Worship Service April 14, 2024

Zion Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, SD Third Sunday of Easter zionlutheranaberdeen.org

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

The birds sing a story of wakefulness.

The sun grows long revealing places that have been hidden in darkness.

The trees stretch with new buds they wake from slumber.

Flowers sprout green blades of new life from what was frozen.

As spring exposes the beauty of new life that arises from the frosty winters. Jesus exposes the beauty of new life that arises from the frosty disharmony that invades our lives.

Christ is Risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Let us be awake. Let us be thankful.

Let us dwell in the music of love: Christ lives so we live too.

GATHERING SONG

Alive, Forever Amen

Let the children sing a song of liberation.

The God of our Salvation set us free.

Death where is thy sting? The curse of sin is broken

The empty tomb stands open come and see.

He's alive, alive hallelujah, Alive praise and glory to the Lamb. Alive, alive, alive hallelujah, Alive forever Amen.

Let my heart sing out, for Christ the One and only. So powerful and holy, rescued me. Death won't hurt me now because He has redeemed No grave will ever keep me from my King.

He's alive, alive hallelujah, Alive praise and glory to the Lamb.



Alive, alive, alive hallelujah, Alive forever Amen.

He's alive, alive, alive hallelujah, Alive praise and glory to the Lamb. Alive, alive, alive hallelujah, Alive forever Amen

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

Amen.

Look, here is water! Here is the living water of life for us! Alleluia!

Look, here is bread and wine! Here is the bread of wine and the cup of forgiveness for us! Alleluia!

Look, here is the empty cross!

Here is the promise of resurrection for us! Alleluia!

Let us come and drink, taste and be nourished anew.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of grace and glory,

you have by your own handiwork brought us through the dark shadows that threaten to keep us in bondage, and into the light of Jesus' resurrection. Yet, even on our best days, we struggle to see the light as we ought. Make us alive in Christ, O God, so we may see your glory—not looking to ourselves, but rather to Christ, who is the pioneer and perfector of faith. Make us new, as you make all things new, to live with boldness into your holiness, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

Amen.

Rejoice with all creation around God's throne! The light of the risen Christ puts to flight all evil deeds, washes away sin, restores innocence to the fallen, casts out hate, brings peace, and humbles earthly pride. Jesus Christ loves you and + frees you from the bondage of brokenness by his blood and calls you to his holiness. To him be glory and dominion forever and ever. **Amen.**

Lord, I Lift Your Name on High

SONG OF PRAISE

Lord, I lift your name on high, Lord, I love to sing your praises. I'm so glad you're in my life, I'm so glad you came to save us.

You came from heaven to earth to show the way, From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay; From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky; Lord, I lift your name on high.

Lord, I lift your name on high, Lord, I love to sing your praises. I'm so glad you're in my life, I'm so glad you came to save us.

You came from heaven to earth to show the way, From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay; From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky; Lord, I lift your name on high. Lord, I lift your name on high. Lord, I lift your name on high.

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: Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection 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 Acts 3:12-19

¹²[Peter] addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of

all of you.

¹⁷"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 4 (read responsively)

¹Answer me when I call, O God of my right!

You gave me room when I was in distress.

Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.

²How long, you people, shall my honor suffer shame?

How long will you love vain words, and seek after lies?

³But know that the LORD has set apart the faithful for himself; the LORD hears when I call to him.

⁴When you are disturbed, do not sin;

ponder it on your beds, and be silent.

⁵Offer right sacrifices,

and put your trust in the LORD.

⁶There are many who say, "O that we might see some good!

Let the light of your face shine on us, O LORD!"

⁷You have put gladness in my heart

more than when their grain and wine abound.

⁸I will both lie down and sleep in peace;

for you alone, O LORD, make me lie down in safety.

SECOND READING

1 John 3:1-7

¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PREPARING FOR THE WORD

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord; Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name. Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord; Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.

The holy gospel according to Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL

Luke 24:36b-48

^{36b}Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, "Peace be with you." ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Reverend Nicole Martin

SONG OF THE DAY

All the Earth Will Sing Your Praises

You lived, You died.

You said in three days you would rise.

You did, You're alive.

You rule, You reign

You said You're coming back again.

I know that You will

And all the earth will sing Your praises.

You took, You take our sins away, O God.

You give, You gave Your life away for us.

You came down, You saved us through the cross.

Our hearts are changed because of your great love.

You lived, You died.

You said in three days you would rise.

You did, You're alive.

You rule, You reign

You said You're coming back again.

I know that You will

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And all the earth will sing Your praises.

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

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

Prayer response: God of grace, hear our prayer.

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **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

I Will Call Upon the Lord

I will call upon the Lord Who is worthy to be praised. So shall I be saved from my enemies. I will call upon the Lord.

The Lord liveth, and blessed be the Rock, And let the God of my salvation be exalted. The Lord liveth, and blessed be the Rock, And let the God of my salvation be exalted.

I will call upon the Lord Who is worthy to be praised. So shall I be saved from my enemies. I will call upon the Lord.

The Lord liveth, and blessed be the Rock,

And let the God of my salvation be exalted. The Lord liveth, and blessed be the Rock, And let the God of my salvation be exalted.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together: Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. 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 God 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

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

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

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

In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found.
He is my light, my strength, my song.
This Cornerstone, this solid ground.
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace.
When fears are stilled, when strivings ceased.
My Comforter, my All in All,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took my flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save.
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The love of God is satisfied.
For every sin on Him was laid.
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain.
Then bursting forth in glorious Day,
Up from the grave He rose again.
And as He stands in victory,
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me.
For I am His and He is mine,
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death. This is the pow'r of Christ in me. From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny. No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, Can ever pluck me from His hand. Till He returns or calls me home, Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen.

SONG OF THANKS

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

Joyful, Joyful we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love! Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee, praising thee, their sun above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the gloom of doubt away. Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the lights of day.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together: Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. Amen.

BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope ⊕ bless you now and always being the rhythm of your step to guide you in the joyful melody of God's love. **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

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad. Thanks be to God. Alleluia! We will sing praise to God.

POSTLUDE

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