

Zion Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, SD
First Sunday in Lent
zionlutheranaberndeen.org



INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Today's gospel tells of Jesus' temptation in the desert. His forty-day fast becomes the basis of our Lenten pilgrimage. In the early church Lent was a time of intense preparation for those to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. This catechetical focus on the meaning of faith is at the heart of our Lenten journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. Hungry for God's mercy, we receive the bread of life to nourish us for the days ahead.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG

Once Again

Jesus Christ, I think upon your sacrifice.
You became nothing, poured out to death.
Many times I've wondered at your gift of life.
I'm in that place again.
I'm in that place again.

And once again I look upon the cross where you died.
I'm humbled by your mercy and I'm broken inside.
Once again I thank you.
Once again I pour out my life.

Now you are exalted to the highest place.
King of the Heavens one day I'll bow.
But for now I marvel at this saving grace.
I'm full of praise once again.
I'm full of praise once again.

And once again I look upon the cross where you died.
I'm humbled by your mercy and I'm broken inside.
Once again I thank you.
Once again I pour out my life.

And once again I look upon the cross where you died.
I'm humbled by your mercy and I'm broken inside.
Once again I thank you.
Once again I pour out my life.

INVOCATION

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,
we confess to you our faults and failings.
Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word;
we take for ourselves instead of giving to others;
we spoil rather than steward your creation;
we cause hurt though you call us to heal;
we choose fear over compassion.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
as we seek to follow in your way of life. **Amen.**

Hear the good news:
God so loved the world that God gave the only Son,
so that all may receive life.
This promise is for you!
God embraces you with divine mercy,
† forgives you in Christ's name,
and revives you in the Spirit's power. **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

Great is the Lord

Great is the Lord, he is holy and just, by his power we trust in his love.
Great is the Lord, he is faithful and true, by his mercy he proves he is love.
Great is the Lord and worthy of glory.
Great is the Lord and worthy of praise.
Great is the Lord, now lift up your voice, now lift up your voice:
Great is the Lord! Great is the Lord!

Great is the Lord, he is holy and just, by his power we trust in his love.
Great is the Lord, he is faithful and true, by his mercy he proves he is love.
Great is the Lord and worthy of glory.
Great is the Lord and worthy of praise.
Great is the Lord, now lift up your voice, now lift up your voice:
Great is the Lord! Great is the Lord!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together: Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us 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

Pastoral Assistant Sandra

FIRST READING

Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7

So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

⁴These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created. In the day that the Lord GOD made the earth and the heavens, ⁵when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up — for the Lord GOD had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; ⁶but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground — ⁷then the Lord GOD formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. ¹⁵The Lord GOD took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶And the Lord GOD commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 32

(read responsively)

¹Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.
²Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.
³While I kept silence, my body wasted away
through my groaning all day long.
⁴For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.
⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not hide my iniquity;
said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"
and you forgave the guilt of my sin.
⁶Therefore let all who are faithful
offer prayer to you;
at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters
shall not reach them.

⁷You are a hiding place for me;
you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.
⁸**I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go;
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.**
⁹Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding,
whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle,
else it will not stay near you.
¹⁰**Many are the torments of the wicked,
but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD.**
¹¹Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous,
and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

SECOND READING

Romans 5:12-19

¹²Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned — ¹³sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

¹⁵But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. ¹⁶And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. ¹⁷If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

¹⁸Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. ¹⁹For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

LENTEN ACCLAMATION

Jesus, You Have Given Me

Jesus, You have given me all of your grace so tenderly.

I lift my hands and praise your name.

Jesus, You have given me all of your love on Calvary.

I lift my heart into your hands.

Jesus, You have given me all of your grace so tenderly.

I lift my hands and praise your name.

Jesus, You have given me all of your love on Calvary.

I lift my heart into your hands.

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

GOSPEL

Matthew 4:1-11

¹Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. ³The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴But he answered, "It is written,
 'One does not live by bread alone,
 but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"
⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,
 'He will command his angels concerning you,'
 and 'On their hands they will bear you up,
 so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"
⁷Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"
⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; ⁹and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written,
 'Worship the Lord your God,
 and serve only him.'"
¹¹Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

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

SERMON

Pastor Jim Holthus

SONG OF THE DAY

Lord, I Need You

Lord I come, I confess,
bowing here, I find my rest.
Without You, I fall apart,
You're the One that guides my heart.

Lord, I need You, oh, I need You. Ev'ry hour I need You.
My one defense, my righteousness, oh God, how I need You.

Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more.
Where grace is found, is where You are.
Where You are, Lord, I am free.
Holiness is Christ in me.

Lord, I need You, oh, I need You. Ev'ry hour I need You.
My one defense, my righteousness, oh, God how I need You.

So teach my song to rise to You
when temptations come my way.
When I cannot stand, I'll fall on You.
Jesus, You're my hope and stay.

Lord, I need You, oh, I need You. Ev'ry hour I need You.
My one defense, my righteousness, oh God, how I need You.

You're my one defense, my righteousness, oh God, how I need You.
My one defense, my righteousness, Oh God, how I need You.

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

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

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

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; 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

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

What Have We to Offer?

What have we to offer? What have we to share?
Coins from the coffer, hearts filled with care.
God will not falter; so let us dare
Lay it at the altar there.

What have we to offer? What have we to bring?
Love, ripe with laughter; hope that we can sing;
Dreams of what we're after; promises of when.
Lay it at the altar then.

What have we to offer? What have we to give?
Eyes that are wide open; lies that we won't live;
Truth that must be spoken; justice somehow.
Lay it at the altar now.

What have we to offer? What have we to give?
Lives we will live.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together:

God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. 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

Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

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

Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound.
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost but now am found.
Was blind but now I see.

Tw'as Grace that taught my heart to fear
And Grace my fears relieved.

How precious did that grace appear,
The hour I first believed.

My chains are gone, I've been set free.
My God, my Savior has ransomed me.
And like a flood his mercy reigns;
Unending love, amazing grace.

The Lord has promised good to me.
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be,
As long as life endures.

My chains are gone, I've been set free.
My God, my Savior has ransomed me.
And like a flood his mercy reigns;
Unending love, amazing grace.

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow.
The sun forbear to shine.
But God who called me hear below,
Will be forever mine.
Will be forever mine.
Will be forever mine.

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: Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

God, the giver of love,
✠ Christ, the resurrection and the life,
and the Holy Spirit of rebirth
bless you in this Lenten journey.
Amen.

SENDING SONG

That's Why We Praise Him

He came to live, live a perfect life;
He came to be the living Word of Life;
He came to die so we'd be reconciled;

He came to rise, to show His power and might.

That's why we praise Him; that's why we sing;
That's why we offer Him our everything;
That's why we bow down and worship this King,
'Cause He gave His ev'rything.

He came to live, live again in us;
He came to be our conquering King and Friend;
He came to heal and show the lost ones His love;
He came to go prepare a place for us.

That's why we praise Him; that's why we sing;
That's why we offer Him our everything;
That's why we bow down and worship this King,
'Cause He gave His ev'ry –

That's why we praise Him; that's why we sing;
That's why we offer Him our everything;
That's why we bow down and worship this King,
'Cause He gave His ev'rything.
'Cause He gave His ev'rything.

SENDING WORDS

Go in peace. Serve in love.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE