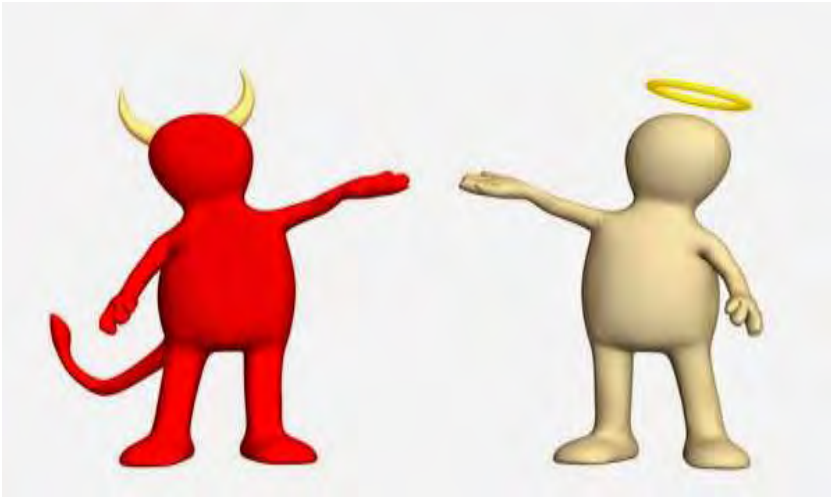


Zion Lutheran Church



Saints

&

Sinners

*Third Sunday of Advent
December 13th, 2015*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS are given by Paul & Theresa Hayes in Honor of the Birth of Lord & Savior Jesus Christ & MeMaw & Grandpa Meier in Honor of Grand-daughter Sierra's 4th Birthday.

ETERNAL LIGHT is given by The Kroeger Family in Honor of Tess & Jesse Carter's 8th Wedding Anniversary.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY is back! Join us for Bible Study and breakfast this Saturday in the Fellowship Hall at 8:00am! Come hungry... for God's Word. And bacon.

OPERATION STARS & STRIPES collections have begun. Please see the insert for more details.

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.)

ADVENT. Our Midweek Advent Services are on Wednesdays in December at 7:00pm as we take a look at the Four Advents of Christ. And come early for...

ADVENT DINNER. If you are hungry and in a hurry, join us for dinner before our Advent Services. 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. This week, the Elders and Trustees will be serving smoked pulled pork!

USHERS NEEDED! Please consider volunteering to be an usher for early or late service for 2016. The sign-up sheet is in the narthex. Contact Larry Zreliak with any questions!

CHILDRENS CHOIR is every Tuesday from 6:00 – 6:45 PM, Kids ages 7-12 are welcome!!

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!

ADULT CHOIR rehearsals are Tuesdays 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!

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.zlcb.org/sermons

Welcome to worship!

Welcome to Worship!

Well, this is strange. We don't have any new material to cover as part of our Back to Basics Series. We covered what the Bible is, the 10 Commandments, the Apostles' Creed, Lord's Prayer, Baptism, Confession and Absolution and the Lord's Supper. And, in going through those topics, we've managed to cover the basics of the Christian faith. Now what?

Over the next three weeks we will do something of "Practical Applications" of what you learned going Back to Basics. This morning, we are going to take a look at what it means that we are both Saint and Sinner. Next week, we will take a look at what our life in the church should or could look like. And on the last Sunday of the year, we'll take a look at how a Christian should conduct them self out in the world. Then we're in to 2016, where our Bible in a Year theme begins.

Saint and Sinner. This is who the Bible says we are. We are holy in God's sight, redeemed by Christ, a child of the light and indwelled by the Holy Spirit; we are also still prone to sin and do what is wrong, rebel against God and hurt and harm our neighbor. Paul writes about this in Romans 7, and we deal with it every day. We'll take a look at what this means for us as we begin wrapping-up our Back to Basics series this morning! God bless your worship this morning!

-Pastor Duncan

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 Divine Service

(Please take a moment to fill out the Attendance books, located at either end of the pew. If you are visiting us this morning and would like to be contacted by the church, please indicate so in the Attendance Book. We are glad you chose to worship at Zion this morning!)

Prelude

Introduction to Worship and Announcements

Opening Hymn: Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates 340

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 morning, as we prepare to hear the Word of God read and proclaimed, receive the body and blood of Christ in the fellowship of this altar, and respond to the grace of God with our prayers and songs of praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess our sins to God, trusting in his mercy through our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

People: Father in heaven, you have been good to me, providing me with my daily bread and all that I need to sustain this body and life. You sent your only son into the world to die on the cross for my sins and conquer death in his resurrection; you have made more than adequate provision for me to live eternally with you in your kingdom. But I have chosen to rebel against you and have sinned in thought, word and deed. Have mercy on me. Forgive my sins and teach me to walk in obedience all the days of my life. I ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Absolution Spoken by the Pastor

People: Amen.

Hymn of Praise: This Is the Feast

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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: Genesis 3:1-7

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?" And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with

her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

The New Testament Reading: Romans 7:7-25

What then shall we say? That the law is sin? By no means! Yet if it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin. For I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, "You shall not covet." But sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, produced in me all kinds of covetousness. For apart from the law, sin lies dead. I was once alive apart from the law, but when the commandment came, sin came alive and I died. The very commandment that promised life proved to be death to me. For sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, deceived me and through it killed me. So the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good. Did that which is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was sin, producing death in me through what is good, in order that sin might be shown to be sin, and through the commandment might become sinful beyond measure. For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?

Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.

Pastor: In honor of our Lord Jesus Christ, we rise for the reading of the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 5th Chapter.

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

The Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:1-16

Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons[a] of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet. “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine

before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

(Please be seated)

Sermon Hymn: God Loves Me Dearly

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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 was 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 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: As we prepare to receive the body and blood of Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us all together pray the prayer our Lord has given us 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 and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Institution

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

Jesus Comes Today with Healing 620

Thee Will I Love, My Strength, My Tower 694

God Moves in a Mysterious Way 765

Benediction

People: Amen

The Recessional: Come, Thou Long- Expected Jesus

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Postlude

† Service Participants †

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|-----------------|--|
| Pastor: | Rev. Duncan McLellan |
| Music Director: | Mark Killinger |
| The Organist: | Sandra Quinlan |
| The Elders: | Mike Sterba & Neil Ackerman |
| The Acolyte: | Augie Bishop (8:00) Leah Luedeman (10:30) |
| The Greeters: | Ron & Judy Meier (8:00) Leah Quinlan, Lara Luedemen(10:30) Carley Rockovich & Mason Thompson |
| The Ushers: | Larry Zreliak, Dale Miller Barb & Wayne Oechslein (8:00) Matt Liberatore, Jenna Eckels, Augie Bishop & Anna Gresh (10:30) |
| Altar Guild: | Janet, Marian & Molly Oelschlager |

Last Week in Worship

Sunday Offering (12/6) - \$5,250.43

Online Offering - \$1,050.00

Sunday Worship Attendance (12/6) - 194

Wednesday Attendance (12/9) - 92

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

Week of Dec. 13th - Dec. 20th

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|----------------------------------|---|
| SUNDAY 12/13 | 8:00 AM – Worship w/Communion 9:30 AM –Adult Bible Study (Mark) & Sunday School 10:30 AM – Worship w/Communion – Sunday School Christmas Program 4:30 PM – Christmas Caroling to Shut-Ins FOOD BANK COLLECTION |
| MONDAY 12/14 | |
| TUESDAY 12/15 | 9:00 AM – Moms In Prayer 6:00 PM – Children’s Choir Practice 7:00 PM – Adult Choir Practice |
| WEDNESDAY 12/16 | 6:00PM – Advent Dinner 7:00PM – Advent Service |
| THURSDAY 12/17 | 10:00 AM – Bible Study |
| FRIDAY 12/18 | |
| SATURDAY 12/19 | 8:00AM – Men’s Bible Breakfast (Fellowship Hall) |
| SUNDAY 12/20 | 8:00 AM – Worship w/Communion 9:30 AM –Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 10:30 AM – Worship w/Communion |

Christmas Caroling



Join us on December 13th (that's today!) as we spread Christmas Cheer to the shut in's of our congregation! We will meet at Zion at 4:30 pm so we can break into teams and visit as many people as we can. Everyone is welcome to attend. Keep an eye out for more details!



Operation: Bags of Love



Help support our troops!

Help the Sunday school children collect donations for
Operation: Bags of Love!

Our troops need our donations and prayers!

What our troops desperately desire are snack items and words of encouragement from us. So, our mission will be to collect specific snack items, putting them into bags, adding God's love with letters and cards, and shipping them off...Operation: Bags of Love!

Please help us collect the following items:

- Ramen Noodles
- Drink Mix Singles (Propel, Coffee, etc.)
- Snack sized packages of Granola Bars
- Snack sized packages of Jerky or Slim Jims
- Chewing Gum
- Monetary donations to help with shipping costs (*make checks payable to Zion Lutheran church and label "OSS"*)
- Write a Letter of Encouragement to a soldier. Must be written on provided letterhead.
- Draw a Picture on our Operation: Bags of Love drawing page.
- Pray for our troops.
- Help Sunday school kids assemble items on February 7th at 9:15am.

(Letterhead and drawing pages are available in the Narthex, school lobby and on the Sunday school tab at www.zlcb.org.)

Thank you for your donations!
~Zion Lutheran Sunday school

For more information about Operation: Stars and Stripes, Inc., please visit their website at www.operationstarsandstripes.com.