In today’s readings, Moses tells the Israelites that they are called to be a priestly kingdom and a holy people. Jesus sends out the disciples as laborers into the harvest. In baptism we too are anointed for ministry, sharing God’s compassion with our needy world. We go forth to proclaim the good news, to heal the sick, and to share our bread with the hungry.

We Gather

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. Amen.

Seeking reconciliation with God and neighbor, let us remember the gift of baptism and confess our sin. God of mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, against one another, and against the earth entrusted to our care. We are worried and distracted by many things, and we fail to love you above all else. We store up treasures for ourselves and turn away from our neighbors in need. Forgive us, that we may live in the freedom of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

When we were laid low by sin and guilt, God made us alive together with Christ, forgiving us ☩ all our trespasses by taking our sins to the cross. For freedom Christ has set us free: Rejoice in this good news! Amen.
OPENING LITANY

We are the people of Zion!
A city on a hill, a light that cannot be hid!
Following Jesus
Everyone is welcome here!
Following Jesus
We equip each other for ministry!
Following Jesus
We are sent to serve our neighbor!
This is the day the Lord has made
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you!
And also with you!

Let us pray...God of compassion, you have opened the way for us and brought us to yourself. Pour your love into our hearts, that, overflowing with joy, we may freely share the blessings of your realm and faithfully proclaim the good news of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

We Hear & Respond to God’s Word

RESPONSIVE PSALM: PSALM 100

1 Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all you lands!
2 Serve the Lord with gladness;
   come into God’s presence with a song.
3 Know that the Lord is God,
   our maker to whom we belong;
   we are God’s people and the sheep of God’s pasture.
4 Enter the gates of the Lord with thanksgiving
   and the courts with praise;
   give thanks and bless God’s holy name.
5 Good indeed is the Lord,
   whose steadfast love is everlasting,
   whose faithfulness endures from age to age.

FIRST READING: EXODUS 19:2-8a

A reading from Exodus:

2 [The Israelites] had journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain. 3 Then Moses went up to God; the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, “Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: 4 You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. 5 Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, 6 but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites.”

7 So Moses came, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the Lord had commanded him. 8a The people all answered as one: “Everything that the Lord has spoken we will do.”

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

YOUTH MESSAGE
SECOND READING: ROMANS 5:1-8
A reading from Romans:

1Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. 3And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, 4and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, 5and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

6For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. 7Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. 8But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 9:35—10:8
The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the ninth and tenth chapters...

Glory to you, O Lord!

35Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. 36When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. 37Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; 38therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

10:1Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. 2These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; 3Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; 4Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

5These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: “Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, 6but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. 7As you go, proclaim the good news, ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’ 8Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ!
APOSTLES’ CREED
Together with all Christians of every time, place, and space, let us confess our faith, using the words of the Apostles’ Creed:

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 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
Following Each Petition: ...Lord, in your mercy.  
Hear our prayer.

Gathered into one by 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.

**PEACE**
The peace of the Lord be with you always. 
And also with you.

**OFFERING**
This is the time in our worship to give thanks to God for your blessings. How is God blessing you and calling you to bless others? We invite your support of ongoing and growing ministries at Zion.

We Are Sent into the World

**BLESSING**
The Lord bless you and keep you. 
The Lord’s face shine upon you with grace and mercy. 
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. 
Amen.

**SENDING HYMN**
“We Are Called” (verse 2, with refrain)

Come! Open your heart! 
Show your mercy to all those in fear! 
We are called to be hope for the hopeless so hatred and blindness will be no more.

DISMISSAL
The worship has ended. Now the service begins. 
Go in peace. Christ is sending you! 
Thanks be to God!

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