

GATHERING

✠ *The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.* ✠

PRELUDE

Lenten Chorales

Paul Kickstat

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION *(please stand)*

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

Trusting in the word of life given in baptism, we are gathered in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

Silence for reflection.

Gracious God,

pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free.

Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love. Amen.

Beloved, God's word never fails. The promise rests on grace: by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the mercy and power of God, your sins are ✠ forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Rest in the promise of Christ. **Amen.**

(please be seated)

GATHERING HYMN

O God in Heaven

ELW #748

O God in heaven, grant to your children
mercy and blessing, songs never ceasing,
grace to invite us, peace to unite us—
O God in heaven, author of love.

Jesus, redeemer, help us remember
your pain and passion, your resurrection,
your call to follow, your love tomorrow—
Jesus, redeemer, savior, and friend.

Spirit unending, give us your blessing:
strength for the weary, help for the needy,
hope for the scornful, peace for the mournful—
Spirit unending, comfort and guide.

GREETING

The grace and mercy of God, who in Christ bears our burdens and saves us from our sin, be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIE

Kyrie sung by the cantor; congregation is invited to listen and follow along.

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above, and for our sal - va - tion, 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 u - ni - ty 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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. Send your holy angels to be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

✠ *God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching, and song.* ✠

FIRST READING

Genesis 9:8-17

Today's reading is the conclusion to the flood story. Because of human sin, God destroys the earth by flood, saving only Noah, his family, and the animals on the ark. Yet divine destruction gives way to divine commitment. As in the first creation, God blesses humanity and establishes a covenant with all creatures.

⁸God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹"As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, ¹⁰and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. ¹¹I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." ¹²God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." ¹⁷God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

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

PSALM

Psalms 25:1-10

(read responsively)

¹To you, O LORD,
I lift up my soul.

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

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

⁴**Show me your ways, O LORD,
and teach me your paths.**

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

⁶**Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.**

⁷Remember 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.

⁸**You are gracious and upright, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

⁹You lead the lowly in justice
and teach the lowly your way.

¹⁰**All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness
to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.**

SECOND READING


1 Peter 3:18-22

As God acted through Christ's suffering and death to bring us to God, so God acts through baptism to save us from a sinful existence. This spiritual cleansing marks our new life in Christ.


¹⁸Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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


GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(please stand)*
Acclamation sung by the cantor; congregation is invited to listen and follow along.



Let your stead - fast love come to us, O Lord.



Save us as you prom - ised; we will trust your word.



Save us as you prom - ised; we will trust your word.

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

GOSPEL **Mark 1:9-15**
The Spirit that comes upon Jesus at his baptism sustains him when he is tested by Satan so that he might proclaim the good news of God's reign.

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

¹²And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

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."

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

SERMON Pastor Tim Sersen

HYMN OF THE DAY **Savior, When in Dust to You** **ELW #601**
Hymns sung by the cantor(s); congregation is invited to listen and follow along.

Savior, when in dust to you low we bow in homage due;
when, repentant, to the skies scarce we lift our weeping eyes;
oh, by all your pains and woe suffered once for us below,
bending from your throne on high, hear our penitential cry!

By your helpless infant years, by your life of want and tears,
by your days of deep distress in the savage wilderness,
by the dread, mysterious hour of the insulting tempter's pow'r,
turn, oh, turn a fav'ring eye; hear our penitential cry!

By your hour of dire despair, by your agony of prayer,
by the cross, the nail, the thorn, piercing spear, and torturing scorn,
by the gloom that veiled the skies o'er the dreadful sacrifice,
listen to our humble sigh; hear our penitential cry!

By your deep expiring groan, by the sad sepulchral stone,
by the vault whose dark abode held in vain the rising God,
oh, from earth to heav'n restored, mighty, reascended Lord,
bending from your throne on high, hear our penitential cry!

APOSTLES' CREED *(please stand)*

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.** *(please be seated)*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world,
and all in need.

Prayer response: Lord, remember your compassion and love,
 for they are from everlasting.

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING

The Lord's Prayer
Organ – Sonya Kempf

Malotte

*Offering will not be taken during worship; a basket is available in
the back of the sanctuary to drop off today's offering. As we
continue to worship through the gift of radio and internet, we
encourage you to consider giving a gift online at
zionlutheranaberdeen.org/giving or by mail as you are able. If you
would like, use the QR code scanner on your smart phone to give online.*



OFFERING PRAYER

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with your Word of grace
and new life. Bless us and these gifts, that what you provide might spread the good
news of your saving death for all the world. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S SUPPER

✠ *God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.* ✠

GREAT THANKSGIVING *(please stand)*

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

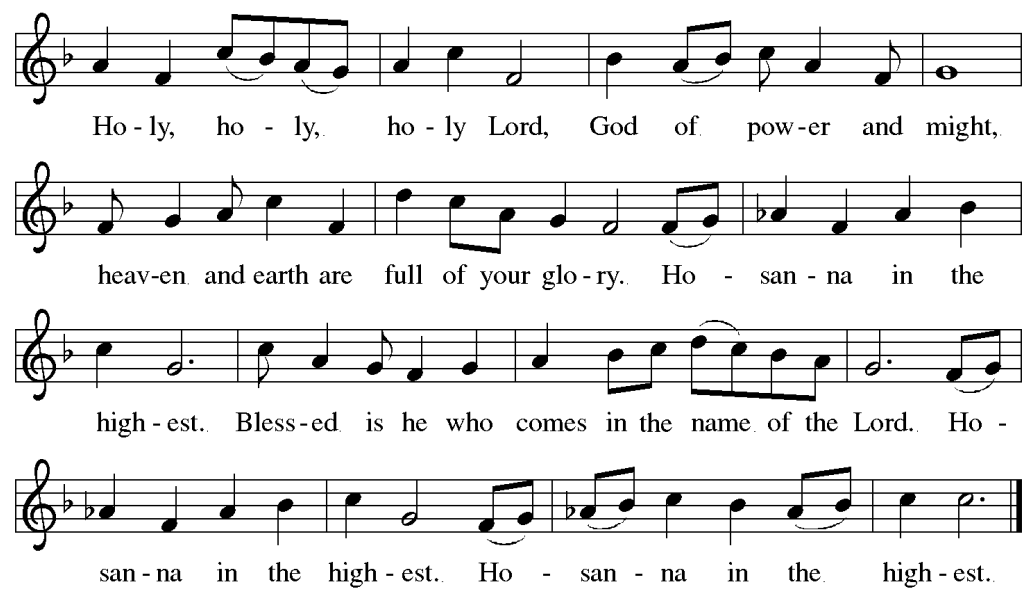
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

Sanctus is sung by the cantor; congregation is invited to listen and follow along.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.
Let us receive the bread of life and cup of salvation. *(please be seated)*

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

BLESSING AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

God of steadfast love, at this table you gather your people into one body for the sake of the world. Send us in the power of your Spirit, that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

INSTALLATION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

BENEDICTION

May God, who has called us forth from the dust of the earth and claimed us as children of the light, strengthen you with His Word of life. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord’s face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Thy Holy Wings

ELW #613

Hymns sung by the cantor; congregation is invited to listen and follow along.

Thy holy wings, O Savior, spread gently over me,
and let me rest securely through good and ill in thee.
Oh, be my strength and portion, my rock and hiding place,
and let my ev'ry moment be lived within thy grace.

Oh, let me nestle near thee, within thy downy breast
where I will find sweet comfort and peace within thy nest.
Oh, close thy wings around me and keep me safely there,
for I am but a newborn and need thy tender care.

Oh, wash me in the waters of Noah's cleansing flood.
Give me a willing spirit, a heart both clean and good.
Oh, take into thy keeping thy children great and small,
and while we sweetly slumber, enfold us one and all.

SENDING WORDS

Marked with the cross of Christ, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Please remain in your seats until an usher dismisses you.

POSTLUDE

Lord Keep Us Steadfast in Thy Word

Paul Manz

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Zion Lutheran Church

Rooted in Faith ✕ Growing in Spirit ✕ Reaching Out to Those in Need

Erin Heidelberger, Pastor
Tim Sersen, Visitation Pastor

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February 21, 2021

8:30 AM

First Sunday in Lent



On Ash Wednesday the church began its journey toward baptismal immersion in the death and resurrection of Christ. This year, the Sundays in Lent lead us to focus on five covenants God makes in the Hebrew Scriptures and to use them as lenses through which to view baptism. First Peter connects the way God saved Noah's family in the flood with the way God saves us through the water of baptism. The baptismal covenant is made with us individually, but the new life we are given in baptism is for the sake of the whole world.