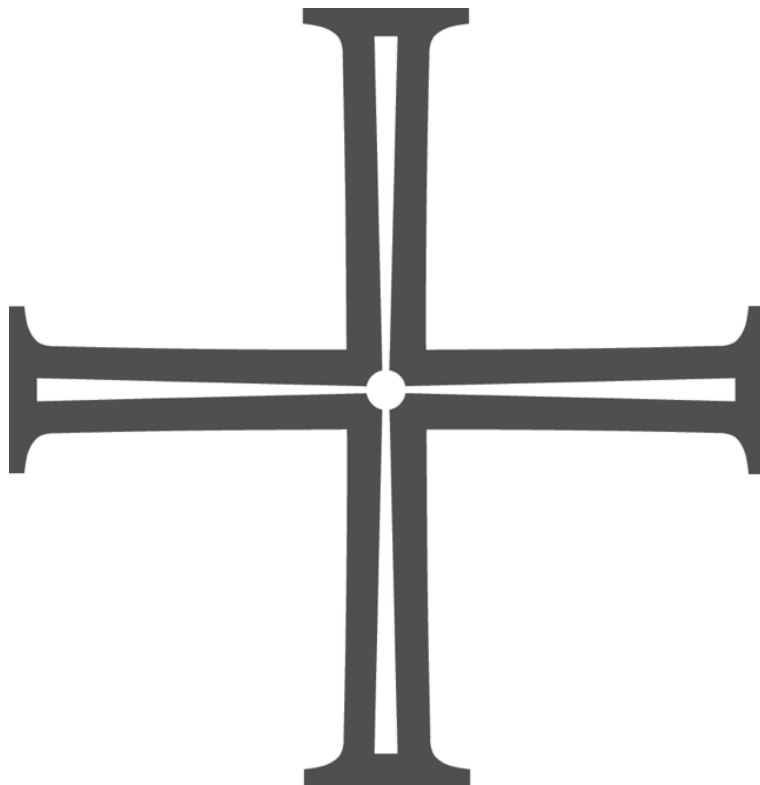


Fifth Sunday in Lent



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Penn Hills, Pennsylvania

April 6, 2025 ♦ 9:30 am

Welcome to Worship at Zion!

Following the Liturgy:

- You are invited to speak the responses in **bold type**.
 - **ELW #:** a hymn from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (red hymnal).
 - **ACS #:** a hymn from *All Creation Sings* (purple hymnal supplement).
- Hymn numbers are in the upper outside corners of the pages.

Holy Communion

All who believe and are baptized are welcome at the table Jesus Christ sets for us. You will be dismissed pew by pew by an usher to come forward to the altar rail. As you come forward, take a glass from the tray in front of the baptismal font: empty glasses for wine or a filled glass with grape juice. You may kneel or stand at the rail. The pastor will give you a wafer (the bread), and then to the assisting minister will pour the wine into your glass. If you would like gluten-free bread or wish to only receive a blessing, please tell the pastor when you come forward. For those in need of mobility assistance, please let the ushers know, and communion will be brought to you in your pew.

Restrooms are located at the rear corner of the sanctuary.

The Playground on the rear balcony side of the church is a space specially designed for children and families in worship. Toys, books, and coloring materials are available there for your use.

Hearing Assistive Technology is available for those who need it. Please see an usher or tech minister at the desk at the back of the sanctuary.

Introduction to the Day: Fifth Sunday in Lent, Year C

Our God makes all things new. In the first reading God promises it. In the gospel Mary anticipates it, anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume in preparation for the day of his burial. In the second reading we see it, in the transformation of Saul, the persecutor, into Paul, the apostle. Now in the Eucharist we are fed bread from heaven that forgives our sins and nourishes our baptismal life, joining us to God's new thing.

Gathering

Prelude

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

The assembly kneels or sits. Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate One,

**you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,
but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world.**

**We do not show others
the tender compassion you have shown to us.**

**We do not welcome others
with the radical hospitality you grant to all people.**

**We oppress others,
even though you have set us free again and again.**

We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.

Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross.

Amen.

Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide
to welcome the wandering ones home.

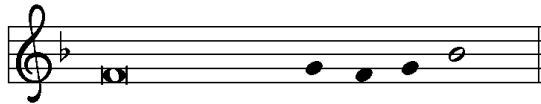
In ✝ Christ your sins are forgiven.

You have a place in God's house forever.

Amen.

Kyrie

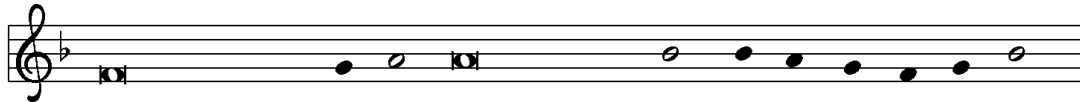
The assembly stands to sing.



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of



God, and for the uni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

For this ho - ly house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and

praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gracious Lord.

A - men.

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

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

Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

Word

First Reading: Isaiah 43:16-21

Thus says the LORD,
 who makes a way in the sea,
 a path in the mighty waters,
who brings out chariot and horse,
 army and warrior;
they lie down; they cannot rise;
 they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
Do not remember the former things
 or consider the things of old.
I am about to do a new thing;
 now it springs forth; do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
 and rivers in the desert.
The wild animals will honor me,
 the jackals and the ostriches,
for I give water in the wilderness,
 rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
 the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.

The Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 126

The cantor sings an antiphon. The verses are chanted responsively.



- ¹ When the LORD restored the for- | tunes of Zion,
 then were we like | those who dream.
- ² **Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with | shouts of joy.**
 Then they said among the nations,
 “The LORD has done great | things for them.”
- ³ The LORD has done great | things for us,
 and we are | glad indeed.
- ⁴ **Restore our for- | tunes, O LORD,**
 like the watercourses | of the Negeb.

⁵ Those who | sowed with tears
will reap with | songs of joy.

⁶ **Those who go out weeping, carry- | ing the seed,
will come again with joy, shoulder- | ing their sheaves.**

Second Reading: Philippians 3:4b–14

[Paul writes:] If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel. The acclamation is sung by the cantor.

Forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus. (*Phil. 3:13–14*)

Gospel: John 12:1–8

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead.

There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus's feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The assembly is seated.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

Hymn of the Day: Holy Woman, Graceful Giver (John 12) **ACS 1002**

The assembly stands to sing.

Apostles' Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.***

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.

Prayers of Intercession

The assembly kneels or sits.

Cantor All Final time

Hear our prayer, O Lord. Hear our prayer, O Lord. A - men.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The assembly may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

The assembly is seated.

Announcements

Meal

Offering

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

Organ Offertory: "Alabaster Jar"

Andrew R. Sabol

Setting the Table: Create in Me a Clean Heart

ELW 185

The assembly stands to sing as the offering is brought forward.

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.
Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me
with your free Spir - it. Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God,
and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

Offering Prayer

Response: Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

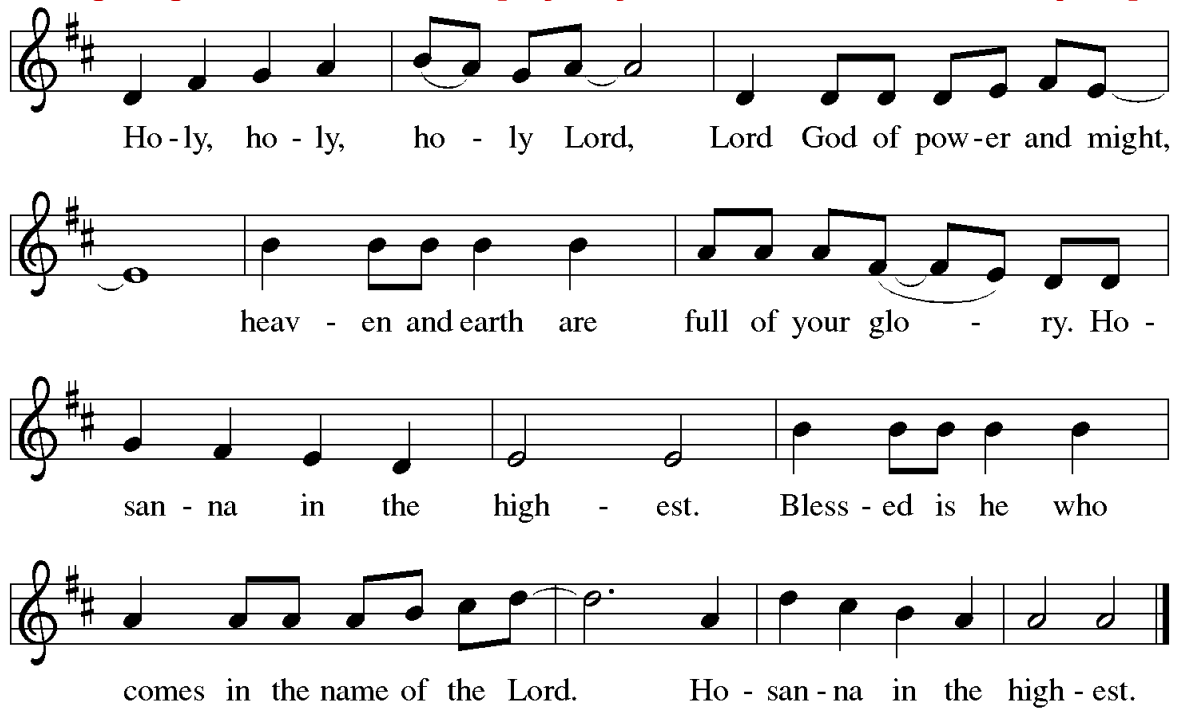
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The thanksgiving continues with the preface for the season. The assembly responds:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow - er and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The presiding minister continues with the eucharistic prayer.

The assembly responds: Amen.


The Great Thanksgiving concludes with the Lord's prayer:



Our Fa-ther in heav-en, hal-lowed be your name,
your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav-en.
Give us to-day our dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins as we
for-give those who sin a-gainst us. Save us from the time of tri-al
and de-liv-er us from e-vil. For the king-dom, the pow'r,
and the glo-ry are yours, now and for-ev-er. A-men.

Communion

The assembly is seated. (See communion instructions on page 2).



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

ELW 335

Let Us Break Bread Together

ELW 471

Once all have returned to their places, the assembly stands.

Prayer after Communion

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven.

Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage:

may our fasting be hunger for justice;

our alms, a making of peace;

and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts,

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Sending

Blessing

Response: Amen.

Sending Song: Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow

ELW 327

Dismissal

The worship has ended. Now the service begins.

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God.

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Worship Leaders

	Today	Next Week (Apr. 13)
Presiding Minister & Preacher	Rev. Richard Neumann	Rev. Richard Neumann
Assisting Minister	Brenda Wolfe	Brenda Wolfe
Organist & Choir Director	Andrew Sabol	Andrew Sabol
Musicians		Zion Church Choir
Ushers	Mike Patchen	Tony Lamorte
	Ray Rall	Charlotte Fraser
Altar Guild	Debbie Rall	Brenda Wolfe
	Charlotte Murray	Reid Wolfe
Tech Ministers	Alex Fitzroy	Tom Felmley
		Alex Fitzroy
Offering Count	Tony Lamorte	Sue Clydesdale
	Laura Patchen	Cindy Pierce

Lenten Midweek Services
Reflection and Healing with Psalm 103
Thursdays at 7:00 pm in the Chapel

Join us for a quiet time of prayer,
scripture, and song.

Today at Zion

The Sanctuary candle is given today in memory of Edward Betker from Jean Betker.

April Birthdays: We will celebrate all the birthdays for April with a cake after worship in the Gathering Space. Please enjoy a piece of cake with coffee or tea and fellowship. Thank you to the hospitality team for providing the birthday cakes!

Good Shepherd Ministry: This week our cards are for Kay Clydesdale, Evelyn Lamm, and Carol Stephany. Please take a moment to sign the cards and share a smile with those unable to join us for worship. Also, remember them in your prayers this week.

Announcements

Pastor Neumann Office Coverage: Pastor Neumann's office days are Monday: 10-2; Wednesday: 11-3; and Thursday: 1-5. If you need to meet with him after those hours, the best way to reach him is on his cell phone. Here are other ways to get in touch with him:
Cell: 412-401-5720 Home: 412-822-7652 Email: manyneumanns@gmail.com

Bible Study: Diane Santoriello is leading our new Bible Study on Wednesday afternoons! The topic is "Psalms." We meet at 1:00 pm in the Gerhard Lounge and over Zoom. Everyone welcome!

Hospitality Hour: If you would like to volunteer to bring some goodies for Sunday after worship hospitality, there is a calendar in the Gathering space to sign up. Thank you!

Special Offering for Easter: If you would like to purchase an Easter lily or Tulip in honor or memory of someone, or if you would like to donate to our Guest Musician Fund, please see the bulletin insert. You can drop it in the offering plate or mail it along with your check made out to Zion Lutheran Church. **The deadline is April 13th.** Thank you.

Easter Egg Hunt Donations: On Sunday, April 20th, we will have an Easter Egg Hunt here at Zion after worship. If you would like to donate any individually wrapped candy, small trinkets, or make a monetary donation, there will be a basket in the Gathering Space. If you would like to make a cash donation, please see Debbie Rall or Tammy Belohlavek. **The deadline for donations will be Palm Sunday, April 13th.** Thank you in advance!

Food Pantry Distribution 9-11am: Our distribution for April will be this **Saturday, April 12th** from 9am-11am and then clean up immediately following. As always we need volunteers as our Food Pantry grows. For those available on Thursday, April 10th, help is needed from 10am-? for box building; Friday, April 11th from 8:45-? for box packing day and for those available for distribution and clean up afterwards on April 12th from 8am-11:30am

Our collection of health and beauty items is looking good, but we could use a little more of some certain items. When shopping, please consider buying deodorant, shampoo, toothpaste and/or soap. As always, you can put the items in the bin by the coat rack. Those who come to Zion's Food Pantry really do appreciate these items. Thank you so much

Property Work Day: Zion members and friends: Please, please join us for a work day on **Saturday, May 3rd from 9:00am-12:00Noon.** Rain or shine. There is plenty to do, inside and out. If you can hold a paintbrush, screwdriver, or pull a weed, we need you. Some light work and some moderate work. Refreshments provided.

Annual Congregation Meeting: Our annual congregation meeting will be held on **Sunday, June 8th** immediately after worship. Open nominations for council members and officers as well as approval of the hillside project **will be held on April 27 with a special congregation meeting after worship.** We will close nominations on Sunday, May 11th after worship with a congregation meeting.

Annual Committee Reports: Please submit your annual report to Julie no later than **May 23rd.** Also, please remember to sign your report. Thank you.

Lutherlyn Summer Camp: Registration has begun! If you are interested in attending summer camp at Lutherlyn during any of the weeks listed on the flyer posted on the kiosk beginning June 15th, please reach out to Debbie Rall. Zion will pay a portion of the cost. Any questions, please see Debbie Rall.

Finances

Zion Lutheran Church Budgeted Finances as of February 28, 2025

Offering Income: \$ 28,919.52
Other Income:* \$ 11,873.00
Total Income: \$ 40,792.52
Total Expense: \$58,823.69
Net: \$(18,031.17)

*Thomas Child Care and Learning Center and other groups who use our facilities.

Anniversary Offering: This year, our Anniversary offering will be designated for the interior signs. Please see your offering envelope dated April 27th. Thank you.

ULLA: Thank you to everyone who has already returned their responses for our Unified Lutheran Lenten Appeal. So far we have received \$2,455 toward a goal of \$10,000. Again, this year, we have the opportunity to pray for the organizations that are lifted up in our ULLA program as well as donate needed funds by completing your ULLA card that was mailed out a couple weeks ago and place it in the offering plate between now and Easter Sunday. There are extra cards in the pews and out in the Narthex on the table.

Prayer Requests

- Thank you for your prayers as God brought us 2 Honduran dentists that will join us, making 4 dentists total!! Pray for our health and travelling mercies and wisdom for us dentists as we teach and mentor the students in faith. We will be leaving April 23rd and coming back on May 8th. Thank you, Annette Felmley
- Please pray for Tom Felmley and his team as they travel to India in May to help with a refugee crisis.

WE PRAY FOR...

We are concerned with maintaining a current Prayer List. If you see a name on this list that can be taken off or wish to add a name, please contact Julie in the church office. If you or someone you know (who is not on the OREMUS) is in need of a pastoral visit, please call the church office and let them know. Thank you.

Rehab Facility:

Evelyn Lamm (Concordia, Monroeville, Room 117)

Nancy Fabel (Rosebrook Living Facility, Sarver, PA, Room 116)

Paul and Mary Lou Feathers (Presbyterian Homes, Oakmont, Room 204)

Memory Care Facility:

Don Cook (Redstone Highlands in Murrysville, Room 46)

Prayers Requested for:

Mary Lou D'Ambrosio

Amy Santoriello

Elouise Brooky

Sandra Short

John Carter

Jenny Fabrizi

Marion Ertel

Wayne Stumpf

Ken Wagner

Barb Kelly (cousin of Bob Page)

Elaina Yoon

(daughter-in-love of Kathy Gaberson)

Sue Z. (friend of Annette Felmley)

Greg Felmley (brother of Tom)

John Mainarich (son-in-law of Pat Pope)

Shelly Clarke (friend of Kara Albrecht)

Carla Moio (cousin of Linda Mitnik)

Audri Erfort

(cousin of Mary Lou D'Ambrosio)

Maggie Watson (daughter of Kathy Kraf)

Michael Gerdich (friend of Rhonda Pope)

Josh Cummings

(nephew of Tony Lamorte)

Patti Wunderley

(sister of Linda Neumann)

Sandy Kovacs

(sister of Linda Neumann)

David Uptagraffe (friend of Audri Erfort)

John Hayes (friend of Tom & Annette)

Richard Sabol (father of Andrew Sabol)

Gary Bunch (husband of Cheryl Bunch)

Mike Walsh

(friend of Kathy Gaberson)

Katie Ritenour

(cousin of Debbie Marks)

Sandy Hutchins

(friend of Diane Santoriello)

Darnell Pope

(brother of Sandra Short)

Steve Bell (brother of Rhonda Pope)

Chris Vuocolo

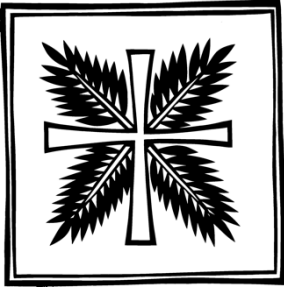
(nephew of Mary Lou D'Ambrosio)

Beth Rall

Denise Capobianco

(friend of Sandra Short)

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER AT ZION



Sunday, April 13

Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday

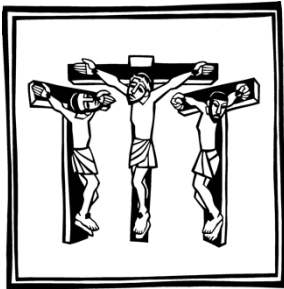
Holy Communion – 9:30 am (*livestreamed*)
with Blessing of Palms and Procession
and Dramatic Reading of the Passion according to Luke



Thursday, April 17

Maundy Thursday

Holy Communion – 7:00 pm
with Washing of Feet



Friday, April 18

Good Friday

7:00 pm
Tenebrae – Service of Light and Darkness



Sunday, April 20

Resurrection of Our Lord, Easter Day

Holy Communion – 9:30 am (*livestreamed*)
Festival Service with Brass
Easter Egg Hunt for children following worship

This Week at Zion

Sunday, April 6: <i>Fifth Sunday in Lent</i>	9:30 am 10:45 am 6:30-7:30	Worship Sunday School/Confirmation EAYC
Monday-Friday:	6:30-8:30 am 2:30-6:00 pm	Thomas Learning Academy Before/After School Program
Wednesday, April 9:	1:00 pm 7:00 pm	Bible Study (<i>G. Lounge</i>) Council (<i>G. Lounge</i>)
Thursday, April 10:	10:00 am 7:00 pm 7:30 pm	Food Pantry box building Lenten Midweek Service (<i>Chapel</i>) Choir (<i>Chapel</i>)
Friday, April 11:	8:45-?	Food Pantry box packing
Saturday, April 12:	9:00-11:00 am	Food Pantry open

Zion Lutheran Church, Penn Hills

Rev. Richard Neumann, *Transitional Interim Pastor*
Mr. Andrew Sabol, *Director of Music Ministries*
Mrs. Julie Nieser, *Administrative Secretary*
Rev. William L. Hauser, *Pastor Emeritus*
Dr. Stanley E. Yoder, *Cantor Emeritus*

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