

Zion Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, SD
Seventeenth 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 HYMN

Let All Things Now Living

ELW #881

- 1 Let all things now living
a song of thanksgiving
to God the creator triumphantly raise,
who fashioned and made us,
protected and stayed us,
who still guides us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us,
God's light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
till shadows have vanished
and darkness is banished,
as forward we travel from light into light.

- 2 God rules all the forces:
the stars in their courses
and sun in its orbit obediently shine;
the hills and the mountains,
the rivers and fountains,
the deeps of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We too should be voicing
our love and rejoicing;
with glad adoration a song let us raise
till all things now living
unite in thanksgiving:
"To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!"

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

We are a community of faith, brothers and sisters,
rooted to the father through Christ's atoning love.

We are a community of faith, brothers and sisters,
growing in the Spirit as one people for the work of God.

We are a community of faith, brothers and sisters,
called to reach out to our neighbors as champions of the gospel.

We are a community of faith, brothers and sisters.
Draw us near to you, O Lord, to live as your disciples.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, leader of our lives,
have mercy on us for the ways we have failed to honor you in word and deed. Have mercy on us
for the ways we have harmed our neighbors with our tongue and missed opportunities to help.
Have mercy on us when our desires overrule your desires for us. Forgive us, loving Father;
restore us, loving Son; and empower us, Holy Spirit, to grow deeper into our discipleship life.
Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, you are clothed with God's
mercy and forgiveness. You are ✚ restored. The Spirit is upon you to live, strengthened for the
work of the gospel; sharing love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
gentleness, and self-control as proclaimers of the Good News.

Amen.

HYMN OF REFLECTION

Open Your Ears, O Faithful People

ELW #519

1 Open your ears, O faithful people,
open your ears and hear God's word.
Open your hearts, O royal priesthood,
God has come to you.

Refrain

God has spoken to the people, hallelujah!
God has spoken words of wisdom, hallelujah!
God has spoken to the people, hallelujah!
God has spoken words of wisdom, hallelujah!

2 They who have ears to hear the message,
they who have ears, now let them hear;
they who would learn the way of wisdom,
let them hear God's word. *Refrain*

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, as you promised Abraham descendants as numerous as the stars, you have also promised us that we might live under those stars as your people, faithful and loved. Show us how to live as your people, and how to nurture all your children with whom we share the same canopy of sky night after night. Amen.

KIDS' TIME

SONG OF PREPARATION

Alleluia



Repeat alleluia



The holy gospel according to Luke, the third chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL

Luke 3:3-8

³He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.

⁵Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth;

⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

⁷John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

PREPARING FOR THE WORD

FOCUS TEXT

Genesis 15:1-6

¹After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ²But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Reverend Nicole Martin

HYMN OF THE DAY

Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church

ELW #321

- 1 Eternal Lord of love, behold your church
walking once more the pilgrim way of Lent,
led by your cloud by day, by night your fire,
moved by your love and toward your presence bent:
far off yet here—the goal of all desire.
- 2 So daily dying to the way of self,
so daily living to your way of love,
we walk the road, Lord Jesus, that you trod,
knowing ourselves baptized into your death:
so we are dead and live with you in God.
- 3 If dead in you, so in you we arise,
you the firstborn of all the faithful dead;
and as through stony ground the green shoots break,
glorious in springtime dress of leaf and flow'r,
so into life and glory shall we wake.

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 CHURCH

Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

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

We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, 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: **Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, 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

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

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

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 to come and taste the love of God.

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

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy
on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace. A - men.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Jeremy Schutter

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: Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

MINISTRY MOMENT

BLESSING

Rooted in faith, growing in spirit, connecting with other to cultivate communities of caring, may God almighty Father, Son, † and Holy Spirit, sustain and provide for your life as a disciple. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

ELW #774

- 1 What a fellowship, what a joy divine,
 leaning on the everlasting arms;
 what a blessedness, what a peace is mine,
 leaning on the everlasting arms.

Refrain

Leaning, leaning,
safe and secure from all alarms;
leaning, leaning,
leaning on the everlasting arms.

- 2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,
 leaning on the everlasting arms;
 oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,
 leaning on the everlasting arms. *Refrain*

- 3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear,
 leaning on the everlasting arms?
 I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,
 leaning on the everlasting arms. *Refrain*

SENDING WORDS

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

POSTLUDE

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