Worship Service July 16, 2023

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

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN Almighty God, Your Word is Cast

- 1 Almighty God, your word is cast like seed into the ground; now let the dew of heav'n descend and righteous fruits abound.
- 2 Let not the sly satanic foe this holy seed remove, but give it root in ev'ry heart to bring forth fruits of love.
- 3 Let not the world's deceitful cares the rising plant destroy, but let it yield a hundredfold the fruits of peace and joy.
- 4 So when the precious seed is sown, life-giving grace bestow, that all whose souls the truth receive its saving pow'r may know.

INVOCATION

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \pm one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure.

Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned.

We have hurt our community.



ELW #516

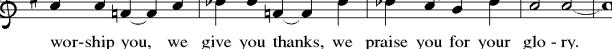
We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of + Jesus Christ. Amen.

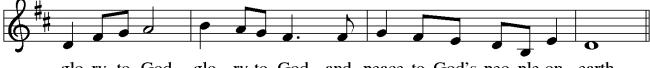
GREETING

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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE Glory to God ELW pg. 213 Vs. 1—Cantor Vs. 2—Northside Vs. 3—Southside Refrain Glo-ry to God. glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est; glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth. al - might-y God and 1 Lord God, heav-en-ly King, Fa - ther,







glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together: Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC Thy Will Mikayla Titus

FIRST READING

Isaiah 55:10-13

¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. ¹²For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. ¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

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

SECOND READING

Romans 8:1-11

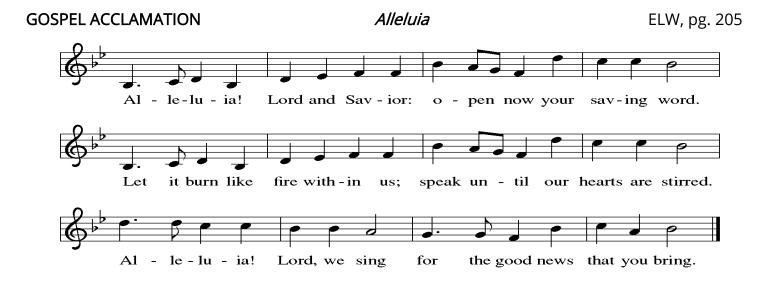
¹There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.



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

GOSPEL

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹Let anyone with ears listen!"

¹⁸"Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

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

SERMON Pastor Jim Holthus

HYMN OF THE DAY

Sing to the Lord of Harvest

ELW #694

- Sing to the Lord of harvest your songs of love and praise; with joyful hearts and voices your alleluias raise; by him the rolling seasons in fruitful order move; sing to the Lord of harvest a joyous song of love.
- 2 God makes the clouds drop fatness, the deserts bloom and spring, the hills leap up in gladness, the valleys laugh and sing.
 God fills them with his fullness, all things with large increase and crowns the year with goodness, with plenty and with peace.
- 3 Bring to this sacred altar the gifts his goodness gave, the golden sheaves of harvest, the souls Christ died to save.
 Your hearts lay down before him when at his feet you fall, and with your lives adore him who gave his life for all.

BAPTISM Kate Arlys Lambrechts

BAPTISM SONG

You Belong to Christ
(sing twice)

ELW #212



PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

Prayer response: Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Savior. **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

Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil

ELW #512

Lord, let my heart be good soil,

open to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil,

where love can grow and peace is understood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone away.

When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.

When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart,

Lord, let my heart be good soil.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together:

God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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

All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat what is good.

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

For the Fruit of All Creation

ELW #679

1 For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.
For these gifts to ev'ry nation, thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping, future needs in earth's safekeeping,

thanks be to God.

- In the just reward of labor,
 God's will is done.
 In the help we give our neighbor,
 God's will is done.
 In our worldwide task of caring
 for the hungry and despairing,
 in the harvests we are sharing,
 God's will is done.
- For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.
 For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.
 For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us, most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

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: We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BENEDICTION

The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed \pm bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Oh What Has Now Been Sown

ELW #550

On what has now been sown your blessing, Lord, bestow; the pow'r is yours alone to make it sprout and grow.
O Lord, in grace the harvest raise, and yours alone shall be the praise!

- To you our wants are known, from you are all our pow'rs; accept what is your own and pardon what is ours.
 Our praises, Lord, and prayers receive and to your word a blessing give.
- Oh, grant that each of us, now met before you here, may meet together thus when you and yours appear, and follow you to heav'n, our home. E'en so, Amen! Lord Jesus, come!

SENDING WORDS

Go in peace. Share the harvest. Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #26593.

CCLI Copyright License #2029973 / Streaming License #20579691

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America.