Worship Service March 16, 2025

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

## **PRELUDE**

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

As we turn our hearts to worship:



Bless this place, O God, as we are gathered to hear your word. Inspire us through your spirit and generosity to see the love of the Christ child, empowering us to live as your presence in the world. **Amen.** 

GATHERING HYMN Thy Holy Wings ELW #613

- 1 Thy holy wings, O Savior, spread gently over me, and let me rest securely through good and ill in thee.
  Oh, be my strength and portion, my rock and hiding place, and let my ev'ry moment be lived within thy grace.
- Oh, let me nestle near thee, within thy downy breast where I will find sweet comfort and peace within thy nest.
  Oh, close thy wings around me and keep me safely there, for I am but a newborn and need thy tender care.
- Oh, wash me in the waters of Noah's cleansing flood.
  Give me a willing spirit, a heart both clean and good.
  Oh, take into thy keeping thy children great and small, and while we sweetly slumber, enfold us one and all.

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity + one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life. **Amen.** 

Let us return to God, with all of who we are.

Lord, receive our wounds and the aches of our hearts, setting us on a new path. A moment of silence for self-examination.

God of saving and healing,

we are caught in snares and trapped by brokenness. We get stuck in patterns that harm ourselves and others, by how we speak, act, and treat each other. In these ways, we do not always reflect the love you have for the world—offering tender compassion, radical hospitality, and pathways for reconnection. For all these things, Lord, we seek forgiveness. Transform our lives and guide us again, to live as you live, helping others to be healed and saved. Amen.

Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In + Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever. Share this good news. **Amen.** 

**HYMN OF PRAISE** 

Kyrie & Glory to God

ELW, pg. 138

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen, amen.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

#### **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 One of mighty power, your word is powerfully dangerous. Your word casts out demons. Your word heals incurable diseases. Your word devours empires. Your word transforms the fabric of the universe. Help us to stand in awe and fear of what your word is capable of doing. Give us courage to speak your word and wisdom to hear it, for the sake of the one whose very whisper can demolish sin, Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **KIDS' TIME**

<sup>1</sup>I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD!"

# <sup>2</sup>Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.

<sup>3</sup>Jerusalem — built as a city that is bound firmly together.

<sup>4</sup>To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, as was decreed for Israel,

<sup>5</sup>For there the thrones for judgment were set up, the thrones of the house of David.

to give thanks to the name of the LORD.

## <sup>6</sup>Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:

"May they prosper who love you.

<sup>7</sup>Peace be within your walls, and security within your towers."

<sup>8</sup>For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, "Peace be within you."

<sup>9</sup>For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your good.

#### PREPARING FOR THE WORD

#### **HYMN OF PREPARATION**

Listen to the Word

Listen to the word that God has spoken; listen to the One who is close at hand; listen to the voice that began creation; listen even if you don't understand.

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

#### **GOSPEL**

## Luke 13:1-9, 31-35

<sup>1</sup>At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. <sup>2</sup>He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? <sup>3</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. <sup>4</sup>Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them — do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? <sup>5</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

<sup>6</sup>Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. <sup>7</sup>So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down!

Why should it be wasting the soil?'<sup>8</sup>He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. <sup>9</sup>If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." <sup>32</sup>He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. <sup>33</sup>Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' <sup>34</sup>Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! <sup>35</sup>See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Pastor Nicole Martin

## HYMN OF THE DAY

## Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

ELW #719

- Where cross the crowded ways of life, where sound the cries of race and clan, above the noise of selfish strife, we hear your voice, O Son of Man.
- From tender childhood's helplessness, from human grief and burdened toil, from famished souls, from sorrow's stress, your heart has never known recoil.
- Till all the world shall learn your love, and follow where your feet have trod; till glorious from your heav'n above shall come the city of our God.

#### **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 forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

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

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life. **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**

## Let Us Go Now to the Banquet

**ELW #523** 

Let us go now to the banquet, to the feast of the universe. The table's set and a place is waiting; come, ev'ryone, with your gifts to share.

- I will rise in the early morning;the community's waiting for me.With a spring in my step I'm walkingwith my friends and my family. *Refrain*
- 2 God invites all the poor and hungry to the banquet of justice and good

where the harvest will not be hoarded so that no one will lack for food. *Refrain* 

May we build such a place among us where all people are equal in love.
 God has called us to work together and to share ev'rything we have. Refrain

#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray together: Gracious provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. 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.

#### **I ITANY**

We come to the table of the Lord

blessed to be touched by the almighty presence of God in the waters of baptism.

We come to the table of the Lord

blessed to be touched by the almighty presence of God in the Word made flesh and active in bread and wine.

We come to the table of the Lord

blessed to be touched by the almighty presence of God and transformed by his love.

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

#### LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray with 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

All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

## 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 ELW, pg. 135

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## **MUSICAL OFFERING**

## **BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION**

Now may 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: Generous host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **MINISTRY MOMENT**

#### **BLESSING**

God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit is alive in you for the work of the cross. Be + blessed by God's presence for you now and forever. **Amen.** 

- 1 You servants of God, your Master proclaim, and publish abroad his wonderful name; the name, all-victorious, of Jesus extol; his kingdom is glorious and rules over all!
- Ascended on high, almighty to save, yet still he is nigh, his presence we have. The great congregation his triumph shall sing, ascribing salvation to Jesus, our king!
- Salvation to God who sits on the throne!
   Let all cry aloud and honor the Son.
   The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
   fall down on their faces, and worship the Lamb.
- Then let us adore and give him his right, all glory and pow'r and wisdom and might, all honor and blessing, with angels above, and thanks never ceasing, and infinite love!

#### SENDING WORDS

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you. **Thanks be to God, and we will.** 

## **POSTLUDE**

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