

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



PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING WORDS

Bless this place and these people, God of manna, God of miracles, and God of mercy, as we are gathered to hear your word, dwell in your peace, and partake in your life-giving presence.

**Guide us into deeper relationship with you and others, while empowering us to cultivate communities of caring and belonging as champions of the gospel. Amen.**

GATHERING SONG

*Before You, Lord, We Bow*

ELW #893

- 1 Before you, Lord, we bow,  
our God who reigns above  
and rules the world below  
with boundless pow'r and love.  
Our thanks we bring  
in joy and praise,  
our hearts we raise,  
to you we sing!
- 2 May ev'ry mountain height,  
each vale and forest green,  
shine forth in wisdom's light,  
and its rich fruits be seen!  
May ev'ry tongue  
be tuned to praise  
and join to raise  
a grateful song.
- 3 Earth, hear your maker's voice;  
your great redeemer own;  
believe, obey, rejoice,  
and worship God alone.  
Cast down your pride,  
your sin deplore,  
and bow before  
the Crucified.

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, source of hope in every nation, rest for the weary, glory and peace to the ends of the earth. **Amen.**

Let us bring every burden to God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of all mercy,

**we have sinned against you, our neighbors, and your creation. Within ourselves and our communities, our desire to do what is good is at war with the evil that dwells in us. We lament the evil that holds us captive. We repent of the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Rescue us, forgive us, and restore us for lives of compassion and courage; through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

All-merciful, Almighty God forgives you all your sins through the grace of † Jesus Christ, and, by the Spirit's power, strengthens you in doing what is good. **Amen.**

## SONG OF PRAISE

### *When Our Song Says Peace*

**ELW #709**

- 1     When our song says peace and the world says war,  
      we will sing despite the world.  
      We will trust the song, for we sing of God,  
      who breaks the spear and sword  
      and stills the storm of war.
  
- 2     When our song says free and the world says bound,  
      we will sing despite the world.  
      We will trust the song, for we sing of God,  
      who opens prison doors  
      and sets the captives free.
  
- 3     When our song says home and the world says lost,  
      we will sing despite the world.  
      We will trust the song, for we sing of God,  
      who brings us home at last,  
      and gives a song to all.

## 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: You, O God, are great, and your name is to be praised. **In you is freedom; not the freedom the world gives, but freedom toward an eternal life. Let the freedom you**

give be a pathway of servanthood for us who believe, so all may find liberty in and through you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## KIDS' TIME

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Word of God, Come Down on Earth*

ELW #510

Vs. 1

Word of God, come down on earth,  
Living rain from heav'n descending,  
Touch our hearts and bring to birth,  
Faith and hope and love unending.  
Word almighty we revere you;  
Word made flesh, we long to hear you.

## PREPARING FOR THE WORD

### FIRST READING

**Ephesians 3:3-13**

<sup>3</sup>[...]the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, <sup>4</sup>a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. <sup>5</sup>In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: <sup>6</sup>that is, the gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

<sup>7</sup>Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. <sup>8</sup>Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ <sup>9</sup>and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, <sup>10</sup>so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. <sup>11</sup>This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup>in whom we have access in boldness and confidence through faith in him. <sup>13</sup>I pray, therefore, that you may not lose heart over my sufferings for you; they are your glory.

Word of God. Word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

The holy gospel, according to Matthew, the fifth chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

### GOSPEL

**Matthew 5:43-48**

<sup>43</sup>"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' <sup>44</sup>But I say to you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, <sup>45</sup>so that you may be children of your Father in heaven, for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous.

<sup>46</sup> For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? <sup>47</sup> And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the gentiles do the same? <sup>48</sup> Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect."

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

**SERMON**

**Pastor Nicole Martin**

**SONG OF THE DAY**

***The Church of Christ, in Every Age***

**ELW #729**

- 1 The church of Christ, in ev'ry age  
beset by change, but Spirit-led,  
must claim and test its heritage  
and keep on rising from the dead.
  
- 2 Across the world, across the street,  
the victims of injustice cry  
for shelter and for bread to eat,  
and never live before they die.
  
- 3 Then let the servant church arise,  
a caring church that longs to be  
a partner in Christ's sacrifice,  
and clothed in Christ's humanity.
  
- 4 For he alone, whose blood was shed,  
can cure the fever in our blood,  
and teach us how to share our bread  
and feed the starving multitude.
  
- 5 We have no mission but to serve  
in full obedience to our Lord;  
to care for all, without reserve,  
and spread his liberating word.

**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**

Trusting in God's steadfast love, let us pray for the church, the nations, and all of creation.

*Prayer response:* God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Into your mercy, O God, we entrust our restless hearts and all our cares, through 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](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**

***God is Here!***

**ELW #526**

- 1 God is here! As we your people  
meet to offer praise and prayer,  
may we find in fuller measure  
what it is in Christ we share.  
Here, as in the world around us,  
all our varied skills and arts  
wait the coming of the Spirit  
into open minds and hearts.

- 3 Here our children find a welcome  
in the Shepherd's flock and fold;  
here as bread and wine are taken,  
Christ sustains us as of old.  
Here the servants of the Servant  
seek in worship to explore  
what it means in daily living  
to believe and to adore.
- 4 Lord of all, of church and kingdom,  
in an age of change and doubt,  
keep us faithful to the gospel;  
help us work your purpose out.  
Here, in this day's dedication,  
all we have to give, receive;  
we, who cannot live without you,  
we adore you! We believe!

#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray together: Blessed are you, O God, **for waves of grain and harvesters, fruitful vines and winepresses, for our labor and our rest, for the gifts of your hand in this land. Transform us and what we offer into the banquet of your compassion, serving your love without limits; 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**

It is our duty and our joy to offer thanks and praise to almighty and merciful God  
**celebrating the work of God, fulfilling the promise of the resurrection through Jesus Christ, pouring out the fire of the Holy Spirit.**

In God, we are people of many nations, but yet one body, many languages but one in faith.  
**With Mary Magdelene, Peter, and all witnesses of the resurrection, with the earth, sea and stars, and all their creatures, angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,**

let us give great thanks and praise singing...

**All people that on earth do dwell,  
sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;  
him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell;  
come ye before him and rejoice.**

## **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 SONG**

***Lamb of God***

**ELW, pg. 154**

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.

**COMMUNION SONG*****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.

**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: Compassionate God, **through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. Amen.**

**MINISTRY MOMENT****SENDING BLESSING**

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ☩ be upon you now and forever, empowering you to live a trinitarian love of companionship with others. **Amen.**

**SENDING SONG*****Spread, Oh Spread, Almighty Word*****ELW #663**

- 1 Spread, oh, spread, almighty Word,  
spread the reign of God the Lord.  
Send forth our Creator's call,  
heaven's gifts extend to all.

- 2 Tell of our Redeemer's grace,  
who, to save our human race  
and to pay rebellion's price,  
gave himself as sacrifice.
- 3 Tell of God the Spirit giv'n  
now to guide us on to heav'n,  
strong and holy, just and true,  
working both to will and do.
- 4 Lord of harvest, great and kind,  
rouse to action heart and mind;  
let the gath'ring nations all  
see your light and heed your call.

### **SENDING WORDS**

You are the body of Christ, raised up to serve as partners in peace and love.

**Thanks be to God, and we will.**

### **POSTLUDE**

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