

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



PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

As we turn our hearts to worship:

Bless this place and these people, God of breath, God of healing, ☩ and God of blessing, as we are gathered to hear your word and dwell in your peace. Let our words and music be a feast upon your ears, dear Lord, as we honor you now. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG

*Here I Am to Worship*

So here I am to worship, here I am to bow down,  
Here I am to say that You're my God,  
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,  
Altogether wonderful to me.

Light of the World, You stepped down into darkness,  
Opened my eyes, let me see.  
Beauty that made this heart adore You,  
Hope of a life spent with You.

So here I am to worship, here I am to bow down,  
Here I am to say that You're my God,  
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,  
Altogether wonderful to me.

King of all days, oh so highly exalted,  
Glorious in heaven above.  
Humbly You came to the earth You created,  
All for love's sake became poor.

So here I am to worship, here I am to bow down,  
Here I am to say that You're my God,  
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,  
Altogether wonderful to me.

So here I am to worship, here I am to bow down,  
Here I am to say that You're my God,  
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,  
Altogether wonderful to me.

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Rejoice, people of God! Celebrate the life within you, by the breath of a benevolent Creator.  
**Our eyes shall be open to God's work in us!**

Rejoice people of God! Bow your heads before the Savior, who has touched us with his life-giving presence.

**We are restored from the bond of brokenness.**

Rejoice people of God! You have been called by the Advocate to share the good news.  
**Let us be filled to speak boldly.**

In the perfection of the Holy Trinity, One God, we have been made free.  
**In the perfection of the Holy Trinity, One God, we claim freedom in God and others.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God, our source of life, **we confess the struggles we have to trust you, letting fear guide us instead of faith, turning to our own understanding and neglecting your teaching for the voice of false prophets. Forgive us, loving Father; restore us, loving Son; and empower us, Holy Spirit. Amen.**

By the Father's grace you are saved. In the name of Christ † you have been restored. The Spirit is upon you to live in freedom, sharing love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control as proclaimers of the Good News. **Amen.**

## SONG OF REFLECTION

### *I Believe, I Do Believe*

I believe, I do believe, truly I believe it,  
Truly I believe it, truly I believe it.  
I believe, I do believe, truly I believe it,  
Truly I believe it, truly I believe it.

I believe in God the Almighty Lord Creator,  
Mighty Lord Creator, Mighty Lord Creator.  
I believe in God the Almighty Lord Creator,  
Mighty Lord Creator, Mighty Lord Creator.

I believe, I do believe, truly I believe it,  
Truly I believe it, truly I believe it.  
I believe, I do believe, truly I believe it,  
Truly I believe it, truly I believe it.

I believe in Jesus the Savior of the people,  
Savior of the people, Savior of the people.  
I believe in Jesus the Savior of the people,  
Savior of the people, Savior of the people.

I believe, I do believe, truly I believe it,  
Truly I believe it, truly I believe it.  
I believe, I do believe, truly I believe it,  
Truly I believe it, truly I believe it.

And I do believe in the power of the Spirit,  
Power of the Spirit, power of the Spirit.  
And I do believe in the power of the Spirit,  
Power of the Spirit, power of the Spirit.

I believe, I do believe, truly I believe it,  
Truly I believe it, truly I believe it.  
I believe, I do believe, truly I believe it,  
Truly I believe it, truly I believe it.

### **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: God of the covenant, **from you comes all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

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

Pastor Nicole

### **PREPARING FOR THE WORD**

#### **SONG OF PREPARATION**

*The Lord Almighty Reigns*

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

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

#### **FIRST READING**

**Romans 6:1-11**

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say? Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? <sup>2</sup>By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? <sup>3</sup>Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup>Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

<sup>5</sup>For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup>We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. <sup>7</sup>For whoever has died is freed from sin. <sup>8</sup>But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup>We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. <sup>10</sup>The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. <sup>11</sup>So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Word of God. Word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

The holy gospel according to John, the third chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL**

**John 3:1-21**

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup>Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. <sup>19</sup>And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup>For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. <sup>21</sup>But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

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

## SERMON

Reverend Nicole Martin

## 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

As one in the communion of saints and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we join our voices in prayer.

*Prayer response:* God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy and merciful God, into your outstretched arms we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Savior and 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](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

### *Offering*

The sun cannot compare to the Glory of Your love.  
There is no shadow in Your presence.  
No mortal man would dare to stand before Your throne.  
Before the Holy One of Heaven.  
It's only by Your blood.  
And it's only through Your mercy.

Lord I come.  
I bring an offering of worship to the King.  
No one on earth deserves the praises that I sing.  
Jesus may You receive the honor that You're due.  
Oh Lord, I bring an offering to You.

The sun cannot compare to the Glory of Your love.  
There is no shadow in Your presence.  
No mortal man would dare to stand before Your throne.  
Before the Holy One of Heaven.  
It's only by Your blood.  
And it's only through Your mercy.

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I bring an offering of worship to the King.  
No one on earth deserves the praises that I sing.  
Jesus may You receive the honor that You're due.  
Oh Lord, I bring an offering to You.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together: Jesus, bread of life, you have set this table with your very self and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. 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  
to receive manna provided by the loving Father.

We come to the table of the Lord,  
taking in the manna of Christ to heal our soul.

We come to the table of the Lord,  
beckoned by manna of the Spirit that invites us to receive.

We come to the table of the Lord,  
trusting that in faith, we are extended mercy, offered forgiveness, and made free to respond with joy.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into the one by the works 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

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Coming forward is a sign of faith active and hungry to eat at God's table. All are welcome. This is God's benevolence for you.

### 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

#### *Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)*

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound.  
That saved a wretch like me.  
I once was lost but now am found.  
Was blind but now I see.

Tw'as Grace that taught my heart to fear  
And Grace my fears relieved.  
How precious did that grace appear,  
The hour I first believed.

My chains are gone, I've been set free.  
My God, my Savior has ransomed me.  
And like a flood his mercy reigns;  
Unending love, amazing grace.

The Lord has promised good to me.  
His word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be,  
As long as life endures.

My chains are gone, I've been set free.  
My God, my Savior has ransomed me.  
And like a flood his mercy reigns;  
Unending love, amazing grace.

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow.  
The sun forbear to shine.  
But God who called me hear below,  
Will be forever mine.  
Will be forever mine.  
You are forever mine.



## BLESSING

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

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together: Jesus, bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. Amen.

## MINISTRY MOMENT

### BLESSING

In God, Father, Son,  $\mp$  and Holy Spirit, you are free. Live as an expression of joy for what God has done for you.

Amen.

### SENDING SONG

### *Hope of the Nations*

Jesus, hope of the nations.  
Jesus comfort for all who mourn.  
You are the source of Heaven's hope on earth.  
Jesus light in the darkness.  
Jesus truth in each circumstance.  
You are the source of Heaven's light on earth.  
In History, You live and died.  
You broke the chains, You rose to life

You are the hope living in us.  
You are the rock in whom we trust.  
You are the light shining for all the world to see.  
You rose from the dead, conquering fear,  
Our Prince of Peace drawing us near.  
Jesus our hope  
Living for all who will receive. Lord we believe!!

Jesus, hope of the nations.  
Jesus comfort for all who mourn.  
You are the source of Heaven's hope on earth.  
Jesus light in the darkness.  
Jesus truth in each circumstance.  
You are the source of Heaven's light on earth.  
In History, You live and died.  
You broke the chains, You rose to life

You are the hope living in us.  
You are the rock in whom we trust.

You are the light shining for all the world to see.  
You rose from the dead, conquering fear,  
Our Prince of Peace drawing us near.  
Jesus our hope  
Living for all who will receive. Lord we believe!!

You are the hope living in us.  
You are the rock in whom we trust.  
You are the light shining for all the world to see.  
You rose from the dead, conquering fear,  
Our Prince of Peace drawing us near.  
Jesus our hope  
Living for all who will receive. Lord we believe!

### **SENDING WORDS**

Go into the world as champions of gospel living.  
**Thanks be to God, and we will.**

### **POSTLUDE**

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