

Zion Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, SD  
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost  
zionlutheranaberdeen.org



INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

*Today's texts offer instruction and encouragement for all who are occasionally overwhelmed by the "unhappy business" of life. Jesus urges us to take care and be on guard against all kinds of greed. We who have died with Christ in holy baptism have also been raised with him and are encouraged to elevate our thinking, seeking the "things that are above." To that end we seek the sustenance of the Lord's supper and the encouragement of God's word.*

PRELUDE

*Three Elevations*

Anna Mae Nichols

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG

*Bring Forth the Kingdom*

You are salt for the earth, O people: Salt for the kingdom of God!  
Share the flavor of life, O people: Life in the kingdom of God!  
Bring for the kingdom of mercy, bring forth the kingdom of peace,  
Bring forth the kingdom of justice, bring forth the city of God!

You are a light on the hill, O people: light for the city of God!  
Shine so holy and bright, O people: shine for the kingdom of God!  
Bring for the kingdom of mercy, bring forth the kingdom of peace,  
Bring forth the kingdom of justice, bring forth the city of God!

You are a seed of the word, O people: bring forth the kingdom of God!  
Seeds of mercy and seeds of justice, grow in the kingdom of God!  
Bring for the kingdom of mercy, bring forth the kingdom of peace,  
Bring forth the kingdom of justice, bring forth the city of God!

We are a blest and pilgrim people: bound for the kingdom of God!  
Love our journey and love our homeland: love is the kingdom of God!  
Bring for the kingdom of mercy, bring forth the kingdom of peace,  
Bring forth the kingdom of justice, bring forth the city of God!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity,† one God,  
whose steadfast love endures forever.  
**Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Merciful God,  
we confess that we have not followed your path  
but have chosen our own way.  
Instead of putting others before ourselves,  
we long to take the best seats at the table.  
When met by those in need,  
we have too often passed by on the other side.  
Set us again on the path of life.  
Save us from ourselves  
and free us to love our neighbors.  
**Amen.**

Hear the good news!  
God does not deal with us according to our sins  
but delights in granting pardon and mercy.  
In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.  
You are free to love as God loves.  
**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** *Praise to You, O God of Mercy* (see insert)

- 1 Praise to you, O God of mercy:  
thanks be to you forever!  
Raising high the weak and lowly:  
thanks be to you forever!
- 2 From of old you loved and sought us:  
thanks be to you forever!  
Truth and justice you have taught us:  
thanks be to you forever!

*Bridge*  
Strong is your faithfulness,  
strong is your love,  
rememb'ring your covenant of life with us.

- 3 Praise to you, O God of mercy:  
thanks be to you forever!  
Raising high the weak and lowly:  
thanks be to you forever!  
Thanks be to you forever!

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray together:  
Gracious God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**KIDS' TIME** Service Learning Trip Participants

**FIRST READING** Romans 12:3-18

<sup>3</sup>For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. <sup>4</sup>For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, <sup>5</sup>so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. <sup>6</sup>We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; <sup>7</sup>ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; <sup>8</sup>the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.  
<sup>9</sup>Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; <sup>10</sup>love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup>Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. <sup>13</sup>Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.  
<sup>14</sup>Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup>Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup>Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but

associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. <sup>17</sup>Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup>If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

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

PSALM

Psalm 111

*(read responsively)*

<sup>1</sup>Praise the LORD!  
I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,  
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.  
<sup>2</sup>Great are the works of the LORD,  
studied by all who delight in them.  
<sup>3</sup>Full of honor and majesty is his work,  
and his righteousness endures forever.  
<sup>4</sup>He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds;  
the LORD is gracious and merciful.  
<sup>5</sup>He provides food for those who fear him;  
he is ever mindful of his covenant.  
<sup>6</sup>He has shown his people the power of his works,  
in giving them the heritage of the nations.  
<sup>7</sup>The works of his hands are faithful and just;  
all his precepts are trustworthy.  
<sup>8</sup>They are established forever and ever,  
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.  
<sup>9</sup>He sent redemption to his people;  
he has commanded his covenant forever.  
Holy and awesome is his name.  
<sup>10</sup>The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;  
all those who practice it have a good understanding.  
His praise endures forever.

SECOND READING

Matthew 25: 31-40

<sup>31</sup>When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. <sup>32</sup>All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, <sup>33</sup>and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. <sup>34</sup>Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; <sup>35</sup>for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, <sup>36</sup>I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' <sup>37</sup>Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? <sup>38</sup>And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? <sup>39</sup>And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' <sup>40</sup>And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord*

ELW #875

Praise, praise, praise the Lord!  
Praise God's holy name. Alleluia!  
Praise, praise, praise the Lord!  
Praise God's holy name. Alleluia!  
Praise God's holy name. Alleluia!  
Praise God's holy name. Alleluia!  
Praise God's holy name. Alleluia!  
Praise God's holy name. Alleluia!

Praise, praise, praise the Lord!  
Praise God's holy name. Alleluia!  
Praise, praise, praise the Lord!  
Praise God's holy name. Alleluia!  
Praise God's holy name. Alleluia!  
Praise God's holy name. Alleluia!  
Praise God's holy name. Alleluia!  
Praise God's holy name. Alleluia!

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the fifth chapter.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL**

**Matthew 5:1-16**

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup>Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup>"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup>"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup>"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup>"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup>"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

<sup>8</sup>"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup>"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup>"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup>"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

<sup>13</sup>"You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

<sup>14</sup>"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. <sup>15</sup>No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup>In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

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

SERMON		Service Learning Trip Participants
HYMN OF THE DAY		ELW #728
1	Blest are they, the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of God. Blessed are they, full of sorrow; they shall be consoled.	<i>Blest Are They</i>
	<i>Refrain:</i> Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you, holy are you! Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!	
2	Blest are they, the lowly ones; they shall inherit the earth. Blest are they who hunger and thirst; they shall have their fill. <i>Refrain</i>	
3	Blest are they who show mercy; mercy shall be theirs.	

Blest are they, the pure of heart;  
they shall see God. *Refrain*

4     Blest are they who seek peace;  
      they are the children of God.  
      Blest are they who suffer in faith;  
      the glory of God is theirs. *Refrain*

5     Blest are you who suffer hate,  
      all because of me.  
      Rejoice, be glad, yours is the kingdom;  
      shine for all to see. *Refrain*

#### INSTALLATION OF CALL COMMITTEE

Ed Suchomel, Council Vice-President

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 CHURCH

Trusting in God's extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer.

*Prayer response:*   Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love;  
through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom. **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](http://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

*I Will Call Upon the Lord*

I will call upon the Lord  
Who is worthy to be praised.  
So shall I be saved from my enemies.  
I will call upon the Lord.

The Lord liveth, and blessed be the Rock,  
And let the God of my salvation be exalted.  
The Lord liveth, and blessed be the Rock,  
And let the God of my salvation be exalted.

I will call upon the Lord  
Who is worthy to be praised.  
So shall I be saved from my enemies.  
I will call upon the Lord.

The Lord liveth, and blessed be the Rock,  
And let the God of my salvation be exalted.  
The Lord liveth, and blessed be the Rock,  
And let the God of my salvation be exalted.

#### OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together:

God of all goodness and grace, receive these gifts we offer, and grant that our whole life may give you glory and praise, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who taught us to pray:

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.

#### BENEDICTION

The God of peace,  
Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you, comfort you,  
and show you the path of life  
this day and always.  
**Amen.**

#### SENDING SONG

*You're Worthy of My Praise*

I will worship with all of my heart.  
I will praise You with all of my strength.  
I will seek You all of my days.  
I will follow all of Your ways.

I will give You all my worship.  
I will give You all my praise  
You alone I long to worship.  
You alone are worthy of my praise.

I will bow down, hail You as King.  
I will serve You, give You everything.  
I will lift up my eyes to Your throne.  
I will trust You, trust You alone.

I will give You all my worship.  
I will give You all my praise  
You alone I long to worship.  
You alone are worthy of my praise.

I will give You all my worship.  
I will give You all my praise  
You alone I long to worship.  
You alone are worthy of my praise.

**SENDING WORDS**  
Go in peace. Love your neighbor.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**