

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



Service of Prayer and Preaching
July 29th, 2015



ANNOUNCEMENTS

NURSERY! Zion will have a staffed nursery for children 2 and under during the late service. If you are interested in helping out or would like to know more, please contact the church office!

THE LUTHERAN THEOLOGY OF MARRIAGE, a Bible Study looking at what the Bible says about marriage and how we can live out our callings as single and married children of God continues this Sunday in the Fellowship Hall during the Sunday School Hour. All are welcome to attend!

JOE FAINI, our Director of Youth Ministry, will be installed on August 9th at the 10:30 Service. We welcome Joe and his wife Lindsey to our congregation and pray God's blessing on his work among us, that it might be for the building up of God's Kingdom so that all people may know the Good News of Jesus Christ!

EVENTS COMMITTEE. At last month's Voters' Meeting, the proposal was put forth to form an Events Committee, responsible for events that focus on outreach and fellowship. We will be voting to amend our Church Constitution to give the head of the Events Committee a seat on the Council at the next Voters' meeting. If you would like more information about the Events Committee and the proposed Amendment to the Constitution, please contact the church office.

ROMANS. We will be starting a Bible Study Series on the book of Romans in conjunction with our Wednesday Evening Service of Prayer and Preaching starting in October. Look for more information in the August Newsletter.

Welcome to worship!

This evening, we're on to Jonah 3. This week, our rebellious prophet finally makes it to Nineveh. In the belly of the beast of the enemies of God's people, Jonah preaches a simple sermon: Nineveh will be destroyed. Short. Simple. Truth. Well, the residents of Nineveh repent, ask God not to destroy them and get their act together. In the central verse of the book, we will read that God relents from the disaster he had threatened to bring on the Ninevites.

There's a lot going on in this chapter that we will look at! Topics ranging from Limited Atonement to the Sovereignty of God to the grace and mercy of God are all on full display in this chapter.

Next week, our miniseries on Jonah concludes as we focus on Jonah's reaction to how God handles the repentance of the Ninevites. I don't want to jump the shark on next week (get it? Shark? Large fish... Jonah.) but God's grace will be too much for our Jonah.

We've got a lot to get to this evening, so hang on tight! There's a lot in this chapter...

God bless your time in worship!
-Pastor Duncan

Rev. Duncan McLellan, Pastor

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The Service of Prayer and Preaching

(Please take a moment to fill out the Attendance books)

The Invocation

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: **Amen.**

Confession of Sins

Pastor: This evening, we continue our mini-series on the book of Jonah. We will see how the Ninevites repented of their sins and called out to God. We will also see how God relented from bringing on them the disaster he had promised. Therefore, let us confess our sins to God, trusting in his mercy for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: **Father in heaven, you forgave the Ninevites when they repented and called out to you; how much more will you forgive those of us who have been baptized into your name, the name of your Son, and the name of the life-giving Spirit. Therefore, we ask that you would forgive our sins, teach us to trust in you for all good things, and lead us to speak your name. We ask this through Jesus. Amen.**

Absolution Spoken by the Pastor

People: **Amen.**

The Reading: Jonah 3

Then the word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time: "Go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it the message I give you."

Jonah obeyed the word of the Lord and went to Nineveh. Now Nineveh was a very large city; it took three days to go through it. Jonah began

by going a day's journey into the city, proclaiming, "Forty more days and Nineveh will be overthrown." The Ninevites believed God. A fast was proclaimed, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth.

When Jonah's warning reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, took off his royal robes, covered himself with sackcloth and sat down in the dust. This is the proclamation he issued in Nineveh:

"By the decree of the king and his nobles:

Do not let people or animals, herds or flocks, taste anything; do not let them eat or drink. But let people and animals be covered with sackcloth. Let everyone call urgently on God. Let them give up their evil ways and their violence. Who knows? God may yet relent and with compassion turn from his fierce anger so that we will not perish."

When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened.

Sermon

(Please stand)

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and buried.
 He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead.
 He ascended into heaven
 and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
 From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

(Please be seated)

The Prayers

For the prayers this evening, you are invited to come to the Communion Rail and kneel.

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord:
People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: ...let us pray to the Lord:
People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the concerns we have in our hearts. Let us pray...
Pastor: Taught by our Lord and trusting in his promises, we are bold to pray:

People: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by 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 from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen**

The Benediction