

Zion Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, SD
Fourth Sunday in Easter
zionlutheranaberndeen.org
Mark Galbraith, Interim Pastor



INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

The gift of new life, of eternal life, is the gift of the risen Christ. It is the promise of Jesus. It was true for Dorcas in Joppa. It was true for those “who have come out of the great ordeal” in the Revelation vision. It is true for us and for all the baptized: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG

Celebrate Jesus

Celebrate Jesus, celebrate!
Celebrate Jesus, celebrate!
Celebrate Jesus, celebrate!
Celebrate Jesus, celebrate!

He is risen, He is risen,
And He lives forevermore.
He is risen, He is risen,
Come on and celebrate the resurrection of our Lord.

Celebrate Jesus, celebrate!
Celebrate Jesus, celebrate!
Celebrate Jesus, celebrate!
Celebrate Jesus, celebrate!

He is risen, He is risen,
And He lives forevermore.
He is risen, He is risen,
Come on and celebrate,
Come on and celebrate,
Come on and celebrate the resurrection of our Lord.

CONFESSING OUR SINS AND HEARING GOOD NEWS

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Silence is kept for reflection and personal confession.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and

uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. 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

Step by Step

O God, You are my God, and I will ever praise You.
O God, You are my God, and I will ever praise You.
I will seek You in the morning,
And I will learn to walk in your ways;
And step by step You'll lead me,
And I will follow You all of my days.

O God, You are my God, and I will ever praise You.
O God, You are my God, and I will ever praise You.
I will seek You in the morning,
And I will learn to walk in your ways;
And step by step You'll lead me,
And I will follow You all of my days.

And step by step You'll lead me,
And I will follow You all of my days.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together:
O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

KID’S TIME & RECOGNITION OF SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

FIRST READING

Acts 9:36-43

³⁶Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." ³⁹So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴²This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

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

PSALM

Psalms 23

(read responsively)

¹The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

²He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;

³he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.

⁴Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff —
they comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
my whole life long.

SECOND READING

Revelation 7:9-17

⁹After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

¹¹And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal ;they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

¹⁶They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat;

¹⁷for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA

Alleluia, Alleluia Give Thanks

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord;

Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord;

Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.

The holy gospel according to John, the tenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL

John 10:22-30

²²At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." ²⁵Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; ²⁶but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. ³⁰The Father and I are one."

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

SERMON

Pastor Mark Galbraith

SONG OF THE DAY

Your Love is Amazing

Your love is amazing, steady and unchanging.
Your love is a mountain firm beneath my feet.
Your love is a mystery, how You gently lift me;
When I am surrounded, Your love carries me.

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!
Your love makes me sing.
And hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!
Your love makes me sing.

Your love is surprising, I can feel it rising,
All the joy that's growing deep inside of me.
And every time I see You all Your goodness shines through,
And I feel this God song rising up in me.

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!
Your love makes me sing.
And hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!
Your love makes me sing.

Your love is amazing, steady and unchanging.
Your love is a mountain firm beneath my feet.
Your love is a mystery, how You gently lift me;
When I am surrounded, Your love carries me.

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!
Your love makes me sing.
And hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!
Your love makes me sing.

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!
Your love makes me sing.
And hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!
Your love makes me sing.

APOSTLES' CREED

God has made us His 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

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

Prayers of Intercession

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who taught 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.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

OFFERING

We glorify God in our giving. Our offering is an act of worship that makes the ministries of this congregation possible. We encourage everyone to give. 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

No Greater Love

There's no greater love than Jesus, there's no greater love than He gives.
There's no greater love that frees us so deep within.

There's no greater love than Jesus, there's no greater love than He gives.
There's no greater love that frees us so deep within.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together:

Living God, you gather the wolf and the lamb together in your peaceable reign, and you welcome us all in your presence. Reach out to us in this time, and show us your wounded and risen body, that we may believe and be saved in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

BLESSING

God, the Author of life,
Christ, the living Cornerstone,
and the life-giving Spirit of adoption,
✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

Ancient of Days

Blessing and honor, glory and power,
Be unto the Ancient of Days.
From every nation, all of creation,
Bow before the Ancient of Days.

Every tongue in heaven and earth shall declare your glory.
Every knee shall bow at your throne, in worship.
You will be exalted, oh God
And your kingdom shall not pass away
O Ancient of Days.

Blessing and honor, glory and power,
Be unto the Ancient of Days.
From every nation, all of creation,
Bow before the Ancient of Days.

Every tongue in heaven and earth shall declare your glory.
Every knee shall bow at your throne, in worship.
You will be exalted, oh God
And your kingdom shall not pass away
O Ancient of Days

Your kingdom shall reign over all the earth,
Sing unto the Ancient of Days.
For none can compare to matchless worth.
Sing unto the Ancient of Days.

Your kingdom shall reign over all the earth,
Sing unto the Ancient of Days.
For none can compare to matchless worth.
Sing unto the Ancient of Days.

Your kingdom shall reign over all the earth,
Sing unto the Ancient of Days.
For none can compare to matchless worth.
Sing unto the Ancient of Days.

SENDING WORDS

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Tell what God has done.
Thanks be to God.