

Zion Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, SD
Baptism of our Lord Sunday
zionlutheranaberndeen.org
Mark Galbraith, Interim Pastor



INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Today's festival rejoices in God's blessings. We recall and celebrate our adoption as God's children, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the promised company of almighty God when we "pass through the waters . . . the rivers . . . fire." On this day the heavens open again for this assembly, and we receive the gift of God's Beloved, Jesus, in bread and wine.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG

Here I Am to Worship

So here I am to worship, here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that You're my God,
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me.

Light of the World, You stepped down into darkness,
Opened my eyes, let me see.
Beauty that made this heart adore You,
Hope of a life spent with You.

So here I am to worship, here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that You're my God,
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me.

King of all days, oh so highly exalted,
Glorious in heaven above.
Humbly You came to the earth You created,
All for love's sake became poor.

So here I am to worship, here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that You're my God,
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me.

So here I am to worship, here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that You're my God,
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me.

CONFESSING OUR SINS AND HEARING GOOD NEWS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name.
Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection and personal confession.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
and your beloved children.
We have turned our faces away from your glory
when it did not appear as we expected.
We have rejected your word
when it made us confront ourselves.
We have failed to show hospitality
to those you called us to welcome.

Accept our repentance for the things we have done
and the things we have left undone.
For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe
in the glory of your Son born among us,
and reflect your love for all creation.
Amen.

Rejoice in this good news:
In ✠ Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven.
You are descendants of the Most High,
adopted into the household of Christ,
and inheritors of eternal life.
Live as freed and forgiven children of God.
Amen.

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.**

SONG OF PRAISE

Baptized in Water

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
Cleansed by the blood of Christ our king:
Heirs of salvation, trusting his promise,
Faithfully now God's praise we sing.

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
Dead in the tomb with Christ our king:
One with his rising, freed and forgiven,
Thankfully now God's praise we sing.

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
Marked with the sign of Christ our king:
Born of the Spirit, we are God's children;
Joyfully now God's praise we sing.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together:

Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

KIDS' TIME

Pastor Mark

FIRST READING**Isaiah 43:1-7**

¹But now thus says the LORD,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.

²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.

³For I am the LORD your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
I give Egypt as your ransom,
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

⁴Because you are precious in my sight,
and honored, and I love you,
I give people in return for you,
nations in exchange for your life.

⁵Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;

⁶I will say to the north, "Give them up,"
and to the south, "Do not withhold;
bring my sons from far away
and my daughters from the end of the earth —

⁷everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made."

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

SECOND READING**Acts 8:14-17**

¹⁴Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit ¹⁶(for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). ¹⁷Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

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

ALLELUIA***Alleluia (I Am the Light of the World)***

Alleluia, Alleluia, I am the light of the world.
Alleluia, Alleluia, I am the light of the world.

Those who follow me will not walk in darkness.
Those who follow me will have the light of life.

Alleluia, Alleluia, I am the light of the world.
Alleluia, Alleluia, I am the light of the world.

Those who follow me will not walk in darkness.
Those who follow me will have the light of life.

Alleluia, Alleluia, I am the light of the world.
Alleluia, Alleluia, I am the light of the world.

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

GOSPEL **Luke 3:15-17, 21-22**

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."
²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

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

SERMON **Pastor Mark Galbraith**

SONG OF THE DAY *The River*

To the river I am going,
Bringing sins I cannot bear.
Come and cleanse me, come forgive me,
Lord I need to meet you there.
In these waters, healing mercy,
Flows with freedom from despair.
I am going to that river,
Lord I need to meet you there.

Precious Jesus, I am ready
To surrender every care.
Take my hand now, lead me closer.
Lord I need to meet you there.

Come and join us, in the river.
Come find life beyond compare.
He is calling, He is waiting,
Jesus longs to meet you there.
Precious Jesus, I am ready
To surrender every care.
Take my hand now, lead me closer.
Lord I need to meet you there.

Precious Jesus, I am ready
To surrender every care.
Take my hand now, lead me closer.
Lord I need to meet you there.
Take my hand now, lead me closer.
Lord I need to meet you there.

APOSTLES' CREED
God has made us God's people through our Baptism into Jesus the Messiah. 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

The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

Prayers of Intercession

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

All are invited to greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace saying, "God's peace be with you" or similar words.

OFFERING

Offering will be taken during worship through the passing of the offering plates. 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 SONG

Come to the River

Come, O come, come to the river flowing from the body of Christ.
We'll go down, deep in the water, but in the Lord we shall arise.
Come, O come, come to the river flowing from the body of Christ.
We'll go down, deep in the water, but in the Lord we shall arise.

Come, O come, come to the river flowing from the body of Christ.
We'll go down, deep in the water, but in the Lord we shall arise.
But in the Lord we shall arise.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together:

Blessed are you, O God, Sovereign of the universe. You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey. Lead us to your table, nourish us with Your love and grace, and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world, in the name of Christ our light. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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

God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness,
who rejoices over you,
and who calls you by name,
✠ bless your going out and your coming in,
today and forever.
Amen.

SENDING SONG

The River is Here

Down the mountain the river flows,
And it brings refreshing wherever it goes.
Through the valleys and over the fields
The river is rushing and the river is here.

The river of God sets our feet a-dancing,
The river of God fills our hearts with cheer.
The river of God fills our mouths with laughter,
And we rejoice for the river is here.

The river of God is teeming with life,
All who touch it can be revived,
And those who linger on this river's shore
Will come back thirsting for more of the Lord.

The river of God sets our feet a-dancing,
The river of God fills our hearts with cheer.
The river of God fills our mouths with laughter,
And we rejoice for the river is here.

Up to the mountain we love to go
To find the presence of the Lord.
Along the banks of the river we run,
We dance with laughter giving praise to the Son.

The river of God sets our feet a-dancing,
The river of God fills our hearts with cheer.
The river of God fills our mouths with laughter,
And we rejoice for the river is here.

SENDING WORDS

Go with Christ into a weary world. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE