Zion Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, SD
Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
zionlutheranaberdeen.org



PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING WORDS

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, ☩ our provider, our healer, and our keeper. As we are gathered to hear your word, O Lord,

make our ears receptive to your calling, and our eyes keen to see you at work. Make this a place where your mission is lived, empowering us to cultivate communities of caring and belonging as champions of the gospel. Amen.

GATHERING SONG ***The River***

To the river I am going,
Bringing sins I cannot bear.
Come and cleanse me, come forgive me,
Lord I need to meet you there.

In these waters, healing mercy,
Flows with freedom from despair.
I am going to that river,
Lord I need to meet you there.

Precious Jesus, I am ready
To surrender every care.
Take my hand now, lead me closer.
Lord I need to meet you there.

Come and join us, in the river.
Come find life beyond compare.
He is calling, He is waiting,
Jesus longs to meet you there.

Precious Jesus, I am ready
To surrender every care.
Take my hand now, lead me closer.
Lord I need to meet you there.

Precious Jesus, I am ready
To surrender every care.
Take my hand now, lead me closer.
Lord I need to meet you there.

Take my hand now, lead me closer.
Lord I need to meet you there.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the fading of the summer sun, the shortening of days, cooling breeze, swallows' flight and moonlight rays,
we see the power of God, a joyful display of God's ability.

In the browning of leaves once green, morning mists, autumn chill, fruit that falls, frost's first kiss,
we feel the power of God to turn seasons to life from death.

In the whispers and gusts of wind, in the silence and in the singing,
we hear the power of the creator. Come, Lord, we are ready. Speak to us the Word we need. Transform us into your living grace.

A moment of silence for self-examination.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess the way our soul knows and experiences distance from God and our neighbor.

Compassionate God,
we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess the way our soul knows and experiences restoration by God to love God and our neighbors.

Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world by your mighty power and reconcile us to one another in love. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace. **Amen.**

SONG OF PRAISE ***Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*** **ELW #789**

Vs. 1

1 Savior like a shepherd lead us;
much we need your tender care.
In your pleasant pastures feed us,
for our use your fold prepare.

Refrain

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have bought us, we are yours.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have bought us, we are yours.

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: Healing God, you healed your servant Naaman of his affliction when he came to you, through Elisha, for help. **Heal our afflictions and make us faithful servants. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

KIDS' TIME & NOISY OFFERING

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ***God Has Made Us Promises***

God has made us promises, and those you can believe!
Let us all now serve the Lord, for God loves you and me!

All of us must each decide just who we're living for.
As for me, I choose to serve the Lord!

God has made us promises, and those you can believe!
Let us all now serve the Lord, for God loves you and me!

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL **Matthew 8:1-3**

[1]When Jesus had come down from the mountain, great crowds followed him, [2] and there was a man with a skin disease who came to him and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean." [3] He stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, "I am willing. Be made clean!" Immediately his skin disease was cleansed.

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

PREPARING FOR THE WORD

FOCUS TEXT **2 Kings 5:1-15a**

[1] Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favor
with his master because by him the Lord had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty
warrior, suffered from a skin disease. [2] Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a
young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. [3] She said to her
mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his skin
disease." [4] So Naaman went in and told his lord just what the girl from the land of Israel had said.
[5] And the king of Aram said, "Go, then, and I will send along a letter to the king of Israel." He
went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten sets of
garments. [6] He brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, "When this letter reaches you,
know that I have sent to you my servant Naaman, that you may cure him of his skin disease."
[7] When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to give death or
life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his skin disease? Just look and see how he
is trying to pick a quarrel with me."

[8] But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he
sent a message to the king, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may
learn that there is a prophet in Israel." [9] So Naaman came with his horses and chariots and
halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. [10] Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in
the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean." [11] But Naaman
became angry and went away, saying, "I thought that for me he would surely come out and
stand and call on the name of the Lord his God and would wave his hand over the spot and cure
the skin disease! [12] Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the
waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?" He turned and went away in a rage.
[13] But his servants approached and said to him, "Father, if the prophet had commanded you to
do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you
was, 'Wash, and be clean'?" [14] So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan,
according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy,
and he was clean.

[15] Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company; he came and stood before
him and said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel."

Word of God. Word of life.
Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

SONG OF THE DAY ***Wade in the Water*** **ELW #459**

Refrain

Wade in the water,
wade in the water, children,
wade in the water,
God's a-goin'-a trouble the water.

1 (See that host all dressed in white,)
God's a-goin'-a trouble the water.
(the leader looks like the Israelite.)
God's a-goin'-a trouble the water. *Refrain*

2 (See that band all dressed in red,)
God's a-goin'-a trouble the water.
(looks like the band that Moses led.)
God's a-goin'-a trouble the water. *Refrain*

3 (Look over yonder, what do I see?)
God's a-goin'-a trouble the water.
(the Holy Ghost a-coming on me.)
God's a-goin'-a trouble the water. *Refrain*

4 (If you don't believe I've been redeemed,)
God's a-goin'-a trouble the water.
(just follow me down to Jordan's stream.)
God's a-goin'-a trouble the water. *Refrain*

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
United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

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

Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved. **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 SONG ***Come to the River***

Come, O come, come to the river flowing from the body of Christ.
We'll go down, deep in the water, but in the Lord we shall arise.
Come, O come, come to the river flowing from the body of Christ.
We'll go down, deep in the water, but in the Lord we shall arise.

Come, O come, come to the river flowing from the body of Christ.
We'll go down, deep in the water, but in the Lord we shall arise.
But in the Lord we shall arise.

OFFERING PRAYER
Let us pray together: Eternal God, our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. **Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more, all the world is fed; 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…
Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of days,
Almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER
Gathered together by the work of the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught 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
In bread and cup, the reign of Christ is breaking in. Come, receive what Christ has prepared.

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 ***Let the River Flow***

Let the poor man say I am rich in Him, let the lost man say I am found in Him,
Oh, let the river flow.
Let the blind man say I can see again. Let the dead man say I am born again.
Oh, let the river flow. Let the river flow.

Let the river flow, let the river flow.
Holy Spirit come, move in power.
Let the river flow.

Let the poor man say I am rich in Him, let the lost man say I am found in Him,
Oh, let the river flow.
Let the blind man say I can see again. Let the dead man say I am born again.
Oh, let the river flow. Let the river flow.

Let the river flow, let the river flow.
Holy Spirit come, move in power.
Let the river flow. Let the river flow.
Let the river flow. Let the river flow.
Let the river flow. Let the river flow.

Let the river flow, let the river flow.
Holy Spirit come, move in power.
Let the river flow.

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: Holy God, we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal.
You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever. Amen.

MINISTRY MOMENT

SENDING BLESSING

The holy Trinity, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God, today and always. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG ***The River is Here***

Down the mountain the river flows,
And it brings refreshing wherever it goes.
Through the valleys and over the fields
The river is rushing and the river is here.

The river of God sets our feet a-dancing,
The river of God fills our hearts with cheer.
The river of God fills our mouths with laughter,
And we rejoice for the river is here.

The river of God is teeming with life,
All who touch it can be revived,
And those who linger on this river's shore
Will come back thirsting for more of the Lord.

The river of God sets our feet a-dancing,
The river of God fills our hearts with cheer.
The river of God fills our mouths with laughter,
And we rejoice for the river is here.

Up to the mountain we love to go
To find the presence of the Lord.
Along the banks of the river we run,
We dance with laughter giving praise to the Son.

The river of God sets our feet a-dancing,
The river of God fills our hearts with cheer.
The river of God fills our mouths with laughter,
And we rejoice for the river is here.

SENDING WORDS

Go in peace. Encourage one another in the faith.
Thanks be to God, and we will.

POSTLUDE

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #26593.

CCLI Copyright License #2029973 / Streaming License #20579691

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America.