Worship Service January 29, 2023

Zion Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, SD Service of Healing zionlutheranaberdeen.org

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Paul, they are the ones who find wisdom in the weakness of the cross. For Jesus, they are the poor, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, those who mourn, and those who hunger for righteousness. In baptism we find our blessed identity and calling in this countercultural way of living and serving.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN Gather Us In ELW #532

Vs. 1-3

- Here in this place the new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away; see in this space our fears and our dreamings brought here to you in the light of this day. Gather us in, the lost and forsaken, gather us in, the blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.
- We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry, we are the old who yearn for your face; we have been sung throughout all of hist'ry, called to be light to the whole human race. Gather us in, the rich and the haughty, gather us in, the proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.
- Here we will take the wine and the water, here we will take the bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth.

 Give us to drink the wine of compassion, give us to eat the bread that is you; nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

INVOCATION

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \pm one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One, source of our renewal, we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves.

We have not practiced your righteousness.

Our hearts have turned away from you.

For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Thus says our God:
"The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare."
God's mercy makes us new.
We are forgiven in the name of ⊕ Christ our Savior.
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 Glory to God ELW, pg. 121



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together: Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

KIDS' TIME Pastoral Assistant Saundra

FIRST READING

Isaiah 40:28-31

²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God,

the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;

his understanding is unsearchable.

²⁹He gives power to the faint,

and strengthens the powerless.

³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary,

and the young will fall exhausted;

³¹but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,

they shall mount up with wings like eagles,

they shall run and not be weary,

they shall walk and not faint.

PSALM

Psalm 103:1-4

Gwen Heyd, cantor

Refrain:



- Bless the Lord, O my soul,and all within me, his holy name.Bless the Lord, O my soul,and never forget all his benefits. *Refrain*
- 2 It is the Lord who forgives all your sins, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with mercy and compassion. *Refrain*
- The Lord does just deeds, gives full justice to all who are oppressed. He made known his ways to Moses, and his deeds to the children of Israel. *Refrain*

SECOND READING

James 5:7-16

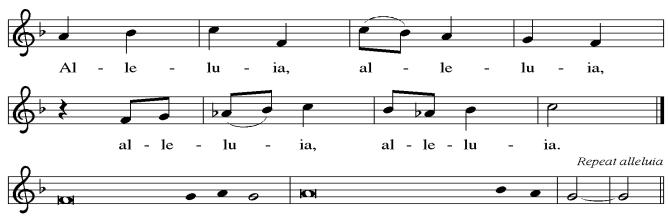
⁷Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. ⁹Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹Indeed we call blessed those who showed endurance. You have heard of the endurance of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

¹²Above all, my beloved, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your "Yes" be yes and your "No" be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation. ¹³Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. ¹⁴Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. ¹⁶Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e-ter-nal life.

The holy gospel according to John, the fourth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL John 4:47-53

⁴⁷When he heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee, he went and begged him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death. ⁴⁸Then Jesus said to him, "Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe." ⁴⁹The official said to him, "Sir, come down before my little boy dies." ⁵⁰Jesus said to him, "Go; your son will live." The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and started on his way. ⁵¹As he was going down, his slaves met him and

told him that his child was alive. ⁵²So he asked them the hour when he began to recover, and they said to him, "Yesterday at one in the afternoon the fever left him." ⁵³The father realized that this was the hour when Jesus had said to him, "Your son will live." So he himself believed, along with his whole household.

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

SERMON Pastor Jim Holthus

HYMN OF THE DAY Come, Ye Disconsolate ELW #607

- Come, ye disconsolate, where'er ye languish; come to the mercy-seat, fervently kneel.

 Here bring your wounded hearts, here tell your anguish; earth has no sorrow that heav'n cannot heal.
- Joy of the desolate, light of the straying, hope of the penitent, fadeless and pure; here speaks the Comforter, tenderly saying, "Earth has no sorrow that heav'n cannot cure."
- Here see the Bread of life; see waters flowing forth from the throne of God, pure from above. Come to the feast of love; come, ever knowing earth has no sorrow but heav'n can remove.

APOSTLES' CREED

God has made us His people through our Baptism into Christ. 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 CHURCH

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

Prayer response: Merciful God, receive our prayer.

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified. **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 HYMN

Let Us Go Now to the Banquet
Vs. 1 & 2

ELW #523

Refrain

Let us go now to the banquet, to the feast of the universe. The table's set and a place is waiting; come, ev'ryone, with your gifts to share.

- I will rise in the early morning;
 the community's waiting for me.
 With a spring in my step I'm walking
 with my friends and my family. *Refrain*
- 2 God invites all the poor and hungry to the banquet of justice and good where the harvest will not be hoarded so that no one will lack for food. *Refrain*

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together: Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior. 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.

LITANY

Each of us is broken by sin and less than God has created us to be, but this does not disqualify us from being touched by God and serving God in any capacity, large or small, broken as we are.

God uses broken things. It takes broken clouds to give rain, broken ground to give grain, broken grain to give bread, broken bread to give strength.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray in confidence 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

Come and taste the joy of God!

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

All who believe that our Lord Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine of The Lord's Supper bringing to us the gift of forgiveness and the promise of eternal life, are welcome to gather at the Lord's Table.

COMMUNION HYMN

Our Father, We Have Wandered

ELW #606

- Our Father, we have wandered and hidden from your face; in foolishness have squandered your legacy of grace.
 But now, in exile dwelling, we rise with fear and shame, as, distant but compelling, we hear you call our name.
- And now at length discerning the evil that we do, behold us, Lord, returning with hope and trust to you. In haste you come to meet us and home rejoicing bring, in gladness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.
- O Lord of all the living, both banished and restored, compassionate, forgiving, and ever-caring Lord, grant now that our transgressing, our faithlessness may cease. Stretch out your hand in blessing, in pardon, and in peace.

BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together: Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you. Amen.

BENEDICTION

The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor's rod \oplus bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always.

Amen.

Vs. 1, 2, 4

- O living Bread from heaven, how well you feed your guest! The gifts that you have given have filled my heart with rest. O wondrous food of blessing! O cup that heals our woes! My heart, this gift possessing, in thankful song o'er flows.
- 2 My Savior, you have led me within your holiest place, and here yourself have fed me with treasures of your grace; for you have freely given what earth could never buy, the bread of life from heaven, that now I shall not die.
- Oh, grant me then, well-strengthened with heav'nly food, while here my course on earth is lengthened, to serve you, free from fear; and bring me home to praise you where none can peace destroy, where I will ever raise you glad songs in endless joy.

SENDING WORDS

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus. Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE