A bouquet of tulips in shades of red, pink, and purple against a dark purple background. The tulips are in various stages of bloom, with some showing their yellow stamens. The background is a gradient of dark purple to a lighter, almost white glow in the top right corner.

# Jesus LIVES!

*He rose again the  
third day according  
to the scriptures.*

1 CORINTHIANS 15:4

## **A Blessed and Happy Easter to all of you this Lord's Day!**

For many of us Christmas is the highlight of the church year. Often the attention given to Christmas leaves Easter in its shadow, but Easter is the rightful "Queen of Feasts." St. Paul would remind us today that without the resurrection our hope is empty, and our faith is an illusion. If you are visiting us for the first time, we hope you will give us the honor and privilege of getting to know you better in the future. For all that are with us this blessed day... "Welcome!"

**Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE** – The call committee has been busy with interviews. The Lord has blessed us with new candidates for our principal and teacher positions. On Friday we will be making an offer to a candidate who is moving back to the Bay City area from Florida. Her husband will be starting a position with the Bay City Police Department. We ask for your prayers that our offer will be successful since this candidate has a love for Jesus and it came across during her interview. We have a candidate principal that lives in Utah that has dedicated her career to serving God in Childcare and Day Schools. We also interviewed a couple living in Alaska that are from this area and are looking for a dual call. As our interviews conclude, we look forward to talking with you in our scheduled Voter's Meeting on Tuesday, April 2nd in Ministry Room A. We will present our candidates for a call from Zion and ask the Lord for His guidance as we work on staffing in our school. Please continue praying for Zion and these candidates and include a "thank you" for sending us such great candidates.

### **MARCH LOCAL MISSION – ZION FOOD PANTRY**

Thank you so much for your consideration of a door offering for Zion's Food Pantry. Our ministry along with 10 other churches in our community, seeks to help those who struggle with food needs on a daily basis. If you are unable to help financially, consider adding an extra can of food to your shopping list and share it with our pantry. Often, our coordinator lists specific items we are running short of in our inventory. This is posted in the weekly bulletin. Most importantly, please remember to pray for the ministry. God hears our prayers and reaches out to those receiving and preparing. We are blessed by your encouragement.

***Note: The Church office will be closed on Monday, April 1 as we celebrate the great good news of Easter.***

## **DATES TO REMEMBER...**

**ROCK** will next practice Saturday, April 6, 3:30 p.m.

**NO WORSHIP SERVICE** this Saturday, March 30.

**SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS** will not meet this Sunday, March 31, but will return next Sunday, April 7, 8:30 a.m.

**SONRISE SERVICE**, Sunday, March 31, 7 a.m.

**EASTER BREAKFAST**, Sunday, March 31, 8:15-9:15 a.m., Ministry Rm. A.

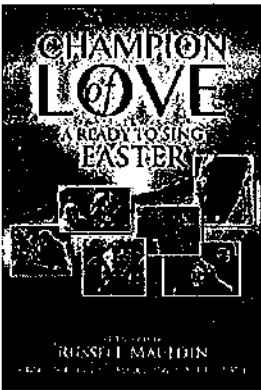
**EASTER CELEBRATION**, Sunday, March 31, 9:30 a.m.

**VOTERS' ASSEMBLY**, Tuesday, April 2, 6 p.m., Ministry Room A.

**TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY**, April 2, 7 p.m., Nursery.

**WEDNESDAY WORSHIP** service resumes April 10, 7 p.m., Great Hall.

**THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY** will not meet April 5.



Our Easter celebration continues with the Cantata, "*Champion of Love*", at both April 13 & 14 worship services.

This cantata features a blend of classic songs beloved by the church and new worship songs. The video accompaniment assists in the powerful picture of the amazing grace and courage it took to redeem us.

Continuing the celebration following Saturday's service, please join us in Ministry Room A for a slice of pizza, a little salad, and some yummy dessert.

## **AREA HAPPENINGS...**

Apply now to attend the **2024 Michigan District Special Friends Camp** for adult individuals (age 18 and older) with cognitive disabilities. Special Friends, each with their own unique set of abilities and challenges, will attend Camp Copneconic in Fenton for a week at camp, July 15-19. The camp's mission is to share Jesus, our most special friend; provide experiences to participants outside of their normal schedules; and give caregivers a break from daily responsibilities. For more information and to apply, visit [michigandistrict.org/sfc24](http://michigandistrict.org/sfc24).

**EASTER FLOWERS:** You may take your Easter plants with you following the 9:30 a.m. Easter Celebration-OR-You may pick them up next week during office hours-call ahead to make sure someone is here. There are name tags on the individual plants, please take the plant(s) you ordered, the saucer is not included.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, GIFTS, AND MEMORIALS...**

**Gifts Received...**\$150-Debt Reduction; \$175 Easter Food Bags-Food Pantry; \$500 IRA Distribution-GF; \$750 SOAR in 2024-GF.

## **PREVIOUS WEEKS ATTENDANCE:**

Saturday (79), Sunday (86), Wednesday-No service

## **This Weekend - March 31 Easter**

No Worship service on Saturday

Readings: Isaiah 65, I Peter 1, Colossians 3 and Matthew 28

Easter Hymns: 457, 461, 465, 633, 463, 477, 475

## **Next Weekend - April 6-7 - Second Sunday in Easter**

Sunday Worship Setting: Divine Service 1, pg. 151

Readings: Jeremiah 31:1-6; John 20:11-18

Hymns: 487, 478, 547, 643, 480, 469

## **AVAILABLE AT THE WELCOME CENTER:**

- Portals of Prayer devotionals for April-June
- Our Daily Bread devotionals for March-May
- **NEW** April Wonderful Times (Div. on Aging)
- Cougar Newsletter

**ACCESSING FACEBOOK STREAMING SERVICES.** You can access the streaming service site at <https://www.facebook.com/zionbaycity>.

**ACCESSING YOUTUBE STREAMING SERVICES.** To access the service from YouTube, go to <https://youtu.be/c7Wvx6h96XA>, select the PLAYLISTS tab, select Church to find the Live-Stream and hit SUBSCRIBE to add this site.

## **ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH**

510 W. Ivy St., Bay City, Michigan 48706; 989-894-2611

**Worship: Saturday 5pm; Sunday 9:30am; Wednesday 7pm**

Pastor Phillip Baerwolf, [pbaerwolf@zionbaycity.org](mailto:pbaerwolf@zionbaycity.org), 989.284.0500

**Bulletin submission deadline: Wednesdays, 10 a.m.**



**Zion's Weekly  
Prayer Concerns  
March 30 - April 5, 2024**

**Those ill, hospitalized (or recently hospitalized), seeking medical treatment or with long term needs...**

Connie Bolduc, Rhonda Sepos, Sheri Schumann, Kristy, Sarah Fick, and those with struggles who suffer silently.

**For those celebrating Anniversaries...**

Jean Laverty-Weiss and Gerald Weiss celebrating 16 yrs. on April 5

**For those celebrating Birthdays...**

Nancy McFadyen celebrating her 86th birthday-3/31

Ryan Remer-3/31

Anthony Upton-3/31

Rich Jezewski-4/1

Silas Wood-4/2

Maureen Sielinski-4/3

Craig Fiebke-4/4

Lisa Maillette-4/4

**For this week's homebound/nursing home patients ...**

Patricia Keene, Della Marotzke, and Barbara Metz.

**Now let the heavens be joyful,  
Let earth its song begin,  
Let all the world keep triumph and all that is therein;  
Let all things, seen and unseen,  
Their notes of gladness blend,  
For Christ the Lord has risen,  
Our joy that has no end!**

Lord Jesus Christ, we have no clear cut answers to the many perplexing problems of life, we rejoice today in the clear and definitive answer you give to us this Easter morning—yes the tomb is empty, yes the grave is defeated, yes our sins are forgiven, yes heaven is our home—you are the valiant victor—the conquering hero and for that we give to you endless praise and thanksgiving for this Easter day for truly what happened so long ago changes everything.  
In the name of Jesus, Amen.



## The Sacrament of Holy Communion Our Understanding and Practice

We celebrate the Lord's Supper in our worship, firmly believing that Jesus' words, "*This Is My Body...This Is My Blood*" mean what they say. Therefore, Communion is more than a "memorial" or a "representation" of Jesus. Rather, we believe that with the bread and wine of Holy Communion, Christ gives us His true body and blood in a miraculous way through this sacrament. Because of this promise in the Bible that Jesus is truly present, we have confidence that God forgives our sins and likewise strengthens our faith.

Since Scripture instructs us to examine ourselves before receiving Holy Communion, please sincerely reflect on these questions:

1. Am I truly sorry for my sins?
2. Do I believe that Jesus Christ is my Savior from sin because He gave His life on the cross for me personally?
3. Am I depending on Him, and not my own goodness, as the only way to heaven?
4. Do I firmly believe that Jesus gives His actual body and blood to me in this sacrament?
5. Do I expect to receive God's gift of forgiveness through this meal?
6. Do I sincerely intend, with the help of God, not to return to a life of sin but to live to Jesus' glory?

All who have been instructed about the meaning of communion in the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod and who confess these statements of belief are welcome to receive communion.

The Bible tells us that those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm. Therefore, any who are not yet instructed, who are in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod are asked to speak with the pastor prior to receiving this sacrament.

All adults and children not taking part in communion are encouraged to come forward to receive a blessing from the pastor. Please indicate this by simply refraining from receiving the bread and wine.

Gluten free wafers and non-alcoholic wine are available for those desiring this option for reasons of health or conscience.