

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



Service of Prayer and Preaching
September 30th 2015



ANNOUNCEMENTS

TRAINING LEADERS INTERNATIONAL. Darren Carlson, President of Training Leaders International will be with us this Sunday, educating us about non-traditional educational models for training Pastors at home and abroad. Join us during the Bible Study hour!

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!

M@ZE. Making their official debut, the Music @ Zion Experience will be playing a couple of songs for us at the beginning and end of the service. Thanks, M@ZE!!!

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.

PIG ROAST. We're having one. Along with a bonfire and other Big Dumb Fun. Check out the church's website for this and other upcoming events here at Zion!

Welcome to worship!

This evening, our Midweek Series on Baptism continues as we take a look at Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch. Last week, we took a look at Philip and Simon the Magician. We saw how this man, having come to faith and receiving the gift of Baptism, abandoned Christ and received a strong rebuke from Peter and John. You would think that this would have been a setback for Philip; that he would have been reluctant to speak the name of Jesus again, seeing what happened to Simon the Magician. But this is not the case! Philip doesn't skip a beat and gets right back to speaking the name of Jesus to anyone who will listen, even a Eunuch from Ethiopia!

There's a lot we can take away from Philip's tenacity, steadfastness and faithfulness. His is a wonderfully human example of the joys we can have in sharing the gospel, as well as the realistic setbacks that sometimes happen. Sometimes people respond favorably to the Gospel; sometimes they do not. But this should not deter us from doing all that we can to do the Great Commission: baptizing and teaching all nations; sharing with all people (even Samaritan Sorcerers or Magicians and Ethiopian Eunuchs) the best news they will ever hear, the good news of Jesus!

-Pastor Duncan McLellan

Rev. Duncan McLellan, Pastor
Office Phone: 412-221-4776

Pastor's Phone: 412-667-0967
Website: www.zlcb.org



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 Service of Prayer and Preaching

PreService Music w/ M@ZE. "Hosanna"

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: Acts 8:26-40

Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. And he

rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?"³¹ And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter
and like a lamb before its shearer is silent,
so he opens not his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?" And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

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 Words of Institution

The Distribution

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.

Final Song: "I Stand Amazed"