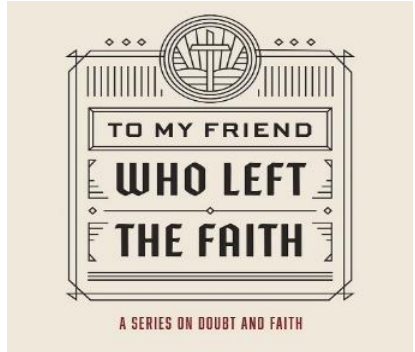




1175 BIRNEY LANE
CINCINNATI, OH 45230
513.231.2253 • zionlc.org



PRAISE ABLAZE

APRIL 28, 2024 • 11:00 AM
FIFTH SUNDAY IN EASTER

Welcome! We're excited you're here. In our service, we gather before Almighty God to offer Him our worship and praise. We come together to be strengthened through the study of God's Word and empowered to live as His witnesses.

Families, if you brought your children with you today, we want you to know that the spiritual well-being of your child is very important to us. Many families wish to teach and encourage their younger child(ren) to be in church and get what they can out of it. If you feel that you need to take your child out for whatever reason; a small area is set up in the atrium for children with "wiggles"; and a restroom with a baby changing station is located by the rear parking lot entrance to your left as you exit the atrium doors of the Multi-Ministry Center (MMC). **Guests**, we welcome you. If you will, please help us to get to know you by filling out the *Guest* side of the *Welcome Card* found in the pews/chair backs and place it in the offering baskets.

As We Gather: The world hears a sentimental story, a typical account of an underdog hero who has come to fight against all sorts of wrongs. Today we hear from John the same story but with the revelation that the Child is the Word, that this is no ordinary birth but the Word made flesh, and that this story is not about sentiment but salvation. In the midst of this all is the reality that the world lies in the darkness of sin and death—but not all of it. To those who believe on His name, the light shines and the darkness has not and cannot overcome it. Here is where we are. We see the Word by faith, hear His promise of salvation by faith, live in His light by faith, and rejoice that we are the sons and daughters of God by faith. When life becomes difficult, we get to wholly rely on Jesus.

A HUGE "Thank you" to those that served to make worship happen today...

Pastor	Rev. Jason Hoerth	Reader	Marla St. Martin
Children's Message	Chris Graves, DCE	Elder	Glen Brueggemeier
Cont. Worship Ldr.	Dyann Cooper	Acolyte	Silas Hoerth
		Tech	Fred Pfalzgraf

+++

Jason Hoerth, Pastor • 513-528-0309 • jhoerth@zionlc.org
Chris Graves, Family Ministries Coordinator • 513-686-9137 • cgraves@zionlc.org

Taking the cross of grace and peace to form a community of uncommon servants.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome

Opening Worship

Living Waters
Glorious Day (Living He Loved Me)

Call to Worship

Opening Sentences, Confession and Absolution

Children's Message

God's Word *(see opposite or screens)*

Acts 8:26–40
Hebrews 1:1–6
John 1:1–18

(Children excused for Children's Church.)

Offering *(Thanks for your support of God's mission here.)*

Today's Message

(Children return from Children's Church.)

What We Believe

The Creed, The Second Article

Prayers & Lord's Prayer

Words of Our Lord/ Reception

In Christ Alone

Song / Blessing

God So Loved

Dismissal

Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Parts created by *Lutheran Service Builder* © 2006 Concordia Publishing House, Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 1. Copyright © 2021 Concordia Publishing House. LSB Lic. # 100012717. All rights reserved. CCLI License # 102268

Taking the cross of grace and peace to form a community of uncommon servants.

FIRST READING

Acts 8:26–40

(Philip witnesses about Jesus to the Ethiopian official.)

²⁶ Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. ²⁷ And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸ and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹ And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." ³⁰ So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹ And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. ³² Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth. ³³ In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." ³⁴ And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵ Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶ And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?" ³⁸ And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. ³⁹ And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰ But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Hebrews 1:1–6

(Now He has spoken through His Son.)

1 Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ² but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. ³ He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making

Taking the cross of grace and peace to form a community of uncommon servants.

EPISTLE *(cont.)*

purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,⁴ having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.⁵ For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son"?⁶ And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 1:1–18

(The Word becomes flesh on earth.)

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.² He was in the beginning with God.³ All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.⁴ In him was life, and the life was the light of men.⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.⁷ He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him.⁸ He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.⁹ The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him.¹¹ He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him.¹² But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.¹⁵ (John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'")¹⁶ For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.¹⁷ For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.¹⁸ No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Taking the cross of grace and peace to form a community of uncommon servants.