

# ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

319 South 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Albion, Nebraska 68620 www.zionalbion.org + office @zionalbion.org+ 402-395-2043 Office Hours: Mon-Thurs: 9am-4pm; Fri: Office Closed

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Even after Israel had experienced the vagaries of kings, the people still longed for a true king to set things right. He would have the king's title of Anointed One (Messiah); he would be the "one like a human being" (Son of Man) given dominion in Daniel's vision. Jesus is given these titles, even though he is nothing like an earthly king. His authority comes from the truth to which he bears witness, and those who recognize the truth voluntarily listen to him. We look forward to the day he is given dominion, knowing his victory will be the nonviolent victory of love.

#### + GATHERING +

#### **Prelude**

# We Gather Together The Church's One Foundation

#### Welcome

Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church in Albion! We offer a warm welcome to those worshipping by way of Vyve Cable Channel 21 and Facebook Live. We hope that you encounter a word of God's grace and love in this worship service.

Holy Communion will be celebrated today. This is God's table. All who are baptized and believe that Christ is truly present in this meal are invited to participate. Holy Communion is distributed in person or by pre-packaged elements. If you are uncomfortable coming forward, please pick up the communion elements as you enter worship. We will partake of the sacrament as directed by the pastor within the worship service. If you have any questions or concerns, please speak with an usher. Gluten Free wafers are available on request.





# **Confession & Forgiveness**

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

When we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

But if we would confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Today we see Jesus as our Shepherd-King, the Image of the invisible God, and the only Source of peace. (Silence for reflection and self-examination.)

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have divided the Church and scattered the flock.

We have prayed only to save ourselves.

For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,

so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Our Lord reigned from the tree of the cross, reconciling us all to God. His royal decree is that Paradise awaits us.

Almighty God has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins.

As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you

the entire forgiveness of all your sins,

in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 



Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800-1894, sts. 1-3, 5; Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903, st. 4

Music: George J. Elvey, 1816-1893

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# **Opening Litany**

O King of the earth, bless the world with your peace.

O King of heaven, surround us with your glory.

O King of creation, guard and protect all people and all creatures under your care.

O King of kings, rule over all in authority over us and grant wisdom to the leaders of every tribe and nation

O King of the ages, Reign supreme in our hearts both now and forever.

# **Apostolic 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.** 

#### **Hymn of Praise**

# A Harvest of Thanksgiving

Choir

Lord of the Harvest and Bringer of Light,
You are the Maker of all that is right.
You fill our lives with abundance and love,
sharing ev'ry bright gift from Your glory above,
ev'ry bright gift from Your glory above.

Lord of the Harvest, so faithful and true, let us give honor and worship to You.

You are the Giver of all that is fair, so we give our thanks in the way that we share, we give our thanks in the way that we share.

We gather together to raise our thanksgiving with song of the Spirit and anthems of praise.
With each declaration, with ev'ry oblation, our hearts will be grateful for now, now and always!

Lord of the Harvest, Creator and Friend, we stand amazed at Your love without end!

Now, in this moment and here in this place, we celebrate harvest as children of grace, celebrate harvest as children of grace, as we gather together, giving thanks and praise. Giving thanks and praise, giving thanks and praise!

# Prayer of the Day

Let us pray... (A brief silence is kept.) Almighty and ever-living God, you anointed your beloved Son to be priest and sovereign forever. Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united by the glorious and gentle rule of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

#### + WORD +

### First Reading

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

To the community for whom this passage was written, it seemed as though the oppression they were experiencing would never end, Daniel's message is: It shall end. The Ancient One, who is judge, will call all nations to account and will give dominion to "one like a human being," the Messiah.

## A reading from Daniel.

<sup>9</sup>As I watched, thrones were set in place, and an Ancient One took his throne, his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames, and its wheels were burning fire. <sup>10</sup>A stream of fire issued

and flowed out from his presence.

A thousand thousands served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him.

The court sat in judgment, and the books were opened. <sup>13</sup>As I watched in the night visions, I saw one like a human being coming with the clouds of heaven.

And he came to the Ancient One and was presented before him.

<sup>14</sup>To him was given dominion and glory and kingship, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him.

His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

#### Psalm 93

Let us read Psalm 93 responsively.

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is king, robed in majesty;

the LORD is robed in majesty and armed with strength.

The LORD has made the world so sure that it cannot be moved.

<sup>2</sup>Ever since the world began, your throne has been established; you are from everlasting.

<sup>3</sup>The waters have lifted up, O LORD, the waters have lifted up their voice; the waters have lifted up their pounding waves.

<sup>4</sup>Mightier than the sound of many waters.

<sup>4</sup>Mightier than the sound of many waters, mightier than the breakers of the sea, mightier is the LORD who dwells on high.

<sup>5</sup>Your testimonies are very sure, and holiness befits your house, O LORD, forever and forevermore.

# **Second Reading**

Revelation 1:4b-8

The book of Revelation begins by celebrating the Almighty God, who spans all of time. Similarly, Jesus is celebrated as the firstborn from the dead who rules over the world's rulers. He is the one whose return we eagerly await.

A reading from Revelation.

<sup>4b</sup>Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, <sup>5</sup> and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, <sup>6</sup> and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

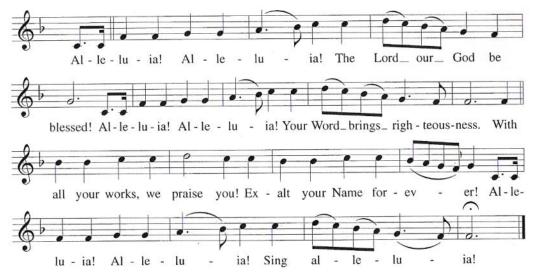
<sup>7</sup>Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

<sup>8</sup>"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** 

#### Alleluia Verse

Family of God



Holy Gospel John 18:33-37

In John's gospel, the story of Jesus and Pilate presents two different ways of exercising power; through force or with love.

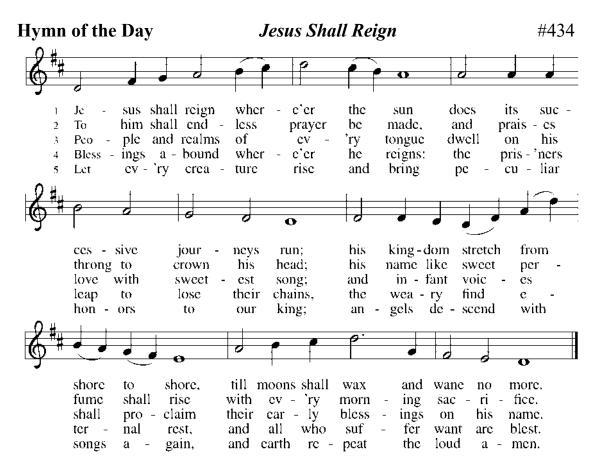
The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 18<sup>th</sup> chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord!** 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup>Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" <sup>34</sup>Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" <sup>35</sup>Pilate replied, "I am not a

Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" <sup>36</sup>Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." <sup>37</sup>Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

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

#### Children's Time Sermon



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.; Music: attr. John Hatton, d. 1793; Public Domain

# **Apostles' Creed**

Living together in trust and hope, let us 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 into hell. 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 again 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**

- P Rooted in God's abundant love for the world, let us pray for our neighbors, the church, and all of creation.

  A brief silence is kept.
- A Revive our congregations, synods, and national church body to reflect the love, justice, and kinship of your kingdom. Raise up diverse leaders who teach and serve your people. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**
- P Nourish parched lands and bring relief to flooded places. Protect wildlife habitats and endangered species, that the chorus of creation's praise resounds with joy. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**
- A Grant wisdom to the leaders who govern, legislate, and deliberate on our behalf. Advance your nonviolent reign of justice-seeking love through their work. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**
- P Draw near to those who are detained, on trial, or incarcerated. Transform systems of retribution into systems of reconciliation and restoration.

Empower activists who advocate for change. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.** 

- A Remind us of your enduring love in all seasons.
  Guide the planning efforts of worship leaders and volunteers who usher our congregation into a meaningful Advent.
  Merciful God, receive our prayer.
- P: Here other intercessions may be offered either aloud or in silence. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**
- A In your eternal presence the saints sing of your majesty. Join our voices with theirs in praise to the one who loves us and frees us from sin. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**
- P We offer our prayers to you, gracious God, trusting in your boundless love for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

#### **Peace**

The Peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.** 

#### + OFFERING +





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#### + MEAL +

# **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.



### **Proper Preface**

Glory and dominion be to you, Lord God, for your Word was alive in creation, is present in the power of the Spirit, and will come in glory on the last day.

You made with the house of David an everlasting covenant, and your goodness is like the sun on a cloudless morning, gleaming from the rain on a grassy land.

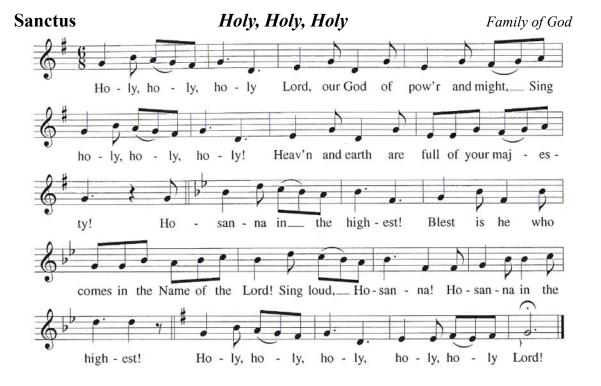
You sent Jesus Christ, the faithful witness,

the firstborn of the dead, and ruler of the kings of the earth.

He freed us from our sins by his blood

and made us to be a kingdom of priests serving you forever.

And so with all the company of heaven, we rejoice to sing your praise.



### **Eucharistic Prayer & Words of Institution**

God of truth, your Son came to testify to you and lead us into all righteousness.

You have prepared for us such things as pass our understanding.

Send your Holy Spirit upon your people that your word may be on our lips.

Sanctify this bread and this cup, that they may be for us the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ; who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying:

"Take, eat: this is my body, which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup.

Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying,

"Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

God of all beginnings and endings, your Son declared his kingdom was not of this world.

Bless the governance of every earthly kingdom, that it may be ruled justly, in spirit and in truth.

Visit your children who live in fear, dwell under oppression, experience cruelty, or suffer discrimination.

Turn struggle into hope, hope into freedom, freedom into justice, and justice into love.

Bring to those who have never known you, or have forgotten or rejected you, the light of your grace and the thirst for your mercy; until your Son comes with the clouds, and all eyes will see him, and every tribe and tongue will lift your name on high, ever one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 

# Lord's Prayer

Let us pray together 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.

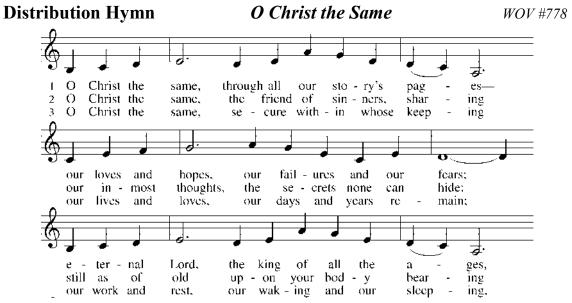


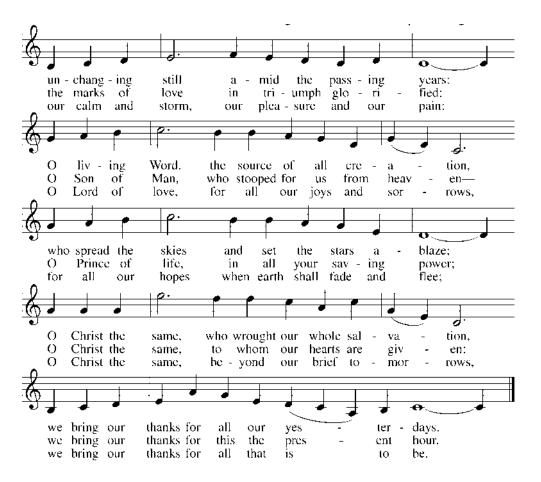
#### **Distribution**

If you are joining us from home or are taking communion from your seat:

The Body of Christ given for you. Amen.

The Blood of Christ shed for you. Amen.

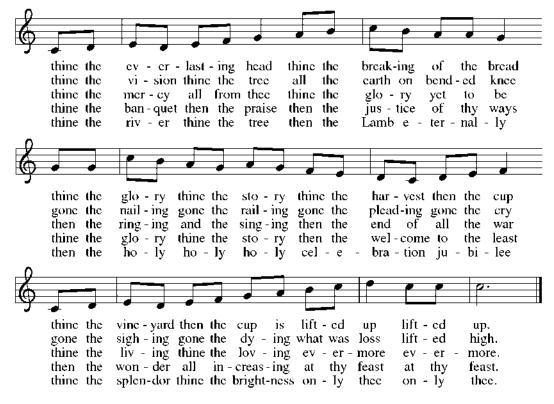




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Hymn continued on the next page.



Text: Herbert F. Brokering, 1926-2009

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### **Table Blessing**

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace. **Amen.** 

# **Post-Communion Prayer**

Let us pray... (A brief silence is kept.) Faithful God,

you have spread before us a feast of rich food and drink in the body and blood of your Son.

Now send us out to labor with you, in service to the world you have made, and among the people you have made your home, in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

#### + SENDING +

#### Announcements

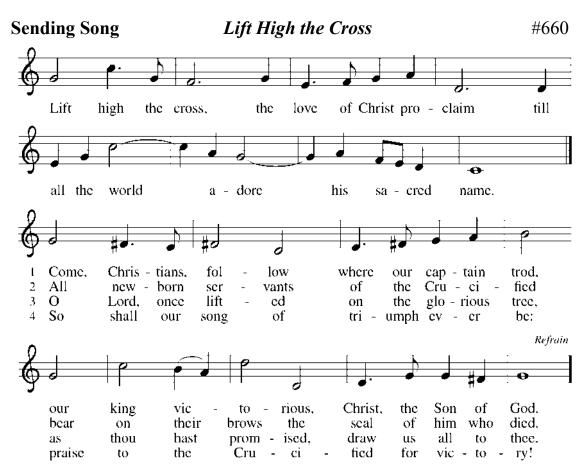
#### **Benediction**

May you go as God's people who are blessed to be a blessing.

May you go in the name of Jesus to touch and heal the hurt around us.

May you go with a strong presence of God's Holy Spirit to be light and love to all the world.

May you go in the name of the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.



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#### **Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

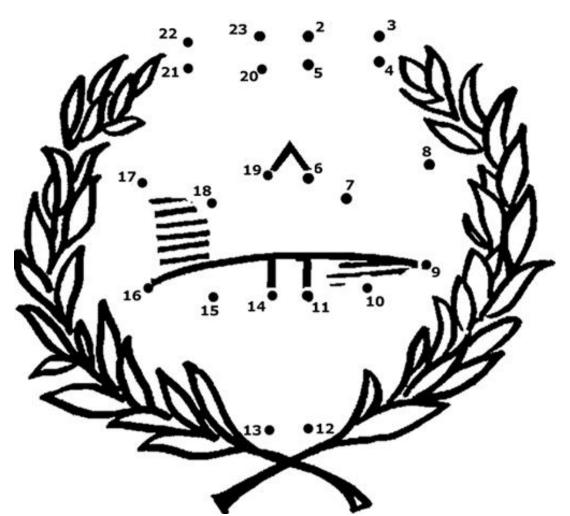
Thanks be to God. Amen.



"Dolly keeps humming 'Santa Claus Is Comin' to Town' and we haven't even had Thanksgiving yet!"

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# CROWN HIM KING!



You are a king, then!" said Pilate
Jesus answered, "You are right in saying I am a king.
In fact, for this reason I was born,
and for this I came into the world,
to testify to the truth."

John 18:37a (NIV)

# Christ the King Word-Find

J E C H U R C H S P U T H R O N E S H E W O R L D L O V E A Y F I J U D G E A C J E S U S O O U V E A A T S R M E K E C M R Y T K I I I N R B E G I N N I N G E H A P C L I R G O A I R O E O O U D D T G T O N R N L O G O H H R E D E E M E R

See if you can find all the words from the list at the bottom. Then put the leftover letters in the spaces to find a little prayer you can say any time.



BEGINNING CHRIST CHURCH CREATOR DOMINION EARTH FEAR GOD HEAVEN HIGH JESUS JUDGE JUSTICE KINGDOM LORD LOVE
PEACE
POOR
REDEEMER
RULE
THRONE
WORLD