Worship Service July 23, 2023

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

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG

Rock of Ages

There is no rock, there is no god like our God. No other name worthy of all our praise. The Rock of Salvation that cannot be moved. He's proven himself to be faithful and true. There is no rock. There is no god like ours.

Rock of Ages. Jesus is the Rock. Rock of Ages. Jesus is the Rock. Rock of Ages. Jesus is the Rock. There is no rock. There is no god like ours.

There is no rock, there is no god like our God. No other name worthy of all our praise. The Rock of Salvation that cannot be moved. He's proven himself to be faithful and true. There is no rock. There is no God like ours.

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INVOCATION

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + 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.

Righteous God,

we confess that we have sinned.

We have failed to be honest.

We have lacked the courage to speak.

We have spoken falsely.

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.

SONG OF PRAISE

How Majestic is Your Name

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

O Lord, we praise your name!

O Lord, we magnify your name.

Prince of Peace, Mighty God, O Lord God Almighty!

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

O Lord, we praise your name!

O Lord, we magnify your name.

Prince of Peace, Mighty God, O Lord God Almighty!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together: Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

KIDS' TIME

Pastoral Assistant Saundra

⁶Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts:

I am the first and I am the last;

besides me there is no god.

⁷Who is like me? Let them proclaim it,

let them declare and set it forth before me.

Who has announced from of old the things to come?

Let them tell us what is yet to be.

⁸Do not fear, or be afraid;

have I not told you from of old and declared it?

You are my witnesses!

Is there any god besides me?

There is no other rock; I know not one.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 86:11-17 (read responsively)

¹¹Teach me your way, O LORD,

that I may walk in your truth;

give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

¹²I give thanks to you, O LORD my God, with my whole heart, and I will glorify your name forever.

¹³For great is your steadfast love toward me; you have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.

¹⁴O God, the insolent rise up against me;

a band of ruffians seeks my life,

and they do not set you before them.

¹⁵But you, O LORD, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

¹⁶Turn to me and be gracious to me;

give your strength to your servant;

save the child of your serving girl.

¹⁷Show me a sign of your favor,

so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame, because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

SECOND READING

Romans 8:12-25

¹²So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh — ¹³for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our

spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ — if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ²⁰for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

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

ALLELUIA

The Lord Almighty Reigns

Hallelujah, hallelujah the Lord reigns. Hallelujah, hallelujah the Lord Almighty reigns.

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah the Lord reigns. Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah the Lord Almighty reigns.

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

GOSPEL

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

²⁴He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; ²⁵but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' ²⁸He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'"

³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴²and they

will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

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

MESSAGE Mike Bretsch

SONG OF THE DAY

Everlasting God

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord We will wait upon the Lord, we will wait upon the Lord. Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord We will wait upon the Lord, we will wait upon the Lord. Our God, You reign forever.

Our hope, our strong Deliv'rer.

You are the everlasting God,
The everlasting God,
You do not faint,
You won't grow weary.
You're the defender of the weak,
You comfort those in need
You lift us up on wings, like eagles.

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord We will wait upon the Lord, we will wait upon the Lord. Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord We will wait upon the Lord, we will wait upon the Lord. Our God, You reign forever.

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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

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 SONG

Everybody's Got Something to Offer

Everybody's got something to offer;

Young and old, the prince and the pauper.

Everybody's got something to offer in the name of the Lord.

To the lost and lowly ones the message it is clear;

We have all got a gift to give, our hands, our hearts, our tears.

Everybody's got something to offer;

Young and old, the prince and the pauper.

Everybody's got something to offer in the name of the Lord.

To the believers gathered here the message it is true;

We have all got a gift to give in all we say and do.

Everybody's got something to offer;

Young and old, the prince and the pauper.

Everybody's got something to offer in the name of the Lord.

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

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

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 SONG

Seek Ye First The Kingdom of God

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, And all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia.

Man shall not live by bread alone, but by ev'ry word That proceeds from the mouth of God. Allelu, alleluia.

Ask and it shall be given unto you, seek and ye shall find. Knock and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, Alleluia.

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, And all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia.

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: 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 SONG

How Great is Our God

The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty; Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice. He wraps Himself in light, and darkness tries to hide; And trembles at His voice, and trembles at His voice.

How great is our God! Sing with me, how great is our God! And all will see how great, how great is our God.

And age to age He stands, and time is in His hands; Beginning and the End, Beginning and the End. The Godhead, Three In One, Father, Spirit, Son; The Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb.

How great is our God! Sing with me, how great is our God! And all will see how great, how great is our God.

Name above all names, worthy of all praise. My heart will sing how great is our God. Name above all names, worthy of all praise. My heart will sing how great is our God.

How great is our God! Sing with me, how great is our God! And all will see how great, how great is our God. How great, how great is our God.

SENDING WORDS

Go in peace. Share the harvest.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

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