

APOSTLES' CREED

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Merciful God, receive our prayer. ... In the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

THE OFFERING

OFFERING VOLUNTARY — Jill Sousek

COMMUNION

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER [TRADITIONAL]

COMMUNION VOLUNTARY — Jill Sousek

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.**

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.

BENEDICTION

HYMN #376 — *Thine is The Glory*

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE — Jill Sousek



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A member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Third Sunday of Easter

APRIL 19, 2026

WELCOME TO ZION

PRELUDE — Jill Sousek

“One Thing Remains” — Kids of the Kingdom [10:30 AM]

LOUD OFFERING

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

The sign of the cross ✠ may be made in remembrance of 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 grace of baptism and for making us a new creation.

We join saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever. **Amen.**

HYMN #377 — *Alleluia! Jesus is Risen!* [vs. 1-3]

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING — *Acts 2:14a, 36-41*

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the people: “Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified to be both Lord and Messiah.” Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” Peter said to them, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls.” And Peter testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

SECOND READING — *1 Peter 1:17-23*

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. Christ was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through Christ you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God. Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL — *Luke 24:13-35*

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And Jesus said to them, “What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?” They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?” He asked them, “What things?” They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.” Then Jesus said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. When Jesus was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!” Then they told what had happened on the road, and how Jesus had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

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

CHILDRENS' SERMON — Pastor Scott Ludford

THE SERMON — Pastor Scott Ludford

HYMN #539 — *Abide, O Dearest Jesus* [vs. 1-3]