

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026 – 10 AM**

**WELCOME**



As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today's gospel includes Jesus' promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father's house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus' mission in the world. As 1 Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ—our way, our truth, our life.

✠ Preacher – The Reverend Bill Gaskill

✠ Officiant – Pr. Rudy Schneider

**CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

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

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Merciful God, **you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. So often we ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.**

God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In ✠ Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God. **Amen.**

**OPENING HYMN: ELW#430 – Rejoice for Christ is King!**

**Prayer of the Day** - Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**GOD'S HOLY WORD**

**FIRST READING: 1 Peter 2: 2 - 10**

<sup>2</sup>Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation <sup>3</sup>if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

<sup>4</sup>Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and <sup>5</sup>like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup>For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

<sup>7</sup>This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner," <sup>8</sup>and "A stone that makes them stumble and a rock that makes them fall."

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. <sup>9</sup>But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.



<sup>10</sup> Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. The Word of the Lord...**Thanks be to God!**

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

<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."**



### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



### **HOLY GOSPEL**

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of John 14: 1 - 14; **Glory to You, O Lord!**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup> "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup> In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. <sup>4</sup> And you know the way to the place where I am going." <sup>5</sup> Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" <sup>6</sup> Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup> If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

<sup>8</sup> Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." <sup>9</sup> Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?" <sup>10</sup> Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. <sup>11</sup> Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves.

<sup>12</sup> Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup> I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup> If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it." The Gospel of the Lord...**Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ!**

**SERMON – Rock Concert  
The Reverend Bill Gaskill**

**HYMN: ELW#772 – O That the Lord Would Guide My Ways**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

‡ We recognize those joining us via Facebook Live and give voice to any greetings or prayer requests submitted for our worship.

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation. *A brief silence.*

God of glory, you have built your church on Christ the cornerstone. Inspire lay leaders, deacons, pastors, and bishops to proclaim forgiveness and your steadfast love to all whom they encounter. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of majesty, you bring forth plants and animals, skies and seas, mountains, and valleys. Protect all you have made from the ravages of pollution and climate disaster. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of mercy, you intend governments and social service agencies to be instruments of peace and justice. Guide political leaders and organizations to be agents of compassion and raise up advocates for those who seek refuge and assistance. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of well-being, you soothe those in distress, console all who grieve, provide for any in need, and comfort those who are sick. Grace those from our families and community that we now name silently in our hearts, or out loud, with our prayers and your blessings. *(Please name silently or out loud).* Instill caregivers with a sense of purpose to be your healing hands in this world. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of community, you call us together as your people for mutual support and to witness to your love in the world. Make your presence known among those unable to attend worship today. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of eternal life, you have prepared dwelling places for your people, so that we are never separated from you. We give you thanks for the faithful departed who witnessed your mighty acts in word and deed. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Gracious Father, we seek Your divine wisdom and guidance in our search for a shepherd to lead us with humility, love, and grace. Lord, bless our search process, our call committee and open doors to reveal the right candidate to us. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

*(Additional Petitions may be offered.)*

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.**

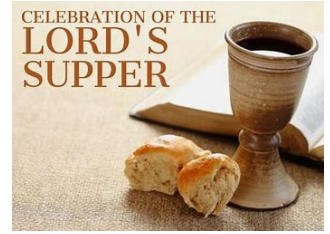
**OFFERING & OFFERING PRAYER**

God of all goodness and grace, receive these gifts we offer. Grant that our whole lives may give you glory and praise, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love, you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross opened his arms to all.

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 death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. And unto that time, we come before Him praying;

**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.

### OUR TIME OF COMMUNION WITH THE LORD!

#### **COMMUNION HYMNS:**

<b>1: Lord, You are more precious than Silver</b>	<b>2: Lord, I give my Life to You</b>
Lord, you are more precious than silver, Lord, you are more costly than gold, Lord, you are more beautiful than diamonds, And nothing I desire compares with you, And nothing I desire compares with you.  <small>© 1982 Integrity's Hosanna! Music, CCLI License # 22085334</small>	Lord, I give my life to You. At your feet I lay my burdens down. Lord, I place my weakness in the strength of your hand. Father, work Your will in me.  <small>By Darrell Dement, c. 1986 Zion Song Music, Used by permission CCLI License #22805334</small>

#### **COMMUNION HYMN 3: O Lord, You're Beautiful**

O Lord, You're beautiful, Your face is all I seek;  
 And when Your eyes are on this child, your grace abounds to me.

O Lord, You're wonderful, Your touch is all I need;  
 And when Your hand is on this child, Your healing I receive.

O Lord, please light the fire, That once burned bright and clear,  
 Replace the lamp of my first love that burns with holy fear.

O Lord, You're beautiful, Your face is all I seek;  
 And when Your eyes are on this child, Your grace abounds to me.

By Keith Green; c.1980 Ears to Hear Music, Adm. Capitol CMG Publishing; CCLI# 14514

**Closing 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.**

**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: Salvation Belongs to our God**

Salvation belongs to our God, Who sits upon the throne:  
And unto the Lamb, Praise and glory,  
Wisdom and thanks, honor and power and strength.

**Chorus**

And we the redeemed shall be strong,  
In purpose and unity, declaring aloud,  
Praise and glory, wisdom, and thanks,  
Honor and power and strength.

**Chorus**

Praise and glory, wisdom and thanks,  
Honor and power and strength.

**Chorus**

**Song of Blessing**

May God's blessing surround you each day,  
As you trust God and walk in God's way.  
May God's presence within guard and keep you from sin,  
Go in peace, go in joy, go in love.

*C. 1982 by Cliff Barrows. C. 1986 by Pierre Lacher, CCLI License # 22085334*

**Dismissal:** Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**Notes:**

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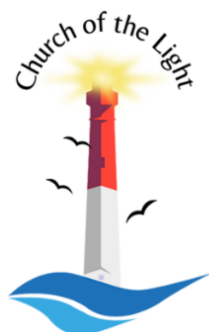
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Zion Lutheran Church LBI  
18th Street & Central Ave  
PO Box 152  
Barnegat Light, NJ 08006  
(609) 494-8676  
ZionChurchLBI@gmail.com

[www.ZionLBI.com](http://www.ZionLBI.com)