

*Sixth Sunday of Easter, May 5, 2024*  
*Zoar Church, Tofte, MN*

**Welcome**

*Pastor: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,*

**Congregation: Amen**

*Pastor: The Lord be with you*

**Congregation: And also with you**

**Opening Prayer**

**Bell**

**Confession and Forgiveness (From With One Voice)**

*P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.*

**C: Amen.**

*P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another*

*(Silence for reflection and self-examination.)*

*P: Gracious God,*

**C: have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

*P: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.*

**C: Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn “Bind Us Together” - Worship & Praise # 18 v. 1-2**

**Refrain** Bind us together, Lord,  
Bind us together with cords  
that cannot be broken  
Bind us together, Lord,  
Bind us together, Lord,  
Bind us together in love.

**V1** There is only one God.  
There is only one King.  
There is only one Body;  
That is why we can sing:

**V2** You are the fam'ly of God.  
You are the promise divine.  
You are God's chosen desire,  
You are the glorious new wine.

**Prayers & The Lord's Prayer Family of God # 440 (Sung)**

**Our Father, which 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory, forever. Amen.**

**Opening Hymn: “Father, I Adore You” - Worship & Praise # 37 v. 1-3**

**V1** *Father, I adore you,  
Lay my life before you;  
How I love you.*

**V2** *Jesus, I adore you,  
Lay my life before you;  
How I love you.*

**V3** *Spirit, I adore you,  
Lay my life before you;  
How I love you.*

**Old Testament Reading:** Psalm 110:1 (NIV)

The Lord says to my lord: “Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.”

**New Testament Reading:** Acts 2:14-41 (NIV)

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: “Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It’s only nine in the morning! No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

“‘In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke. The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord. And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’

“Fellow Israelites, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. This man was handed over to you by God’s deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him.

David said about him:

“‘I saw the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest in hope, because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, you will not let your holy one see decay. You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence.’

“Fellow Israelites, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. Seeing what was to come, he spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead, nor did his body see decay. God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it. Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear. For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said,

“‘The Lord said to my Lord: “Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.”’

“Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.”

When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”

Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

**Gospel Reading:** Matthew 16:15-18 (NIV)

“But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?”

Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”

Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

*P: The Word of God for the people of God*

**C: Thanks be to God**

**Message:** “Peter’s Pentecost Message” - Pastor Al Alexander

**Apostle’s Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy  
Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
Was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the  
right hand of the Father. He will come again  
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

**Communion**

*Please come forward during the communion hymn and take a cup of wine or grape juice and a wafer back to your seats. If you are joining us at home, please use your own bread or crackers and wine or juice. We believe the Lord’s Supper is a “means of grace” offered freely to all who seek Him. Please join us.*

**Words of Institution & Prayer of Thanksgiving**

*P: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.*

**C: You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.**

*P: We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.*

**C: Amen**

**Closing Hymn: "Give Thanks" - Worship & Praise # 41 v. 1-2**

*Give thanks with a grateful heart,  
Give thanks to the Holy One,  
Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son.  
(Repeat)*

*And now let the weak say, "I am strong."  
Let the poor say, "I am rich,"  
Because of what the Lord has done for us.  
(Repeat)  
Give thanks!*

**Announcements**

- May Mission: Alianza Internacional De Ayuda
- Prayer chain - email or call Pastor Al or the church.  
Latest prayer list is on the table in the Narthex.
- Bible Study – Mondays 6:00pm; John 16:1-33
- Need a ride to Sunday service, Bible Study or Soup Supper - Call Pastor Al
- Sign up for after church treats.
- Box in the Narthex; or give online through our web page or send a check to the church.
- Rev. Roger Livdahl Living Legacy Campaign. Information in Narthex
- Zoar has two canoes that can be borrowed at no cost. Reserve through the church.

**Sending Hymn: "Let There be Praise" - Worship & Praise # 87 v. 1-2**

*Let there be praise, let there be joy in our hearts  
Sing to the Lord, give God the glory.*

*Let there be praise, let there be joy in our hearts.  
Forevermore let his love fill the air,  
And let there be praise.*

**Benediction: 2 Corinthians 13:14**

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**Sending**

*Pastor Al: Go in peace and serve the Lord.*

***Congregation: Thanks be to God. We Will! Alleluia. Amen***

**Bell and Dismiss**

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Al Alexander, Pastor 612-308-2185 • Music provided this morning by Lavona Czaplicki**

***Offerings can be dropped in the labeled box in the narthex  
or by clicking the link "Give" on the zoarchurch.org homepage.***