

**Acts 10:34-43 (ESV)** <sup>34</sup> So Peter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup> but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup> As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), <sup>37</sup> you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: <sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup> And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, <sup>40</sup> but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, <sup>41</sup> not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup> And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup> To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

### **Colossians 3:1-4 (ESV)**

<sup>3</sup> If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. <sup>3</sup> For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup> When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

### **Matthew 28:1-10 (ESV)**

**28** Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. <sup>2</sup> And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. <sup>3</sup> His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. <sup>4</sup> And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. <sup>5</sup> But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. <sup>6</sup> He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he<sup>a</sup> lay. <sup>7</sup> Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you.” <sup>8</sup> So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. <sup>9</sup> And behold, Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. <sup>10</sup> Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me.”

A vertical graphic with a pink-to-orange gradient background. At the top, the word "Easter" is written in a purple, cursive font. Below it, the word "JOY" is written in a purple, outlined font. A large, glowing sun is positioned behind the letter "O" in "JOY". The bottom half of the image is filled with several white, stylized clouds.

Easter  
JOY

“He is not here:  
for he is risen!”

Matthew 28:6, KJV

**April 4, 2026**  
**Easter Sunday**

Zion Lutheran Church, 17927 Dice Road, Hemlock, MI 48626  
[www.zionhemlock.org](http://www.zionhemlock.org) ~ Church Office 642-5909

✠ **In the Name of Jesus** ✠

Easter is the queen of feasts. As Paul reminded us, “If Christ has not been raised . . . your faith is in vain” (1 Corinthians 15:14). “If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied” (v. 19). Yet it is a struggle for us to keep our Easter faith for more than a Sunday or a season. We are daily bombarded by sin and its death, by temptation and its doubt, by hopelessness and its despair. This is why we follow the events of our Lord’s life in the Church Year, which reaches its climax in the resurrection of our Lord. We are not who we were. We have been raised in Christ to live new lives. Putting Him first, this begins with the joyful affirmation of Christ’s own victory and our appropriation of that victory to our own lives by faith. This joy compels us to share with others what we have received.

ORDER OF SERVICE Divine Service Setting Three	184
OPENING HYMN “Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven”	477
SERMON HYMN “Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds”	465
SERMON “Family Traits”	Matthew 28:1-10
DISTRIBUTION HYMNS “Christ the Lord is Risen Today”	469
“I Know That My Redeemer Lives”	461
“Jesus Lives! The Victory’s Won”	490
“He’s Risen, He’s Risen”	480
CLOSING HYMN “Jesus Christ is Risen Today”	457

**Pastor** Larry Warsinski  
**Organist** Carolyn Laurenz  
**A/V** Pam Gilbert/Dan Neuenfeldt  
**Elders** Paul Bohn & Dale Rohde/Dick Bluemer & Gerald Laurenz  
**Ushers** Dave Hutfilz & Dave Little; Jerry Neuenfeldt & Mike Hingston  
**Altar Guild** Mark & Judy Hingston

## Our Measure of Love and Gifts

Attendance last week 63 Maundy Thursday 43; Good Friday 47; *Needed for The Lord's Work at Zion \$4,729 ~ Received for the Lord's Work \$2,653*; Capital Projects \$40; God's Helping Hands \$70, In memory of Jim Schultz \$50.

**Please pray for your fellow Christians on their birthday:** April 5-Mary Hollingsworth (her 86<sup>th</sup>); April 8- Nancy Deibel; April 9- Ryan Hillbrandt; April 10- Adam Beyersdorf, Bethany Blohm, Griffin Cline; April 11-Carol Card (her 87<sup>th</sup>), Travis Yell.

**Today's Memory Verse** ~ "Because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved." Romans 10:9-10." Romans 5:1

**Lutheran Service Book** ~ Come and join us for a 3-day continuing education course focused on the hymnal and how best to use it in church and at home Wednesday-Friday, July 15-17 at St. Peter Lutheran Church, Hemlock. This is a free event, and all are welcome to attend. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. For more information contact St. Peter at 989-642-8188. Please register at <https://portal.ctsfw.edu/s/continuing-education-detail?recordId=a1yUh000006m6lzIAI>



We Christians simply cannot get over the reality of the Resurrection. For us, the fact that God raised Christ from the dead proves that Christ's way alone is God's answer to the sins and horrors of the world. The truths Christ taught when he walked on earth stand solid and irrefutable. The light he brought is the only light that never goes out, for it is the eternal light of God's glory. Christ's life is the clearest example of how God intends for us to live. His way is the way that makes the most sense for our lives on this earth. The saints throughout history have shown that again and again.

The hope Christ offers is the only true and lasting hope. Ultimately, it is our assurance that life can be good and joy-filled for all. Consider the words St. Paul wrote to the church at Rome and apply them to your own life: "Just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his" (Romans 6:4-5, NRSV).

If that is not a tremendous cause for abiding joy, then what is?