



[Jesus said:] "As the Father has loved Me, so have I loved you. Abide in My love. If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love." John 15:9-10

### **Berea-by-the-Water Lutheran Church (LCC)**

326 Gibbons St. Goderich, ON. N7A 3Z6

Office: (519) 524-2235 facebook: Berea Goderich

### **Zion Lutheran Church (LCC)**

148 Frederick St. Dashwood, ON. N0M 1N0

Office: (519) 237-3548 facebook: Zion Dashwood

X : @ZionLccDashwood

e-mail: [bnz@hay.net](mailto:bnz@hay.net) Web site: [www.berea-zionlcc.ca](http://www.berea-zionlcc.ca)

Rev. John E. Trembulak III, (Pastor cell) 519 878-0327

Administrative Assistant, Cathy Skinner (Office) 519 237-3548

***Serving Christ 52 years in Goderich & 151 years in Dashwood***

A Member of  
Lutheran Church Canada



## **2024 THEME FOR BERE A & ZION**

### **“WHAT’S KEEPING US HERE?”**

*“This is what the Lord says to you: Do not be afraid or discouraged- For the battle is not yours but God’s.” 2 Chronicles 20:15*

The answer to this question may seem obvious: Our faith in God, the Father, our Saviour Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. Because of that we want to be fed by Him through Word and Sacrament, praise Him, worship Him and thank Him. We also want to grow in our faith to live it out, spreading His message to others.

In an ever-changing world with so many challenges, let us make 2024 a year to use the different talents and abilities God has given us to make our church a welcoming place for all. Working together in love because He first loved us! Remembering and trusting: He will be with us and guide us!

### ***BEREA & ZION GUESTS***

*At the end of worship we would like to invite you to please take a moment to sign our guest book in the foyer.*

### **WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS**

*Welcome in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Saviour! It's great to have you with us today! If you're here because you're looking for a church family to be a part of, we're always excited to unite brothers and sisters in Christ. Talk to Pastor John today.*

## 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter ~ May 5, 2024

### *As We Gather*

The hymn text "Abide with Me," by English clergyman Henry Lyte, has a history that assists in making the words of hope and comfort in the text memorable. Yet, in reflecting on the true importance of the hymn, it is not the circumstances surrounding why it was written that gives it beauty but the words themselves that the author wrote. In timeless poetry, Lyte underscores the meaning of God's presence in the life of the Christian as he writes: "I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless" (LSB 878:5). Our Lord abides with us not only at eventide, but at all times and in all places. Here and now let us bring to this caring God our thanks and praise!

### WELCOME AND SHARING OF PEACE

Opening Hymn                      474 Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen

**1 Alleluia! Jesus is risen!**

**Trumpets resounding in glorious light!**

**Splendor, the Lamb, Heaven forever!**

**Oh, what a miracle God has in sight! Refrain**

**ref. Jesus is risen and we shall arise:**

**Give God the glory! Alleluia!**

**2 Walking the way, Christ in the center**

**Telling the story to open our eyes;**

**Breaking our bread, Giving us glory:**

**Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise. Refrain**

**3 Jesus the vine, We are the branches;**

**Life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree;**

**Heaven to earth, Christ to the people,**

**Gift of the future now flowing to me. Refrain**

**4 Weeping, be gone; Sorrow, be silent:  
Death put asunder, and Easter is bright.  
Cherubim sing: "O grave, be open!"  
Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light. Refrain**

**5 City of God, Easter forever,  
Golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,  
River of life, Saints and archangels,  
Sing with creation to God the I AM! Refrain**

*Text: Herbert F. Brokering, 1926–2009 Text: © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.  
Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110006118*

### *Invocation and Opening Sentences* Psalm 146:1-2, 5, 10

P: We come together in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: AMEN

P: Praise the LORD!

C: **Praise the LORD, O my soul!**

P: I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

C: **I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

P: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,

C: **whose hope is in the LORD his God.**

P: The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations.

C: **Praise the LORD!**

### *Confession and Absolution*

P: We now confess our sin to God, our merciful Father.

C: **Gracious God, in heartfelt repentance we admit and confess our sinfulness. We are sin-stained people by nature. Each day we have sinned and done things we ought not to have done and have not done that which we are to have been doing as Your servants. We have not seen people in the loving way that**

**You see them. We have not always been ready to care and quick to help. We do indeed deserve Your punishment in this life and for eternity. Trusting in Your mercy, we come to You for forgiveness. Our trust is in the merits of Your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Have mercy on us, O God. Abide with us and grant us forgiveness of all our sins. By the power of the Holy Spirit at work within our hearts and lives, lead us into ways that reflect Your goodness and love.**

P: God is loving and merciful. He sees us with loving eyes and graciously hears our supplications. By the command of our Lord and as His called and ordained servant, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: AMEN

### *Responsive Psalm*

Psalm 98

P: Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvellous things! His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

**C: The Lord has made known his salvation; he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

P: He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

**C: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!**

P: Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody!

**C: With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord!**

P: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who dwell in it!

**C: Let the rivers clap their hands; let the hills sing for joy together before the Lord, for he comes to judge the earth.**

P: He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

**All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now, and will be forever. AMEN**

### *Prayer of the Day*

P: *We pray.* O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: AMEN

### *First Lesson*

Acts 10:34-48

*(People from every nation are accepted by God.)*

So Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: 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. 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, but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, 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. 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. To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins

through his name." While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles. For they were hearing them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter declared, "Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days.

### *Epistle Reading*

1 John 5:1-8

*(The victory of Christ overcomes the world.)*

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. For there are three that testify: the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree.

### *Holy Gospel*

John 15:9-17

*(Obeying Christ's commands and remaining in His love.)*

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. [Jesus said:] "This is my commandment,

that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lays down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. These things I command you, so that you will love one another.

P: These are the Word of the Lord.    **C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

### *Profession of Faith*

(Tune: Hymn # 802)

***In God we believe: the Creator whose pow'r  
In mercy has brought us for worship this hour.  
He graciously grants us our years and our days  
And blesses with kindness our work and our ways.***

***In Jesus, the Saviour, our hope is secured.  
True God and true man once the cross he endured  
To grant our lives wholeness, forgiveness of sin,  
With hearts freed from guilt, we know true peace within.***

***God's Spirit at work in our lives we confess;  
With power and truth the church now he does bless.  
As saints, God's forgiven, one day we shall then  
Be living in glory forever. AMEN***

### *Children's Talk* (Zion)

**1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high,  
Beyond all thought and fantasy,  
That God, the Son of God, should take  
Our mortal form for mortals' sake!**

**2 He sent no angel to our race,  
Of higher or of lower place,  
But wore the robe of human frame,  
And to this world Himself He came.**

**3 For us baptized, for us He bore  
His holy fast and hungered sore;  
For us temptation sharp He knew;  
For us the tempter overthrew.**

**4 For us He prayed; for us He taught;  
For us His daily works He wrought,  
By words and signs and actions thus  
Still seeking not Himself but us.**

**5 For us by wickedness betrayed,  
For us, in crown of thorns arrayed,  
He bore the shameful cross and death;  
For us He gave His dying breath.**

**6 For us He rose from death again;  
For us He went on high to reign;  
For us He sent His Spirit here  
To guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.**

**7 All glory to our Lord and God  
For love so deep, so high, so broad;  
The Trinity whom we adore  
Forever and forevermore.**

*The Offerings Are Gathered*

*(The Offertory Prayer is sung as the offerings are brought forward)*

**We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.**

**May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive  
And gladly, as Thou blessest us, To Thee our firstfruits give!**

*Prayers of the Church*

**P:** Lord, thank You for the Christian Church. We pray that Your people would live confidently and would joyfully share the message of salvation in word and deed. Gathered by the Holy Spirit, we pray that we would be blessed with all grace and reflect the fruit of the Spirit in our lives. Lord, be with us and bless us. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

**P:** Lord, we pray for our families, our neighbourhoods, and our communities. We ask Your bountiful blessings on all those who share in our Christian fellowship. We also pray for all who are part of this household of faith, whose presence here today supports and strengthens us. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

**P:** Lord, spare and preserve our country with peace through those You have placed in authority. Give them wisdom and courage to lead according to Your will. Guide those stirred up and facing fighting in these difficult times. Protect us from all those who would harm us. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Lord, we pray for those with special concerns and needs, especially those who are hospitalized, or shut in, those who are grieving at this time, the unemployed, and underemployed, the chronically ill, and all those whose needs are known to us. We especially name before You... and all in our hearts. Let Your hand and Your presence strengthen and comfort them. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Holy Spirit, we rejoice with those celebrating birthdays, baptismal birthdays, and anniversaries this week. We thank you for the blessings of the past, and entrust them to your future care. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Lord, into Your hands we commend all things, trusting in Your mercy because of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: AMEN**

### *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**

### *Benediction*

P: The blessing of Almighty God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: AMEN**

### *Closing Hymn*

700 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

***1 Love divine, all loves excelling,  
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!  
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling,  
All Thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,  
Pure, unbounded love Thou art;  
Visit us with Thy salvation,  
Enter ev'ry trembling heart.***

***2 Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit  
Into ev'ry troubled breast;  
Let us all in Thee inherit;  
Let us find Thy promised rest.  
Take away the love of sinning;  
Alpha and Omega be;  
End of faith, as its beginning,  
Set our hearts at liberty.***

***3 Come, Almighty, to deliver;  
Let us all Thy life receive;  
Suddenly return, and never,  
Nevermore Thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,  
Pray and praise Thee without ceasing,  
Glory in Thy perfect love.***

***4 Finish then Thy new creation,  
Pure and spotless let us be;  
Let us see Thy great salvation  
Perfectly restored in Thee,  
Changed from glory into glory,  
Till in heav'n we take our place,  
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,  
Lost in wonder, love, and praise!***

## *Announcements and Dismissal*

P: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **SERVANTS IN THE LORD'S HOUSE**

#### **BEREA**

Organist: Bill Irwin  
Altar Guild: Kevin & Heather Ball  
Elders: Kevin Ball, Chuck Becker  
For Prayer: Lilo 226 421-2436, Elizabeth 237-3622

#### **ZION**

Organist: Joanne Maguire  
Altar Guild: B. Reschke / N. Rader  
Elders: Ken Rader, Jim Hayter, Tom Hayter, Randy Bowers  
For Prayer: Nancy 237-3653, Brenda 237-3789  
Children's Talk: Marg Nicholson  
Acolyte: Warren Hendrick

Portions of this service taken from Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 2.

Copyright (c) 2024 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Adapted for Congregational use by PJT3 2024