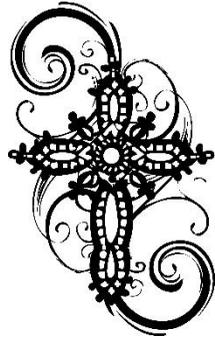


*“Bonded in Christ’s love, we teach, preach, and equip God’s people  
for discipleship here and throughout the world.”*



## **Second Sunday of Easter & Confirmation Sunday with the Sacrament of Holy Communion**

**April 24, 2022**

*For those who are hearing challenged, Zion has digital listening devices for your use during worship. Please ask an usher or council member for one and they will show you how to use it.*

### **Prelude – Bell**

*In Luke’s gospel, the women who came on Easter morning were intent on performing the rituals of grief but were thwarted by the emptiness of the tomb. Their first response was not joy, but terror and confusion. The celebration of Easter breaks into the spiral of grief, but the stages of grief, denial, and bargaining continue to unfold. “Why do you look for the living among the dead?” the angel asks (Luke 24:5). Like the women at the tomb, many of us still find ourselves among the dead.*

### **Easter Welcome**

P- Alleluia! Christ is risen.

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

### **Gathering**

P- In spite of all we have heard and all we have seen, it is often hard to believe. And because it is hard to believe, we will invest ourselves in the Easter mystery for fifty days (week of weeks).

**C- Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.** Psalm 118:28

P- Because it is hard to believe, John the Evangelist will provide sign after sign celebrating Jesus’ victory over death.

**C- Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.** Psalm 118:28

P- Because it is hard to believe, Jesus will return to us again and again in the mystery of Holy Communion, inviting us to touch and taste his presence, and offering us his peace.

**C- Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.** Psalm 118:28

**Gathering Hymn – Thine Be the Glory ELW 376**

### **Thanksgiving for Baptism**

*As you are able, please stand.*

P- In the waters of baptism, we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ, and we are a new creation. For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God, who was, who is, and who is to come.

*Water is poured into the font.*

P- We thank you God for the river of life, flowing free from your throne: through the earth, through the city, through the rural farmland, and through everything living.

**C- You rescued Noah and his family from the flood;  
you opened wide the sea for the Israelites.**

**Now in these waters you flood us with mercy, and our sin is  
drowned forever. You open the gate of righteousness and pass  
safely through.**

P- In Jesus Christ, you calm the troubled waters. You nourish us and enclose us in safety. You call us forth and send us out. In lush and barren places, you are with us. You have become our salvation. Now breathe upon this water and awaken your church once more. Claim us again as your beloved and holy people. Quench our thirst: cleanse our hearts: wipe away every tear.

**C- To you, our Beginning and our End, and our Shepherd and our Lamb, be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving, now and forever, amen!**

**Children's Time - Skit: The Delivinator** – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Not Ready for Prime Time Players

Eight Characters:

The Delivinator (superhero) **Morgan Behrens**

Announcer (stereotypical TV show announcer) **Dawson Smith**

Mayor (stereotypical bumbling mayor) **Garrett Ideus**

Citizens (the more the merrier) **Addison Kastanek, Dalton Sullivan, Cooper Lovitt, Kalleigh Bender, Neveah Niles**

Trumpet Player (plays superhero riff every time someone says "The Delivinator"). **Les Lieneman**

Questions Audience Should Consider:

- How is living in Uberopolis in the skit like our lives?
- What evils and temptations are you surrounded by?
- How do you feel God in your life when you encounter evil and temptation?

## Readings

### Acts 5:27-32

Lector – *Peter has been arrested for proclaiming the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection. His response to the charges of the high priest summarizes the early church's proclamation of forgiveness of sin through repentance.*

When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, so that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him." Here ends this reading.

### Psalm 118:14-29 - **A Song of Victory**

*Read responsively.*

The LORD is my strength and my might;  
**he has become my salvation.**

There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:

"The right hand of the LORD does valiantly;

**the right hand of the LORD is exalted;**

**the right hand of the LORD does valiantly."**

I shall not die, but I shall live,

**and recount the deeds of the LORD.**

The LORD has punished me severely,

**but he did not give me over to death.**

Open to me the gates of righteousness,

**that I may enter through them**

**and give thanks to the LORD.**

This is the gate of the LORD;

**the righteous shall enter through it.**

I thank you that you have answered me

**and have become my salvation.**

The stone that the builders rejected

**has become the chief cornerstone.**

This is the LORD's doing;

**it is marvelous in our eyes.**

This is the day that the LORD has made;

**let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Save us, we beseech you, O LORD!

**O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!**

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD.

**We bless you from the house of the LORD.**

The LORD is God,

**and he has given us light.**

Bind the festal procession with branches,

**up to the horns of the altar.**

You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;

**you are my God, I will extol you.**

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,

**for his steadfast love endures forever.**

### **Revelation 1:4-5**

Lector – *The Book of Revelation recounts a mystical vision of the risen Christ experienced by a Christian prophet named John. Here he describes Christ as a timeless redeemer, the beginning, present, and the end.*

John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be

glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds;

every eye will see him,

even those who pierced him;

and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

'I am the Alpha and the Omega', says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty. Here ends this reading.

### **Prayer of the Day**

*As you are able, please stand.*

P- O God of life,

**C- you reach out to us amid our fears with wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

### **Gospel – John 20:19-31**

P- The unprecedented events of the day of resurrection continue as the risen Jesus appears to his fearful disciples. A week later, after Thomas worships Jesus, Jesus pronounces that the blessings of the resurrection are also for those who "who have not seen but believed." .

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, **"Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."** 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 retain the sins of any, they are retained.”**

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. 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.”

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.”** 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.”** Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” 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.”**

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come 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.

**C- Praise to you, O Lord!** *Please be seated.*

**Message – “My Lord and My God!” What does this mean?**

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) has said: “Confirmation ministry is a pastoral and educational ministry of the church which **helps the baptized person through Word and Sacrament to identify more deeply with the Christian community and participate more fully in its mission.**” What does this mean?

**Affirmation of Baptism**

PRESENTATION – Council Representative: I present (names are read) Morgan Behrens, Kalleigh Bender, Garrett Ideus, Addison Kastanek, Cooper Lovitt, Neveah Niles, Dawson Smith and Dalton Sullivan, who desire to make public affirmation of their baptism.

Pastor - Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you for these sisters and brothers, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ. Amen.

### **PROFESSION OF FAITH**

P- I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

**Response by candidates: I renounce them.**

P- Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

**Response by candidates: I renounce them.**

P- Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

**Response by candidates: I renounce them.**

P- Do you believe in God the Father?

**Response by candidates and church family: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

P- Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**Response by candidates and church family: 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.**

P- Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**Response by candidates and church family: 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.**

### **AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM**

P- You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

**Response by candidates: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

P- People of God, do you promise to support these sisters and brothers and pray for them in their life in Christ?

**Response by church family: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

Those making affirmation may kneel. The presiding minister prays for God's blessing.

P- Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to

eternal life. The pastor will lay both hands on the head of each person and say:

### **Confirmation Bible Verses**

**Morgan Behrens – James 1:17**

*Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down for the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.*

**Kalleigh Bender – Matthew 6:34**

*“Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself.”*

**Addison Kastanek – Jeremiah 29:12**

*Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.*

**Cooper Lovitt – John 14:23**

*Jesus answered him, “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.”*

**Garrett Ideus – Romans 12:21**

Be not overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

**Neveah Niles – Psalm 27:1**

*The LORD is my light and my salvation;  
whom shall I fear?*

*The LORD is the stronghold of my life;  
of whom shall I be afraid?*

**Dawson Smith – John 15:13**

*“Greater love has no one than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.”*

**Dalton Sullivan** – John 3:16

*“For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that who believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”*

Stir up in name- the gift of your Holy Spirit:

the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. Amen.

Council Representative: Let us rejoice with these sisters and brothers in Christ. We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

**Offering Hymn – Borning Cry ELW 732**

**Offering Prayer**

*As you are able, please stand.*

P- Living God,

**C- you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together.**

**In your peace-filled reign you welcome us all to your table. Reach out to us in this meal, and show us your wounded and risen body, that we may be nourished and believe in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

**Amen**

**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 the Church** – *When the pastor says, “Lord in your mercy”  
please respond with “hear our prayer!”*

## **Words of Institution - Song of Consecration**

*Please join in singing the final verse in bold print.*

The night of his betrayal, our Lord took bread.  
He broke it as he blest it, and then he said,  
“My body broken for you...is what this means;  
remember now my children what you have seen!”

And then he took the chalice and raised it high,  
“My blood is given for you, a full supply...  
a covenant, a promise...a cleansing stream;  
remember now my children what you have seen!”

**We share this food together, remem’bring Christ:  
we share a common treasure and know the price;  
we share it without measure...a gift of love;  
we share our life forever, with God above!**

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John Ylvisaker c/o Fern M. Krueger, P.O. Box 321, Waverly, Iowa 50677

## **Lord’s Prayer**

**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-

The risen Christ dwells with us here.  
All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, come.

**Distribution of Holy Communion** – *We will be doing communion by flow through for those able to come forward to partake. Please follow the usher’s directions and maintain social distancing. A team will bring communion to those unable to come forward. For those who prefer the individual communion package, we have it available in the entryways.*

## **Communion Hymn – What a Friend We Have in Jesus ELW 742**

### **Prayer after Holy Communion**

P-

We give you thanks, generous God,  
this bread and cup

for in  
we have

tasted the new heaven and earth

where hunger and thirst are no more.

Send

us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection,  
through our lives, all may know Jesus’ name.

that

**C- Amen.**

## **Announcements in the Life of Our Church**

### **Blessing & Dismissal**

P- God, the Author of life,  
Christ, the living Cornerstone,  
and the life-giving Spirit of adoption,  
+ bless you now and forever.

**C- Amen.**

P- Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C-

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P- Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

C-

Thanks be to God! ZION...a place to belong, a place to believe, a place to become!

**Sending Hymn – My Hope is Built on Nothing Less ELW 597**

**. Pastor Jer's phone number – 402-404-0494**

**Britan's number – 308-730-0599**

Pastor..... Rev. Jerry Gilbreath  
Organist..... Alnora Daubendiek  
Acolytes..... Cale Behrens, Hudson Fikar  
Reader..... Mary Lenners  
Special Music..... Les Lieneman

**Vital Statistics**

Sunrise 196 \$1829.00

Breakfast \$1532

Late service 229 \$3032

**This Week**

Sunday School, 8:45 am

Breakfast Club, 9 am

God's Grace DVD series, 9 am

Worship/Holy Comm 9:30 am

**NEXT Sunday, May 1**

Sunday School,8:45 am

Breakfast Club, 9 am

God's Grace DVD series, 9 am

Worship 10 am

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Welcome to worship! Warm Welcome to all our visitors. We would love to have you visit again! We ask that you please sign a visitor card located in the pews and bring the information section of the**

**card to the information center desk, located in the unity room. We are so glad you are here!**

**HANDICAP PARKING-**IN THE NEED FOR MORE HANDICAP PARKING FOR OUR WORSHIP SERVICES, WE WILL BEGIN TO USE ALL SPACES FROM PARSONAGE TO NORTH DOORS OF CHURCH FOR THOSE THAT HAVE DIFFICULTY WALKING OR USE WALKERS. PLEASE BE CONSIDERATE OF THOSE THAT TRULY NEED THE CLOSER PARKING. THANK YOU!! ~The Church Council

***Today's bulletin is sponsored by Duane and Marsha Zulauf in honor of their 60th anniversary. They were married April 29, 1962.***

**LWR Blanket (quilt) Assembly:** The blankets made for Lutheran World Relief go all over the world, including recently 7400 to Ukraine. No sewing ability or experience is necessary. If you use a stick pin and tie knots you can help make a blanket and enjoy a day or part of a day of fellowship you are welcome. We will meet in the Parish Hall basement on April 11,12, 25 & 26 from 9 to 3. Come for a few hours or the day (bring a lunch). You can also volunteer to make a top or tie a blanket outside of these days. You can also arrange a group to assemble blanket(s) at another time. If you have questions, please contact Karen Gilbreath (402) 661-9362 or Denise Schlake-Ideus (402) 806-2236.

**FYI Next Bishop of the Nebraska Synod Bio's & Video's** During the next Synod Assembly (June 1-3) process, we will be electing/calling our next bishop. There are nine candidates who have been nominated on the cluster level and then consented to be on this ballot for bishop. I invite anyone interested to type **2022 Candidates for Bishop Nebraska Synod** into the search engine of your choice and click on **Meet Your 2022 Candidates for Bishop**. You then will be able to read their bio's and watch their video interviews. (P.S. One of the candidates is Casey Lieneman a son of this church family.)

**Council is looking for volunteers** to serve on a committee to update Zion's picture directory. If you are interested in researching current options or providing photography services, please contact Brenda Gronewold at 402-520-0397.

**GRACE CIRCLE MEMBERS** please note that our April meeting has been changed due to a conflict, to April 27<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm in Fellowship hall.

**Graduate recognition** – If you have a high school or college graduate, please forward their names and future plans to Britan at [britanmeints@gmail.com](mailto:britanmeints@gmail.com) or 308-730-0599. Graduation recognition is scheduled for May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**CONSIDER GIVING TO THE BEATRICE COMMUNITY FOOD**

**PANTRY.** Collection boxes located in hallways & fellowship hall  
Greatest Needs include:

Boxed cereal, Oatmeal, Egg noodles,  
Spaghetti noodles, Cream of Chicken soup,  
Condiments, Jelly, Shampoo  
Supported by a Thrivent Action Grant

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**

You are invited to enjoy an informational evening Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall with guest speaker, Amber Lovitt, Executive Director CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) of Gage County for abused and neglected children hosted by Zion's WELCA (Women of the ELCA). Amber recruits, trains and mentors' volunteers who are appointed by the County Judge to gather information. These children are in the court system of no fault of their own but due to abuse and neglect. They offer training services and supplies to the community to help children and families thrive together. Area churches have been invited as well, so please bring a friend. Refreshments will also be served.

**Confirmation class of '72** will be having a 50 year reunion on May 1<sup>st</sup>

**Lincoln Lutheran Choir welcomes new and returning members to the 2022 Spring Concert Season!** Grace Lutheran Church, 2225 Washington St. Lincoln, NE: May 1<sup>st</sup> @ 3 pm Contact: Diane Merrill @ (402)-617-1204 or [rpmdkm@gmail.com](mailto:rpmdkm@gmail.com)

**Congratulation's to the 2022 Confirmation Class!** May God Bless you all!

**Helping out Sunday, May 1**

Acolytes – Savannah Mahler, Nicole Davison

Reader – Paul Remmers

Breakfast Club Food – Paul Remmers

Special Music for service – Randy Ehman

**April Altar Guild:** Denise Ideus, Cheryl Folkerts, Danelle Evers, Judy Carstens, Carrye Meints

**April Table Troop Volunteers:** Duane Zulauf, Mark Buhr, Alex Buhr, Jeff Bussboom, Doug Parde, Steve Gronewold, Stan Lenner, Mary Lenner, Al Wiese

**SHUT INS**

**Gold Crest** – Mildred Meints, Marie Schoen

**Homestead House** – Thees Busboom, Elsie Zimmerman

**Whispering Winds Cottage** – LaVern Parde

**Our Homes Assisted Living** – Randy Oltman

**The parish hall has been reserved April 2<sup>nd</sup>, April 24<sup>th</sup> and May 21<sup>st</sup>**

**For weekly bulletin Announcements Please email, text or call Britan Meints by Wednesday evening! Thank you! Phone: (308)-730-0599**

**Email: [britanmeints@gmail.com](mailto:britanmeints@gmail.com)**

