

*Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026*  
*Zoar Church, Tofte, MN*

**Welcome**

*Pastor: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,*

**Congregation: Amen**

*Pastor: The Lord be with you*

**Congregation: And also with you**

**Opening Prayer**

**Bell**

**Confession and Forgiveness (From 1 John & Psalm 32)**

*Pastor: God is light*

**Congregation: in him there is no darkness at all.**

*P: If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another,*

**C: and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.**

*P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.*

**C: If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*(Silence for reflection and prayer)*

*P: I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord*

**C: And he forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

**Gathering Song: "Up from the Grave He Arose" - Family of God # 298**

**V1** Low in the grave He lay Jesus my Saviour  
Waiting the coming day Jesus my Lord

**V2** Vainly they watch His bed Jesus my Saviour  
Vainly they seal the dead Jesus my Lord

**V3** Death cannot keep his prey Jesus my Saviour  
He tore the bars away Jesus my Lord

**Chorus**

Up from the grave He arose  
With a mighty triumph o'er His foes  
He arose a victor from the dark domain  
And He lives forever with His saints to reign  
He arose He arose  
Hallelujah Christ arose

## Prayers & The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen**

### Song: "Glorious Day" - CCLI # 5638022

**V1** One day when heaven was filled with His praises  
One day when sin was as black as could be  
Jesus came forth to be born of a virgin  
Dwelt among men my example is He  
Word became flesh  
And the light shined among us  
His glory revealed

**V2** One day they led Him up Calvary's mountain  
One day they nailed Him to die on a tree  
Suffering anguish despised and rejected  
Bearing our sins my Redeemer is He  
Hands that healed nations  
Stretched out on a tree  
And took the nails for me

**V3** One day the grave could conceal Him no longer  
One day the stone rolled away from the door  
Then He arose over death He had conquered  
Now has ascended my Lord evermore  
Death could not hold Him  
The grave could not keep Him  
From rising again

#### Chorus

Living He loved me dying He saved me  
Buried He carried my sins far away  
Rising He justified freely forever  
One day He's coming  
O glorious day, o glorious day

#### Bridge

One day the trumpet will sound for His coming  
One day the skies with His glories will shine  
Wonderful day my beloved one bringing  
My Savior Jesus is mine

#### Ending

O glorious day glorious day  
O glorious day

### Song: "The Commission" - CCLI # 7146623

**V1** See my hands look at my feet  
It's okay if it's hard to believe  
I have faith you will do greater things  
It's my time to go but before I leave

**V2** Don't forget the things that I taught you  
I conquered death and I hold the keys  
Where I go you will go too someday  
But there's much to do here before you leave

**Chorus** Go tell the world about me  
I was dead but now I live  
I've gotta go now for a little while  
But goodbye is not the end

#### Bridge

End of the journey the end of the road  
My spirit is with you wherever you go  
You have a purpose and I have a plan  
I'll make you this promise  
I'll come back again but until then

**Psalm:** Psalm 16:9-11 (NIV)

Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;  
my body also will rest secure,  
because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead,  
nor will you let your faithful one see decay.  
You make known to me the path of life;  
you will fill me with joy in your presence,  
with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

**New Testament Readings:** 1 Corinthians 15:3-8, 1 Peter 1:3-5 (NIV)

For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

**Gospel Reading:** John 1:1-4, Matthew 28:1-10

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind

After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.

There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you."

So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

*P: The Word of God for the people of God*

**C: Thanks be to God**

**Kids Song: "I Am the Resurrection"**

**Message: "Jesus Gives Life"** - Pastor Al Alexander

**Apostle's Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy  
Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
Was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the  
right hand of the Father. He will come again  
to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit  
the holy Christian church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen

**Closing Song: "He Lives!"** - CCLI # 17597

**V1** *I serve a risen Savior,  
He's in the world today;  
I know that He is living,  
whatever men may say;  
I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer,  
And just the time I need Him, He's always near.*

**V2** *In all the world around me  
I see His loving care,  
And tho my heart grows weary,  
I never will despair;  
I know that He is leading thro all the stormy blast,  
The day of His appearing will come at last.*

**V3** *Rejoice, Rejoice, O Christian,  
lift up your voice and sing  
Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King!  
The Hope of all who seek Him,  
the Help of all who find,  
None other is so living, so good and kind.*

**Chorus** *He lives, He lives,  
Christ Jesus lives today!  
He walks with me and talks with me  
Along life's narrow way.  
He lives, He lives, salvation to impart!  
You ask me how I know He lives?  
He lives within my heart.*

## Announcements

- April Mission: Global Health Ministries - See poster in Narthex
- Community Bible Study
  - Tuesdays at 3:00 pm at Zoar or Zoom (contact lmsalexand@gmail.com)
  - Next class: James 5:7-20
  - Time change to Monday 6:00-7:00 pm starting 4/13/26
- New members class 4/12/26 after church. See Pastor Al
- Soup Supper every Wednesday serving 5:15-6:00 pm
- Zoar is looking for
  - A Sunday School teacher for one or two Sundays a month
  - Contact Linda at 612 817 8045
- Please pray through the Zoar prayer list every day
- Sign up to pray for one of our young people
- Pick up a copy of Our Daily Bread devotional in the Narthex
- To get on the prayer chain - email or call Pastor Al or the church.
- Prayer Requests - Form in seat back; box in Narthex or email Pastor Al
- Sign up for after church treats
- Puzzle exchange - downstairs in the fellowship hall. Lots of puzzles!
- Billy Peterson book - See Pastor Al
- Giving: Box in Narthex, online through our webpage or send a check to the church.

## Benediction Numbers 6:24-26 (NIV)

*The Lord bless you and keep you;*

*the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you;*

*the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.*

## Bell

## Sending

*Pastor Al: Go in peace and serve the Lord.*

**Congregation: Thanks be to God. We Will! Alleluia. Amen**

**Website: [www.zoarchurch.org](http://www.zoarchurch.org) • Email: [zoarchurchtofte@gmail.com](mailto:zoarchurchtofte@gmail.com) • Church Phone: 218-663-7925**

**Pastor Al Alexander 612-308-2185**

**Music provided this morning by Marsha Hansen, Dave Gustafson, & Linda Alexander**

**Offerings can be dropped in the labeled box in the narthex  
or by clicking the link "Give" on the zoarchurch.org homepage.**