



Altar Copy

**Sunday, May 14, 2023**  
**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

230 Cemetery Road  
 P. O. Box 4  
 West Jefferson, Ohio 43162  
 614 879-8107

Jon Meister, Presider

[www.zionlutheranwj.org](http://www.zionlutheranwj.org)

## INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

*Jesus does not abandon his followers. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in baptism and pray that in our gathering around the Lord's Table the Spirit will transform us to be the body of the risen Christ in the World.*

*Mothers' Day in the USA and many other countries is observed on the second Sunday in May. It was established first as a secular holiday to celebrate and honour one's own mother, but has evolved to include motherhood in general, and in some communities Christian ideas about Mary the Mother of God.*

## PRELUDE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CALL TO WORSHIP

*Please stand as you are able.*

**P** For our mothers who were brave enough to give birth and who loved through growing-up years

**C** **Thank you, dear Lord,**

**P** Who taught about God and love and being good and who often got no thanks

**C** **Thank you, dear Lord,**

**P** Whose ears could hear the slightest cry and eyes didn't miss much either and whose hearts were often broken and always forgave and forgot

**C** **Thank you, dear Lord,**

**P** Who encouraged when things went bad and always had time to listen and worked hard to make things go and make the World better

**C** **Thank you, dear Lord,**

**P** Who deserve our love on Mother's Day AND EVERY DAY even for eternity.

**C** **Amen.**



## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P** Friends in Christ, in this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all that keeps us from loving God and each other. This is the struggle to which we were called at baptism.

Within the community of the Church, God never wearies of forgiving sin and giving the peace of reconciliation. On this day let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor, and enter the celebration of the resurrection of our Lord.

*Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.*

**P** Most merciful God,

**C** **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** God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**C** **Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN: (ELW 813)**

*The music of "Faith of Our Fathers". Sing only verses 1, 2, and 4.*

## Faith of Our Mothers

1. Faith of our mothers, living still In cradle song and bedtime prayer;  
In nursery lore and fireside love, Thy presence still pervades the air:  
Faith of our mothers, living faith! We will be true to thee to death.
  
2. Faith of our mothers, loving faith, Fount of our childhood's trust and grace,  
Oh, may thy consecration prove Source of a finer, nobler race:  
Faith of our mothers, living faith, We will be true to thee till death.
  
3. Faith of our mothers, guiding faith, For youthful longing, youthful doubt,  
How blurred our vision, blind our way, Thy providential care without:  
Faith of our mothers, guiding faith, We will be true to thee till death.
  
4. Faith of our mothers, Christian faith, Is truth beyond our stumbling creeds,  
Still serve the home and save the Church, And breathe thy spirit through our deeds:  
Faith of our mothers, Christian faith! We will be true to thee till death.

**EASTER GREETING**

**P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C** **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

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

**C** **And also with you.**

## RESPONSIVE READING

**P** For peace in the World, for the health of the Church, for the unity of all,  
**C** **for this holy house, for all who worship and praise,**

**P** That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor,  
**C** **that we may live out truth and justice and grace,**

**P** for peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family,  
**C** **for life and for love, for work and our play,**

**P** for your Spirit to guide, that you center our lives in the water and the Word,  
**C** **that you nourish our souls with your body and blood,**

**All:** **let us pray to the Lord.**

## THIS IS THE FEAST



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



**B** Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



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



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

Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the  
hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and  
might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.  
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain  
has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in Heaven and on Earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the World the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

## FIRST READING: Acts 7: 51-60

*Please be seated.*

- L** A reading from Acts.

*Stephen concludes his sermon by turning his focus on the Sanhedrin. They are just like the sinful Israelites who kept rejecting their deliverers, rejecting the will of God, and worshipping idols instead. Stephen compares them to the Israelites from the past who killed the prophets for prophesying about the Messiah.*

<sup>51</sup>You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you are forever opposing the Holy Spirit, just as your ancestors used to do. <sup>52</sup>Which of the prophets did your ancestors not persecute? They killed those who foretold the coming of the Righteous One, and now you have become his betrayers and murderers. <sup>53</sup>You are the ones that received the law as ordained by angels, and yet you have not kept it."

<sup>54</sup>When they heard these things, they became enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen. <sup>55</sup>But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup>Look, he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" <sup>57</sup>But they covered

their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. <sup>58</sup>Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup>While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." <sup>60</sup>Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

**L** The word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.



### PSALM: Psalm 31: 1-5, 15-16

*Read responsively*

<sup>1</sup>In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup>**Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me.**

<sup>3</sup>Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

<sup>4</sup>**Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, for you are my tower of strength.**

<sup>5</sup>Into your hands I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me, O LORD, God of truth.

<sup>15</sup>**My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.**

<sup>16</sup>Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love."

### SECOND READING: 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 4: 1-6

**L** A reading from 1 Peter.

*Peter calls us to remember Christ both by pointing us back to Christ sufferings in 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 3:18 with the "therefore" but also with the rest of the first statement of chapter 4. "Therefore, since Christ suffered." Peter is directing the eyes of these saints to Christ and his sufferings. This would be important for these Christians to remember as they were suffering unjustly. They would need to remember their Savior. In fact, the Christians in the book of Hebrews were also suffering for the faith (Hebrews 10:32–34) and the writer tells them to fix their eyes on Jesus as well so they would not become weary. Look at what he says in Hebrews 12:2-3,*

<sup>1</sup>Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same intention (for whoever has suffered in the flesh has finished with sin), <sup>2</sup>so as to live for the rest of your earthly life no longer by human desires but by the will of God. <sup>3</sup>You have already spent enough time in doing what the Gentiles like to do, living in licentiousness, passions, drunkenness, revels, carousing, and lawless idolatry. <sup>4</sup>They are surprised that you no longer join them in the same excesses of dissipation, and so they blaspheme. <sup>5</sup>But they will have to give an accounting to him who stands ready to judge the living and the dead. <sup>6</sup>For this is the reason the gospel was

proclaimed even to the dead, so that, though they had been judged in the flesh as everyone is judged, they might live in the spirit as God does.

**L** The word of the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God.



### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Please stand as you are able.*

**Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al- le- lu - ia.**

### GOSPEL: John 14:15-21

**P** The Holy Gospel according to John, the 14<sup>th</sup> chapter.  
**C** Glory to you, O Lord.

*In final words to his disciples on the night of his arrest, Jesus encourages obedience to his commandments and speaks of the Spirit, who will be with them forever.*

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>15</sup>“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup>And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. <sup>17</sup>This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

<sup>18</sup>“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. <sup>19</sup>In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup>On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you



in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup>They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

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



## **SERMON**

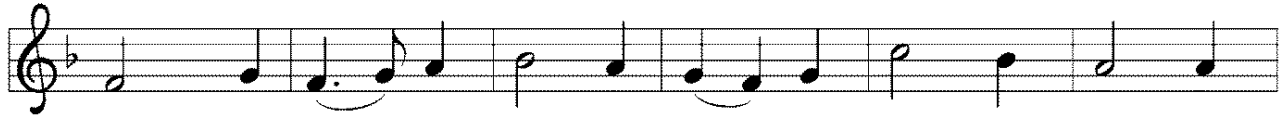
*Please be seated.*



## HYMN OF THE DAY: (ELW 631)

*Please stand as you are able. Sing only verses 1, 3, and 4*

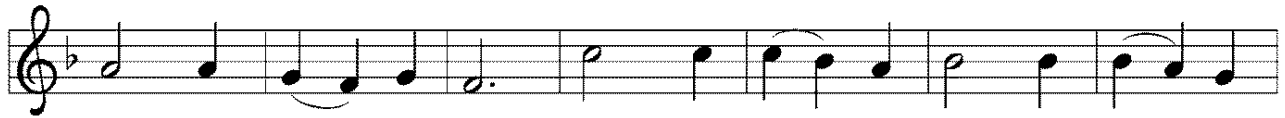
## Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



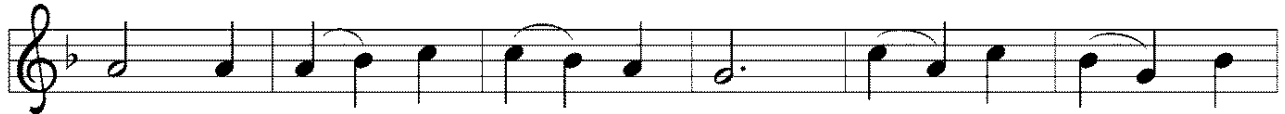
1 Love di-vine, all loves ex-cel-ling, Joy of heav'n, to  
 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov-ing Spir-it in-to ev-'ry  
 3 Come, Al-might-y, to de-liv-er; let us all thy  
 4 Fin-ish then thy new cre-a-tion, pure and spot-less



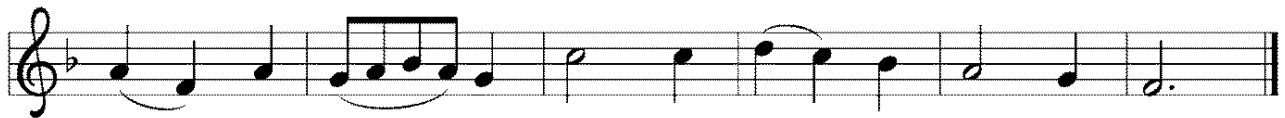
earth come down! Fix in us thy hum-ble dwell-ing, all thy  
 trou-bled breast; let us all in thee in-her-it; let us  
 life re-ceive; sud-den-ly re-turn, and nev-er, nev-er-  
 let us be; let us see thy great sal-va-tion per-fect-



faith-ful mer-cies crown. Je-sus, thou art all com-pas-sion,  
 find thy prom-ised rest. Take a-way the love of sin-ning;  
 more thy tem-ples leave. Thee we would be al-ways bless-ing,  
 ly re-stored in thee! Changed from glo-ry in-to glo-ry,



pure, un-bound-ed love thou art; vis-it us with  
 Al-pha and O-me-ga be; end of faith, as  
 serve thee as thy hosts a-bove, pray, and praise thee  
 till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal-va-tion, en-ter ev-'ry trem-bling heart.  
 its be-gin-ning, set our hearts at lib-er-ty.  
 with-out ceas-ing, glo-ry in thy per-fect love.  
 crowns be-fore thee, lost in won-der, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788

Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

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## APOSTLES' CREED

**P** The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.  
**C** **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.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

**A** United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the Church, the World, and all in need.

*Silence for reflection.*

**A** God our faithful companion, you promise to never leave us and to send your Spirit to guide us in wisdom and truth. Send your people into the World to serve as mirrors that reflect and magnify your love. Hear us, O God.

**C** **Your mercy is great.**

**A** All the Earth sings praises to you. Grant your care to the creatures, plants, and places that are suffering, and equip us to respond to their song. Make us agents of restoration and refreshment for all your beloved creation. Hear us, O God.

**C** **Your mercy is great.**

**A** You call all people of the World your children. Judge the nations justly, show mercy to all who are oppressed, and speak truth to power through your prophets. Hear us, O God.

**C** **Your mercy is great.**

**A** Nurturing Lord, you sent your Spirit to grant us peace. Make your presence known to those who feel abandoned or alone, and to all who are sick or grieving especially Michael, Aurora, Niki, and all of those whom we hold in our hearts. . Hear us, O God.

**C** **Your mercy is great.**

**A** Almighty God, you give life and breath to all things. We give thanks for the apostle Matthias and all your saints. Sustain us by your love until we join the saints in glory. Hear us, O God.

**C** **Your mercy is great.**

*Here other petitions may be offered.*

**P** Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**C** **Amen.**



## BLESSING OF MOTHERS

**P** God of all creation, pour out your blessing on all mothers and those who provide motherly care. You have made them in your image and given them children to love and care for in your name. Bless them with a heart like your heart: loving and kind, comforting and strong, nurturing and grace-filled. As they participate in your ongoing creativity, give them discernment to help their children discover their unique gifts. As they teach their children, grant them wisdom to know what is truly valuable. As they strive to share your unconditional love, give them long-suffering patience and a lively sense of humor. As they model your mercy, help them extend the forgiveness they themselves freely receive from you. In all circumstances fortify their faith, that they may love you above all. We ask this in Jesus' name.

**C** Amen.

## SHALOM

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** And also with you.

*Let us share the peace among one another.*

## PRAYER OF THANKS

**P** Let us pray. We come to you with hearts full of gratitude, most gracious God. In response to all that we have been given, let us give generously of our time and our money with open hearts to love and hands to serve. Help us to give graciously without counting the cost or judging those in need. Make us worthy of the endless love of Christ our Lord.

**C** Amen.



## DIALOGUE

**P** Jesus, the bright Morning Star, shines light in the World.

**C** **By day and by night he shines for all to see.**

**P** Jesus was born in the midst of injustice and poverty

**C** **that the World may see the justice and richness of God.**

**P** God so loved the World that God sent Jesus,

**C** **so that all who believe in him may not perish but have eternal life.**

**P** Jesus is the light of the World.

**C** **Jesus is the light of our lives.**

**P** Sing to God a new song!

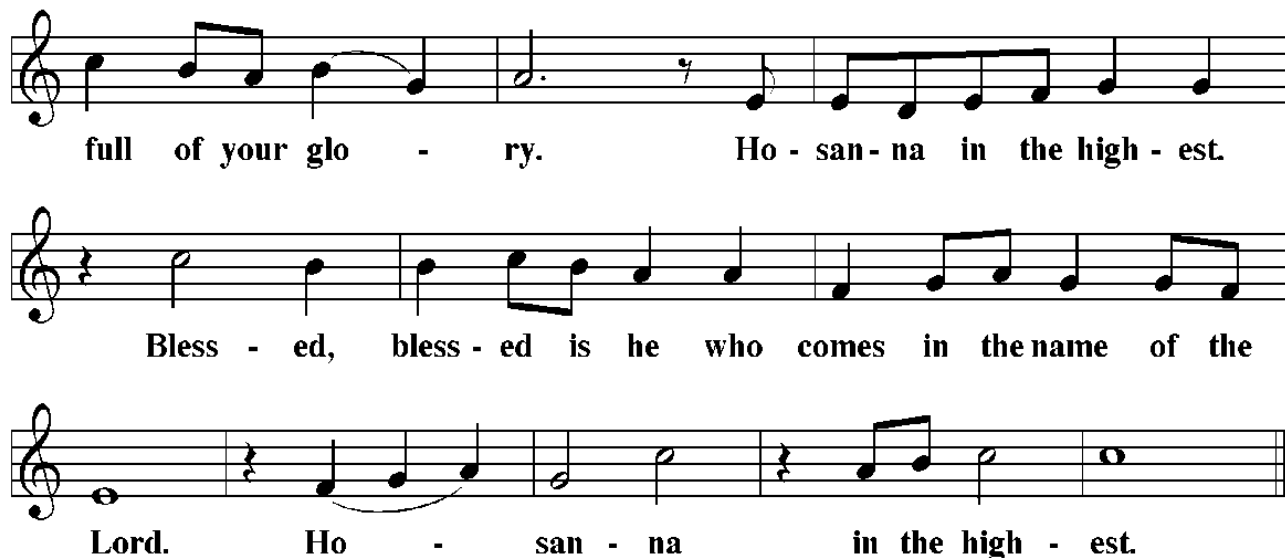
**C** **A song of hope, joy, and peace around the World.**

## PREFACE

**P** It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and places give thanks and praise to You, . . . . we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,  
 Lord God of pow'r and might, heav-en and earth are



full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the

Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

### EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

**P** Holy, living, and loving God, we praise you for creating the Heavens and the Earth. We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer. We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying World. Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

**C** Amen

### LORD'S PRAYER

**P** Lord, remember us in your kingdom, as we pray the prayer you taught us:

**C** **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

**P** Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.

**COMMUNION** will be done individually at your seats.

*Please be seated.*

**P** The body of Christ given for you.  
The blood of Christ shed for you.

**COMMUNION HYMN**



**POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

*Please stand as you are able.*

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

**C** Amen.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**P** Let us pray. 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.

**C** Amen.

**BLESSING**

**P** "I am the resurrection and the life," says the Lord. May Christ's rising lift your spirits and gladden your hearts.

**C** Amen.

**P** All those who believe in Christ will never perish. May you pass with Christ from death to life.

**C** Amen.

**P** Christ has gone to prepare a place for us. May his resurrection bring you all joy and peace in believing so that you may abound in hope.

**C** Amen.

**P** Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**C** Amen.

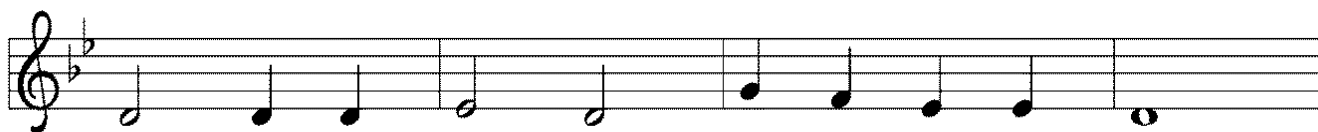




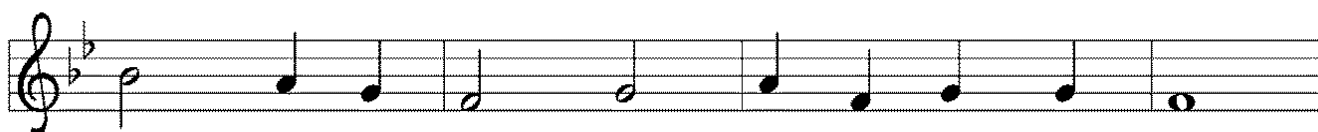
## SENDING HYMN: (ELW 800)

*Sing only verses 1, 2, and 4.*

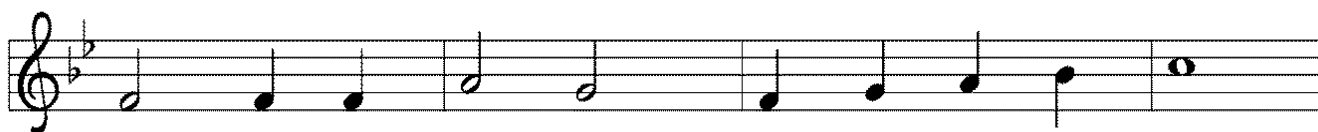
## Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart



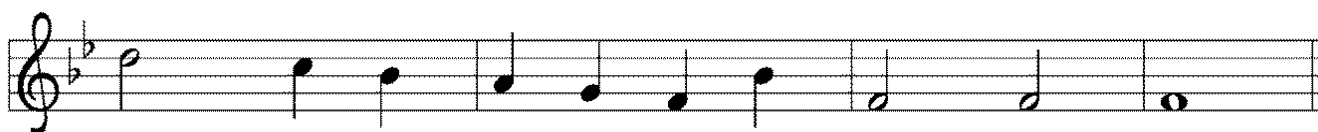
1 Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;  
 2 I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies,  
 3 Have you not bid me love you, God and King;  
 4 Teach me to love you as your an - gels love,



wean it from earth, through all its puls - es move;  
 no sud - den rend - ing of the veil of clay,  
 all, all your own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?  
 one ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame:



stoop to my weak - ness, strength to me im - part,  
 no an - gel vis - i - tant, no op - 'ning skies;  
 I see your cross; there teach my heart to cling.  
 the bap - tism of the heav'n - de - scend - ed dove,



and make me love you as I ought to love.  
 but take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.  
 Oh, let me seek you and, oh, let me find!  
 my heart an al - tar, and your love the flame.

Text: George Croly, 1780–1860

Music: MORECAMBE, Frederick C. Atkinson, 1841–189

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## DISMISSAL

**A** Alleluia! Christ is risen.

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

**A** You are the body of Christ raised up for the World. Go in peace. Serve the Risen One. Alleluia!

**C** **We go out - *Reaching in for the Holy Spirit, Reaching up for God's Grace, Reaching out with Christ's love.* Amen! (The words in italics are Zion's mission statement.)**

## POSTLUDE

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### Serving during worship this morning:

**Presider:** Jon Meister

**Worship Assistant:**

**Musician(s):** Ann Riesbeck DiClemente, Jerry Gossett

**Food fund donations:**

### Serving during worship next week:

**Presider:** Jon Meister

**Worship Assistant:**

**Musician(s):** Ann Riesbeck DiClemente, Jerry Gossett

**Food fund donations:**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome our guests and visitors this morning. Please take a moment to speak with Jon, Jerry, or Louise before you leave. All Baptized persons, at Christ's invitation, are welcome to commune.

## CONTACT THE PASTOR

Communications requesting pastoral care should be made directly to Pastor Larry Baker, (614) 257-8560.

## COMING EVENTS AT ZION

**SUNDAY DISCUSSIONS BEFORE CHURCH** We have started Sunday morning discussions every Sunday before Church. We meet at 9:45 to have discussions about important things. We will be finishing the book of James sometime soon. Please come and bring your Bible and your favorite morning beverage with you.

**MAY 14<sup>th</sup>**, today is Mother's Day. We all have them. Help us honor our Mothers. Please stop for donuts and juice (if you want coffee you must bring your own) and fellowship.

**MAY 28<sup>th</sup>** is the Day of Pentecost. My Easter Season will end and we will enter Pentecost for the next 5 months. The Altar will be wearing red and decorated for Pentecost. Then on

**JUNE 4<sup>th</sup>**, we will celebrate The Holy Trinity.

**JUNE 18<sup>TH</sup>** Fathers' Day



## VILLAGE EVENTS

**Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays 9:00-10:00 AM** Here at the Community Center they are instructor –led Workouts. Want some exercise this is where to find it.

**MAY 14<sup>th</sup>** is Mother's Day. Once again plan ahead. Don't be like the guy buying flowers in a gas station. We will be having another opportunity for fellowship.

**MAY 19<sup>th</sup>** is the first *Friday Night Uptown* for the year. They have a new stage for the band and there will be activities for kids and food trucks and booths of stuff. Come on down and meet your friends after the long winter. This is also Graduation Day for W. Jefferson. If you have wanted to go to a Friday Night, but are afraid of the crowds, this might be the time to check it out.



**JUNE 16<sup>th</sup>, Cruisin' with the Mayor.** W. Jefferson Car Show, at 33 S. Center Street, 6 :00PM to 8:30 for Judging. Fleetwood Gold will be the entertainment from 7-10. There will be Mexican and Schmidt's and sweets. And probably booths of one kind and another. This event will end with Friday Night Uptown. Come for cars, food, booths, music.

## PRAYERS



Margret Phillips' granddaughter, Aurora, has been diagnosed and receiving treatment for tumors in both of her kidneys. She has recently undergone surgery to remove some of the tumors that were not taken care of in chemo. Aurora is only one year old. Please keep Aurora Lander and her parents and Grandma in your prayers.

Please keep these people in your prayers as well: Michael Koch; Wesley and JoAnn Porter; Nicole Biler Robinette; and all of those who are suffering from diseases and their families. Please remember all of our shut-ins and sick, especially Arlene Castor.

The address for Michael and the Koch family is 224 West Romany Loop, Beverly Hills, FL 34465. Michael has moved to *The Grove*, a facility that is much closer to his home. You can get updates from Linda at [www.caringbridge.org/visit/michaelkoch2?fbclid](http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/michaelkoch2?fbclid) Keep all of the Koch's in your prayers.

*If you hear or know of anyone who should be on our Prayer List, please let me know, my number is 614 398-6302 [lejohn7310@icloud.com](mailto:lejohn7310@icloud.com)*



*Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible. – Hebrews 11:1-3*

Our faith motivates us in this work to end hunger. And while it is difficult to see or imagine a world without hunger in our lifetime, we trust this is the work to which God has called us. And we can live in hope, the conviction of things not seen. With God, all things are possible.

On this Sunday when we celebrate Mothers, let us remember those who have made us mothers. Pray for the children who are starving in the World. Help us to live the faith that the Lord has given us. Remember the children down the street, in the next city, in the next state, in the next country and around the World.



### Let us pray.

God of Love, In these Easter weeks, we are reminded that all things are possible through the risen Christ.

Give us the faith in a World without hunger—a World we cannot yet see.

Help us to see and bring into being a World without hunger, a World that trusts in your abundance.

In Jesus' name we pray,

Amen

