



May 2024

Good News

Mt Zion – St Luke Lutheran

May 2024

5-5 Sunday School @
10:00a.m.

Worship Service at 11:00
a.m./online option.

**5-8 Lutheran Ladies Lunch
@ Old Mexico @ NOON**

5-9 Grace Circle @ 11a.m.

5-12 Sunday School @
10:00 a.m.

Worship Service @ 11:00
a.m. w/online option
**COUNCIL MEETING
@ NOON**

**5-15 Singing @ the Oaks @
10:30a.m.**

**5-19 INVITATION
SUNDAY**

SS @ 10:00 a.m.
Worship Service @ 11:00
a.m. w/online option
**Family Day Dinner
Newsletter Deadline**

5-26 Sunday School @
10:00 a.m.

Worship Service @
11:00a.m. w/online option

**5-27 Office Closed - Memorial
Day**

⁶ So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹ They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." (Acts 1:6-11)

Christ is risen!

For me, the funniest line in the whole New Testament is this: "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven?" There they were, the disciples and many followers of Jesus, as Jesus ascended out of their sight. How long were they going to stand there just looking up? Apparently long enough that God had to send two angels just to prod them to get going.

Jesus had not been unclear about the game plan. Just before ascending, Jesus told them that they would receive power from the Holy Spirit to be his witnesses first to Jerusalem, then out to all Judea and Samaria, and outward to all the ends of the earth. This was the expansive vision for the church. Indeed, this remains our mission today. We start right where we are and trust the guidance of the Holy Spirit, following Jesus into the world.

But these first followers of Jesus were still clinging to a different vision, a smaller vision. They asked if the kingdom of Israel, what they knew and hope for, would at last be restored. They wanted to return to the glory days of their own culture. But this is not God's vision. Christ returns for the whole world. It's not a return to our cultural group and the way we do things; it is the Body of Christ embracing all humanity. The God, who loves the world to send his Son, now sends us in his name.

On the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit anointed these followers with fire for mission. Empowered to praise God in new languages, they were sent out to learn the mother tongues of all people on earth. We too are sent. We are sent first to our communities along the Flint River with all their beautiful diversity. We follow Christ where his love leads. Now is not the time to stand around looking upward. It is time to go love boldly in Jesus' name.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Grace and Peace.

Minister James



From May 13- June 1 please call Tommy Martin, Council President with any urgent needs on his cell phone 478-235-0096

Mt. Zion-St. Luke Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 187
Oglethorpe, GA 31068

Please help keep *this prayer list current. Contact the Church Office to update the list.*

Pray for Members: Franchelle Arnold, Debra Coogle & Family, Rick Coogle, Grady English & Family, Brenden Fitzgerald, Jr. & Family, Dale Godfrey, David Haigler Family, Emily Harvill, Jenny Joiner, Myrtle Joiner, Nancy & Mack McCarty & Family, Billy Martin, Sharon Martin, Tommy Martin, Zack Martin, George & Helen Smith, Angie and Heather Summer, Mark Webb family, Tony Webb, our college students, The Call Committee and for all the ministries of our church.

For Friends and Family: Sylvia Bergstrom, Pam Cole, Martha Joan Smith Converse family, John Davidson family, Marvin Duke, Carl Ethridge, Shelly Fields, Jorene Gordon, Andy Harvill, Dan Harvill, Jr., Pastor Steve and Kris Hilgeman, Adam Hobbs, Nina Hobbs, Michael Hortman, Sheriff Leonard Johnson, Bob Melvin, Elaine Middlebrooks & Family, Patricia Morgan, Brenda Oglesby, Don Oliver, Helen Peaster Family, Leigh Powell, Vi Roach Family, Ann Roberts, Leyon Roberts family, John Simmon, Carl Williams, Lamar Yoder, our nation, Ukraine, and the world.