

**Easter Sunday, Zion
March 31st, 2024**

Anthem – *Jesus Christ Is Risen*, Choir
Prelude – Vickie Sowers, *Jesus Christ Is Risen*

Thanksgiving for Baptism

(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the wellspring of grace,
our Easter and our joy. **Amen.**

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism,
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.
We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning
your voice thundered over the deep
and water became the essence of life.
Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.
The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.
Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea
into freedom's land.
In a desert pool the Ethiopian official
entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection
you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,
freeing us to live as Easter people.
We rejoice with glad hearts,
giving all honor and praise to you,
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Opening Song – *Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!*

1 Christ is risen! Alleluia!
Risen our victorious head!
Sing his praises! Alleluia!
Christ is risen from the dead!
Gratefully our hearts adore him
as his light once more appears;
bowing down in joy before him,
rising up from griefs and tears.

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Refrain

Christ is risen! Alleluia!
Risen our victorious head!
Sing his praises! Alleluia!
Christ is risen from the dead!

2 Christ is risen! All the sadness
of our Lenten fast is o'er;
through the open gates of gladness
he returns to life once more;
death and hell before him bending
see him rise, the victor now,
angels on his steps attending,
glory round his wounded brow. *Refrain*

3 Christ is risen! All the sorrow
that last evening round him lay
now has found a glorious morrow
in the rising of today.
See the grave its firstfruits giving,
springing up from holy ground;
Christ was dead, but now is living;
he was lost, but he is found. *Refrain*

4 Christ is risen! Henceforth never
death or hell shall us enthrall.
We are Christ's, in him forever
we have triumphed over all.
All the doubting and dejection
of our trembling hearts have ceased;
hail the day of resurrection!
Let us rise and keep the feast. *Refrain*

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811-1875, alt.

Greeting

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

Kyrie – ELW 120

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation,
let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen, amen.**

Refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us

free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and join in the

hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and

might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,

for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day - Sovereign God, **you have established your rule in the human heart through the servanthood of Jesus Christ. By your Spirit, keep us in the joyful procession of those who with their tongues confess Jesus as Lord and with their lives praise him as Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

First Reading: First Reading: Isaiah 25:6-9

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⁶On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

⁷And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;

⁸he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the Lord has spoken.

⁹It will be said on that day,
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.
This is the Lord for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

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

Psalm: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

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¹Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good;
God's mercy endures forever.

²**Let Israel now declare,
"God's mercy endures forever."**

¹⁴The Lord is my strength and my song,
and has become my salvation.

¹⁵**Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:
"The right hand of the Lord acts valiantly!**

¹⁶The right hand of the Lord is exalted!
The right hand of the Lord acts valiantly!"

¹⁷**I shall not die, but live,
and declare the works of the Lord.**

¹⁸The Lord indeed punished me sorely,
but did not hand me over to death.

¹⁹**Open for me the gates of righteousness;
I will enter them and give thanks to the Lord.**

²⁰"This is the gate of the Lord;
here the righteous may enter."

²¹**I give thanks to you, for you have answered me
and you have become my salvation.**

²²The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

²³**By the Lord has this been done;
it is marvelous in our eyes.**

²⁴This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11**Page 1048**

¹Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ²through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

³For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, ⁴and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

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

Gospel: Mark 16:1-8**Page 929**

The Holy Gospel according Mark the 16th Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint [Jesus' body]. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." ⁸So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

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

Sermon: Pastor Wanda Childs

Service of Holy Baptism – See Insert

Prayers of the People

Response: God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Sharing of the Peace

Offertory – *Canticle for Easter*, Choir

Offering Prayer

Risen One,
you call us to believe and bear fruit.
May the gifts that we offer here
be signs of your abiding love.
Form us to be your witnesses in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

Amen.

The 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.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy....

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

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.

The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Lamb of God

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

Invitation to Communion

The risen Christ is made known to us
in the breaking of the bread.
Come and eat at God's table.

Prayer after Communion

Shepherding God,
you have prepared a table before us
and nourished us with your love.
Send us forth from this banquet
to proclaim your goodness
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,
our redeemer and friend.

Amen.

Blessing

God bless you and keep you,
shower you with mercy,
fill you with courage,
and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

Sending Hymn: *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*

ELW 365

- 1 Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!
- 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
unto Christ, our heav'nly king, Alleluia!
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!
- 3 But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!
our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
now above the sky he's king, Alleluia!
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!
- 4 Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
praise eternal as his love; Alleluia!
praise him, all you heav'nly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1-3; tr. J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt.; Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, st. 4

Dismissal - Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude: Vickie Sowers – *Christ Is Risen*

Prayers for the People: Wayne Pennell, husband of BJ Bauermeister; Joe Sowers, husband of Vickie, Luca Gucciardo, son Of Michael, owner of Mickey G's; Keel Frost, friend of the Gardner's granddaughter, Autumn Scott, granddaughter of Rosemary Wyman; Nancy Conduff, daughter of Nadine Rutrough; Roger Slusher, husband of Leslie

Pastor Parish Office Hours This week: Wednesday, 4/3/24, 11:45-3:45 pm

In addition to these office hours, Pastor Wanda is also available to meet with anyone by appointment.
(Text or call 304.920.5965)

An Invitation - Holy Communion: All are welcome to this table. Whether you belong to this church, or another church, or no church at all, the gift of this bread and wine, and Christ's real presence are for us all. Your Children are welcome. You do not need to be a certain age to receive the gift of God at this table. Those not communing may come forward for a blessing. Crossing your arms in front of your chest (sign language for love) will let us know you would like a blessing. Please let the usher know if you would like communion brought to you.

We also celebrate the gifts of God's grace and love in **Holy Baptism**. If you have not been Baptized and would like to be, please contact the church office to visit with our pastor. The Gifts of God for the people of God. Come for all is ready!

This morning we celebrate the Baptism of Millicent Blu de Golyer, daughter of Susan and Billy de Golyer, granddaughter of Ginny and Bill Gardner.

We invite you to stay after the service today to enjoy a potluck brunch together in the Fellowship Hall. The parish Easter Egg Hunt will follow the service for children in two groups (1 yr-old to pre-K) (K to 6th grade) and then a potluck brunch.

Noisy Offering will be taken today, to benefit our Community Cares program. On the last Sunday of the month at Zion, we take a second collection for the Community Care Fund, which is overseen by the Social Justice Committee at Zion. The fund is used as a "last resort" emergency fund to assist with basic or unusual needs of members of the larger Floyd Community after other resources have been exhausted. We have used these funds to cover rent, utilities, medicine, materials for handicapped ramp, replaced a water pressure tank, eye glasses, camp for foster children, a clothes washer and more. Referrals have come from the Department of Social Services, New River Community Action, Drug Court counselor, school personnel and others. Help is provided to those in need without prejudice in regards to religious beliefs or any other identifier other than being a resident of Floyd County.

"Lunch with Lutherans" Noon on Thursday, April 11th at St. Mark. Bring your lunch and a friend if you like. We hope you will be able to attend. Pastor Wanda will share a devotion.

We appreciate those who contributed to provide the lovely altar flowers for Easter

Stephanie Blankenship in memory of the Burton Family

Daniel Bower in memory of David and Christine Bower

Diane Giessler in loving memory of Rev. Richard Giessler

Carter and Marty Holliday in Thanksgiving for their granddaughter Raelyn Grace

Barbara Triplett in memory of her parents Mike and Alina Rachubik-Orwicz

Welcoming Statement - *The Floyd-Willis Parish recognizes that each of us is a unique creation made in the image of God. We celebrate and welcome into our ministry persons of every race, culture, age, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, ability, and economic status. We commit ourselves to the work of anti-racism, social and economic justice, and environmental care, embracing the beauty and diversity of all God's creatures. We believe that through our openness we all grow in faith through Christ's teaching to love one another as God loves us.*