

Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church!

1732 S. Main St. Aberdeen, SD 57401
605-225-6755 Email: zion@nvc.net
Website: www.zionlutheranaberdeen.org

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*Rooted in Faith \* Growing in Spirit \* Reaching out to Those in Need*  
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February 11, 2018 8:30 am Transfiguration of our Lord

Today's festival is a bridge between the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany cycle that comes to a close today and the Lent-Easter cycle that begins in several days. On the mount of transfiguration Jesus is revealed as God's beloved Son, echoing the words at his baptism. This vision of glory sustains us as Jesus faces his impending death in Jerusalem.

We turn this week to Ash Wednesday and our yearly baptismal journey from Lent to Easter. Some churches put aside the alleluia at the conclusion of today's liturgy. This word of joy will be omitted during the penitential season of Lent and will be sung again at Easter.

PRELUDE "Old English Music for Organ" C.H. Trevor

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
Welcoming of new members

OPENING HYMN "Golden Breaks the Dawn" ELW #852

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (please stand)
All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who stretches out the heavens,
who sends light to the nations,
who gives breath to us all.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.
Silence for reflection and self-examination.

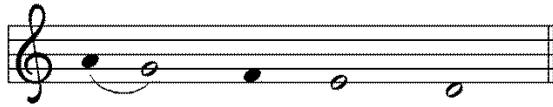
Loving God,
**we confess that we have turned from your way
to follow our own ways.**
**Forgive us for the times
we have spoken or acted too quickly;
we have not spoken or acted at all;
we have hurt those closest to us;
we have hurt those we have yet to know;
we have thought more about ourselves than others;
we have thought less of ourselves than we ought.**
**Turn us around, and give us a fresh start,
so that we can live again as your children. Amen.**

Even when we have done wrong, God makes us right.
Even when we have messed up, God puts us together.
God's love never runs out.
God never tires of calling us beloved children.
Hear God say to you now:
Your sins are forgiven,
for the sake of † Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.

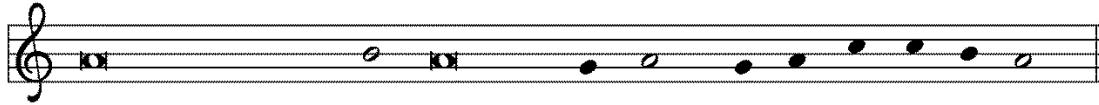
KYRIE



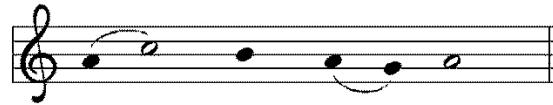
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



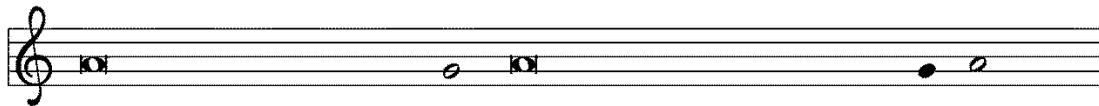
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



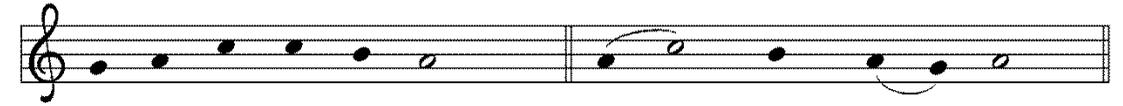
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



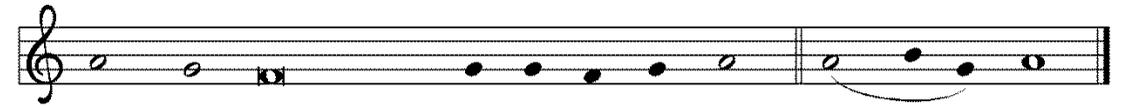
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



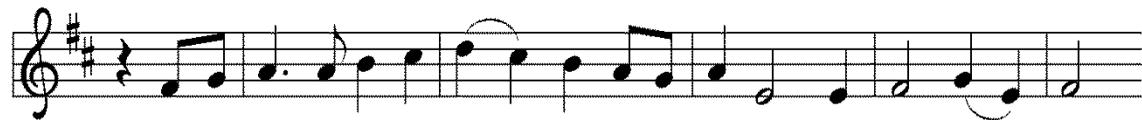
wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

GREETING

The boundless grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the wisdom of God, and the light of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen. (please be seated)

SPECIAL MUSIC

**"Father of Light"
Zion Adult Choir**

Craig Courtney

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

FIRST READING

2 Kings 2:1-12

Pew Bible OT p. 369

Today's reading centers on the transfer of power and authority from the prophet Elijah to Elisha. Their travels, which retrace the path of Joshua back to Moab (the place where Moses died) and the parting of the waters, demonstrate that Elisha and Elijah are legitimate successors of the great prophet Moses.

PSALM

Psalm 50:1-6

Out of Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth in glory. (Ps. 50:2)

- ¹The mighty one, God the Lord, has spoken;
calling the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.**
- ²Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty,
God shines forth in glory.**
- ³Our God will come and will not keep silence;
with a consuming flame before, and round about a raging storm.**
- ⁴God calls the heavens and the earth from above
to witness the judgment of the people.**
- ⁵“Gather before me my loyal followers,
those who have made a covenant with me and sealed it with sacrifice.”**
- ⁶The heavens declare the rightness of God's cause,
for it is God who is judge.**

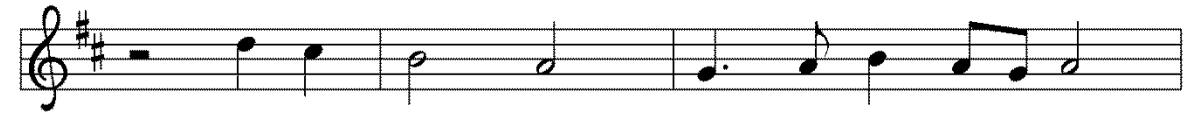
SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

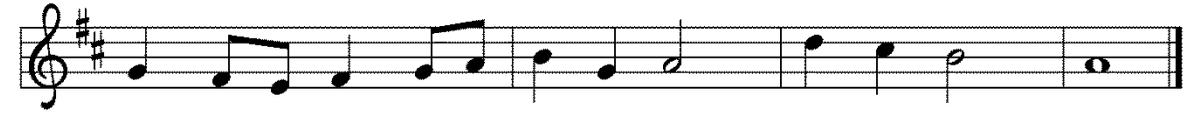
Pew Bible NT p. 190

The spotlight of Christian ministry is not on the people who carry out ministry but on the Lord Jesus Christ. Just as God made light shine out of darkness at creation, God makes the light of Jesus Christ shine in our lives through Christian ministry.

ALLELUIA (please stand)



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 9:2-9

Pew Bible NT p. 45

Mark's gospel presents the transfiguration as a preview of what would become apparent to Jesus' followers after he rose from the dead. Confused disciples are given a vision of God's glory manifest in the beloved Son.

The holy gospel according to Mark the 9th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ. (please be seated)

SERMON

Pastor Erin

HYMN OF THE DAY

“How Good, Lord, to Be Here!”

ELW #315

CREED (please stand)

**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. *(please be seated)***

OFFERING

The children are welcome to come forward and place their offerings in the "For Children Everywhere" box.

OFFERTORY HYMN "Shine, Jesus, Shine" ELW #671

OFFERING PRAYER *(please stand)*

Merciful God,
receive the gifts we bring,
ourselves, our time, and our possessions.
Through this meal unite us as your body,
shining with the light of your justice and mercy;
for the sake of him who gave himself for us,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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.**

BLESSING

Go now to all to whom God sends you,
and speak whatever words God gives you.
Let all that you do and all that you say
be filled with love, for love never ends.

And may God be with you always to deliver you;
May Christ Jesus put his gracious words in your mouth;
And may the Holy Spirit bring you to completeness in faith, hope and love.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.
**We go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Thanks be to God!**

CLOSING HYMN "Beautiful Savior" ELW #838

POSTLUDE "In Thee Is Gladness" Theodore Beck

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FIRST READING: 2 Kings 2:1-12

Today's reading centers on the transfer of power and authority from the prophet Elijah to Elisha. Their travels, which retrace the path of Joshua back to Moab (the place where Moses died) and the parting of the waters, demonstrate that Elisha and Elijah are legitimate successors of the great prophet Moses.

¹Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ²Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. ³The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

⁴Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. ⁵The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent."

⁶Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. ⁷Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

⁹When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." ¹⁰He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." ¹¹As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. ¹²Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

PSALM Psalm 50:1-6

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¹The mighty one, God the LORD, has spoken;
calling the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

²**Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty,
God shines forth in glory.**

³Our God will come and will not keep silence;
with a consuming flame before, and round about a raging storm.

⁴**God calls the heavens and the earth from above
to witness the judgment of the people.**

⁵"Gather before me my loyal followers,
those who have made a covenant with me and sealed it with sacrifice."

⁶**The heavens declare the rightness of God's cause,
for it is God who is judge.**

SECOND READING 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

The spotlight of Christian ministry is not on the people who carry out ministry but on the Lord Jesus Christ. Just as God made light shine out of darkness at creation, God makes the light of Jesus Christ shine in our lives through Christian ministry.

³Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL Mark 9:2-9

Mark's gospel presents the transfiguration as a preview of what would become apparent to Jesus' followers after he rose from the dead. Confused disciples are given a vision of God's glory manifest in the beloved Son.

²Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁶He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" ⁸Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them anymore, but only Jesus.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Confident that God our light and our salvation hears us when we pray, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

A brief silence.

For the ministry of the gospel proclaimed in word and deed, for congregations near and far, and for all who show the face of Christ throughout the world, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the well-being of creation, for plants and animals, seas and skies, and creatures seen and unseen, that all may be guided by your Holy Spirit to be stewards of our earth, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For firefighters and police officers, attorneys and advocates, civil servants and corporate executives, and leaders of governments, that through their insight and patience, peace and justice prevail throughout the world, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, that as Christ was transfigured on the mountaintop, sickness will be turned into health, loneliness into companionship, bereavement into consolation, and suffering into assurance, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For companions who accompany us on our journeys through life, for this community of faith that supports us, and for guidance during difficult times, that we see the glory of God revealed around us, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

In thanksgiving for the faithful departed who now rest from their earthly pilgrimage, that their lives of service and prayer inspire us in our days, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Merciful God, you hear our prayers even before we speak them. Receive them for the sake of the one through whom you have revealed your goodness, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who taught us to pray...