

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



### INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

*Jesus' parable about two sons who don't do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God. In the reading from Ezekiel the people claim the ways of the Lord are unfair, while God offers repentance and new life. Paul urges us to look to Christ as a model of humility, putting the interests of others above our own. Nourished by the broken bread and shared cup, we offer our lives for the sake of our needy world.*

### PRELUDE

*Slane*

Robert A. Hobby

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INVOCATION

*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 creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation. **Amen.**

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Faithful God,  
have mercy on us.

We confess that we are captive to sin  
and cannot free ourselves.

We turn from your loving embrace  
and go our own ways.

We pass judgment on one another  
before examining ourselves.

We place our own needs before those of our neighbors.

We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves.

Make us humble, cast away our transgressions,  
and turn us again to life in you  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God hears the cries of all who call out in need,  
and through his death and resurrection,  
Christ has made us his own.  
Hear the truth that God proclaims:  
Your sins are forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ.  
Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness  
to do God's work in the world. **Amen.**

### CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Assisting minister




Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.


All



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



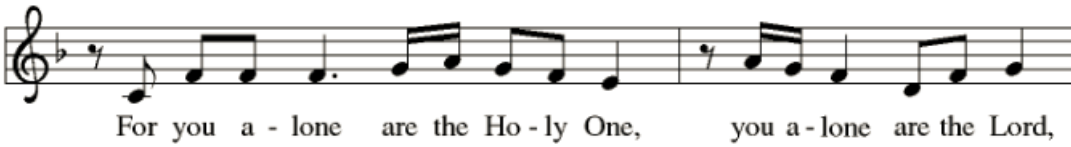
we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



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;



## 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

Merciful God, give us the same attitude as Jesus, who emptied himself and was obedient to you all the way to his death on the cross. Make us eager to put others before ourselves, and their needs before our own. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## KIDS' TIME

Pastoral Assistant Sandra Anderson

## PSALM

Psalm 25:1-9

*(read responsively)*

<sup>1</sup>To you, O LORD,

I lift up my soul.

<sup>2</sup>**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

<sup>3</sup>Let none who look to you be put to shame;  
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

<sup>4</sup>**Show me your ways, O LORD,  
and teach me your paths.**

<sup>5</sup>Lead me in your truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

<sup>6</sup>Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,  
for they are from everlasting.

<sup>7</sup>Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;  
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your  
goodness, O LORD.

<sup>8</sup>You are gracious and upright, O LORD;  
therefore you teach sinners in your way.

<sup>9</sup>You lead the lowly in justice  
and teach the lowly your way.

## SECOND READING                      Philippians 2:1-13

<sup>1</sup>If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any  
sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>make my joy complete: be of  
the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do  
nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better  
than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the  
interests of others. <sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

<sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,

<sup>7</sup>but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

<sup>8</sup>he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross.

<sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,

<sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

<sup>11</sup>and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my  
presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with  
fear and trembling; <sup>13</sup>for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will  
and to work for his good pleasure.

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

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -  
- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -  
lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

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

## GOSPEL

### Matthew 21:23-32

<sup>23</sup>When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" <sup>24</sup>Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. <sup>25</sup>Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' <sup>26</sup>But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." <sup>27</sup>So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

<sup>28</sup>"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' <sup>29</sup>He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. <sup>30</sup>The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. <sup>31</sup>Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. <sup>32</sup>For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

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

## SERMON

Pastor Erin Heidelberger

*vs. 1-3*

- 1 Lord, whose love in humble service  
bore the weight of human need,  
who upon the cross, forsaken,  
worked your mercy's perfect deed:  
we, your servants, bring the worship  
not of voice alone, but heart;  
consecrating to your purpose  
ev'ry gift which you impart.
  
- 2 Still your children wander homeless;  
still the hungry cry for bread;  
still the captives long for freedom;  
still in grief we mourn our dead.  
As you, Lord, in deep compassion  
healed the sick and freed the soul,  
by your Spirit send your power  
to our world to make it whole.
  
- 3 As we worship, grant us vision,  
till your love's revealing light  
in its height and depth and greatness  
dawns upon our quickened sight,  
making known the needs and burdens  
your compassion bids us bear,  
stirring us to ardent service,  
your abundant life to share.

**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

Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*After each petition:* Remember us, O God, **according to your steadfast love.**

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through 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

*Great is the Lord*

Great is the Lord, he is holy and just, by his power we trust in his love.  
Great is the Lord, he is faithful and true, by his mercy he proves he is love.  
Great is the Lord and worthy of glory.  
Great is the Lord and worthy of praise.  
Great is the Lord, now lift up your voice, now lift up your voice:  
Great is the Lord! Great is the Lord!

Great is the Lord, he is holy and just, by his power we trust in his love.  
Great is the Lord, he is faithful and true, by his mercy he proves he is love.  
Great is the Lord and worthy of glory.  
Great is the Lord and worthy of praise.  
Great is the Lord, now lift up your voice, now lift up your voice:  
Great is the Lord! Great is the Lord!

## 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

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

*Lord of All Hopefulness*

ELW #765

- 1 Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,  
whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could destroy:  
be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,  
your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
- 2 Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,  
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:  
be there at our labors, and give us, we pray,  
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
- 3 Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,  
your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace:  
be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,  
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
- 4 Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,  
whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm:  
be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,  
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.



## SENDING WORDS

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

## POSTLUDE

*God Is Here*

Robert J. Powell

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### Leading worship today:

Pastor Erin Heidelberger

Pastoral Assistant Saundra Anderson, kids time and cantor

Sonya Kempf, organist

Sharon Stroschein, lector

## 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.*

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:

Ramona Metz

### Those with ongoing concerns:

Duane Wagemann

Tammy Paulsen

Hilda Hoffman

Howard Nelson

**OUR SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY** of Doug and Sharlene Wanttie at the death of Doug's father, Leonard.

## Announcements

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**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](https://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 Sandra video record you OR Sandra 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.

### **THE SPECIAL OFFERING for September is Safe Harbor**

Originally formed in 1977, Safe Harbor began as a volunteer phone service providing information to women.

Today Safe Harbor serves women, men and children by providing shelter and resources for making positive life choices. We serve northeastern South Dakota including Brown, Campbell, Day, Edmunds, Marshall, McPherson and Potter counties.



Our mission is to empower individuals in abusive situations by providing advocacy and support services; to educate and motivate the community to be proactive in eliminating abuse. To fulfill our mission we offer the following:

- Safety and comfort
- Confidentiality
- Non-judgement support
- Advocacy
- Community Education

For more information about the work of Safe Harbor, please visit:

<https://safeharborsd.org/>

**RADIO BROADCAST SPONSORSHIP NEEDED**—Our radio broadcast ministry is more important than ever. Would you consider donating either the whole cost of half the cost of a Sunday broadcast? A whole Sunday service is \$110.00 and 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. Upcoming Sundays available to sponsor: October 18 & 25; November 1, 8, 22, & 29.

**THANK YOU**—We would like to thank the family of Zion Lutheran Church for all the kind words, stories shared, and cards for our brother Curtis Suedmeier. We know you will miss him, as we do. Yours in Christ, Karen Johnson & Irene Olson

**FIRST COMMUNION SUNDAY**—This will be on October 4<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to welcoming six young people to the Lord's Supper.

**BEDDING DRIVE**—The Social Concerns committee will be holding a bedding drive for Sleep in Heavenly Peace, which is a non-profit organization which provides twin beds for children in our area who do not have a bed of their own. They are in need of brand new (no used items) twin bedding sheets which include a flat sheet, fitted sheet, and pillow case. They are also in need of twin-sized comforters and quilts. Items will be collected September 27—October 11, and items can be brought to the church.

**S'MORES WITH SAUNDRA**—Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup>; middle school aged kids can join Sandra in the north parking lot at Zion for s'mores, faith, and fellowship. Bring a friend!

#### **WEDNESDAY EVENING COMMUNION SERVICE**

Our next "Come and Go" Communion service will be Wednesday, September 30<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-6:15 PM. Come anytime during the scheduled time for a brief (about 5 minutes) service of Holy Communion. \*\*Note the new ending time\*\*



**GOOD SAMARITAN FUND**—We are starting to run low on funds to help our neighbors who contact us for emergency assistance. If you would like to contribute to this fund, please indicate that your gift is for the "Good Samaritan Fund".

**7<sup>TH</sup> AND 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE CONFIRMATION**—will begin on Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> and will be held online. Families, stay tuned for more details!

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