

once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!
 throned a - bove; he lives to rule his church in love.
 trou - bled heart; he lives all bless - ings to im - part.

7 He lives and grants me daily breath;
 he lives, and I shall conquer death;
 he lives my mansion to prepare;
 he lives to bring me safely there.

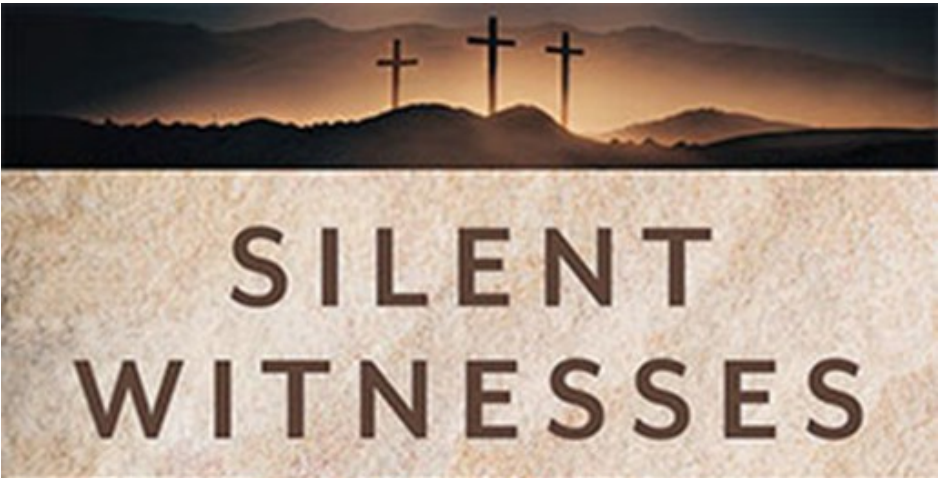
Text: Samuel Medley, 1738-1799, alt.
 Music: attr. John Hatton, d. 1793
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Dismissal
 Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God.**

The Stone Was Rolled Away

B	H	M	W	E	K	A	J	E	S	U	S	E	S	
N	T	J	O	X	D	G	N	O	L	M	L	N	A	R
I	S	Z	V	K	M	T	G	O	R	H	C	L	R	I
B	D	O	I	T	C	A	E	R	I	S	E	N	T	S
X	A	M	O	L	A	L	L	R	S	R	R	T	H	E
A	Y	F	O	E	A	X	P	N	L	D	T	O	Q	N
O	H	N	X	B	G	Q	X	N	I	U	N	M	U	L
S	E	L	O	Y	Z	W	S	R	O	D	S	B	A	V
H	A	C	N	L	S	X	L	O	D	Z	V	F	K	A
O	V	H	Z	G	I	Y	Q	L	J	U	U	I	E	F
O	E	U	E	I	W	N	U	L	D	Q	B	R	Y	R
K	N	S	V	X	Z	B	T	E	L	J	Q	S	O	A
T	M	K	J	Z	F	M	F	D	F	Z	I	T	N	I
Y	T	I	N	M	F	A	Q	P	H	J	F	G	Z	D
J	Z	E	D	A	W	N	P	S	T	O	N	E	N	G

Afraid
 Angel
 Dawn
 Day
 Earthquake
 First
 Heaven
 Jesus
 Risen
 Rolled
 Shook
 Stone
 Tomb
 Week



Midweek Lenten Worship
Zion Lutheran Church
Albion, Nebraska
April 9, 2025
7:00pm

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ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Office Hours: Mon-Thurs: 9am-4pm; Fri: Office Closed

Welcome to Worship

As we continue on our Lenten journey to the cross, we welcome you in the name of Jesus. May your worship experience be meaningful. We pray God's blessings be upon you tonight and throughout your journey.



SILENT WITNESSES

The robe, the nails, the spear, the shroud, the stone — if these things could speak, what might they tell us? On Wednesday nights in Lent we will hear from these objects associated with the Lord's suffering and death. They will be interviewed about their unique perspective.



Date	Silent Witness
Wed., April 9 th	The Stone

Receive the prayers of your people
and draw all things together in your love,
in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...

**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.**

✠ SENDING ✠

Benediction

The Lord bless and keep you.

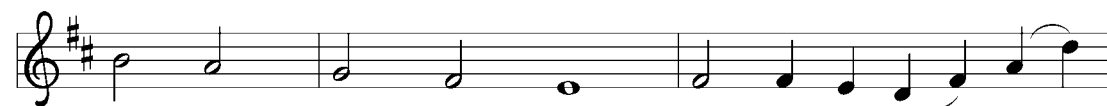
The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you ✠ peace. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn *I Know That My Redeemer Lives* #619 (v.1,2,4,7)



1	I	know	that	my	Re - deem - er	lives!	What	com - fort
2	He	lives	tri - um -	phant	from the	grave;	he	lives e -
4	He	lives	to si -	lence	all my	fears;	he	lives to



this	sweet	sen - tence	gives!	He	lives, he	lives, who
ter - nal	- ly	to	save;	he	lives ex - alt - ed,	
wipe	a - way	my	tears;	he	lives to	calm my

(Hymn continues on the next page)

**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 catholic Church,
 the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer
 for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

O Lord of life and love, our Savior Jesus Christ,
how great the victory you give to us in your own victory.

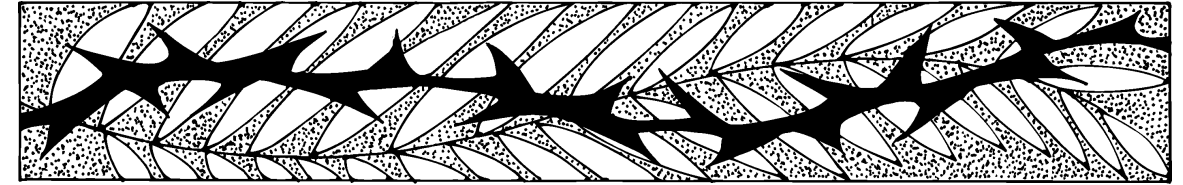
By your strong love, our sins are buried in the grave,
 and we are called to travel on with you,
blameless and forgiven, children of the everlasting day.

Continue your strong love for us, we pray.
**Fashion us, according to your will,
 into the people you would have us be,
 faithful witnesses in all we say and do.**

Then, set us in the place where you would have us serve you, Lord.
**There make us steadfast and immovable,
 always abounding in the work of the Lord,
 knowing that in the Lord our labor is not in vain.**

Remove from us our stony, sinful hearts, O Lord,
 and give us your own heart, a heart that beats with love for all.
Breathe into us your Holy Spirit's breath, that we may truly live.

And let that life, begun in us this day,
live on, beyond the grave and grief, forever!



The Stone

Confession & Forgiveness

In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

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

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

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.**

Gathering Hymn *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* #351

1 O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed down,
2 How pale thou art with an - guish, with sore a - buse and scorn;
3 What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est friend,
4 Lord, be my con - so - la - tion; shield me when I must die;

now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown;
how does thy face now lan - guish, which once was bright as morn!
for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pit - y with - out end?
re - mind me of thy pas - sion when my last hour draws nigh.

O sa - cred head, what glo - ry, what bliss till now was thine!
Thy grief and bit - ter pas - sion were all for sin - ners' gain;
Oh, make me thine for - ev - er, and should I faint - ing be,
These eyes, new faith re - ceiv - ing, from thee shall nev - er move;

Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.
mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, but thine the dead - ly pain.
Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er out - live my love to thee.
for all who die be - liev - ing die safe - ly in thy love.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, based on Arnulf of Louvain, d. 1250; tr. composite
Music: German melody, c. 1500; adapt. Hans Leo Hassler, 1564–1612; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685–1750
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Opening Litany
In many and various ways
God spoke to our ancestors of old by the prophets,
but now in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son.
The stone which the builders rejected as worthless
turned out to be the most important of all.

The Interview *The Stone*

Hymn of the Day *Savior, When in Dust to You* #601

1 Sav - ior, when in dust to you low we bow in hom - age due;
2 By your help - less in - fant years, by your life of want and tears,
3 By your hour of dire de - spair, by your ag - o - ny of prayer,
4 By your deep ex - pir - ing groan, by the sad se - pul - chral stone,

when, re - pen - tant, to the skies scarce we lift our weep - ing eyes;
by your days of deep dis - tress in the sav - age wil - der - ness,
by the cross, the nail, the thorn, pierc - ing spear, and tor - turing scorn,
by the vault whose dark a - bode held in vain the ris - ing God,

oh, by all your pains and woe suf - fered once for us be - low,
by the dread, mys - te - rious hour of the in - sult - ing tempt - er's pow'r,
by the gloom that veiled the skies o'er the dread - ful sac - ri - fice,
oh, from earth to heav'n re - stored, might - y, re - as - cend - ed Lord,

bend - ing from your throne on high, hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!
turn, oh, turn a fa - v'ring eye; hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!
lis - ten to our hum - ble sigh; hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!
bend - ing from your throne on high, hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!

Text: Robert Grant, 1779-1838, alt.
Music: Joseph Parry, 1841-1903
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Apostle's Creed
Living together in trust and hope, let us confess our faith...
I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

Lenten Verse

Were You There

#353 (v. 5)

5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Refrain

Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Text & Music: African American spiritual
Arr. © 1999 Augsburg Fortress
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Holy Gospel

Matthew 27:60b-66

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 27th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

^{60b}He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away.
⁶¹Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb. ⁶²The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate ⁶³and said, "Sir, we remember what that impostor said while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise again.' ⁶⁴Therefore command the tomb to be made secure until the third day; otherwise his disciples may go and steal him away, and tell the people, 'He has been raised from the dead,' and the last deception would be worse than the first." ⁶⁵Pilate said to them, "You have a guard of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can." ⁶⁶So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone.
The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

All nations will remember the Lord.
**From every part of the world they will turn to him;
all races will worship him.**

The Lord is king, and he rules the nations.
**All the proud will bow down to him;
every mortal will bow down before him.**

Future generations will serve him;
people will speak of the Lord to the next generation.

Those not born will be told:
"The Lord saved his people."

Apostolic Greeting

The love of God, the Father, the grace of Jesus Christ, our Savior,
and the unity of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Kyrie

Where Are You, God? We Long to Know

(Tune: #644)

Where are you, God? We long to know. At times. Our
We've seen the wag - es of our sin; we've dreamed of
May we put feasts and games a - side; may we tear
Still you are grac - ious, lov - ing, kind. We'll turn a -

sor - rows o - ver - flow. Then oth - ers ask the ques - tion,
things that might have been. We've giv - en in to hate and
down the walls of pride. We're sor - ry, Lord! We've turned from
round! Now is the time! These Len - ten days, O God, may we

too. "Where is your God?" - they say to you.
fear; we've pushed a - way those you hold dear.
you! So now we ask "What can we do?"
be - come your blest com - mun - i - ty.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray... *(A brief silence is kept.)*

Lord Jesus,

you are the cornerstone of our lives.

We praise you that the stone in front of your tomb
was rolled away on Easter morning

so that you could step out into the world again, risen for us.

We live because you live,

and we rejoice that our lives will forever be blest by you
as our firm foundation and our remover of all obstacles
to the glory of heaven with you. **Amen.**

✠ WORD ✠

First Lesson

Isaiah 54:1-3

A reading from Isaiah.

¹Sing, O barren one who did not bear;
burst into song and shout,
you who have not been in labor!

For the children of the desolate woman will be more
than the children of her that is married, says the LORD.

²Enlarge the site of your tent,
and let the curtains of your habitations be stretched out;
do not hold back; lengthen your cords
and strengthen your stakes.

³For you will spread out to the right and to the left,
and your descendants will possess the nations
and will settle the desolate towns.

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

Psalms 118:19-24

Let us read Psalm 118 responsively.

¹⁹Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

²⁰**This is the gate of the LORD;
the righteous shall enter through it.**

²¹I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.

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

²³This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

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

Second Lesson

1 Peter 2:4-9

A reading from First Peter.

⁴Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and
precious in God's sight, and ⁵like living stones, let yourselves be built
into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices
acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

⁶For it stands in scripture:

"See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious;
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

⁷To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not
believe,

"The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner,"

⁸and

"A stone that makes them stumble,
and a rock that makes them fall."

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to
do.

⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own
people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who
called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

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