infinite worth, acceptable to God. There is nothing left for me to do or add: Jesus' blood has cleansed me from all my sins.

698 **Hebrews 10:12–14** But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, He sat down at the right hand of God, waiting from that time until His enemies should be made a footstool for His feet. For by a single offering He has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.

C. I can be sure because God tells me that I am His and my sins are forgiven as the Gospel is declared to me in the spoken Word, in Baptism, in the Absolution, and in the Lord's Supper. These words and promises of Christ are sure and certain, no matter how I feel or how badly I have fallen short of righteousness. This Gospel is more than simple information; it actually delivers to us the forgiveness of sins and eternal life in Jesus.

699 **Acts 2:38** And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

700 **John 20:22-23** When He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld."

701 **Matthew 26:28** This is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

D. I can be sure because God assures me in Scripture that He has chosen me in Christ, out of pure grace, to inherit eternal life and that no one can snatch me out of His hand (election of grace).

702 **John 10:27-28** My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of My hand.



## LAST SUNDAY

*The Sunday of Jesus' Resurrection*

We spent our 2024 Holy Week focusing on the word "testimony" in the Scripture. God testifies to us in the water of Baptism, in the blood of the Lord's Supper, and in the Scriptures of the Spirit. These are given so that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ and have life in His name.



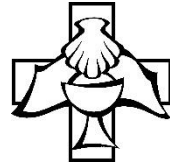
## NEXT SUNDAY - April 14, 2024

Sunday of the Good Shepherd

Ezek. 34:11-16; 1 Peter 2:21b-25; John 10:11-16

Hymns: 710, 709, 483, 475, 740





**INTROIT** - Ps. 81:1, 7a, 10, 16b; antiphon: 1 Peter 2:2a

*Antiphon*

*Like newborn infants, Alle- | luia,\*  
long for the pure spiritual milk [of the Word.] Alle- | luia.*



- A** Sing aloud to | God our strength;\*  
shout for joy to the God of | Jacob!
- C** **In distress you called, and I de- | livered you;\***  
**I answered you in the secret place of | thunder.**
- A** I am the | LORD your God,\*  
who brought you up out of the land of | Egypt.
- C** **Open your mouth wide, and I will | fill it;\***  
**and with honey from the rock I would sat- | isfy you.**
- C** **Glory 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.**

*Antiphon*

**COLLECT OF THE DAY**

Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.