

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



### INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

*Elijah finds the presence of God not in earthquake, wind, or fire, but in the sound of sheer silence. When the disciples face a great storm on the sea, they cry out with fear. Jesus says: "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Amid the storms of life, we gather to seek the calm presence of Christ that soothes our fears. In comforting words of scripture, God grants us peace and sends us forth to be a sign of God's presence to others.*

### PRELUDE

*Trumpet Voluntary*  
 Gordon Young

Sonya Kempf, organ

### WELCOME & PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

We are gathered in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

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**      *Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God*      by Karen Lafferty

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness,  
And all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia.

Man shall not live by bread alone, but by ev'ry word  
That proceeds from the mouth of God. Allelu, alleluia.

Ask and it shall be given unto you, seek and ye shall find.  
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, Alleluia.

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness,  
And all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia.

**GREETING**      Carter Moser

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 our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid.  
Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and  
preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**KIDS' TIME**      Pastoral Assistant Sandra Anderson

**FIRST READING**      **1 Kings 19:9-18**      Jessica Moser, lector  
*On Mount Horeb, where God had appeared to Moses with typical signs of God's presence—earthquake, wind, and fire—Elijah now experienced God in "sheer silence." God assured Elijah that he is not the only faithful believer. Seven thousand Israelites are still loyal. God instructed Elijah to anoint two men as kings and to anoint Elisha as his own successor.*

<sup>9</sup>At [Horeb, the mount of God,][Elijah] came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" <sup>10</sup>He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

<sup>11</sup>He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; <sup>12</sup>and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. <sup>13</sup>When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" <sup>14</sup>He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." <sup>15</sup>Then the LORD said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. <sup>16</sup>Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. <sup>17</sup>Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. <sup>18</sup>Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

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

**PSALM**      **Psalm 85:8-13**      (*read responsively*)

Jessica Moser, lector

*I will listen to what the LORD God is saying. (Ps. 85:8)*

<sup>8</sup>I will listen to what the LORD God is saying;  
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.

<sup>9</sup>**Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,  
that your glory may dwell in our land.**

<sup>10</sup>Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together;  
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

<sup>11</sup>**Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,  
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

<sup>12</sup>The LORD will indeed grant prosperity,  
and our land will yield its increase.

**<sup>13</sup>Righteousness shall go before the LORD  
and shall prepare for God a pathway.**

**SECOND READING**

**Romans 10:5-15**

Jessica Moser, lector

*A right relationship with God is not something we achieve by heroic efforts. It is a gift received in the proclamation whose content is Jesus Christ. This proclaimed word creates our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Hence Christian proclamation is an indispensable component of God's saving actions.*

<sup>5</sup>Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them." <sup>6</sup>But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) <sup>7</sup>or 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). <sup>8</sup>But what does it say?

"The word is near you,  
on your lips and in your heart"

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); <sup>9</sup>because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup>For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. <sup>11</sup>The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." <sup>12</sup>For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. <sup>13</sup>For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

<sup>14</sup>But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? <sup>15</sup>And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

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

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Repeat alleluia*

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

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

**GOSPEL**

**Matthew 14:22-33**

*Matthew's gospel typically portrays Jesus' disciples as people of "little faith," who fail despite their best intentions. In this story, Matthew shows how Jesus comes to the disciples when they are in trouble and sustains them in their time of fear and doubt.*

<sup>22</sup>[Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee], while he dismissed the crowds.<sup>23</sup>And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, <sup>24</sup>but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. <sup>25</sup>And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. <sup>26</sup>But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. <sup>27</sup>But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

<sup>28</sup>Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." <sup>29</sup>He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. <sup>30</sup>But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" <sup>31</sup>Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" <sup>32</sup>When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. <sup>33</sup>And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

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

**SERMON**

Pastor Erin Heidelberger

**SONG OF THE DAY**

**Cornerstone**

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteous.  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame but wholly trust in Jesus' Name.  
My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteous.  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame but wholly trust in Jesus' Name.

Christ alone. Cornerstone. Weak made strong in the Savior's love.  
Through the storm, He is Lord. Lord of all.

When darkness seems to hide His face, I rest on His unchanging grace.  
In ev'ry high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.  
My anchor holds within the veil.

Christ alone. Cornerstone. Weak made strong in the Savior's love.  
Through the storm, He is Lord. Lord of all.

Christ alone. Cornerstone. Weak made strong in the Savior's love.  
Through the storm, He is Lord. Lord of all.

### **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**

We are often tossed about by the storms of troubles, worries, and doubts. So let us cry out to God in faith for the needs of all people and for our own needs.

*After each petition:* Hear us, O God. **Your salvation is near.**

Heavenly Father, our faithful and loving God, we know that when we turn to you, you will hear and help us. Listen to our prayers and answer them for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**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.*

**OFFERTORY SONG***Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring***ELW #691**

- 1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up - on your ta - ble.
- 2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They grew in your good plea - sure.
- 3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we lift in prayer be - fore you.



We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.  
 What once was com - mon, dail - y food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.  
 Lord, by your grace now come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, b. 1957  
 Music: BARBARA ALLEN, English folk tune  
 Text © 1990 Augsburg Fortress

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Lord, thank you for caring for us and providing us with all we need and much more. Strengthen our faith as we live our everyday lives. Make us bold and confident in trusting you and serving you and other people. **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**      *Lord, I Need You*

Lord I come, I confess, bowing here, I find my rest.  
 Without You, I fall apart, You're the One that guides my heart.

Lord, I need You, oh, I need You. Ev'ry hour I need You.  
 My one defense, my righteousness, oh God, how I need You.

Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more. Where grace is found, is where You are.  
 Where You are, Lord, I am free. Holiness is Christ in me.

Lord, I need You, oh, I need You. Ev'ry hour I need You.  
 My one defense, my righteousness, oh, God how I need You.

So teach my song to rise to You when temptations come my way.  
 When I cannot stand, I'll fall on You. Jesus, You're my hope and stay.

Lord, I need You, oh, I need You. Ev'ry hour I need You.  
 My one defense, my righteousness, oh God, how I need You.

You're my one defense, my righteousness, oh God, how I need You.  
 My one defense, my righteousness, Oh God, how I need You.

**SENDING WORDS**

Carter Moser

Go in peace. Christ is with you!

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

*Three Elevations*  
 by Anna Mae Nichols

Sonya Kempf, organ

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### **Leading worship today:**

Pastor Erin Heidelberger

Pastoral Assistant Sandra Anderson

Sonya Kempf, organ & piano

Zach Anderson, vocals

Stephanie Hawkinson, Stacy Geffre, & Kara Pies: Praise Band

Jessica Moser, lector

Carter Moser, greeting and sending words

### **Prayers**

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

**We ask for God's loving embrace to hold all those who mourn, especially:**

The family of Milbert Schaffer at his death this week.

**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:**

Howard Nelson, who has moved to Angelhaus

Lyle Chapin (recovering from surgery in Luverne, MN. Notes and cards are welcome! Good Samaritan Society – Mary Jane Brown, 110 S. Walnut Ave., Luverne MN 56156)

LaVonne Peterson (Prairie Heights)

**Those with ongoing concerns:**

Leonard Berger

Joe Bosmoe

Hilda Hoffman

Gene Reich

Duane Wagemann

## Announcements

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**TODAY'S RADIO BROADCAST** is sponsored by Betty and Lenny Berger in memory of Eva and Byron Berger.

**WELCOME BACK TO IN-BUILDING WORSHIP!** We are excited to begin welcoming worshipers back into the building starting on **Sunday, August 16**. For the time being, we will have one Sunday morning service at 8:30 and maintain our online worship service as well. We will be limiting attendance at the 8:30 service in order to ensure that we are able to practice physical distancing, as well as other adaptations to reduce the risk of virus transmission. Watch your mail for the August newsletter, which will outline all of the details about this service.

### WEDNESDAY EVENING COMMUNION SERVICES

We will offer Communion services a couple of times each month on **Wednesday evenings from 5:00-7:00 beginning with August 12 and August 26**. Future dates are TBD.



Here's how it will work:

- Please enter through the east main doors (the doors on the north side will be locked from the outside). If there appears to be a line, wait outside appropriately distanced from others.
- A greeter will welcome you in (individual or family group) and ask you to put a face mask on. (Bring your own or one will be provided at the door.) Masks can stay on except for taking Communion.
- We will allow a couple households at a time into the sanctuary. You can pick up prepackaged elements at the back of the sanctuary and can sit in the front pews or stand if you're more comfortable doing that. We'll share in a brief prayer of confession, share the Lord's Supper, and share in a blessing.
- Depart out of the sanctuary through the side door on the north side of the sanctuary and depart the building out of the northeast exit door (next to the kitchen) to make way for the next group. It will take about 5 minutes per group.
- Anyone who has felt under the weather or is not wanting to take the risk of coming into the building should not feel compelled to come. It's OK to continue to feast on the Word!

**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](http://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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