

Zion Lutheran Church



*18th Sunday After Pentecost
September 27th, 2015*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS are given by Sarah, Jeremy & Michael Erbrecht in Honor of Tom & Kim's 34th Wedding Anniversary and Carol Ann & Joe Pracel in loving Memory of Sandy Pracel.

ETERNAL LIGHT is given by Judith Dames in Memory of Andy, Gregory, Raymond & Paula.

CHURCH NURSERY: Is available for kids age 0-2 during the 10:30 Service! The Nursery ("Little Lions") is open during the late service in the lower level of the building. (If you need help locating the nursery, please ask an Usher or Greeter for assistance.)

CHILI COOK-OFF is almost here! We are looking forward to entering our Winning Chili into the cook-off. Come out to support us on October 4th from 12-4 @ Fairview Park. We need your votes to win again!

FALL CLEAN-UP WORK DAY: Bring your work clothes and join us immediately following the 10:30 church service on Sunday, October 11th for our Fall Cleanup Day. The Trustees are providing lunch and will have work projects for all ages. Childcare for little ones ages 4 and under will be provided. There's no Steeler game on this day so why not come out and make a difference at God's house! Whatever amount of time you have to give will be appreciated. See you on October 11th!

LUTHERAN WITNESS is available to order through the church. The cost is \$11.50 for a year subscription. Email secretary@zlc.org to order.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH can use your help! We want to expand Children's Church to twice monthly. If you want to help out with this ministry to our children, please contact Pastor Duncan or the Church Office. We'd love to have you serve!

M@P-3. The Fall Men's Retreat at Camp Pioneer is scheduled for the 12th (or 13th, if you can't get off work) through the 15th of November. Information about the retreat and a sign-up sheet are both in the narthex area. Sign-up today! Space is limited.

ADULT CHOIR rehearsals are MOVING to Tuesday nights starting Oct.6th from 7:00-8:00PM. We are looking to add to our numbers from last year! Do not worry if you can't attend regularly, we can work around just about any schedule!

CONCORDIA OKTOBERFEST is being held at the Cabot location on Saturday Oct. 3rd from 4-8PM. See flyer in the narthex for more information!

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. We will have child care and a program for the teens. A sign-up sheet is in the entryway/narthex if you would like to know more, or if you are planning on attending.

NEED PRAYER? Stephen Ministers and Elders will be available to pray with or for you following the Service in the Chancel area.

TODAY'S GOSPEL READING AND SERMON will be posted to the ZLCB.org website later today. For an archive of older sermons, visit www.zlc.org/sermons

Welcome to worship!

This morning our Back to Basics study of Baptism continues as we take a look at what the Bible says Baptism does. Wait. Did I just give away the ending? Maybe so. Like we talked about last week, there is no other doctrine in the Christian church that reveals more divisions than Baptism. It is hard if not impossible to find two denominations or Christian groups that, if pressed on the matter, will say the same thing about what baptism is, what it does and who it is for. One of the greatest divides in the church has to do with the nature of baptism: is it something we are doing for God, or something that God is doing for us? When we talk about what Baptism does, we are showing our hand: we believe that in Baptism God is doing something (or somethings) for us. We believe that the action in Baptism is primarily from God to us, not from us to God. It is more an act of God's grace and love than a demonstration of human obedience.

This morning, we are going to take a look at several Bible passages that teach us exactly what it is that Baptism does for us. I hope that, during our time together this morning, you will come to a greater understanding and appreciation for what God has done for you through baptism, have your faith in Christ strengthened, and hope for everlasting life increased.

God bless your time in worship this morning!

-Pastor Duncan

Rev. Duncan McLellan, Pastor

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Pastor's Phone: 412-667-0967

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ZION EQUIPS, EDUCATES, AND ENCOURAGES BELIEVERS IN CHRIST, SENDING THEM INTO THE WORLD TO SHARE THE GOSPEL.

Zion Lutheran Church 3197 Washington Pike Bridgeville, PA 15017

The Divine Service

(Please take a moment to fill out the Attendance books. If you are visiting us this morning, please indicate so in the Attendance Book. We are glad you chose to worship at Zion this morning!)

Prelude – March, by G. F. Handel

Introduction to Worship and Announcements

Opening Hymn: Spread the Reign of God the Lord 830

The Invocation

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

People: Amen.

Confession of Sins

As you prepare to confess your sins, think back over the last week. The hurtful words, the loveless deeds, and the unhealthy thought you have had and done; and leave them all at the foot of the cross, trusting in Jesus to forgive.

Pastor: This morning we will spend our time learning what Scripture says Baptism does. Christ has given us the forgiveness of sins, the Holy Spirit and has promised a resurrection like his. But we have taken these gifts and used them for our own, sinful purposes. Therefore, let us confess our sins to God, trusting in his mercy through Christ our Lord.

People: Lord Jesus Christ, I ask that you would have mercy on me. I have sinned against heaven and against you. I have been rude, selfish and have put the desires of the flesh over the things of the spirit. Forgive me and lead me in faith and obedience. Make me more like you by any means necessary. Amen.

Absolution Spoken by the Pastor

People: Amen.

Hymn of Praise: This Is the Feast 155

Refrain:

This is the feast of victory of our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

[REFRAIN]

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing and glory are His.

[REFRAIN]

*Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.*

[REFRAIN]

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

[REFRAIN]

The Prayer of the Church

(Please be seated)

The Service of the Word

The Old Testament Reading: Exodus 14: 10-31

As Pharaoh approached, the people of Israel looked up and panicked when they saw the Egyptians overtaking them. They cried out to the Lord, and they said to Moses, “Why did you bring us out here to die in the wilderness? Weren’t there enough graves for us in Egypt? What have you done to us? Why did you make us leave Egypt? Didn’t we tell you this would happen while we were still in Egypt? We said, ‘Leave us alone! Let us be slaves to the Egyptians. It’s better to be a slave in Egypt than a corpse in the wilderness!’”

But Moses told the people, “Don’t be afraid. Just stand still and watch the Lord rescue you today. The Egyptians you see today will never be seen again. The Lord himself will fight for you. Just stay calm.”

Then the Lord said to Moses, “Why are you crying out to me? Tell the people to get moving! Pick up your staff and raise your hand over the sea. Divide the water so the Israelites can walk through the middle of the sea on dry ground. And I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they will charge in after the Israelites. My great glory will be displayed through Pharaoh and his

troops, his chariots, and his charioteers. When my glory is displayed through them, all Egypt will see my glory and know that I am the Lord!”

Then the angel of God, who had been leading the people of Israel, moved to the rear of the camp. The pillar of cloud also moved from the front and stood behind them. The cloud settled between the Egyptian and Israelite camps. As darkness fell, the cloud turned to fire, lighting up the night. But the Egyptians and Israelites did not approach each other all night.

Then Moses raised his hand over the sea, and the Lord opened up a path through the water with a strong east wind. The wind blew all that night, turning the seabed into dry land. So the people of Israel walked through the middle of the sea on dry ground, with walls of water on each side!

Then the Egyptians—all of Pharaoh’s horses, chariots, and charioteers—chased them into the middle of the sea. But just before dawn the Lord looked down on the Egyptian army from the pillar of fire and cloud, and he threw their forces into total confusion. He twisted their chariot wheels, making their chariots difficult to drive. “Let’s get out of here—away from these Israelites!” the Egyptians shouted. “The Lord is fighting for them against Egypt!”

When all the Israelites had reached the other side, the Lord said to Moses, “Raise your hand over the sea again. Then the waters will rush back and cover the Egyptians and their chariots and charioteers.” So as the sun began to rise, Moses raised his hand over the sea, and the water rushed back into its usual place. The Egyptians tried to escape, but the Lord swept them into the sea. Then the waters returned and covered all the chariots and charioteers—the entire army of Pharaoh. Of all the Egyptians who had chased the Israelites into the sea, not a single one survived.

But the people of Israel had walked through the middle of the sea on dry ground, as the water stood up like a wall on both sides. That is how the Lord rescued Israel from the hand of the Egyptians that day. And the Israelites saw

the bodies of the Egyptians washed up on the seashore. When the people of Israel saw the mighty power that the Lord had unleashed against the Egyptians, they were filled with awe before him. They put their faith in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

The New Testament Reading: Romans 6: 1-14

Well then, should we keep on sinning so that God can show us more and more of his wonderful grace? Of course not! Since we have died to sin, how can we continue to live in it? Or have you forgotten that when we were joined with Christ Jesus in baptism, we joined him in his death? For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives.

Since we have been united with him in his death, we will also be raised to life as he was. We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin. For when we died with Christ we were set free from the power of sin. And since we died with Christ, we know we will also live with him. We are sure of this because Christ was raised from the dead, and he will never die again. Death no longer has any power over him. When he died, he died once to break the power of sin. But now that he lives, he lives for the glory of God. So you also should consider yourselves to be dead to the power of sin and alive to God through Christ Jesus.

Do not let sin control the way you live; do not give in to sinful desires. Do not let any part of your body become an instrument of evil to serve sin. Instead, give yourselves completely to God, for you were dead, but now you have new life. So use your whole body as an instrument to do what is right for the glory of God. Sin is no longer your master, for you no longer live under the requirements of the law. Instead, you live under the freedom of God's grace.

Pastor: In honor of our Lord Jesus Christ, we rise for the reading of the Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 3rd Chapter.

People: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The Gospel Reading: John 3: 1-8

There was a man named Nicodemus, a Jewish religious leader who was a Pharisee. After dark one evening, he came to speak with Jesus. "Rabbi," he said, "we all know that God has sent you to teach us. Your miraculous signs are evidence that God is with you."

Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God."

"What do you mean?" exclaimed Nicodemus. "How can an old man go back into his mother's womb and be born again?"

Jesus replied, "I assure you, no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit. Humans can reproduce only human life, but the Holy Spirit gives birth to spiritual life. So don't be surprised when I say, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows wherever it wants. Just as you can hear the wind but can't tell where it comes from or where it is going, so you can't explain how people are born of the Spirit."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

(Please be seated)

Sermon Hymn: O Word of God Incarnate

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Sermon

(Please stand)

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light,

very God of very God, begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.

And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

(Please be seated)

Offertory- (10:30) Adult Choir – Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

The Collection of the Offering

If you are visiting with us this morning, know that your presence here means far more to us than any gift of money you could make; please do not hesitate to let the plate pass you by.

(Please stand)

The Service of the Sacrament

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

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 and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: And also with you.

The Sharing of the Peace

The Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)

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Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

(Please be seated until it is your time to commune.)

The Distribution

We welcome to the Lord's Table all who have been baptized in the name of the Triune God, can examine themselves spiritually and believe they receive the true body and blood of the Lord Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins and as a profession of their faith. If you hold a profession of faith that differs from that of our congregation, please speak to the Pastor before the start of the service before communing.

- We believe the body and blood of Christ are truly present in the bread and wine.
- We believe Christ offers the forgiveness of sins in the Lord's Supper, but that the Lord's Supper is not necessary for salvation.
- We believe the Lord's Supper remembers the death of Christ and proclaims his death until he returns.
- We believe the Lord's Supper is a statement of unity in the body of Christ; we do not believe it creates that unity.

During the distribution, you are encouraged to sing the Distribution Hymns, pray, or meditate on the words "this is my body... this is my blood, given for you."

The cups at the center of the Individual Communion tray contain diluted wine for those with alcohol sensitivities.

Distribution Hymns

O God of Mercy, God of Might	852
Jesus Comes Today with Healing	620
Chief of Sinners Though I Be	611

Benediction

People: Amen

<i>The Recessional: Sent Forth by God's Blessings</i>	643
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Postlude – Sent Forth by God's Blessing

† *Service Participants* †

Pastor:	Rev. Duncan McLellan
Music Director:	Mark Killinger
The Organist:	Sandra Quinlan
Pianist:	Shelley Killinger
The Elders:	Ken Wuerthele Mike Sterba
The Acolyte:	Chris Yellig (8:00) Carley Rockovich (10:30)
The Greeters:	Bill & Melanie Becker (8:00) David, Penney & Opal Miller (10:30)
The Ushers:	Kathleen Conn, Bill Schrag Larry Zreliak (8:00) Sam Dragan, Steve Gauger Kari & John Gresh (10:30)
Altar Guild:	Diana Schmidt, Megan Pasquini & Barb Oechslein
Nursery 10:30 service:	Barb Oechslein & Lara Luedeman

Last Week in Worship

Sunday Worship Attendance (9/20) –211

Wednesday Attendance (9/23) -

Sunday Offering (9/20) - \$4,101.00

Online Offering (9/14-9/18) - \$320.00

~Online giving is now available by going to the Zion web site: www.zlcb.org~

Week of Sept. 27th – Oct. 4th

SUNDAY 9/27	8:00 AM – Worship w/Communion 9:30 AM –Adult Bible Study & Sunday School 10:30 AM – Worship w/Communion
MONDAY 9/28	
TUESDAY 9/29	7:00 PM – Women’s Bible Study
WEDNESDAY 9/30	7:00 PM – Prayer & Preaching Service 7:45 PM – Choir Practice 8:30 PM – M@ZE @ Zion
THURSDAY 10/1	10:00 AM – Bible Study
FRIDAY 10/2	
SATURDAY 10/3	8:00 AM – Men’s Bible Breakfast
SUNDAY 10/4	8:00 AM – Worship w/Communion 9:30 AM –Adult Bible Study & Sunday School 10:30 AM – Worship w/Communion 11:45 AM – Events Committee Meeting 12:00-4:00 PM – Chili Cook-Off @ Fairview Park