



WE LOVE
BECAUSE HE FIRST
LOVED US.

1 JOHN 4:19, NRSV

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 2 / 5, 2024

Zion Ev. Lutheran Church

6430 Hwy. D

Allenton, Wisconsin 53002

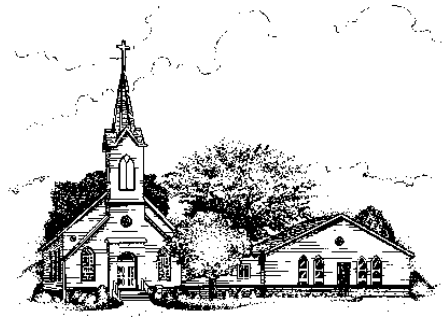
Members of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

Steven D. Bode, pastor

6438 Hwy. D Allenton, WI

Church Office: 262-629-5914 / website: www.zionallenton.org

Pastor cell phone: 262-483-0407 / e-mail: revsdb@aol.com



Welcome to God's House

The entirety of God's Word can be summed up in one word: love. God's Law is all about love. "Love the Lord your God with all your heart..." and "Love your neighbor as yourself" (Matthew 22:37,39). The gospel is all about **resurrection** love: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one **REALity** and only Son..." (John 3:16). From his compassion for the sick and broken, to his sacrificial death on the cross, to the peace he provided after his resurrection, Jesus was the perfect embodiment of love. Love is his business.

Therefore, love is our business too. The resurrection reality is that with the same supernatural power by which God raised Jesus from the dead, God now enables us to live a new life—one marked by radically selfless love. The motivation and ability to do this comes from seeing the endless love Christ has for us. We love only because he first loved us.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Opening Hymn

This Is My Will #728



1 This is my will, my one com - mand, that love should
2 No great - er love can be than this: to choose to
4 You chose not me, but I chose you, that you should



dwel a - mong you all. This is my will, that you should
die to save one's friends. You are my friends if you o -
go and bear much fruit. I chose you out that you in



love as I have shown that I love you.
bey what I com - mand that you should do.
me should bear much fruit that will a - bide.

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Confession

As we come before our God and King, let us confess our sins.

Lord God, I humbly come before you.

I confess that I am sinful in thought, word, and deed.

**I daily fail to do what you command,
and continually do what you forbid.**

Lord, I am sorry for my sins.

**I believe that for the sake of my Lord Jesus Christ,
you will have mercy on me.**

Upon this, your sincere confession, and by Christ's command and authority,
I assure you that your sins are all forgiven.

The vacant cross and empty grave are God's signs to you

that he has accepted the sacrifice of his one and only Son.
Whoever believes this simple truth of Scripture has eternal life.

The Lord is gracious and righteous!

When I was in great need, he saved me.

Psalm 116:5,6

The Lord is my strength and my song.

He has become my salvation.

Psalm 118:14

Gloria

BEACH SPRING CW 1003

♪ **Glory be to God in heaven, peace to those he loves so well.**

On the earth let all his people speak his grace, his wonders tell:

**Lord, we praise you for your glory, mighty Father, heaven's King;
hear our joyful adoration and accept the thanks we bring.**

**Only Son of God the Father, Lamb who takes our sin away,
now with him in triumph seated—for your mercy, Lord, we pray:
Jesus Christ, most high and holy, Savior, you are God alone
in the glory of the Father with the Spirit, Three in One!**

Lord, Have Mercy

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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

Amen.

THE WORD

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Lord God, you are the giver of everything good. Inspire us, your humble servants, to long for what is right and, through your gracious guidance, accomplish it to your glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading

Acts 9:36-42

³⁶ In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas); she was always doing good and helping the poor. ³⁷ About that time she became sick and died, and her body was washed and placed in an upstairs room. ³⁸ Lydda was near Joppa; so when the disciples heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him and urged him, "Please come at once!"

³⁹ Peter went with them, and when he arrived he was taken upstairs to the room. All the widows stood around him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them.

⁴⁰ Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed. Turning toward the dead woman, he said, “Tabitha, get up.” She opened her eyes, and seeing Peter she sat up. ⁴¹ He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet. Then he called for the believers, especially the widows, and presented her to them alive. ⁴² This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

Forever I Will Sing - Psalm 89A

Refrain

For - ev - er I will sing the good - ness of the
LORD, the good - ness of the LORD.

Tone

I will sing of the Lord's great love for- / ever;

with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all gener- / ations.

I will declare that your love stands firm for- / ever,

that you have established your faithfulness in / heav'n itself.

The heavens praise your / wonders, Lord,

your faithfulness too, in the assembly of the / holy ones. **Refrain**

Who is like you, Lord God Al- / mighty?

You, Lord, are mighty, and your faithfulness sur- / rounds you.

Blessed are those who have learned to ac- / claim you,

who walk in the light of your / presence, Lord.

They rejoice in your name / all day long;

they celebrate your / righteousness.

Glory be to the Father and / to the Son

and to the Holy / Spirit,

as it was in the be- / ginning,

is now, and will be forever. / Amen. **Refrain**

Second Reading

1 John 4:7-11; 19-21

⁷ Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹ This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. ¹⁰ This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹ Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another...

¹⁹ We love because he first loved us. ²⁰ Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. ²¹ And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

1 Corinthians 13:13

Alleluia. And now these three remain: faith, hope and love.

But the greatest of these is love. Alleluia.

Gospel

John 15:9-17

⁹“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. ¹¹I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. ¹²My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. ¹³Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. ¹⁷This is my command: Love each other.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn of the Day

Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice #557

Dear Christians, one and all, rejoice, with exultation springing,
and, with united heart and voice and holy rapture singing,
proclaim the wonders God has done, how his right arm the vict’ry won.

How dearly it has cost him!

My own good works availed me naught, no merit they attaining;
my will against God’s judgment fought, no hope for me remaining.

My fears increased till sheer despair left only death to be my share
and hell to be my sentence.

But God beheld my wretched state before the world's foundation,
and, mindful of his mercies great, he planned for my salvation.
A father's heart he turned to me, sought my redemption fervently;
he gave his dearest treasure.

To me he spoke, "Hold fast to me, I am your rock and castle.
Your ransom I myself will be; for you I strive and wrestle.
For I am yours, your friend divine, and evermore you shall be mine;
the foe shall not divide us.

"What I on earth have lived and taught be all your life and teaching;
so shall my kingdom's work be wrought and honored in your preaching.
Take care that no one's man-made laws should e'er destroy the gospel's
cause;
this final word I leave you."

Sermon

Acts 9:36-42

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of

saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Please be seated

Prayer of the Church

Blessed God, you do not reject our prayers or remove your steadfast love from us. Hear us now and answer us in your love for your whole Church and for all people according to their needs. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Heavenly Father, you invite us to freely come and hear your Word. Bless and increase our faith, that we may rightly fear you and learn what you have done for our souls. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Lord of all, you make known the good news of peace through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Bless and direct the work of our missionaries, that in every nation there would be people who fear God, do what is right and, believing in Jesus, receive forgiveness of sins through his name. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Almighty Father, you rule this world by your established authorities in ways that we do not always understand; yet in the name of Jesus, we may ask you anything freely as friends and sons. Bless our nation's leaders and cause them to serve wisely for our good. Give earthly peace and justice that is in accord with your commandments and the order you have revealed. Bring an end to injustice, violence and disdain for your truth, and let us receive all good with thanksgiving. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Lord God, the Giver of all that is good, grant your healing and support to all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity. Use us as your instruments to show them your love. Give them also the gift of your grace to accept and bear their crosses with faith in you, that finally they would be prepared to depart this life and receive the gift of eternal life in your kingdom. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayers and special intercessions

Into your hands, Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Offering

The members of Zion have joined together to do the Lord's work in this community and around the world. If you are a visitor, please don't feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.

Hymn

How Deep the Father's Love for us #523



1 How deep the Fa-ther's love for us, how vast be-yond all
2 Be - hold the Man up - on a cross, my sin up - on his
3 I will not boast in an - y - thing: no gifts, no pow'r, no



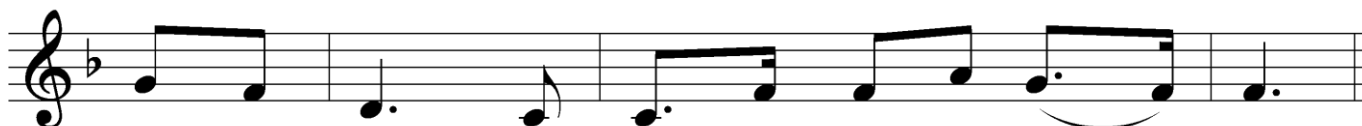
mea - sure, that he should give his on - ly Son to
shoul - ders. A - shamed, I hear my mock - ing voice call
wis - dom. But I will boast in Je - sus Christ: his



make a wretch his trea - sure. How great the pain of sear - ing loss.
out a - mong the scof - fers. It was my sin that held him there
death and res - ur - rec - tion. Why should I gain from his re - ward?



The Fa - ther turns his face a - way as wounds which mar the
un - til it was ac - com - plished; his dy - ing breath has
I can - not give an an - swer. But this I know with



Cho - sen One bring man - y sons to glo - ry.
brought me life. I know that it is fin - ished.
all my heart: his wounds have paid my ran - som.

Prayer

Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and

comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

Amen.

Closing Hymn

What Wondrous Love Is This #526

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down, sinking down,

when I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,

Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb, who is the great I AM,
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
while millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing his love for me,
and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and through eternity I'll sing on.

Copyrights / Acknowledgments

728 This Is My Will

CW 728 sts. 1-2, 4

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Tune: Gaelic, 19th cent.

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1003 Gloria (Amer) - BEACH SPRING *CW 1003*

Text: Michael A. Perry

Tune: The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844

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89A Forever I Will Sing *Psalms 89A*

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526 What Wondrous Love Is This *CW 526*

Text: A General Selection of . . . Hymns and Spiritual Songs, Lynchburg, 1811, alt.

Tune: Southern Harmony, New Haven, 1835, ed. William Walker

Text and tune: Public domain

This Week at Zion

Today:	7:30 / 9:45 a.m.	Worship
	8:30 / 8:45 a.m.	Sunday School / Bible Study
	2:00 p.m.	KML Spring Play: <i>While You Were Out</i>
	4:00 p.m.	Lutheran Chorale Concert at St. Paul's, East Troy
Tue:	12:30 p.m.	Circuit meeting at KML
	6:30 p.m.	Sunday School Teacher meeting
Wed:	6:00 p.m.	Catechism instructions
Thu:	7:00 p.m.	Worship with Holy Communion
Fri:	7:00 p.m.	KML Spring Play
	7:30 p.m.	WLC Choir concert
Sat:	6:30 p.m.	KML Percussion Concert
Sun:		<i>Mother's Day</i>
	7:30 / 9:45 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion
	8 :30 / 8:45 a.m.	Sunday School / Adult bible study

In Our Prayers Darleen Oelhafen, recovering from a broken leg at Cedar Bay West; JoAnne Noel, undergoing PT after a knee replacement.

We thank our organists this weekend: Anne Drewa on Thursday and Bea Pamperin on Sunday.

Please pick up a copy of the *May Forward in Christ*, church calendar, church newsletter, etc... all from the cabinets in the entryway.

Bible Study Have you ever thought about your funeral? In our Sunday morning adult Bible study today, we'll be finishing up the account of *Jesus Raising Lazarus* and applying it by taking a look at what goes into planning a funeral. Join us!

Worship Videos As we experiment with the new audio / video equipment, we'd love some feedback as to what you like or don't like so

much if you've watched any recent videos from home. For example, we've been putting the words to the hymns up on the screen as they're sung. Do you appreciate that option? Is there anything else that might need tweaking? Contact Steve Galleske or Pastor Bode. Thank you.

Perennial Exchange Save the date – May 18th - for our second perennial exchange at church. Are you looking for some new plants in your flower garden? Dig (or separate) some of yours up, then bring them to church on the 18th where you'll be able to exchange them for something fresh and new, while giving others the opportunity to do the same. Food, fellowship, and flowers....join us at 9 a.m. May 18th!

Sunday School Singing The Sunday School 3rd-8th graders will be singing on May 19th and are in the process of learning their song. Parents, please help them by playing the following video for them:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rYAZe8JoV6M>

Lighthouse Ministry Sign up to provide some of the food needed when we serve at Lighthouse Youth Ministry next Friday. The sheet is on the bulletin board.

Please pick up the new calendar and church newsletter for May, along with the new *Forward in Christ*. You'll find them on the cabinets in the entryway.

Upcoming Concerts at KML You are invited to attend the upcoming band and choir concerts at Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School (All concerts are available live at kmlhs.org/stream for those unable to attend in person).

- Jazz & Echoes Concert: Wednesday, May 8, 6:30 PM
- Percussion Concert: Saturday, May 11, 6:30 PM
- Spring Concert: Saturday, May 18, 6:30 PM

Singers Needed! Do you have children who love to sing? There are two opportunities for them to participate in the National Conference on

Worship, Music, and the Arts - July 30-Aug. 2, 2024 at Carthage College in Kenosha, Wis.

The Children's Choir is an upper elementary choir of unchanged voices chosen on the basis of choral experience. This group will sing for several services throughout the conference. Applications are now being accepted. Learn more and apply at welsworshipconference.net/childrens-choir/.

The Honor Choir is a 120-voice choir of WELS high school students from throughout the country, drawn from WELS high schools, public high schools, and home schooled students. This choir, accompanied by full orchestra, sings at the Festival Service on Fri., Aug. 2. Learn more and apply at welsworshipconference.net/honor-choir/.

Greeter Signup The online signup sheet is open for June – August. Go to www.zionallenton.org, scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on “Greeter Signup.”