

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



Service of Prayer and Preaching
September 16th 2015



ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 (12-15th) 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.

BIBLE STUDIES. We've got a number of Bible studies here at Zion throughout the week. Starting on Sunday, we've got an Adult Bible Class in the Fellowship Hall. On Tuesday from 7:30-8:45, the women have a study of the three letters of John in the Fellowship Hall. There is a Bible Study for everyone on Thursday morning at 10:00am in the Conference Room. And on Saturday at 8:00am, the men are studying the history before, during and after the Reformation... breakfast in.

Welcome to worship!

This evening, we are going to be doing a couple of things. The Sunday before last, a question was asked why Jesus doesn't want his disciples telling people who he really is (until after his resurrection). This issue, known as the "Messianic Secret" is unique to the Gospel of Mark. Scholars and theologians are not shy in suggesting answers. Some are good. Some are not. We will wade through some of the suggested reasons for why Mark draws attention to the "Messianic Secret" and what it means for us. Why would Jesus tell people not to tell people who he is, when we have been told by him to teach all the nations everything he has given to us?

But that's not all we'll be doing. We are also going to wrap up our study on the Lord's Prayer, taking a look at how Christ has delivered us from evil, and how he uses us to deliver other people from evil (and the evil one). And, wouldn't you know it, it is here that the "Messianic Secret" and our calling as Christians intersects in some significant and powerful ways. But if I said anymore here, I'd say too much; I want to save the good stuff for the message!

We've got a lot going on this evening at our Midweek Service of Prayer and Preaching. Thank you for being here, and don't forget to sign up for the Romans Study, coming in three short weeks!

God bless your time in worship.

-Pastor Duncan McLellan

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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: Mark 9:2-9

And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became radiant, intensely white, as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, and

they were talking with Jesus. And Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." For he did not know what to say, for they were terrified. And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, "This is my beloved Son; listen to him." And suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone with them but Jesus only.

And as they were coming down the mountain, he charged them to tell no one what they had seen, until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

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 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 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.