

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



INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

As we continue through the time after Epiphany, stories of the call to discipleship show us the implications of our baptismal calling to show Christ to the world. Jesus begins proclaiming the good news and calling people to repentance right after John the Baptist is arrested for preaching in a similar way. Knowing that John was later executed, we see at the very outset the cost of discipleship. Still, the two sets of brothers leave everything they have known and worked for all their lives to follow Jesus and fish for people.

PRELUDE

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

John Behnke

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the Father, ✠ and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, one God, who forgives all our sin, and whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us come into the light of Christ, confessing our need for God's mercy.

Silence for reflection.

God who searches us and knows us,
 you have shown us what is good, but we have looked to other lights to find our way. We have not been just in our dealings with others. We have chosen revenge over mercy. We have promoted ourselves instead of walking humbly with you. With what shall we come before you? Forgive us our sin,
 and show us your salvation in the face of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen

Beloved of God,
 you have not received the spirit of the world,
 but the Spirit that is from God,
 poured out for you in the faithfulness of Jesus Christ.
 Receive the promise of baptism:
 You are God's child; ✠ your sins are forgiven.
 Rejoice and be glad, for yours is the reign of heaven.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* ELW#815

- 1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
 I want to follow Jesus.
 God set the stars to give light to the world.
 The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain

In him there is no darkness at all.
 The night and the day are both alike.
 The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
 Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

- 2 I want to see the brightness of God.
 I want to look at Jesus.
 Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path,
 and show me the way to the Father. *Refrain*

- 3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ.
 I want to be with Jesus.
 When we have run with patience the race,
 we shall know the joy of Jesus. *Refrain*

GREETING

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.
Jesus Christ is the light of the world. The light no darkness can overcome.

May the grace and truth of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

KIDS' TIME

Pastoral Assistant Sandra Anderson

FIRST READING

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

The book of Jonah is a comedy starring a reluctant prophet who is given a one-sentence message: Nineveh will be destroyed in forty days. Much to Jonah's dismay, the people of Nineveh repent. The point of the story is to get the reader to wrestle with the question "On whom should God have mercy?"

¹The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, ²"Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." ³So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

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

PSALM

Psalm 62

Refrain

Rest in God alone,
Rest in God alone, my soul.

1 In God alone is my soul at rest;
My salvation comes from him.
He alone is my rock, my salvation, my fortress;
Never shall I falter. *Refrain*

2 In God alone be at rest, my soul,
For my hope is from him.
He alone is my rock, my salvation, my fortress;
Never shall I falter. *Refrain*

3 In God is my salvation and glory,
My rock of strength;
In God is my refuge.
Trust him at all time, O people.
Pour out your hearts before him. *Refrain*

SECOND READING*1 Corinthians 7:29-31*

Paul does not disapprove of marriage or other human social institutions. He does, however, want Christians to live in the present in fervent anticipation of God's future, which even now has dawned through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

²⁹Brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, ³⁰and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, ³¹and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION*Alleluia (I am the Light of the World)*

Larry Olson

Al - le - lu - ia Al - le - lu - ia, I am the light of the world.

Al - le - lu - ia Al - le - lu - ia, I am the light of the world.

Those who fol - low me will not walk in dark - ness.

Those who fol - low me will have the light of life.

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

GOSPEL*Mark 1:14-20*

Before Jesus calls his first disciples, he proclaims a message that becomes known as "the gospel" or good news from God. God is ready to rule our lives. Those who realize this will respond with repentance and faith.

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

¹⁶As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

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

SERMON

Pastor Erin Heidelberger

HYMN OF THE DAY

Spread, Oh, Spread, Almighty Word

ELW #663



1 Spread, oh, spread, al - might - y Word, spread the reign of God the Lord.
 2 Tell of our Re - deem - er's grace, who, to save our hu - man race
 3 Tell of God the Spir - it giv'n now to guide us on to heav'n,
 4 Lord of har - vest, great and kind, rouse to ac - tion heart and mind;



Send forth our Cre - a - tor's call, heav-en's gifts ex - tend to all.
 and to pay re - bel - lion's price, gave him - self as sac - ri - fice.
 strong and ho - ly, just and true, work - ing both to will and do.
 let the gath - ring na - tions all see your light and heed your call.

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us 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

Dwelling in the presence of God with us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

Prayer response: Let us walk
 in the light of the Lord.

Trusting in the presence of God by the power of the Holy Spirit, we commend all for whom we pray, dwelling in the light and hope of Christ, our Savior. **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 *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* James W. Kosnik

OFFERING PRAYER

Merciful God, you open wide your hand and satisfy the need of every living thing. By your grace, use these gifts to spread your name and salvation through our community and our world. We pray this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

BENEDICTION

May the God of glory dwell in you richly, call you beloved, and shine brightly on your path. The blessing of Almighty God - the Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon and remain with you always. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult

ELW#696

- 1 Jesus calls us; o'er the tumult
 of our life's wild, restless sea,
 day by day his clear voice sounding,
 saying, "Christian, follow me":
- 2 As of old Saint Andrew heard it
 by the Galilean lake,
 turned from home and toil and kindred,
 leaving all for Jesus' sake.
- 3 Jesus calls us from the worship
 of the vain world's golden store,
 from each idol that would keep us,
 saying, "Christian, love me more."
- 4 In our joys and in our sorrows,
 days of toil and hours of ease,
 still he calls, in cares and pleasures,
 "Christian, love me more than these."

- 5 Jesus calls us! By your mercy,
 Savior, may we hear your call,
 give our hearts to your obedience,
 serve and love you best of all.

SENDING WORDS

Go in peace! Share the good news of Jesus Christ!

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

How Brightly Shines the Morning Star

Jan Bender

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Leading worship today:

Pastor Erin Heidelberger, preaching and leading worship

Pastoral Assistant Saundra Anderson

Kathy Brumbaugh, lector

Sonya Kempf, accompanist

Stephanie Hawkinson, vocalist