

Altar Copy

Sunday, May 12, 2024
Seventh Sunday of Easter
Zion Lutheran Church
230 Cemetery Road
P. O. Box 4
West Jefferson, Ohio 43162
614 879-8107
Jon Meister, Presider
www.zionlutheranwj.org

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

The gospel for Easter's seventh Sunday is always taken from the long prayer Jesus prays for his followers in John's gospel on the night before his death, and always includes the desire of Jesus that his followers will be one as he and the Father are one. This oneness is not mere doctrinal agreement or institutional unity, but mutual abiding, interpenetrating life, mutual love, and joy. This oneness is the work of the Spirit whom we have received but also await. Come, Holy Spirit!

Mothers' Day is observed on the second Sunday in May. It was established firstly as a secular holiday to celebrate and honour one's own mother but has evolved to include motherhood in general.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION

Please stand as you are able.

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
- P Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, and blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.
- C Amen
- **P** Let us come into the light, the revealing and healing light of God.

Silence for reflection

- **P** God of Grace and Glory,
- you have brought us through the night of sin into the light of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Yet our lives are still shadowed by sin. Make us alive in Christ, O God. Make us new as you make all things new. Rescue us from evil and the gloom of sin, renew us in grace, and restore us to living in your holiness, through Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord. Amen.
- P God who is rich in mercy, love us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace we have been saved. Rejoice with all creation around God's throne! The light of the risen Christ puts to flight all evil deeds, washes away sin, restores innocence to the fallen, casts out hate, brings peace, and humbles earthly pride. In the name of Jesus Christ who loves us and + frees us from our sins by his blood. Almighty God strengthen us with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. To him be glory and dominion forever and ever!
- C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: Faith of Our Mothers (ELW 812)

The music of "Faith of Our Fathers". Sing only verses 1, 2, and 4.

Faith of Our Mothers

- Faith of our mothers, living still
 In cradle song and bedtime prayer;
 In nursery lore and fireside love,
 Thy presence still pervades the air:
 Faith of our mothers, living faith!
 We will be true to thee to death
- Faith of our mothers, loving faith,
 Fount of our childhood's trust and grace,
 Oh, may thy consecration prove
 Source of a finer, nobler race:
 Faith of our mothers, living faith,
 We will be true to thee till death.

- 3. Faith of our mothers, guiding faith, For youthful longing, youthful doubt, How blurred our vision, blind our way, Thy providential care without: Faith of our mothers, guiding faith, We will be true to thee till death.
- 4. Faith of our mothers, Christian faith,
 Is truth beyond our stumbling creeds,
 Still serve the home and save the Church,
 And breathe thy spirit through our deeds:
 Faith of our mothers, Christian faith!
 We will be true to thee till death.

EASTER GREETING

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C He is risen indeed. Alleluia!
- P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C And also with you.

RESPONSIVE READING

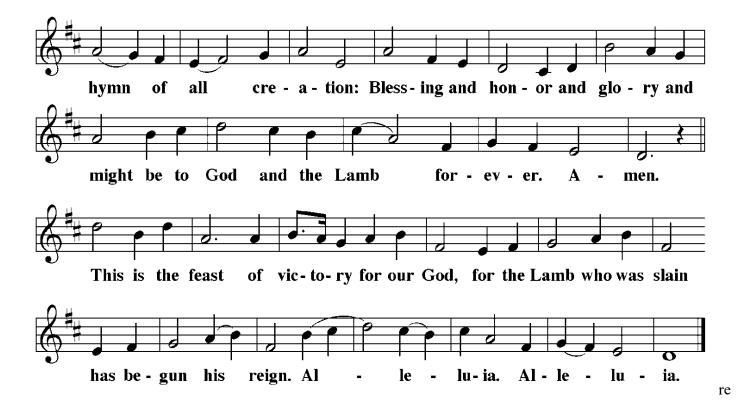
- **P** Mothers come in many different forms and today we celebrate them all.
- C Thank God for my mother.
- **P** Everyone here is either a son or a daughter.
- C Thank God for my mother.
- **P** For those women who have joined God in Heaven and who are dearly missed here on Earth.
- C Thank God for the mothers of the past.
- **P** For every woman who is working day and night to raise her children right now.
- C Thank God for the mothers of today.
- **P** For all the women who are expecting but are not quite mothers yet.
- C Thank God for the soon-to-be mothers.
- **P** For those women who have lost a child to death and must carry on.
- C Thank God for the mothers who are so strong.

- **P** For all the women who are mothers to everyone and in every situation,
- C Thank God for the mother's spirit.
- **P** We thank you, Lord, for the women who have influenced our lives in so many ways.
- C We pray that we will honor them in everything we do. Amen.



THIS IS THE FEAST





PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P Let us pray. Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved World, that we may find our joy in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

FIRST READING: Acts 1: 15-17, 21-26

L A reading from Acts.

In the days between the Ascension of Jesus and Pentecost, Peter oversees the process whereby one of the members of community of believers is chosen to be the twelfth apostle in order to fill the vacancy created by the treachery and death of Judas.

¹⁵In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, ¹⁶Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus — ¹⁷for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry." ²¹So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²²beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us — one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection." ²³So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." ²⁶And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

- L The word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 1

Read responsively.

¹Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;

²but their delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law they meditate day and night.

³They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

⁴The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

⁵Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

⁶ for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

SECOND READING: 1st John 5: 9-13

L A reading from 1st John.

God has borne witness to the gift of eternal life in Jesus Christ. Whoever believes in the Son of believes in the witness of God and has the promise of eternal life.

⁹If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. ¹⁰Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. ¹¹And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹²Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

¹³I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

- L The word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Please stand as you are able.



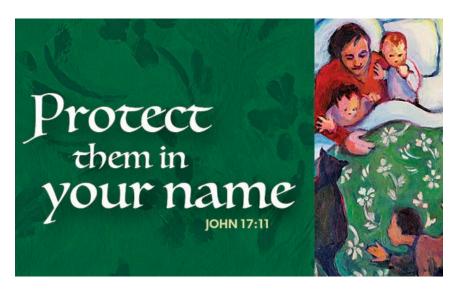
GOSPEL: John 17: 6-19

- **P** The Holy Gospel according to John, the 17th chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

In this reading the Church hears the words of Jesus on the night before his death—his prayer for his disciples and for all who would believe in him through their words.

⁶I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the World. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; 8 for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. 9I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the World, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the World, but they are in the World, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. 12 While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the World so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. ¹⁴I have given them your word, and the World has hated them because they do not belong to the World, just as I do not belong to the World. 15I am not asking you to take them out of the World, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶They do not belong to the World, just as I do not belong to the World. ¹⁷Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸As you have sent me into the World, so I have sent them into the World. ¹⁹And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

- **P** The Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.



SERMON

Please be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY: What a Friend We Have in Jesus (ELW 742)

Stand as you are able.

What a Friend We Have in Jesus



- 1 What a friend we have in Je sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
- 2 Have we tri als and temp ta tions? Is there trou-ble an y where?
- 3 Are we weak and heav-y lad en, cum bered with a load of care?



We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged—take it to the Lord in prayer.

Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge—take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need-less pain we bear—Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor-rows share? Do your friends de-spise, for-sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



all be-cause we do not car - ry ev-'ry-thing to God in prayer! Je - sus knows our ev-'ry weak-ness—take it to the Lord in prayer. In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a so-lace there.

Text: Joseph Scriven, 1820-1886

Music: CONVERSE, Charles C. Converse, 1832–1918

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APOSTLES' CREED

- A Join me in confessing our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed.
- C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of Heaven and Earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into Heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the Church, the World, and all those in need of good news.

Silence for reflection.

You sanctify us in your truth; your word is truth. Send your church out into the world to spread your love and joy. Embolden all bishops, pastors, and deacons (*especially*) to be faithful ministers of your word and sacraments. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Your creation groans under the strain of pollution. Preserve melting glaciers and dwindling forests. Bolster those who work for climate justice and help us all to be good and faithful stewards of your creation. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Your people seek wisdom, understanding, and peace. Guide all those who govern and inspire them to work on behalf of the most vulnerable in our midst. Keep safe first responders, those serving in the military, and those whose duty it is to protect others. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Your children need your loving care. Protect them from all harm. Comfort those in any affliction (*especially*). Support those who grieve and bring solace to those near death. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Your Spirit lives within us here. Inspire the work of this congregation and unite us as one. Bless all the mothers in our midst, console those for whom this day is difficult, and gather us all under the care of your loving wings. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Your saints dwell with you in light. Keep us ever thankful for those who have gone before us in faith (especially). Inspire us by their witness. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

- P Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.
- C Amen.

LITANY FOR MOTHERS' DAY

- A For our mothers who were brave enough to give birth
- C Thank you, dear Lord,
- **A** Who loved through many growing-up years
- C Thank you, dear Lord,
- A Who taught about God and love and being good
- C Thank you, dear Lord,
- A Who often got no thanks for all that they did
- C Thank you, dear Lord,
- A Whose hearts were often broken and yet always forgave and forgot
- C Thank you, dear Lord,
- A Who encouraged when things went bad and always had time to listen

- C Thank you, dear Lord,
- A Who worked so hard to make things go and make the World so much better
- C Thank you, dear Lord,
- **A** Who deserve our love on Mother's Day AND EVERY DAY even for eternity.
- C Amen.

SHALOM

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THANKS

- P Let us pray. Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the World, through Jesus Christ, our true vine.
- C Amen.



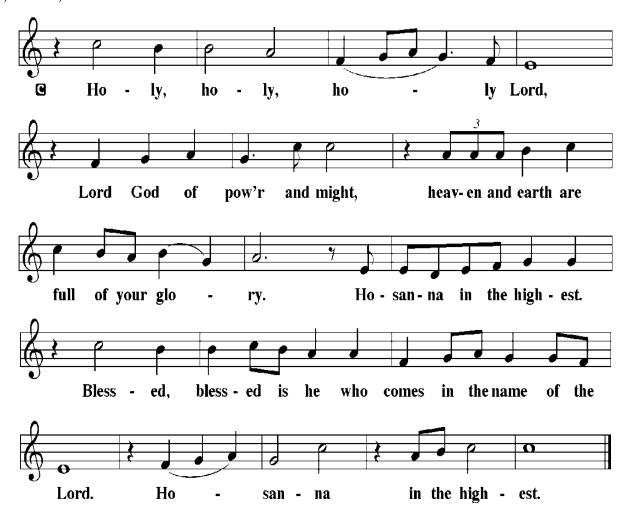
DIALOGUE

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- C We lift them to the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy we praise your name and join their unending hymn: (Preface is in the pocket of the Pastor's binder.)

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



EASTER EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Holy, living, and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the Earth. We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer. We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus **took bread**, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he **took the cup**, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying World. Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C Amen.

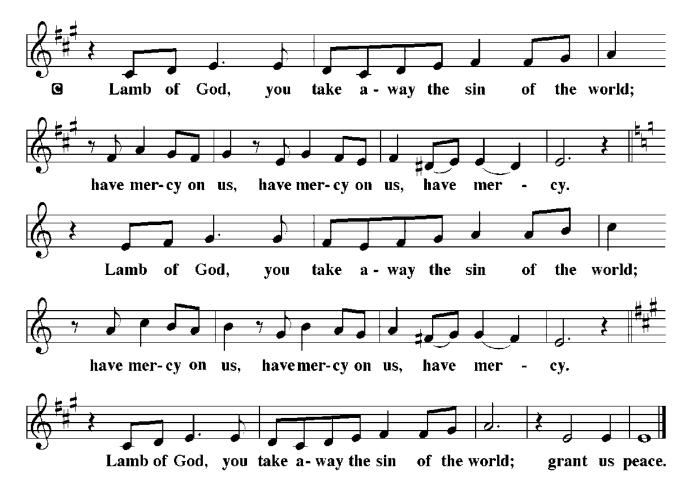
LORD'S PRAYER

- P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, as we pray the prayer you taught us:
- 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

COMMUNION HYMN



POST COMMUNION BLESSING

Please stand as you are able.

- **P** May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- P Let us pray. Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.
- C Amen



MOTHERS' DAY PRAYER

P On this day of celebrating your love, we lift to you those who have given us life, those who have loved us, those who have blessed us, and those who have taught us, our mothers. May your blessing pour out upon the woman who gave us birth, and those beautiful, strong women of faith who have been mothers to us along our journey. We praise you, O God, for your gift of motherly love, both gentle and fierce, both strong and humble, both kind and true. Where we have been so blessed, we give our grateful praise, for you have provided loving hands that have worked so hard in raising us, cared enough to correct us, blessed us in ways we cannot have fully known as children.

We call forth your compassion upon every mother who has unknowingly caused pain and suffering. And, so we lift to you our mothers, so imperfect, also so wounded by this World.

We bless our mothers this day. Where we have seen your face in any woman who has been a mother to us, in her face we have seen your light and your love and we give thanks.

We lift to you our Mother Earth. We lift to you our Mother Church. We lift to you, O God, your mother's heart; and although we cannot fully express our gratitude, help each one of us to be your blessing of love, a blessing straight from your heart.

C Amen.

BLESSING

- P May the Lord who brought us to birth by his Spirit,
- C strengthen us for the Christian life.
- P May the Lord who provides for all our needs
- C sustain us day by day.
- **P** May the Lord whose steadfast love is constant as a mother's care,
- C send us out to live and work for others.
- P And the blessing of God Almighty. + the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always.
- C Amen.



SENDING HYMN: Lord, You Give the Great Commission (ELW 579)

Sing only verses 1, 4, and 5.

Lord, You Give the Great Commission



Text: Jeffery Rowthorn, b. 1934

Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907-1991

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DISMISSAL

- A Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
- A You are the body of Christ raised up for the World. Go in peace. Share the good news.
- C Thanks be to God.
- A The Spirit sends us forth to serve.
- C We go out--Reaching in for the Holy Spirit, Reaching up for God's Grace, Reaching out with Christ's love. Amen!

(The words in italics are Zion's mission statement.)

POSTLUDE

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Serving during worship this morning:

Presider: Jon Meister Lector: Musician(s): Ann Riesbeck DiClemente, Jerry Gossett

Food fund donations:

Serving during worship next week:

Presider: Jon Meister Lector: Musician(s): Ann Riesbeck DiClemente, Jerry Gossett

Food fund donations:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome our guests and visitors this morning. Please take a moment to speak with Jon, Jerry, or Louise before you leave. All Baptized persons, at Christ's invitation, are welcome to commune. Worshippers who wish to receive grape juice instead of wine will find white grape juice available in the tray of communion cups. Please come forward using the left aisle and return to your seats using the right aisle.

CONTACT THE PASTOR

Communications requesting pastoral care should be made directly to Pastor Larry Baker, (614) 257-8560.

MOTHERS' DAY

Today is Mothers' Day. Thank you Mothers and those of you ladies who have been there for us when we needed mothers and ours were not available. Relax today and enjoy this day that has been set aside for all the ladies who love us.





morning Bible discussions every Sunday before Church. We meet at 9:45 each week. We are going to be reading a book by C. S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity* and discussing it. Please come and join our lively discussion. Bring your Bible and your favorite morning beverage with you. If you wish.

FINDING US ON THE INTERNET Some of you may know that the church has a wonderful website that was designed by Susie Taylor. She does a wonderful job updating it every week. Susie also has her own page on Facebook that I have referred to on several occasions. There are many items on her site that are great for thoughts of the day. It is *Stix-N-Stonez*. Check it out. However a new blogger on the scene is Alex Meister. Find him at

"christianameister.wixsite.com/blog". Alex has posted many of his essays on different topics relating to Christianity. Some we have discussed in our Sunday Bible Studies. I invite you to check out both of these Facebook sites. Then come to Bible Study and discuss your feelings.

PRAYERS



We are praying for Aurora and her parents and Grandma, Nicole Biler Robinette, (Tim's daughter). She is on the transplant list for a new heart. We pray that this will happen soon. She is currently at home but will be called back to the hospital soon until an organ becomes available. Tim says that she is in good spirits. Keep her; her husband, Stephen; and her parents and family in your prayers. Please keep these people in your prayers as well: Michael Koch; Mike and Donna Toy, and all of those who are suffering from diseases or other health issues and their families. Please remember all of our shut-ins and sick, especially Arlene Castor.

The address for Michael and the Koch family is 224 West Romany Loop, Beverly Hills, FL 34465. Michael has moved to *The Grove*, a facility that is much closer to his home. You can get updates from Linda at www.caringbridge.org/visit/michaelkoch2?fbclid Keep all of the Koch's in your prayers.

If you hear or know of anyone who should be on our Prayer List, please let me know, my number is 614-398-6302

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

MOTHER'S DAY. MAY 12TH, will be here before you know it. Come on guys, let's pull it together for the ladies in our lives. Remember that without them, we wouldn't be here either. ASSENSION AND PENTECOST come right after. Big days on the Church calendar. Why not plan to spend it with your Church Family.

FATHERS" DAY IS JUNE 16TH, I know, the good days just keep on coming. Those dads that we love, and sometimes the dads that we don't love so much. Remember the good times. BREAKFAST AT FIRST ENGLIST ON JUNE 30TH, I know it seems like we just did it. The last couple of months have been pretty easy. We come and help where we can and serve those who need to be served. Jesus did it, so, so can we.

COMMUNITY EVENTS THAT WE MIGHT LIKE

<u>THE FIRST FRIDAY NIGHT UPTOWN ON MAY 17TH</u> Lots of fun is planned. The Groove will be playing from 8-10:30. There will be 5 food trucks, one will have tacos, one will have barbeque. There will be stuff for kids and vendors selling their wares. Come on down for fun and music.

FRIDAY NIGHT UPTOWN FOR JUNE 14TH will include the music of Lee Grant; more food trucks, including Schmidt's (love me some cream puffs); and for the dads, Cruisin with the Mayor will be done again this year.

