

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



## INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

*In today's gospel the Samaritan woman asks Jesus for water, an image of our thirst for God. Jesus offers living water, a sign of God's grace flowing from the waters of baptism. The early church used this gospel and those of the next two Sundays to deepen baptismal reflection during the final days of preparation before baptism at Easter. As we journey to the resurrection feast, Christ comes among us in word, bath, and meal—offering us the life-giving water of God's mercy and forgiveness.*

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### GATHERING SONG

### *Blessed Be Your Name*

Blessed be Your name in the land that is plentiful,

Where the streams of abundance flow,

Blessed be Your name.

Blessed be Your name when I'm found in the desert place,

Though I walk through the wilderness

Blessed be Your name.

Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll turn back to praise.

When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say.

Blessed be the name of the Lord, Blessed be Your name.

Blessed be the name of the Lord, Blessed be Your glorious name.

Blessed be Your name when the sun's shining down on me,

When the world's all as it should be.

Blessed be Your name.

Blessed be Your name on the road marked with suffering,

Though there's pain in the offering.

Blessed be Your name.

Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll turn back to praise.

When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say.

Blessed be the name of the Lord, Blessed be Your name.

Blessed be the name of the Lord, Blessed be Your glorious name.

You give and take away, You give and take away.  
My heart will choose to say, Lord, blessed be your name.  
You give and take away, You give and take away.  
My heart will choose to say, Lord, blessed be Your name.

Blessed be the name of the Lord, Blessed be Your name.  
Blessed be the name of the Lord, Blessed be Your glorious name.

### 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

*Blessed Be the Lord God Almighty*

Blessed be the Lord God Almighty  
Who was and is and is to come.  
Blessed be the Lord God Almighty  
Who reigns forever more.

Blessed be the Lord God Almighty  
Who was and is and is to come.  
Blessed be the Lord God Almighty  
Who reigns forever more.

Father in heaven how we love You.  
We lift your name in all the earth.  
May Your Kingdom be established in our praises.  
As Your people declare Your mighty works.

Blessed be the Lord God Almighty  
Who was and is and is to come.  
Blessed be the Lord God Almighty  
Who reigns forever more.

Blessed be the Lord God Almighty  
Who was and is and is to come.  
Blessed be the Lord God Almighty  
Who reigns forever more.

Blessed be the Lord God Almighty  
Who was and is and is to come.  
Blessed be the Lord God Almighty  
Who reigns forever more.

#### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray together: **Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

#### **KIDS' TIME & NOISY OFFERING**

**Pastoral Assistant Sandra**

#### **FIRST READING**

#### **Exodus 17:1-7**

<sup>1</sup>From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup>The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" <sup>3</sup>But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" <sup>4</sup>So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." <sup>5</sup>The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. <sup>6</sup>I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink."

Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup>He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

## SECOND READING

Romans 5:1-11

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup>through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. <sup>3</sup>And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup>and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup>and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

<sup>6</sup>For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup>Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person — though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. <sup>8</sup>But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup>Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. <sup>10</sup>For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. <sup>11</sup>But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

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 John, the fourth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

## GOSPEL

John 4:5-42

<sup>5</sup>So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup>Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

<sup>7</sup>A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." <sup>8</sup>(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) <sup>9</sup>The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." <sup>11</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? <sup>12</sup>Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" <sup>13</sup>Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup>but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." <sup>15</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

<sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." <sup>17</sup>The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; <sup>18</sup>for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" <sup>19</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. <sup>20</sup>Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. <sup>22</sup>You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup>But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. <sup>24</sup>God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." <sup>25</sup>The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." <sup>26</sup>Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you." <sup>27</sup>Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" <sup>28</sup>Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, <sup>29</sup>Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he? <sup>30</sup>They left the city and were on their way to him.

<sup>31</sup>Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." <sup>32</sup>But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." <sup>33</sup>So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" <sup>34</sup>Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. <sup>35</sup>Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. <sup>36</sup>The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. <sup>37</sup>For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' <sup>38</sup>I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

<sup>39</sup>Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." <sup>40</sup>So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. <sup>41</sup>And many more believed because of his word. <sup>42</sup>They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

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

## SERMON

Pastor Jim Holthus

### SONG OF THE DAY

*I Believe in Jesus*

I believe in Jesus. I believe He is the Son of God.  
I believe He died and rose again. I believe He paid for us all.  
And I believe He's here now, standing in our midst,  
Here with the power to heal now and the grace to forgive.

I believe in You, Lord. I believe You are the Son of God.  
I believe You died and rose again. I believe You paid for us all.  
And I believe You are here now, standing in our midst,  
Here with the power to heal now and the grace to forgive.

### 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](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

#### *Create in Me*

Create in me a clean heart, O God.  
And renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from your presence,  
And take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of your salvation.  
And uphold me with your free spirit.  
Create in me a clean heart, O God.  
And renew a right spirit within me.

Create in me a clean heart, O God.  
And renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from your presence,  
And take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of your salvation.  
And uphold me with your free spirit.  
Create in me a clean heart, O God.  
And renew a right spirit within me.

### 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

*Redeemer, Savior, Friend*

I know You had me on Your mind when You climbed up on that hill;  
For You saw me with eternal eyes, while I was yet in sin;  
Redeemer, Savior, Friend.



Ev'ry stripe upon Your battered back, ev'ry thorn that pierced Your brow;  
And ev'ry nail drove deep through guiltless hands  
Said that Your love knows no end;  
Redeemer, Savior, Friend.

Redeemer, redeem my heart again;  
Savior, come and shelter me from sin;  
You're familiar with my weakness, devoted to the end;  
Redeemer, Savior, Friend.

So the grace You've poured upon my life, will return to You in praise;  
And I'll gladly lay down all my crowns,  
For the name by which I'm saved;  
Redeemer, Savior, Friend.

Redeemer, redeem my heart again;  
Savior, come and shelter me from sin;  
You're familiar with my weakness, devoted to the end;  
Redeemer, Savior, Friend.

Redeemer, redeem my heart again;  
Savior, come and shelter me from sin;  
You're familiar with my weakness, devoted to the end;  
Redeemer, Savior, Friend.  
Redeemer, Savior, Friend,  
Redeemer, Savior, Friend.

## **BLESSING**

And now may the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, which you have received, strengthen you and keep you unto eternal life. **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

### *Days of Elijah*

These are the days of Elijah, declaring the Word of the Lord,  
And these are the days of your servant Moses, righteousness being restored.  
And though these are days of great trial, of famine and darkness and sword,  
And we are a voice in the desert crying, prepare ye the Way of the Lord.

Behold He comes, riding on the clouds,  
Shining like the sun, at the trumpet call.  
Lift your voice, in the year of Jubilee,  
And out of Zion's hill salvation comes.

These are the days of Ezekiel, the dry bones becoming as flesh,  
And these are the days of your servant David, rebuilding the temple of praise.  
And these are the days of the harvest, the fields are as white in the world.  
And we are the laborers in the vineyard, declaring the Word of the Lord.

Behold He comes, riding on the clouds,  
Shining like the sun, at the trumpet call.  
Lift your voice, in the year of Jubilee,  
And out of Zion's hill salvation comes.

There's no God like Jehovah  
There's no God like Jehovah  
There's no God like Jehovah  
There's no God like Jehovah  
There's no God like Jehovah  
There's no God like Jehovah  
There's no God like Jehovah

Behold He comes, riding on the clouds,  
Shining like the sun, at the trumpet call.  
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Shining like the sun, at the trumpet call.  
Lift your voice, in the year of Jubilee,  
And out of Zion's hill salvation comes.

## SENDING WORDS

Go in peace. Serve in love.  
**Thanks be to God!**

## POSTLUDE