

SATURDAY EVENING SERVICE
APRIL 5, 2025
ZION LUTHERAN, TAMAQUA, PA

Note: Pastor White will ask for prayer requests at the start of this evening's service. Worshipers are also invited to add their own prayers during Prayers of the People. We will also be using our cell phones for the Sharing of the Peace. You may wish to select someone ahead of time to send your message of peace and love.

GATHERING

Opening song: "Lord, I Need You" – Matt Maher

Gathering Words

This is the day the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it

Spring is about to break forth!

In all the land, new life is happening!

Feel the wonder and power of God's creative energy

Feel the awe and joy of God's love for us.

Let us worship God with a full sense of joy and expectation.

Let us open our hearts, our spirits, our souls, to God's lavish love.

AMEN.

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

And also with you.

Let us pray together: **We come into your presence, O Lord, with so many burdens and concerns on our hearts. Help us to be open to your words of healing and restoration. Bring us closer to you. Enable us to discern your will for us that we may serve you more faithfully by serving others in need. In Christ's name, we pray. AMEN.**

Greetings – Pastor Cindy White

Sharing of Peace

May the Peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Sharing by text

We invite you to take out your cell phone now and send a text message of joy and love to someone who isn't in worship this evening.

Godsightings:

Where have you seen God at work in your life?

THE WORD (John 12:1-8)

Gospel reading

Holy God, may we taste and see the good things you are doing in our lives.

May the words we hear inspire us to be your faithful followers.

Amen.

A reading from John: **12** Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. ² Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. ³ Then Mary took about a pint^[a] of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

⁴ But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, ⁵ "Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages.^[b]" ⁶ He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it.

⁷ "Leave her alone," Jesus replied. "It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. ⁸ You will always have the poor among you,^[c] but you will not always have me."

The Gospel of Our Lord

Praise to you, O Christ!

Today's message – Pastor Cindy White

Praise & Prayer

The Offering Moment

"Doxology" – The Vagle Brothers

Let us pray together: **Dearest Friend, you chose a path of suffering to reach out to us in our suffering. Use us and our gifts to extend your love and comfort to reach people in places of loss and grief. Use us and our gifts this day to bring hope and compassion to those who weep, that they may know your miraculous power and your fullness of life. Use us and our gifts to bring shouts of joy to those who weep with bitter tears. Amen.**

Any responses to tonight's text greetings?

Prayers of the People

Lord in your mercy ...

Hear our prayer

The Lord's Prayer – Spoken

The sending

Announcements

Benediction

And all God's people say

Thanks be to God.

Sending song: "Prayer of St. Francis" – Sinead O'Connor

Postlude

Thank you for worshiping with us this evening.