

# Zion Lutheran Church

Fredericksburg, Texas

**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**May 2, 2021**

---

P=Presider **R=Responses**

## BELLS

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*(Please prepare your heart and mind for worship)*

### PRE-WORSHIP MUSIC

*"It Is Well With My Soul"* by Philip P. Bliss & Horatio G. Spafford; Arr. S. Robinson

*(Please stand, kneel or remain seated)*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**R Amen**

P God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P Most merciful God,

**R we confess that we are captive 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**

P 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.

**R Amen**

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Wellspring of joy, through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts. Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses, that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**R Amen**

### THANKSGIVING RITE FOR THE CONCLUSION OF A CALL

### BENEDICTION

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.

**R Amen**

**SENDING HYMN** *"What a Fellowship, What..."* (vs.1&2) **HYMN NO. 774**

**What a fellowship, what a joy divine,  
leaning on the everlasting arms;  
what a blessedness, what a peace is mine,  
leaning on the everlasting arms.**

**Refrain: Leaning, leaning, (Leaning on Jesus, leaning on Jesus,  
safe and secure from all alarms;  
leaning, leaning, (leaning on Jesus, leaning on Jesus,  
leaning on the everlasting arms.**

**Oh, how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,  
leaning on the everlasting arms;  
oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,  
leaning on the everlasting arms. Refrain**

Text: Elisha A. Hoffman, 1839-1929

### DISMISSAL

L Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**R Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

L Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

**R Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

*"Higher Ground"* by Charles H. Gabriel & Johnson Oatman, Jr.

*(Please remain seated until ushered out)*

**HYMN**

“Let Us Break Bread Together” (vs.1-3) **HYMN NO. 471**

**Let us break bread together on our knees;  
let us break bread together on our knees.**

**Refrain:**

**When I fall on my knees,  
with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me.**

**Let us drink wine together on our knees;  
let us drink wine together on our knees. Refrain**

**Let us praise God together on our knees;  
let us praise God together on our knees. Refrain**

Text: African American spiritual

**HYMN**

“Precious Lord, Take My Hand” (vs.1-3) **HYMN NO. 773**

**Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,  
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.  
Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.  
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.**

**When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near,  
when my life is almost gone,  
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.  
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.**

**When the darkness appears and the night draws near,  
and the day is past and gone,  
at the river I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.  
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.**

Text and music © 1938, 1966 Unichappell Music Inc., admin. Alfred Publishing

“Whiter Than Snow” by William G. Fischer & James Nicholson

(Please stand as you are able)

**BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION**

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**R Amen**

**GATHERING**

(Please stand as you are able)

**GATHERING HYMN** “Jesus Shall Reign” (vs.1,2,5) **HYMN NO. 434**

**Jesus shall reign where'er the sun  
does its successive journeys run;  
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,  
till moons shall wax and wane no more.**

**To him shall endless prayer be made,  
and praises throng to crown his head;  
his name like sweet perfume shall rise  
with ev'ry morning sacrifice.**

**Let ev'ry creature rise and bring  
peculiar honors to our king;  
angels descend with songs again,  
and earth repeat the loud amen.**

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.

**GREETING**

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

**R And also with you.**

**KYRIE** (Responses Sung)

**HYMNAL p. 147**

**P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**R Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**R Lord, have mercy.**

**P** 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.

**R Lord, have mercy.**

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

**R Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**R Amen**

**HYMN OF PRAISE***“Glory to God...”***HYMNAL p. 148**

P Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

**R Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father: We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P The Lord be with you.

**R And also with you.**

P Let us pray. 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.

**R Amen**

*(Please be seated)*

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

*“Fires”* by Jordan St. Cyr

**Dan & Judy McGookey**

**WORD****FIRST READING Acts 8:26-40**

*Led by the Spirit, Philip encounters an Ethiopian official who is returning to his African home after having been to Jerusalem to worship. Philip uses their encounter to proclaim the gospel to him. Upon coming to faith in Jesus, he is baptized by Philip.*

<sup>26</sup> Then 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?”

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

P In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

**R Amen**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**R 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**

**HOLY COMMUNION**

*(Please be seated)*

**DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION****COMMUNION HYMN**

*“Lamb of God”*

**HYMNAL p. 154**

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, grant us peace.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Lord in your mercy,

**R hear our prayer.**

## PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

**R And also with you.**

## RESPONSE

*(Please be seated)*

## OFFERING

*“Nearer, My God, to Thee”* by Lowell Mason & Sarah F. Adams

*(Please stand as you are able)*

## OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us pray. God of love, you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table. Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ.

**R Amen**

## DIALOGUE *(Spoken)*

P The Lord be with you.

**R And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

**R We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**R It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ, whose suffering and death gave salvation to all. You gather your people around the tree of the cross, transforming death into life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*(Sung)*

**HYMN NO. 191** *(Holy, Holy...)*

**R Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might; Heaven and earth are filled with your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who comes in your name. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest!**

Text and Music: Marty Haugen, 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

<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. *(NRSV)*

L The Word of the Lord.

**R Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING 1 John 4:7-21

*We love God and others because God first loved us. We cannot say we love God, whom we have not seen, while hating fellow Christians, whom we regularly see. Love toward God is to be matched by love toward others because the essence of God is love.*

<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. (NRSV)

L The Word of the Lord.

**R Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand as you are able)*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**HYMNAL p. 151**

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

P The holy gospel according to St. John, the 15<sup>th</sup> Chapter.

**R Glory to you, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL John 15:1-8**

*On the night of his arrest, Jesus taught his disciples about the relationship they would have with him. Those who abide in his word and love bear fruit, for apart from him, they can do nothing.*

"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. (NRSV)

P The gospel of the Lord.

**R Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(Please be seated)*

**SERMON**

**Rev. Lisa Hoelscher**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*"The Church's One..."* (vs.1,2,5) **HYMN NO. 654**

**The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
she is his new creation by water and the word.  
From heav'n he came and sought her to be his holy bride;  
with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.**

**Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth,  
her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth:  
one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,  
and to one hope she presses, with ev'ry grace endued.**

**Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One,  
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.  
Oh, blessed heav'nly chorus! Lord, save us by your grace,  
that we, like saints before us, may see you face to face.**

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900

**THE APOSTLES' CREED**

P Let us confess our faith, the faith in which we baptize, in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**R I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**In our Hearts and Prayers:** our homebound and shut-ins, all other nursing home residents, Myrtle Becker, Claribel Hannemann, Alton Moellering, Bernard Scrogin, Margaret Wilke, our Fredericksburg community, our government, our nation, and the military.

**Today** is Pastor Lisa Hoelscher's last Sunday as Associate Pastor of Zion Lutheran. We thank Pastor Lisa for all she has done for the ministry of God at Zion. Please keep Pastor Lisa and her family in your prayers as awaits God's next call.

**The Altar Flowers** today are in honor of Pastor Lisa and her ministry at Zion, given by her parents Barbara and Tony Lopez. Thanks be to God for the light which shines through you.

**The Special Concern** for May is the Fredericksburg Food Pantry. Thank you for your support.

**Zion is now offering In-Person Worship** each Sunday along with the service still being live on the radio and YouTube. NO RSVP needed.

**Laborers of Love** will start meeting again on Wednesday's, May 12 & 26 at 8:30am in the Arhelger House. (NOTE: The May Calendar in the Chimes indicates incorrect dates.)

**Carnations** will be handed out to all moms next Sunday, May 9 at the beginning of the worship service.

**Thank you** for your General Fund Contributions of \$1,788, and your Special Contributions of \$160 given this past week.

**WORSHIP LECTOR** – Mary Wilson

**USHERS** – Neal Burnham, David Hartmann, Gina Koennecke, Jill Minshew, Sandy Schmitzinsky

### MINISTRIES FOR THE WEEK

MON – May 3	9:00am	Staff Meeting
	6:30pm	Growing in Faith via Zoom
TUES – May 4	6:30pm	Parish Ed Mtg - Atrium
THURS – May 6	6:30-8pm	National Day of Prayer at FHS Auditorium
SUN – May 9	9:00am	In-Person Worship
	9:00am	Service Broadcast on KNAF
	9:00am	Service Live on YouTube
		<a href="http://www.zion-lutheran.com/youtube">www.zion-lutheran.com/youtube</a>



## ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

Fredericksburg, Texas

426 W. Main – PO Box 1571 – Fredericksburg, TX 78624

(830) 997-2195 – [www.zion-lutheran.com](http://www.zion-lutheran.com) – email: [zionfbg@gmail.com](mailto:zionfbg@gmail.com)

Go Like Our Facebook Page @ <https://www.facebook.com/zionfredericksburgtx/>

## Fifth Sunday of Easter – May 2, 2021

**Broadcast on KNAF (910AM) at 10:30AM**

**Video on Zion's YouTube Channel at 10:30AM**

(go to [www.zion-lutheran.com/youtube](http://www.zion-lutheran.com/youtube))

Podcast available [www.zion-lutheran.com](http://www.zion-lutheran.com) under sermons tab

Senior Pastor – Rev. Ron Windecker; [prwzion@gmail.com](mailto:prwzion@gmail.com)

Associate Pastor – Rev. Lisa Hoelscher; [pastorlisah@gmail.com](mailto:pastorlisah@gmail.com)

Accompanist – Sheri Robinson; Director of Music – Ray Salinas

Videographer – Peter Ray

Acknowledgments: New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #42721 Text © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. [www.giamusic.com](http://www.giamusic.com). 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission. OneLicense.net A-721458 THE HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION®, NIV® Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. Scripture quotations marked (CEV) are from the Contemporary English Version Copyright © 1991, 1992, 1995 by American Bible Society, Used by Permission.