Worship Service February 25, 2024

Zion Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, SD Second Sunday in Lent zionlutheranaberdeen.org

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.

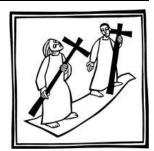
Once again I pour out my life.

INVOCATION

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \pm one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus. **Amen.**

We are gathered in the presence of God, invited to stand in life and not death, blessing instead of curse.

We are gathered like the people of Israel, challenged to live in lifegiving ways.



Like them, we often choose paths that disconnect us from relationship with God and others. Yet, like, them, we have freedom each day to begin anew by the grace of God.

Our presence here, is an indication that we desire life. Let us praise God, the source of love and life who has called us to this place. Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,

we are caught in snares and trapped by brokenness. We get stuck in patterns that harm our selves and others, by how we speak, act, and treat each other. We let our hurts fester and grow into painful soars. For all these things Lord we seek forgiveness. Turn us around to live with generosity, as you lived with generosity. Sharing abundance as you have shared your abundance with us. Amen.

Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare, shatters the traps of sin, washes us clean for new beginnings, and restores the promise of life through + Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

KYRIE

We bring our prayers to the Lord. Under the mercy of God we pray,

We bring our hope for renewal and right relationships **Trusting in God we pray.**

We bring our concerns for creation, the church, and our community, **Relying on God we pray.**

For this congregation, and all who are gathered with us By the power of God we pray.

SONG OF PRAISE

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.

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.

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together: O God, by the passion of your blessed Son, you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of 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 Saundra

FIRST READING

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you."

¹⁵God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 22:23-31 (read responsively)

²³You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;

stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

²⁴For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted; he did not hide his face from me, but heard when I cried to him.

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

²⁶The poor shall eat and be satisfied;

those who seek him shall praise the LORD.

May your hearts live forever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

²⁸For dominion belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.

²⁹To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him.

³⁰Posterity will serve him;

future generations will be told about the LORD,

³¹and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.

SECOND READING

Romans 4:13-25

¹³The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." ²³Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

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

PREPARING FOR THE WORD

GOSPEL 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 Mark, the eighth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL Mark 8:31-38

³¹[Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

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

SERMON Reverend Nicole Martin

SONG OF THE DAY

Just as I Am

Just as I am without one plea, But that Thy blood was shed for me, And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee O Lamb of God I come, I come. Just as I am and waiting not, To rid my soul of one dark blot, To thee whose blood can cleanse each spot O Lamb of God I come, I come.

Just as I am tho' tossed about With many a conflict, many a doubt, Fightings and fears within, without O Lamb of God I come, I come come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind; Sight, riches, healing of the mind, Yea, all I need in Thee to find O Lamb of God I come, I come.

Just as I am, thou wilt receive, Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve, Because thy promise I believe O Lamb of God I come, I come.

APPRECIATION & INSTALLATION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

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

I Give You My Heart

This is my desire, to honor You. Lord, with all my heart I worship You. All I have within me, I give You praise. All that I adore is in You.

Lord, I give You my heart.
I give You my soul.
I live for You alone.
Every breath that I take, every moment I'm awake,
Lord, have Your way in me.

This is my desire, to honor You. Lord, with all my heart I worship You. All I have within me, I give You praise. All that I adore is in You.

Lord, I give You my heart.
I give You my soul.
I live for You alone.
Every breath that I take, every moment I'm awake,
Lord, have Your way in me.

Lord, I give You my heart.
I give You my soul.
I live for You alone.
Every breath that I take, every moment I'm awake,
Lord, have Your way in me.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together: Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. 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

We come to the table of the Lord bringing our whole selves.

We come to the table honest about who we are.

We come to the table as a community.

We come to the table with our neighbors, both known and unknown.

We come to the table standing in the mercy of God.

We come to the table receiving forgiveness through Christ.

We come to the table for healing.

We come to the table knowing we will find reconcilliation through the gift of Christ for us.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered together by the work of the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught 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

The Table is set. God's generosity is here for you. Bread for the journey and a feast for hungry hearts. Come.

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

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: Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace and received your generosity. Like grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; sharing the gifts of God with our neighbors; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. Amen.

BLESSING

Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and \pm give you peace **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

Your Grace is Enough

Great is Your faithfulness oh God. You wrestle with the sinner's heart. You lead us by still waters into mercy. And nothing can keep us apart.

So remember Your people, Remember Your children. Remember Your promises oh God.

Your grace is enough, Your grace is enough, Your grace is enough for me.

Great is Your love and justice God. You use the weak to lead the strong. You lead us in the song of Your salvation. And all Your people sing along.

So remember Your people, Remember Your children. Remember Your promises oh God.

Your grace is enough, Your grace is enough, Your grace is enough for me.

Your grace is enough, Your grace is enough, Your grace is enough for me.

So remember Your people, Remember Your children. Remember Your promises oh God.

Your grace is enough, Your grace is enough, Your grace is enough for me.

SENDING WORDS

Go in peace. Let the generosity of God be your way. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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