

Zion Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, SD  
Sixth Sunday After Epiphany  
zionlutheranaberdeen.org



## INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

*In today's reading from Deuteronomy we are called to choose life by loving and obeying God. Much of today's gospel reading echoes portions of the Ten Commandments. Jesus' instructions to the crowd reveal a pattern of behavior that honors both God and the neighbor, resulting in life and health for the whole community. We too are invited to embrace these commandments, not out of fear of retribution, but because God has promised that to do so means life for us.*

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## INSTALLATION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

## GATHERING SONG

*Holy is the Lord*

We stand and lift up our hands,  
For the joy of the Lord is our strength.  
We bow down and worship Him now.  
How great, how awesome is He.  
And together we sing,  
Everyone sing.

Holy is the Lord, God Almighty,  
The earth is filled with His glory.  
Holy is the Lord, God Almighty,  
The earth is filled with His glory.  
The earth is filled with His glory.

We stand and lift up our hands,  
For the joy of the Lord is our strength.  
We bow down and worship Him now.  
How great, how awesome is He.  
And together we sing,  
Everyone sing.

Holy is the Lord, God Almighty,  
The earth is filled with His glory.  
Holy is the Lord, God Almighty,  
The earth is filled with His glory.  
The earth is filled with His glory.

It is rising up all around;  
It's the anthem of the Lord's renown.  
It is rising up all around;  
It's the anthem of the Lord's renown.

And together we sing,  
Everyone sing.  
Holy is the Lord, God Almighty,  
The earth is filled with His glory.  
Holy is the Lord, God Almighty,  
The earth is filled with His glory.  
The earth is filled with His glory.

### INVOCATION

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † 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

### *Praise Adonai*

Who is like Him, the Lion and the Lamb, seated on the throne?  
Mountains bow down, ev'ry ocean roars to the Lord of hosts.

Praise Adonai, from the rising of the sun  
Til the end of every day.  
Praise Adonai, all the nations of the earth,  
All the angels and the saints sing praise.

Who is like Him, the Lion and the Lamb, seated on the throne?  
Mountains bow down, ev'ry ocean roars to the Lord of hosts.

Praise Adonai, from the rising of the sun  
Til the end of every day.  
Praise Adonai, all the nations of the earth,  
All the angels and the saints sing...

Praise Adonai, from the rising of the sun  
Til the end of every day.  
Praise Adonai, all the nations of the earth,  
All the angels and the saints sing praise.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together: O God, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## KIDS' TIME

Pastoral Assistant Sandra

## FIRST READING

### Deuteronomy 30:15-20

[Moses said to the people:] <sup>15</sup>See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. <sup>16</sup>If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. <sup>17</sup>But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, <sup>18</sup>I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. <sup>19</sup>I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, <sup>20</sup>loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

**PSALM**

**Psalms 119:1-8**

*(read responsively)*

- <sup>1</sup>Happy are those whose way is blameless,  
who walk in the law of the LORD.
- <sup>2</sup>Happy are those who keep his decrees,  
who seek him with their whole heart,
- <sup>3</sup>who also do no wrong,  
but walk in his ways.
- <sup>4</sup>You have commanded your precepts  
to be kept diligently.
- <sup>5</sup>O that my ways may be steadfast  
in keeping your statutes!
- <sup>6</sup>Then I shall not be put to shame,  
having my eyes fixed on all your commandments.
- <sup>7</sup>I will praise you with an upright heart,  
when I learn your righteous ordinances.
- <sup>8</sup>I will observe your statutes;  
do not utterly forsake me.

**SECOND READING**

**1 Corinthians 3:1-9**

<sup>1</sup>Brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. <sup>2</sup>I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, <sup>3</sup>for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? <sup>4</sup>For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human?

<sup>5</sup>What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. <sup>6</sup>I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. <sup>7</sup>So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. <sup>8</sup>The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. <sup>9</sup>For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

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 Matthew, the fifth chapter.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

## **GOSPEL**

### **Matthew 5:1-12**

<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.

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

## **SERMON**

**Pastor Jim Holthus**

## **SONG OF THE DAY**

### ***Love the Lord***

Love the Lord your God with all your heart,  
With all your soul, with all your mind  
And with all your strength.  
Love the Lord your God with all your heart,  
With all your soul, with all your mind  
And with all your strength.

With all your heart, with all your soul,  
With all your mind, with all your strength.  
Love the Lord your God with all your heart,  
With all your soul, with all your mind,  
And with all your strength.

I will serve the Lord with all my heart,  
With all my soul, with all my mind,  
And with all my strength.

I will serve the Lord with all my heart,  
With all my soul, with all my mind,  
And with all my strength.

With all my heart, with all my soul,  
With all my mind, with all my strength.  
I will serve the Lord with all my heart,  
With all my soul, with all my mind,  
And with all my strength.

With all my heart, with all my soul,  
With all my mind, with all my strength  
With all my heart, with all my soul,  
With all my mind, with all my strength.

I will love you Lord with all my heart,  
With all my soul, with all my mind,  
With all my strength.

I will love you Lord with all my heart,  
With all my soul, with all my mind,  
With all my strength.

## **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 PEOPLE

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.

*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

*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 Love You, Lord*

I love you, Lord, and I lift my voice  
To worship you; O my soul rejoice.  
Take joy, my King, in what you hear;  
May it be a sweet, sweet sound in your ear.

I love you, Lord, and I lift my voice  
To worship you; O my soul rejoice.  
Take joy, my King, in what you hear;  
May it be a sweet, sweet sound in your ear.

## 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 SONG

## *Draw Me Close*

Draw me close to You, never let me go.  
I lay it all down again  
To hear You say that I'm Your friend.

You are my desire, no one else will do,  
'Cause nothing else could take Your place;  
To feel the warmth of Your embrace.  
Help me find the way, bring me back to You.

You're all I want, You're all I ever needed.  
You're all I want, help me know You are near.

You're all I want, You're all I ever needed.  
You're all I want, help me know You are near.  
Help me know you are near.

## 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.**

## BLESSING

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

## SENDING SONG

## *Friend of God*

Who am I that You are mindful of me?  
That You hear me when I call?  
Is it true that You are thinking of me?  
How You love me, it's amazing. It's amazing.

I am a friend of God.  
I am a friend of God.  
I am a friend of God.  
He calls me friend.

I am a friend of God.  
I am a friend of God.  
I am a friend of God.  
He calls me friend.

Who am I that You are mindful of me?  
That You hear me when I call?  
Is it true that You are thinking of me?  
How You love me, it's amazing. It's amazing.

I am a friend of God.  
I am a friend of God.  
I am a friend of God.  
He calls me friend.

I am a friend of God.  
I am a friend of God.  
I am a friend of God.  
He calls me friend.

God Almighty, Lord of Glory,  
You have called me friend.  
God Almighty, Lord of Glory,  
You have called me friend.

I am a friend of God.  
I am a friend of God.  
I am a friend of God.  
You call me friend.

I am a friend of God.  
I am a friend of God.  
I am a friend of God.  
You call me friend.

### **SENDING WORDS**

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

### **POSTLUDE**