

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



INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

The third covenant in this year’s Lenten readings is the central one of Israel’s history: the gift of the law to those God freed from slavery. The commandments begin with the statement that because God alone has freed us from the powers that oppressed us, we are to let nothing else claim first place in our lives. When Jesus throws the merchants out of the temple, he is defending the worship of God alone and rejecting the ways commerce and profit-making can become our gods. The Ten Commandments are essential to our baptismal call: centered first in God’s liberating love, we strive to live out justice and mercy in our communities and the world.

PRELUDE

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross
Every Time I Think About Jesus

David Lasky

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

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.**

GATHERING HYMN

There in God’s Garden
Vs. 1, 3, 4, 6

ELW #342

1 There in God’s garden
stands the Tree of Wisdom,
whose leaves hold forth
the healing of the nations:
Tree of all knowledge,
Tree of all compassion,
Tree of all beauty.

3 Thorns not its own
are tangled in its foliage;
our greed has starved it,
our despise has choked it.
Yet, look! it lives!
its grief has not destroyed it
nor fire consumed it.

4 See how its branches
reach to us in welcome;
hear what the Voice says,
"Come to me, ye weary!
Give me your sickness,
give me all your sorrow,
I will give blessing."

6 All heav'n is singing,
"Thanks to Christ whose passion
offers in mercy
healing, strength, and pardon.
Peoples and nations,
take it, take it freely!"
Amen! My Master!

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

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

Lord God, our strength, the battle of good and evil rages within and around us. Keep us firm in our faith in your Son, and when we fall, raise and restore us. 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.

FIRST READING***Exodus 20:1-17***

¹God spoke all these words:

²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³You shall not murder.

¹⁴You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵You shall not steal.

¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM***Psalm 19***

Refrain:

Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

- 1 The law of the Lord is perfect;
 it revives the soul.
 The decrees of the Lord are steadfast;
 they give wisdom to the simple. *Refrain*
- 2 The precepts of the Lord are right;
 they gladden the heart.
 The command of the Lord is clear;
 it gives light to the eyes. *Refrain*
- 3 The fear of the Lord is pure,
 abiding forever.
 The judgments of the Lord are true;
 they are, all of them, just. *Refrain*
- 4 They are more to be desired than gold,
 than quantities of gold.
 And sweeter are they than honey,
 than honey flowing from the comb. *Refrain*

SECOND READING***1 Corinthians 1:18-25***

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

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

Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.

Save us as you promised; we will trust your word.

Save us as you promised; we will trust your word.

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables.

¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

1 Christ is the life of all that is,
God's pure creative Word,
whose pow'r beyond and through all space
the worlds to Being stirred.
Christ is the life beyond all time,
creation's birth and breath,
whose labor brings all things to be
and brings all things to death.

- 2 Christ is the death of all that is;
a broad and beck'ning tomb,
who welcomes us from well-worn ways
to darkness of the womb.
Christ is the death, the sinking down
past all desire and fear,
whose promise in the gentle dark
bids newness to appear.
- 3 Christ is the death of all that is,
a bright, consuming fire,
whose flames require our prior self
as kindling for the pyre.
Christ is the death of dusty days
of uncreative strife,
for out from fire we tread upon
the threshold of new life.
- 4 Christ is the life of all that is,
Beginning and the End;
creative force, most peaceful death,
transforming burning brand.
Christ is the life, in whose wise love
creation lives and dies
and thus forevermore shall bless
the Source, the living Christ.

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

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

Prayer response: Hear us, O Lord,
our strength and our redeemer.

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

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.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

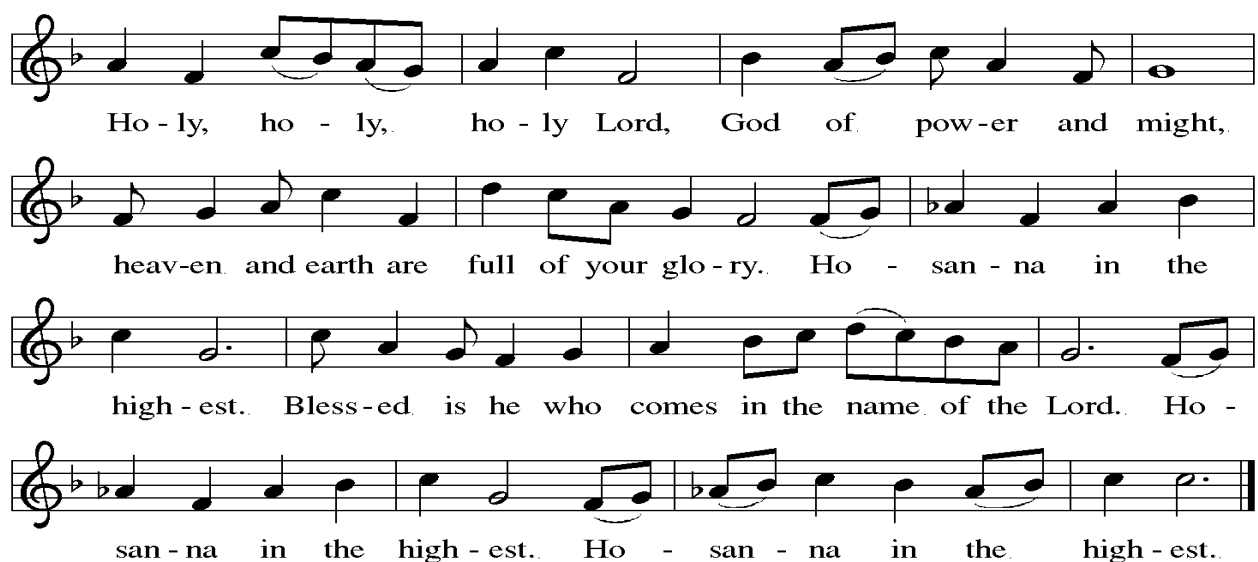
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

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



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.

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.

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 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

Lift High the Cross

ELW #660

Refrain:

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.

- 1
- Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod,
our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. *Refrain*
- 2
- All newborn servants of the Crucified
bear on their brows the seal of him who died. *Refrain*
- 3
- O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
as thou hast promised, draw us all to thee. *Refrain*
- 4
- So shall our song of triumph ever be:
praise to the Crucified for victory! *Refrain*

SENDING WORDS

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

POSTLUDE

Out of the Depths I Cry to You

David Lasky

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