



*"You seek Jesus of Nazareth,
who was crucified. He has
risen; He is not here."*

Mark 16:6

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A Member of
Lutheran Church Canada



2026 THEME FOR BERE A & ZION

LIVING THE FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT

*"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness,
goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things
there is no law." Galatians 5:22-23*

The fruit of the Spirit is evidence of His work in our lives, shown by how we serve Christ by serving others. Because of the salvation Jesus bought for us, we are now free. But what SHOULD we do? Paul says he (and we) are "slaves" ("servants") to Christ.

By being servants and in gratitude to Jesus for His saving work, we are empowered by the Spirit working in and through us to do what He wants. We praise Him with lives well lived, and bring the message of salvation to everyone around us, bringing Him glory by our actions.

Throughout the year, we will explore the meaning of all nine fruit. Watch for these explorations on the announcement page. We hope you will revisit your understanding of God's gifts, seeing where the Holy Spirit's fruit shine through. You are a work in progress, a work of art that God has not yet finished.

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.

THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

April 5, 2026

As We Gather

Are you wearing a new outfit for Easter? The custom of putting on new clothes for Easter Day has a long Christian history. In the earliest centuries after the ascension of Christ, newly baptized Christians wore white garments of new linen as a visible sign of the newness that being baptized had brought into their lives. Soon it became a tradition that all the faithful would join the newly baptized in arraying themselves on Easter in a new outfit to symbolize the new life that Jesus, through His resurrection, made a reality for all believers. The new clothes were much more than a fashion statement; they were a statement of faith. No matter what we are wearing today as individuals, together we share the best eternal clothing there is!

WELCOME AND SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

Opening Hymn

457 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

***1 Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!***

***2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
Unto Christ, our heav'nly king, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!***

***3 But the pains which He endured, Alleluia!
Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
Now above the sky He's king, Alleluia!
Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!***



A BRIEF SELF-EXAMINATION BEFORE THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

- ~ I recognize that I fall short of God's expectations of me, and I humbly confess to Him all my sins, and sincerely repent of them.
- ~ I believe and confess that Jesus Christ is my Lord and He died for the forgiveness of all my sins. Jesus is the only Saviour from sin, death and the power of the devil.
- ~ I am reconciled to anyone who would have anything against me to the best of my abilities.
- ~ I believe that the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ my Saviour are REALLY present in, with, and under the Bread and Wine of Holy Communion to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation, and to strengthen my union with Him and fellow believers.
- ~ With God's help, I intend to amend my sinful life and live a life of service to Him through regular worship, sacrificial giving and thankful living.

Lutheran Church-Canada (LC-C) congregations practice close(d) communion, (*current communicant members of this congregation and those sister congregations in altar fellowship with us*), believing that the Bible encourages unity in belief for those receiving the sacrament together.

Guests wishing to join our confession and receive this Holy Sacrament *OR* to inquire about our beliefs further are asked to meet with the pastor *prior* to communing for the first time.

For those NOT communing, we welcome you to come forward for a blessing. Please indicate you want a blessing only by placing your arms across your chest.

**4 Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
Praise eternal as His love; Alleluia!
Praise Him, all ye heav'nly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!**

Invocation and Opening Sentences 1 Corinthians 15:54b-57

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

C: AMEN

P: Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: "Death is swallowed up in victory." "O death, where is your victory?"

C: O death, where is your sting?"

P: The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.

C: But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Confession and Absolution

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

C: Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our creator and preserver, we admit and confess our sinfulness. We are stained by sin from our very beginnings and we have sinned again and again in thought, word, and deed. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves and have often turned away from one another in our thinking, speaking, and doing. We have done the evil You forbid and have not done the good You demand. We do repent and are truly sorry for all our many sins. Have mercy on us, gracious Father; forgive us for Jesus' sake, and by the power of the Holy Spirit direct our lives so that we serve You in true faithfulness. Grant us victory over all that oppresses us and build Your kingdom among us here through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

P: In His boundless mercy, God has promised forgiveness of sins to all who repent and turn to Him for restoration and renewal. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: AMEN

Hymn of Praise

This Is the Feast (LSB 155)

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

1 Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

2 Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honour, blessing, and glory are His.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

3 Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

4 Blessing, honour, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

5 For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: *We pray, Almighty Father, through Your only-begotten Son, Jesus, You have overcome death and opened the gate of everlasting life to us. Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the*

day of our Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by Your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: AMEN

First Reading

Acts 10:34-43

(Peter preaches and witnesses to the risen Lord.)

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."

P: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Reading

Colossians 3:1-4

(Paul writes that our lives are hidden with Christ in God.)

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When

Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

P: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Zion Choir

Now Proclaim Him Lord

Holy Gospel

Matthew 28:1-10

(He is not here!)

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. 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. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. 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." So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshipped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

Profession of Faith

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one

substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. AMEN

Hymn of the Day

466 Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

1 Christ has arisen, alleluia.

Rejoice and praise Him, alleluia.

*For our Redeemer burst from the tomb,
Even from death, dispelling its gloom. Refrain*

*ref. Let us sing praise to Him with endless joy;
Death's fearful sting He has come to destroy.
Our sin forgiving, alleluia! Jesus is living, alleluia!*

*2 For three long days the grave did its worst
Until its strength by God was dispersed.
He who gives life did death undergo;
And in its conquest His might did show. Refrain*

*3 The angel said to them, "Do not fear!
You look for Jesus who is not here.
See for yourselves the tomb is all bare;
Only the grave cloths are lying there." Refrain*

*4 "Go spread the news: He's not in the grave;
He has arisen this world to save.
Jesus' redeeming labors are done;
Even the battle with sin is won." Refrain*

*5 Christ has arisen; He sets us free;
Alleluia, to Him praises be.
Jesus is living! Let us all sing;
He reigns triumphant, heavenly King. Refrain*

*Text: Bernard Kyamanywa, 1938; tr. Howard S. Olson, 1922–2010
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Sermon

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: Resurrected Jesus, on this glorious day, fill Your people with a holy fear at Your resurrection. May that holy fear allow us to no longer tremble before the grave but rejoice and live in the truth of Your power over Satan, hell, and death itself. We rejoice in Your promise to save all who place their faith in You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Heavenly Father, as You once chose apostles to proclaim the resurrection, so open the mouths of Your pastors and people to declare His praises to all who would hear. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Almighty Father, thank You for giving us life in this world, but most of all, for Your gift of new life in the forgiveness of our sins. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Lord, we pray for the whole Church throughout the world. We especially lift up our family of Berea and Zion. Send the Holy Spirit to work in us faith and trust, hope and peace, under Jesus. May the Good News that He is Risen!, He is Risen indeed! For you and for me be heard from within our walls and out in our communities. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Lord, Your right hand is glorious and mighty in power. Grant that all in authority would govern according to Your will, maintaining order and curbing evil. May our leaders be given a heart and mind that would seek to live in peace with one another, and with You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: By Your goodness, Lord, mercifully hear our prayers for all in need. Comfort and help all those who are in trouble, in sorrow, in need, wrestling with sickness, or any adversity. We especially lift up... and all in our hearts. By Your healing grace, work as You know is right and best. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Lord, be with those celebrating birthdays, baptismal birthdays, and anniversaries this week. Thank you for the past, and we look forward to the future. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: These things and all else that we should have asked on this day of holy rejoicing, grant to us Lord, for the sake of our risen Savior, Jesus Christ.

C: AMEN

+ CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER +

Luther's Admonition to the Communicants

P: I exhort you in Christ that you give attention to the Testament of Christ in true faith, and above all take to heart the words with which Christ presents His body and blood to us for forgiveness; that you take note and give thanks for the boundless love that He showed us when He saved us from the wrath of God, sin, death, and hell by His blood; and that you then externally receive the bread and wine, that is, His body and blood, as a guarantee and pledge. Let us then in His name, according to His command, and with His own words administer and receive the Testament. LW p.

197-198

Sanctus

***Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!
Day and night we join to praise Your love and majesty.
You alone are holy, worthy and righteous.
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!***

***Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!
We rejoice to join the hymns Of earth and sky and sea.
Generations praise you, with the saints and angels
Holy, blessed through all eternity.***

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

Words of Institution

*Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24;
Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25*

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Peace of the Lord

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: AMEN

Agnus Dei

***O Lamb of God, we pray: Take all our sins away --
Our faith increase.
Have mercy on us all, Strengthen us when we fall,
Answer our fervent call And grant us peace.***

Distribution of Communion

Distribution Hymn

461 I Know That My Redeemer Lives

***1 I know that my Redeemer lives;
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead;
He lives, my ever-living head.***

***2 He lives triumphant from the grave;
He lives eternally to save;
He lives all-glorious in the sky;
He lives exalted there on high.***

***3 He lives to bless me with His love;
He lives to plead for me above;
He lives my hungry soul to feed;
He lives to help in time of need.***

***4 He lives to grant me rich supply;
He lives to guide me with His eye;
He lives to comfort me when faint;
He lives to hear my soul's complaint.***

***5 He lives to silence all my fears;
He lives to wipe away my tears;
He lives to calm my troubled heart;
He lives all blessings to impart.***

***6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;
He lives and loves me to the end;
He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing;
He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.***

***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.***

*8 He lives, all glory to His name!
He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:
I know that my Redeemer lives!*

Dismissal Blessing

P: May this holy and precious body and blood of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in the true faith to life everlasting. Depart in peace.

C: AMEN

Post-Communion Prayer

P: *We pray.* Jesus, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come through this blessed Meal. Send Your Holy Spirit that, having now received this wondrous Sacrament, we may die daily to sin and rise renewed and restored as we joyfully continue our earthly pilgrimage until that time when we are gathered into Your heavenly kingdom to share in Your glory for all eternity.

C: AMEN

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: AMEN

Closing Hymn

482 This Joyful Eastertide

*1 This joyful Eastertide Away with sin and sorrow!
My love, the Crucified,
Has sprung to life this morrow: Refrain.*

*ref Had Christ, who once was slain,
Not burst His three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain:
But now has Christ arisen,
arisen, arisen; But now has Christ arisen!*

*2 Death's flood has lost its chill Since Jesus crossed the river;
Lover of souls, from ill
My passing soul deliver: Refrain.*

*3 My flesh in hope shall rest And for a season slumber
Till trump from east to west
Shall wake the dead in number: Refrain.*

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: K. Keller / E. Trembulak
Elders: Ken Rader, Lorne Koch, Tom Hayter, Randy Bowers,
Jeff Miller
For Prayer: Nancy 237-3653, Brenda 237-3789

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