

Zion Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, SD  
Fifth Sunday of Easter  
zionlutheranaberdeen.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**

*I Love to Tell the Story*

ELW #661

1 I love to tell the story  
of unseen things above,  
of Jesus and his glory,  
of Jesus and his love.  
I love to tell the story,  
because I know it's true;  
it satisfies my longings  
as nothing else would do.

*Refrain*

I love to tell the story;  
'twill be my theme in glory  
to tell the old, old story  
of Jesus and his love.

2 I love to tell the story:  
how pleasant to repeat  
what seems, each time I tell it,  
more wonderfully sweet!

I love to tell the story,  
for some have never heard  
the message of salvation  
from God's own holy word. *Refrain*

3 I love to tell the story,  
for those who know it best  
seem hungering and thirsting  
to hear it like the rest.  
And when, in scenes of glory,  
I sing the new, new song,  
I'll sing the old, old story  
that I have loved so long. *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.**

### **KYRIE**

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.**

### **THIS IS THE FEAST**

**ELW, pg. 122**

This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ,  
the lamb who was slain,  
whose blood set us free to be people of God.  
Power, riches,  
wisdom, and strength,  
and honor, blessing, and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all  
the people of God,  
and join in the hymn of all creation:  
Blessing, honor,  
glory, and might  
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God,  
for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

## **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: Lord of all, **in Jesus you have made us all sisters and brothers in Christ. There is no distinction between Gentile and Jew. There is no separation that can remove any from fellowship in Christ's community. Blind us to our differences so that in unity we may proclaim your truth to all, for the sake of Jesus Christ in whom there is harmony and peace. 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 second chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

### **FIRST READING**

**Luke 2:25-32**

<sup>25</sup>Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. <sup>26</sup>It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. <sup>27</sup>Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, <sup>28</sup>Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

<sup>29</sup>"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,  
according to your word;

<sup>30</sup>for my eyes have seen your salvation,

<sup>31</sup>which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

<sup>32</sup>a light for revelation to the Gentiles  
and for glory to your people Israel."

### **PREPARING FOR THE WORD**

#### **FOCUS TEXT**

**Acts 15:1-18**

<sup>1</sup>Then certain individuals came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers, "Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved." <sup>2</sup>And after Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and debate with them, Paul and Barnabas and some of the others were appointed to go up to Jerusalem to discuss this question with the apostles and the elders. <sup>3</sup>So they were sent on their way by the church, and as they passed through both Phoenicia and Samaria, they reported the conversion of the Gentiles, and brought great joy to all

the believers. <sup>4</sup>When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles and the elders, and they reported all that God had done with them. <sup>5</sup>But some believers who belonged to the sect of the Pharisees stood up and said, "It is necessary for them to be circumcised and ordered to keep the law of Moses."

<sup>6</sup>The apostles and the elders met together to consider this matter. <sup>7</sup>After there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, "My brothers, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that I should be the one through whom the Gentiles would hear the message of the good news and become believers. <sup>8</sup>And God, who knows the human heart, testified to them by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as he did to us; <sup>9</sup>and in cleansing their hearts by faith he has made no distinction between them and us. <sup>10</sup>Now therefore why are you putting God to the test by placing on the neck of the disciples a yoke that neither our ancestors nor we have been able to bear? <sup>11</sup>On the contrary, we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will."

<sup>12</sup>The whole assembly kept silence, and listened to Barnabas and Paul as they told of all the signs and wonders that God had done through them among the Gentiles. <sup>13</sup>After they finished speaking, James replied, "My brothers, listen to me. <sup>14</sup>Simeon has related how God first looked favorably on the Gentiles, to take from among them a people for his name. <sup>15</sup>This agrees with the words of the prophets, as it is written,

<sup>16</sup>After this I will return,

and I will rebuild the dwelling of David, which has fallen;  
from its ruins I will rebuild it, and I will set it up,

<sup>17</sup>so that all other peoples may seek the Lord —

even all the Gentiles over whom my name has been called.

Thus says the Lord, who has been making these things <sup>18</sup>known from long ago.'

## SERMON

Pastor Nicole Martin

## HYMN OF THE DAY

### *The Church's One Foundation*

ELW #654

- 1 The church's one foundation  
is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
she is his new creation  
by water and the word.  
From heav'n he came and sought her  
to be his holy bride;  
with his own blood he bought her,  
and for her life he died.
- 2 Elect from ev'ry nation,  
yet one o'er all the earth,  
her charter of salvation  
one Lord, one faith, one birth:  
one holy name she blesses,  
partakes one holy food,  
and to one hope she presses,  
with ev'ry grace endued.

- 3     Though with a scornful wonder  
      this world sees her oppressed,  
      by schisms rent asunder,  
      by heresies distressed,  
      yet saints their watch are keeping;  
      their cry goes up: "How long?"  
      And soon the night of weeping  
      shall be the morn of song.
- 4     Through toil and tribulation  
      and tumult of her war,  
      she waits the consummation  
      of peace evermore;  
      till with the vision glorious  
      her longing eyes are blest,  
      and the great church victorious  
      shall be the church at rest.
- 5     Yet she on earth has union  
      with God, the Three in One,  
      and mystic sweet communion  
      with those whose rest is won.  
      Oh, blessed heav'nly chorus!  
      Lord, save us by your grace,  
      that we, like saints before us,  
      may see you face to face.

### **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](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 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 al - so 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.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff has two measures, the second and third have two measures each, and the fourth has two measures. The lyrics are: 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.', 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.', 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.', and 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.'

## LITANY

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...  
...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,

heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the

high - est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is more complex than the first section, featuring eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,', 'heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the', 'high - est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -', and 'san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.'

## 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.

### COMMUNION HYMN

***Around You, O Lord Jesus***

**ELW #468**

1     Around you, O Lord Jesus,  
      your own you gather still  
      to share the feast you give us  
      with grace our lives to fill.  
      You say to us so lovingly,  
      "Take, eat! This is my body!  
      Take, drink! This is my blood!"

2     We hear your invitation,  
      and heed, O Lord, your call;  
      your word of consolation

is spoken here to all.  
It draws us to your loving heart;  
it brings to us your blessing,  
which never will depart.

- 3 We are your own forever;  
until our final breath  
we will be true and never  
in joy, in grief, in death  
depart from you, for you are still  
among your people dwelling,  
as you have said you will.

### **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**

*Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing*

**ELW #545**

- 1 Lord, dismiss us with your blessing,  
fill our hearts with joy and peace;  
let us each, your love possessing,  
triumph in redeeming grace.  
Oh, refresh us; oh, refresh us,  
trav'ling through this wilderness.
- 2 Thanks we give and adoration  
for your gospel's joyful sound.  
May the fruits of your salvation  
in our hearts and lives abound.

Ever faithful, ever faithful  
to your truth may we be found.

- 3 Savior, when your love shall call us  
from our struggling pilgrim way,  
let no fear of death appall us,  
glad your summons to obey.  
May we ever, may we ever  
reign with you in endless day.

### **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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