

# ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



Service of Prayer and Preaching  
September 9<sup>th</sup> 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!

**PASTORS.** Our Sunday morning Bible Study for this month is on Pastors. What is a Pastor? Who should be a Pastor? And what exactly is the Priesthood of All Believers? We'll be down in the Fellowship Hall for a lively discussion and study of God's Word. Join us; 9:30 on Sunday right here at Zion!

**M@P-3!** The men are going back to Camp Pioneer this November (12-15<sup>th</sup>) for a time of prayer, fellowship, Bible Study, worship and recreation. We'll be getting to know Jesus better by taking a look at his parables from the Gospel of Luke. All men are welcome to attend all or a portion of the retreat. More information and a sign-up sheet are available in the narthex area. Hope you can make it!

**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 September Newsletter and on the church's website. A sign-up sheet for this study (we need to order books) is in the narthex area.

# Welcome to worship!

This evening.... Oh, this evening! We've got a lot to cover tonight in the time we have together. There were three excellent questions from Sunday that will take up a good chunk of time. So much so, in fact, that we're not going to have time to get to one of them. What are those questions, you ask? First, I was asked why we no longer do the benediction at the end of the service. I was also asked to say more about the resolution passed by our friends in the English District that, if approved at the Synodical Convention next year, would prohibit divorced men from going to seminary and becoming pastors. I will oblige and say more about this, as it ties in nicely with our Sunday Morning Adult Bible Class unit on the Pastoral Office. I was also asked why Jesus tries to keep his identity as the Son of God and Messiah a secret in the Gospel of Mark. This is the one that, unfortunately, we are not going to have time to get to this evening. But, Lord willing, we will get around to talking about it next week, as it deserves a good bit of time and attention to address properly.

But that's not all! In addition to answering those questions, we are also going to spend a little bit of time bridging the gap between the end of the Lord's Prayer ("deliver us from evil"), and our next Back to Basics Unit (Holy Baptism). To kill the suspense, we will see that one way God has answered our prayer to deliver us from the evil one is through the sacrament of Baptism, where he puts the seal of the name of the Trinity on us and promises us all that Christ has done for us.

As you can see, we've got a lot going on this evening! Glad you are here... and welcome to worship!

-Pastor Duncan

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*Zion equips, educates, and encourages believers in Christ, sending them into the world to share the Gospel.*

# The Service of Prayer and Preaching

## *The Invocation*

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

People: **Amen.**

## *Confession of Sins*

Pastor: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: **who made heaven and earth.**

Pastor: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

People: **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.**

## *Absolution Spoken by the Pastor*

People: **Amen.**

## **The Reading: Romans 6: 1- 14**

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in

order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. For one who has died has been set free from sin. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

## ***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.

### ***The Prayers***

*You are invited to come to the Communion Rail for prayer.*

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 Benedicamus and Benediction***

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: Let us go forth in peace,

**People: in the name of the Lord. Amen.**