



Second Sunday of Easter

April 12, 2026

In today's gospel the risen Christ appears to the disciples and offers them the gift of peace. Even amid doubts and questions, we experience the resurrection in our Sunday gathering around word and meal, and in our everyday lives. Throughout the coming Sundays of Easter the first two readings will be from the Acts of the Apostles and the first letter of Peter. Even as the early Christians proclaimed the resurrection, we rejoice in the new birth and living hope we receive in baptism.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

PRELUDE

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

Arr. Michael Burkhardt

One License #10-412.4

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

Arr. Anne Krentz Organ

One License #61032

WELCOME

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne
and to the Lamb!

Amen.

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.

Merciful God,

you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.

You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation:

morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.

We thank you for the waters that nourish us.
Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness
who accompanies us on our journeys.
We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.
We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.
Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.
Break down barriers that divide us.
Fill us with the breath of peace.
Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,
and for making us a new creation.
We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,
now and forever.
Amen.

HYMN

Now the Green Blade Rises RED ELW #379
(Vs. 1, 3 & 4)

- 1 Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,
wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
love lives again, that with the dead has been;
love is come again like wheat arising green.**

- 3 Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen;
love is come again like wheat arising green.**

**4 When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
your touch can call us back to life again,
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;
love is come again like wheat arising green.**

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872-1958

Text from *Oxford Book of Carols* © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved
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GREETING

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

CANTICLE OF PRAISE—*This is the Feast*

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Power, riches, wisdom and strength,
and honor, blessing, and glory are his.**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:**

**Blessing, honor, glory, and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.

Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

RED ELW page #140

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Almighty and eternal God,

the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

FIRST READING: Exodus 15:1-11, 19-21

Song of Moses and Miriam at the sea

¹ [Then] Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD:

“I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously;
horse and rider he has thrown into the sea.

² The LORD is my strength and my might,
and he has become my salvation;
this is my God, and I will praise him;
my father's God, and I will exalt him.

³ The LORD is a warrior;
the LORD is his name.

⁴ Pharaoh's chariots and his army he cast into the sea;
his elite officers were sunk in the Red Sea.

⁵ The floods covered them;
they went down into the depths like a stone.

⁶ Your right hand, O LORD, glorious in power—
your right hand, O LORD, shattered the enemy.

⁷ In the greatness of your majesty you overthrew your adversaries;
you sent out your fury; it consumed them like stubble.

⁸ At the blast of your nostrils the waters piled up;
the floods stood up in a heap;
the deeps congealed in the heart of the sea.

⁹ The enemy said, 'I will pursue; I will overtake;
I will divide the spoil; my desire shall have its fill of them.
I will draw my sword; my hand shall destroy them.'

¹⁰ You blew with your wind; the sea covered them;
they sank like lead in the mighty waters.

¹¹ Who is like you, O LORD, among the gods?
Who is like you, majestic in holiness,
awesome in splendor, doing wonders?"

¹⁹ When the horses of Pharaoh with his chariots and his chariot drivers went into the sea, the LORD brought back the waters of the sea upon them, but the Israelites walked through the sea on dry ground.

²⁰ Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand, and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing. ²¹ And Miriam sang to them:

"Sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously;
horse and rider he has thrown into the sea."

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 111

¹ Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

² **Great are your works, O LORD,
pondered by all who delight in them.**

³ Majesty and splendor mark your deeds,
and your righteousness endures forever.

⁴ **You cause your wonders to be remembered;
you are gracious and full of compassion.**

⁵ You give food to those who fear you,
remembering forever your covenant.

**⁶ You have shown your people the power of your works
in giving them the lands of the nations.**

⁷ The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice;
all of your precepts are sure.

**⁸ They stand fast forever and ever,
because they are done in truth and equity.**

⁹ You sent redemption to your people and commanded your covenant forever;
holy and awesome is your name.

**¹⁰ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
all who practice this have a good understanding. God's praise endures forever.**

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 1:3-9

This epistle was written to encourage Christians experiencing hardships and suffering because of their faith in Christ. The letter opens by blessing God for the living hope we have through Christ's resurrection even amid difficult circumstances and surroundings.

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead ⁴ and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷ so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸ Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹ for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

**A new commandment I give unto you,
that you love one another as I have loved you,
that you love one another as I have loved you.
By this shall people know you are my disciples,
if you have love one for another;
by this shall people know you are my disciples:
if you have love one for another.**

Text: John 13:34-35
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GOSPEL:

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

John 20:19-31

The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. But one of their number is missing, and his unbelief prompts another visit from the Lord.

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jewish officials, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit."²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe."²⁸ Thomas answered

him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

SERMON ON THE STEPS

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks **WOV #671**
(Vs. 1, 2 & 3)

Refrain

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his Name.

Verse 1

Jesus is Lord of all the earth.
He is the King of creation.

Refrain

Verse 2

Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
Jesus has died and has risen.

Refrain

Verse 3

We have been crucified with Christ.
Now we shall live for ever.

Refrain

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,

**the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

**the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

Amen.

THE PEACE

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

Arr. Wilbur Held

One License #39728

OFFERING HYMN

We Are an Offering RED ELW #692

**We lift our voices, We lift our hands,
We lift our lives up to You:
We are an offering.
Lord use our voices, Lord use our hands,
Lord use our lives they are Yours:
We are an offering.
All that we have, All that we are,
All that we hope to be,
We give to You, We give to You
We lift our voices, We lift our hands
We lift our lives up to You:
We are an offering
We are an offering**

Songwriters: Dwight Liles

We Are an Offering lyrics © Warner Chappell Music, Inc
CCLI #16220

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Merciful God,

accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory.

**You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day
when we will hunger and thirst no more.**

**Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus,
that goodness and mercy may follow us
and bless the world you love.**

In the name of Jesus,

Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

HOLY HOLY HOLY

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

heav'n and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest,

hosanna in the highest.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord, Jesus Christ took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to the disciples saying, "Take and eat. This is my body given for you. Do this in 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 sins. Do this in remembrance of me."

Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

RED ELW page 207

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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

Come to the table of new life.

Receive the risen Lord.

COMMUNION

(Zion practices an open table. God welcomes everyone to come forward. Young children may receive bread and a blessing. If you prefer not to receive, fold your hands and receive a blessing. Grape juice and gluten free wafers are available; please ask your servers. Come to the Lord's table and share in the feast!)

LAMB OF GOD

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace.**

RED ELW page 146

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Now the Green Blade Rises

Arr. Michael Burkhardt

One License #10-415-12

COMMUNION BLESSING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Holy One,

through this meal you have made your home among us
and are making all things new.

Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts,
to love our enemies,
and to bring your healing to the nations.

In the name of Jesus,

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,

✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright RED ELW #384

(Vs. 1 & 4)

- 1 That Easter day with joy was bright;
the sun shone out with fairer light
when, to their longing eyes restored,
th'apostles saw their risen Lord!

**4 All praise, O risen Lord, we give
to you, once dead, but now alive!
To God the Father equal praise,
and God the Spirit, now we raise!**

Text: Latin hymn, 5th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.
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DISMISSAL

**Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

Postlude on 'Diademata'

Arr. Gordon Young
One License #106026



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Weekly Announcements



Please keep these family, friends and members in your prayers: Dilshad & Sonya Perani, Gary Revier and Deb Otto

Welcome Guests!

Please sign the visitor book in the entrance to the sanctuary.

We are glad you are here!

Hunger Jar for the month of April is designated to Feed My Starving Children.

Celebration of Life for Marlene Fure will be held on Saturday, April 18 at First Covenant Church in St. Paul (1280 Arcade Street). A visitation will start at 12:00 with a service at 1:00.

Coffee Hour—The confirmation youth have indicated they would like to go to Confirmation Camp at Camp House in 2027. They are looking to raise money to attend Camp. The proceeds from Coffee Hour from March through June have been designated for Camp.

Former member Lance Holthusen passed away on Thursday, April 2. A memorial service will be held on Friday, April 17 at 11am at Servant of Christ Lutheran Church in Champlin.

All women are invited to the **SW MN 2026 Synodical Women’s Convention** for inspiration, education and renewal. You will not be disappointed by the experience of worship, speakers, displays and a little bit of business! The convention will take place on Saturday, May 2, at Calvary Lutheran Church in Willmar.

Lutheran Men in Mission will hold their convention at the same time and location, and we will share some of the same activities. Consider joining many other Lutheran men and women for a day of renewal, reflection and celebration.

For registration information contact Peg Kamps. Registrations are due April 21.

Date	Weekly Operating Offerings	Weekly Operating Goal	ELCA Missions	Hunger Jar	Parking Lot	Memorial Fund	Confirmation Camp (Coffee Hour)
4/2/2026	\$557.00		\$25.00	\$101.00	\$25.00	\$20.00	
4/5/2026	\$3,838.00	\$4,038.31	\$25.00	\$68.00	\$10.00		\$50.00
4/5/2026	\$770.00				\$2,010.00		

Pastor Gretchen Pierskalla

952-237-1060
pastor@zionarlington.org

Hours for the week of April 12

Wednesday, April 15—2:30-4

Thursday, April 16—12-3

by appointment

Stacy's Office Hours

Monday—Thursday, 2:30p-5:00p

Worship Assistants

April 12

Usher: Larry Gieseke, Larry Klunder
Kevin Kamps, Adilyn Kamps
Greeter: Bruce & Mary Kallhoff
Acolyte: Jacqueline Christeson
Reader: Murdock Krueger
AV Team: Matt & Jan Giesen
Altar Guild: Nancy Mathwig,
Roseann Nagel
Bread Maker: Larry Schiroo

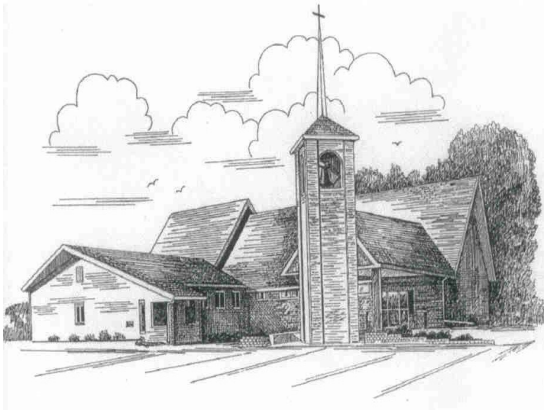
April 19

Usher: Jon Hazelwood, Elton Hazelwood
Stephanie Krueger, Murdock Krueger
Greeter: Jon Hazelwood
Acolyte: Jack Ruehling
Reader: Jane Scharpe
AV Team: Tim Michaelis & Elton Hazelwood

Zion Lutheran Church services can be viewed on:

YouTube at
www.youtube.com
Search: Zion ELCA Arlington MN
www.zionarlington.org

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Arlington, MN 55307
Church: 507-964-5454
Email: zion.elca.814@gmail.com
Web: zionarlington.org // YouTube: Zion ELCA Arlington MN



Zion Lutheran Church ELCA

This Week at Zion:

Sunday, April 12	9:00a 10:00a 10:15a	Worship w/Holy Communion Sunday School ZCW General Meeting
Wednesday, April 15	4-5:30p	6th, 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation
Thursday, April 16	10:00a 11:00a	Adult Bible Study Prayer Shawl
Sunday, April 19	9:00a 10:00a	Worship Sunday School

LSS Meals on Wheels Monday—Friday 9:00a—12:00p

