

Zion Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, SD
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
zionlutheranaberndeen.org
Erin Heidelberger, Pastor
Tim Sersen, Visitation Pastor



INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

The prophet Jeremiah speaks of the incurable wound of his suffering yet finds in God's words the delight of his heart. When Peter doesn't grasp Jesus' words about suffering, Jesus tells the disciples they will find their lives in losing them. Such sacrificial love is described by Paul when he urges us to associate with the lowly and not repay evil with evil. In worship we gather as a community that we might offer ourselves for the sake of our suffering world.

PRELUDE

O Take My Hand, Dear Father

by John A. Behnke

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

**we confess that we do not trust your abundance,
and we deny your presence in our lives.**

We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts.

We fail to believe that you provide enough for all.

We abuse your good creation for our own benefit.

**We fear difference and do not welcome others
as you have welcomed us.**

We sin in thought, word, and deed.

**By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us;
and in your Spirit, lead us;**

so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.

Beloved of God,
in the abundance of God's mercy, we have peace with God through † Christ Jesus,
through whom we have obtained grace upon grace.
By Christ's authority, I declare to you that all your sins are forgiven.
Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint,
because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG

Better Is One Day

by Matt Redman

How lovely is Your Dwelling place, O Lord almighty.
For my soul longs and even faints for you.
For hear my heart is satisfied, within Your presence.
I sing beneath the shadow of Your wings.

Better is one day in Your courts, better is one day in Your house,
Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere.
Better is one day in Your courts, better is one day in Your house,
Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere.

One thing I ask and I would seek, to see Your beauty.
To find You in the place Your glory dwells.
One thing I ask and I would seek, to see Your beauty.
To find You in the place Your glory dwells.

Better is one day in Your courts, better is one day in Your house,
Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere.
Better is one day in Your courts, better is one day in Your house,
Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere.
Better is one day in Your courts, better is one day in Your house,
Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere.
(repeat)

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

FIRST READING Jeremiah 15:15-21

⁵O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult. ¹⁶Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart; for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts. ¹⁷I did not sit in the company of merry-makers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. ¹⁸Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail. ¹⁹Therefore thus says the LORD: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. ²⁰And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the LORD. ²¹I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God**

PSALM Psalm 26:1-8 (read responsively)

¹Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity;
I have trusted in the LORD and have not faltered.

²**Test me, O LORD, and try me;
examine my heart and my mind.**

³For your steadfast love is before my eyes;
I have walked faithfully with you.

⁴**I have not sat with the worthless,
nor do I consort with the deceitful.**

⁵I have hated the company of evildoers;
I will not sit down with the wicked.

⁶**I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD,
that I may go in procession round your altar,**

⁷singing aloud a song of thanksgiving
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

⁸**LORD, I love the house in which you dwell
and the place where your glory abides.**

SECOND READING**Romans 12:9-21**

⁹Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION***The Lord Almighty Reigns***

by Terry Butler

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah the Lord reigns.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah the Lord Almighty reigns.

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah the Lord reigns.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah the Lord Almighty reigns.

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL**Matthew 16:21-28**

²¹From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Erin Heidelberger

SONG OF THE DAY

Mercy

by Lynn DeShazo and Gary Sadler

Mercy, mercy Lord,
Your mercy is how we are restored.
Mercy, O mercy Lord,
Help us to show Your mercy Lord.

You have been patient with our offenses.
You have forgiven all of our sins.
We were deserving only Your judgment,
But Your great mercy triumphed again.

Mercy, mercy Lord,
Your mercy is how we are restored.
Mercy, O mercy Lord,
Help us to show Your mercy Lord.

Lord, You have taught us, love one another.
As You have loved us, so we must love.
Always forbearing, always forgiving.
Showing to others the mercy we've known.

Mercy, mercy Lord,
Your mercy is how we are restored.
Mercy, O mercy Lord,
Help us to show Your mercy Lord.

APOSTLES' CREED

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**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 THE PEOPLE

Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

After each petition: Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING

*Thank you for your faithful giving that has continued during this time!
Ministry at this time depends on regular giving. If you would like to give
online now, you can use this QR code scanner on your smart phone to be
directed to the Giving page on our website. You can also mail your
offerings in to the church.*



OFFERING SONG

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Create in me a clean heart, O God.
And renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence,

And take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of your salvation.
And uphold me with your free spirit.
Create in me a clean heart, O God.
And renew a right spirit within me.

OFFERING PRAYER

God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. Nourish us through these gifts, that we might proclaim your steadfast love in our community and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray in confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,
 your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
 now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

God, the creator, ✠ Jesus, the Christ,
and the Holy Spirit, the comforter,
bless you and keep you in eternal love. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

Friend of God

by Michael Gunger & Israel Houghton

Who am I that You are mindful of me?
That You hear me when I call?
Is it true that You are thinking of me?
How You love me, it's amazing. It's amazing.

I am a friend of God.
I am a friend of God.
I am a friend of God.
He calls me friend.
I am a friend of God.
I am a friend of God.
I am a friend of God.
He calls me friend.

Who am I that You are mindful of me?
That You hear me when I call?
Is it true that You are thinking of me?
How You love me, it's amazing. It's amazing.

I am a friend of God.
I am a friend of God.
I am a friend of God.
He calls me friend.
I am a friend of God.
I am a friend of God.
I am a friend of God.
He calls me friend.

God Almighty, Lord of Glory,
You have called me friend.
God Almighty, Lord of Glory,
You have called me friend.

I am a friend of God.
I am a friend of God.
You call me friend.
I am a friend of God.
I am a friend of God.
I am a friend of God.
You call me friend.

SENDING WORDS

Go in peace. Christ is with you! **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Sent Forth by God's Blessings

by John A. Behnke

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Leading worship today:

Pastor Erin Heidelberger

Pastoral Assistant Saundra Anderson

Sonya Kempf, organ/piano

Kathy Heffernan, lector

Stacy Geffre, Stephanie Hawkinson, and Kara Pies, song leaders

Prayers

As a community of faith in Christ, we are connected through joy, sorrow, worship, and prayer. Please pray for the people listed below.

As we are praying for all members of Zion, this week we pray especially for God's comfort, healing, protection, strength, and peace to be with:

Sally Isaacson
Tammy Paulsen
Lyle Chapin
Curt Sudemier

Those with ongoing concerns:

Leonard Berger
Joe Bosmoe
Hilda Hoffman (at Angelhaus)
Howard Nelson (at Angelhaus)
Gene Reich (now in hospice care)
Duane Wagemann

Announcements

A FUNDRAISER FOR TAMMY PAULSEN has been set up to help with costs related to her cancer treatment. You can give to this fund online at **bit.ly/Tammystrong**. Or you can give by bringing your cash or check donation to the church—make checks out to “Zion Lutheran Church” with “Tammy Paulsen fund” in the memo line.

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS! We are in need of...

- **Sound board operators for 8:30 service** – No experience necessary; we will train you! The commitment would be one Sunday per month.
- **Scripture readers either in the sanctuary at 8:30 OR on video....**you can take the video yourself at home or come to the church during the week and have Saundra video record you OR Saundra can come to your home for an outdoor video recording of you reading the Sunday Scriptures.

Let the church office know (225-6755) if you are interested in either of these volunteer

opportunities.

WEDNESDAY EVENING COMMUNION SERVICE

Our next "Come and Go" Communion Service will be Wednesday, September 16 from 5:00-7:00 PM.



THE SPECIAL OFFERING for August is ELCA World Hunger. The world provides enough food for all, but more than 800 million people around the world face chronic hunger. We believe in a God of abundance, so as a church, we live out our call in baptism to strive for a just world where all are fed.



ELCA World Hunger is this church at work. We walk alongside our partners and companions in the United States and more than 60 other countries. Generating unique solutions to local challenges starts by listening to our neighbors and communities. Then, together, we work and serve to help break the cycle of hunger and poverty — for good.

Find out more online at bit.ly/elcaworldhunger

RADIO BROADCAST SPONSORSHIPS NEEDED – Our radio broadcast ministry is more important than ever. Would you consider donating either the whole cost or half the cost of a Sunday broadcast? A whole Sunday service is \$110.00 and one half is \$55.00. You are welcome to donate in remembrance of a loved one or in celebration of a special occasion to support this ministry. To sign up for a broadcast, contact the church office at 225-6755.

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