

Zion Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, SD
Seventh Sunday of Easter
zionlutheranaberndeen.org



PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

Lord, we come and sing to God a new song
for God has done marvelous things.

Because of God's steadfast love to Israel,
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Christ is Risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Break forth into joyous song and praises,
for God will rule the earth with righteousness. Nothing in all creation can separate us from the love of God in Jesus our risen Christ. Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Blessed Assurance

ELW #638

- 1 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain

This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior, all the day long:
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.

- 2 Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love. *Refrain*

- 3 Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,

watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love. *Refrain*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Look, here is water! The chasm between death and life has been closed by Christ.

Here is the living water of life for us! Alleluia!

Look, here is bread and wine—Jesus' humility and hospitality given for us.

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

Look, here is the empty cross, a sacrifice of love so love could abound.

Here is the promise of resurrection for us! Alleluia!

A moment of silence.

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 perfecter 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 your sins by his blood. To him be glory and dominion forever and ever! **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands

ELW #370

Vs. 1, 2, 4

- 1 Christ Jesus lay in death's strong bands
for our offenses given;
but now at God's right hand he stands
and brings us life from heaven.
Therefore let us joyful be
and sing to God right thankfully
loud songs of hallelujah! Hallelujah!
- 2 Our Savior Jesus, God's own Son,
here in our stead descended;
the knot of sin has been undone,
the claim of death is ended.

Christ has crushed the pow'r of hell;
now there is naught but death's gray shell—
its sting is lost forever. Hallelujah!

- 4 So let us keep the festival
to which the Lord invites us;
Christ is the very joy of all,
the sun that warms and lights us.
Now his grace to us imparts
eternal sunshine to our hearts;
the night of sin is ended. Hallelujah!

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: Faithful Deliverer, **you have chosen us to receive salvation by faith, not by the works of our hands. Deliver us, then, from the law, and free us from the bondage of sin so that with our hands we might serve you in purity of joy and response to your goodness, for the sake of Jesus Christ, who is all goodness. Amen.**

KIDS' TIME

SONG OF PREPARATION

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The holy gospel according to Luke, the first chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

FIRST READING

Luke 1:68-79

⁶⁸"Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,

for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.

⁶⁹He has raised up a mighty savior for us

in the house of his servant David,

⁷⁰as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,

⁷¹that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us.

⁷²Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors,

and has remembered his holy covenant,

⁷³the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham,

to grant us ⁷⁴that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies,

might serve him without fear, ⁷⁵in holiness and righteousness

before him all our days.

⁷⁶And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,

⁷⁷to give knowledge of salvation to his people
by the forgiveness of their sins.

⁷⁸By the tender mercy of our God,
the dawn from on high will break upon us,

⁷⁹to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death
to guide our feet into the way of peace."

PREPARING FOR THE WORD

FOCUS TEXT

Galatians 3:1-9, 23-29

¹You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly exhibited as crucified! ²The only thing I want to learn from you is this: Did you receive the Spirit by doing the works of the law or by believing what you heard? ³Are you so foolish? Having started with the Spirit, are you now ending with the flesh? ⁴Did you experience so much for nothing? — if it really was for nothing. ⁵Well then, does God supply you with the Spirit and work miracles among you by your doing the works of the law, or by your believing what you heard?

⁶Just as Abraham "believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness," ⁷so, you see, those who believe are the descendants of Abraham. ⁸And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, declared the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, "All the Gentiles shall be blessed in you." ⁹For this reason, those who believe are blessed with Abraham who believed.

²³Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. ²⁴Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, ²⁶for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. ²⁷As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

SERMON

Pastor Nicole Martin

HYMN OF THE DAY

In Christ There is No East or West

ELW #650

1 In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but one community of love
throughout the whole wide earth.

- 2 In Christ shall true hearts ev'rywhere
their high communion find;
his service is the golden cord
close binding humankind.
- 3 Join hands, disciples of the faith,
whate'er your race may be.
All children of the living God
are surely kin to me.
- 4 In Christ now meet both east and west,
in him meet south and north;
all Christly souls are one in him
throughout the whole wide earth.

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

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

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

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen 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

Create in Me a Clean Heart

ELW #188

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with your free Spirit.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together: Risen One, **you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again. Breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in 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 bringing our whole selves,
giving thanks and praise to the Lord.

We come to the table as a community.

We come with our neighbors, both known and unknown, angels and archangels, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection.

We come to the table for healing.

We come to the table receiving the promise of forgiveness through the covenant of Christ for us.

We come to the table dwelling in resurrection joy.

We come with Alleluias for what Christ has done.

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 to the table of grace.
Receive the gift of new life.

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.

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: Living One, **in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. Amen.**

MINISTRY MOMENT**BENEDICTION**

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 in your step to guide you in the joyful melody of God's love. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN***To Be Your Presence*****ELW #546**

- 1 To be your presence is our mission here,
to show compassion's face and list'ning ear,
to be your heart of mercy ever near,
alleluia!
- 2 To be your presence is our mission bold,
to feed the poor and shelter homeless cold,
to be your hands of justice, right uphold,
alleluia!
- 3 To be your presence is our mission blest,
to speak for all the broken and oppressed,
to be your voice of hope, your love expressed,
alleluia!
- 4 We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice,
to serve your people is our call and choice,
and in this mission we, the church, rejoice,
alleluia!

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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