

Zion Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, SD  
Midweek Lenten Worship  
zionlutheranaberdeen.org  
Erin Heidelberger, Pastor  
Tim Sersen, Visitation Pastor



PRELUDE

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us worship God, who has done great things.

**We rejoice in our God, who made a way through the desert of this world.**

Let us worship God, who has caused streams of mercy to flow in the wasteland.

**We are the people God has formed through Christ; we worship him, and we rejoice!**

Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

**We praise God for the grace that has saved us.**

HYMN

*Cast Out, O Christ*

ACS #1016

- 1 Cast out, O Christ, cast far away  
the demons that destroy:  
the haunting dreads that choke our souls,  
the hates that stifle joy.
- 2 Our raging griefs, our jealous fears  
are Legion in their name.  
Our shackled hearts implore your grace  
to loose our binding shame.
- 3 Once long ago, from Galilee,  
you sailed to storm-tossed shores.  
And still, in pow'r, you brave new paths  
to breach our bolted doors.
- 4 Your word breathes life and health and hope  
that break through evil's thrall.  
You send us, strengthened, home in peace  
to live your gospel call.

5      So come, O Christ, and cast away  
the demons that destroy.  
Transform our lives to sense your love  
and spread abroad your joy.

## PRAYER

Gracious God, you sent Christ to heal the world and to gather those on the margins. Bring your healing power to us. May we extend your power and grace to those separated from their communities and those longing for a tangible sign of your love. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## SCRIPTURE

### Mark 5:1-20

<sup>1</sup>They came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gerasenes. <sup>2</sup>And when he had stepped out of the boat, immediately a man out of the tombs with an unclean spirit met him. <sup>3</sup>He lived among the tombs; and no one could restrain him any more, even with a chain; <sup>4</sup>for he had often been restrained with shackles and chains, but the chains he wrenched apart, and the shackles he broke in pieces; and no one had the strength to subdue him. <sup>5</sup>Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always howling and bruising himself with stones. <sup>6</sup>When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and bowed down before him; <sup>7</sup>and he shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I adjure you by God, do not torment me." <sup>8</sup>For he had said to him, "Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!" <sup>9</sup>Then Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" He replied, "My name is Legion; for we are many." <sup>10</sup>He begged him earnestly not to send them out of the country. <sup>11</sup>Now there on the hillside a great herd of swine was feeding; <sup>12</sup>and the unclean spirits begged him, "Send us into the swine; let us enter them." <sup>13</sup>So he gave them permission. And the unclean spirits came out and entered the swine; and the herd, numbering about two thousand, rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and were drowned in the sea.

<sup>14</sup>The swineherds ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came to see what it was that had happened. <sup>15</sup>They came to Jesus and saw the demoniac sitting there, clothed and in his right mind, the very man who had had the legion; and they were afraid. <sup>16</sup>Those who had seen what had happened to the demoniac and to the swine reported it. <sup>17</sup>Then they began to beg Jesus to leave their neighborhood. <sup>18</sup>As he was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed by demons begged him that he might be with him. <sup>19</sup>But Jesus refused, and said to him, "Go home to your friends, and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and what mercy he has shown you." <sup>20</sup>And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him; and everyone was amazed.

## MESSAGE

Pastor Erin Heidelberger

## HYMN

### *O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come*

ELW #610

1      O Christ, the healer, we have come  
to pray for health, to plead for friends.  
How can we fail to be restored  
when reached by love that never ends?

- 2 From ev'ry ailment flesh endures  
our bodies clamor to be freed;  
yet in our hearts we would confess  
that wholeness is our deepest need.
- 3 In conflicts that destroy our health  
we recognize the world's disease;  
our common life declares our ills.  
Is there no cure, O Christ, for these?
- 4 Grant that we all, made one in faith,  
in your community may find  
the wholeness that, enriching us,  
shall reach the whole of humankind.

## PRAYERS

### BENEDICTION

The Creator who fashions us together with all things,  
the Christ who leads us into a new beloved community,  
the Spirit who holds us in the communion of saints,  
one God, ☩ bless you now and always.

Amen.

### HYMN

*Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross*

ELW #335

- 1 Jesus, keep me near the cross,  
there's a precious fountain;  
free to all, a healing stream  
flows from Calv'ry's mountain.

*Refrain:*

In the cross, in the cross  
be my glory ever;  
till my ransomed soul shall find  
rest beyond the river.

- 2 Near the cross, a trembling soul,  
love and mercy found me;  
there the bright and morning star  
sheds its beams around me. *Refrain*

- 3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God,  
bring its scenes before me;  
help me walk from day to day  
with its shadow o'er me. *Refrain*

4     Near the cross I'll watch and wait,  
hoping, trusting ever,  
till I reach the golden strand  
just beyond the river. *Refrain*

## SENDING WORDS

Let us go out with God's love to nurture us, with God's peace to comfort us, and with God's truth to guide us, remembering God promises to be with us always! Thanks be to God!

## POSTLUDE

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✝ Offerings may be placed in the baskets at the back of the sanctuary. *You can also give online at [zionlutheranaberdeen.org/giving](http://zionlutheranaberdeen.org/giving). If you would like, use the QR code scanner on your smart phone to give online.*



✝ Join us for Wednesdays in Lent:

12:15-12:45 PM – Traditional midweek worship  
6:00-6:30 PM – Praise Band-led midweek worship  
February 24; March 7, 14 & 21

✝ Holy Week:

Palm Sunday, March 28 at 8:30 AM  
Maundy Thursday, April 1 at 6:00 PM (5<sup>th</sup> Grade  
First Communion)  
Good Friday, April 2 at 6:00 PM  
Easter Sunday, April 4 at 7:15 AM, 8:30 AM &  
9:45 AM