

SATURDAY EVENING SERVICE
MAY 3, 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: "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"

- 1 Joyful, joyful we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee,
praising thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
drive the gloom of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.

- 2 All thy works with joy surround thee,
earth and heav'n reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee,
center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird, and flowing fountain
call us to rejoice in thee.

- 3 Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
wellspring of the joy of living,
ocean-depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our brother,
all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine!

Gathering Words

This is the day the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it

Rejoice in the Lord.

Praise God's holy name.

Worthy is the Lamb of our praise.

**Worthy is the righteous one
of blessing, honor, and glory.**

Rejoice in the Lord.

Praise God's holy name.

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: **Lord of Life, you meet us on the road, challenge our prejudices, and upend our lives. Remove the scales from our eyes—that we may see the breadth of your love, the diversity of the ones we are called to love, and the joy of extending your welcome. Fill us with your Spirit, that we might love one another as our shepherd loves us. Amen.**

Greetings

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 21:1-19)

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: 21 Afterward Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Galilee.^[a] It happened this way: ² Simon Peter, Thomas (also known as Didymus^[b]), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. ³ “I’m going out to fish,” Simon Peter told them, and they said, “We’ll go with you.” So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴ Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus.

⁵ He called out to them, “Friends, haven’t you any fish?”

“No,” they answered.

⁶ He said, “Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.” When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish.

⁷ Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, “It is the Lord,” he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. ⁸ The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards.^[c] ⁹ When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread.

¹⁰ Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish you have just caught.” ¹¹ So Simon Peter climbed back into the boat and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn. ¹² Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” None of the disciples dared ask him, “Who are you?” They knew it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴ This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵ When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?”

“Yes, Lord,” he said, “you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, "Feed my lambs."

¹⁶ Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep."

¹⁷ The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Feed my sheep. ¹⁸ Very truly I tell you, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go." ¹⁹ Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, "Follow me!"

The Gospel of Our Lord

Praise to you, O Christ!

Today's message – Pastor Cindy White

Praise & Prayer

The Offering Moment

Christ asks: "Do you love me? Feed my lambs."

Receive our love, Lord.

Christ challenges: "Do you love me? Tend my sheep."

Receive our service, Holy One.

Christ entreats: "Do you love me? Feed my sheep."

Receive our Gifts, gracious savior.

"Doxology"

Let us pray together: **Great Spirit, receive the gifts from our hands this day. For you rescue us from ourselves and free us to love others, as you have loved us. After a long slumber in ignorance and fear, we offer you our gratitude for the joy that comes in the morning. Accept this offering, as a sign of our commitment, to tend your sheep and feed your lambs. Amen.**

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: "Old Rugged Cross"

- 1 On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,
the emblem of suffering and shame;
and I love that old cross where the dearest and best
for a world of lost sinners was slain.

Refrain

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
and exchange it some day for a crown.

- 2 Oh, that old rugged cross so despised by the world,
has a wondrous attraction for me;
for the dear Lamb of God left his glory above,
to bear it to dark Calvary. *Refrain*

- 3 In the old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine,
a wondrous beauty I see;
for 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died,
to pardon and sanctify me. *Refrain*

- 4 To the old rugged cross I will ever be true,
its shame and reproach gladly bear;
Christ will call me some day to my home far away,
where his glory forever I'll share. *Refrain*

Thank you for worshiping with us this evening.