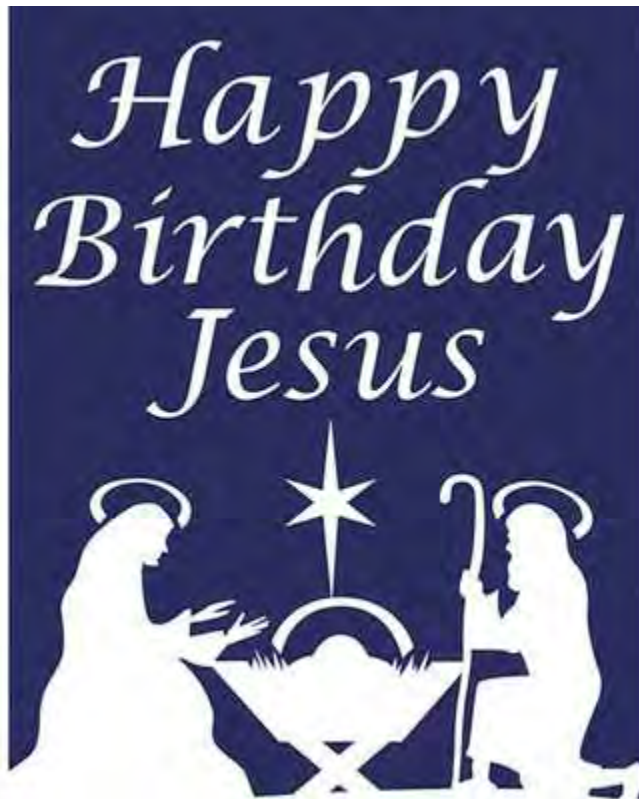


ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



Christmas Day
December 25, 2015

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ETERNAL LIGHT is given to the Glory of God.

OPERATION STARS & STRIPES collections have begun. Please donate items for this great mission. Donations will be taken until the end of January.

YOUTH GROUP will be having an event on Jan. 3rd from 5:00-7:00 PM @ Zion. Join Joe and your friends for a game of Duck Tape Paddle Ball!

SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY. Coming in January, we will jump back in to our study of Romans on Wednesday evenings. Come and join us as we study the book of Romans together. The fun starts January 2nd at 7:00pm.

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.)

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!

Christ, the Savior, is born. O come, let us adore him, sing choirs of angels, the herald angels sing! Gloria to God in the highest, let earth receive its king! This, dear Christian friends, is a good day!

It is not a good day because we get to open presents. It's not even a good day because our thoughts to back 2,000 years to a stable outside of Bethlehem to the birth of the one born King of the Jews. No, it is a good day because the reality of the birth of Jesus means something today. It means God became a human being like us, and is still a human being like us. It means that God acted decisively in history to save us from sin and death, and that he still acts decisively in history to save us from sin and death. The same God who was pleased as man with man to dwell, is still our Emmanuel!

God be with you as you celebrate the birth of the Lord Jesus!

In Christ,
Pastor Duncan

Rev. Duncan McLellan, Pastor
Pastor's Phone: 412-667-0967
Website: www.zlcb.org

Office Phone: 412-221-4776
Fax: 412-221-4780



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

The Prelude

Please take a moment before the service to fill out the Attendance books.

Introduction to Worship and Announcements

Opening Hymn: Angels We Have Heard on High 368

The Invocation

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

Confession and Absolution

Pastor: This Christmas morning, we come together to celebrate and remember the miraculous birth of Jesus—fully God and fully man, made like us in every way, yet without sin. But as we look to find meaning in the one born King of the Jews, we come to the uncomfortable realization that Jesus came into the world because we are sinful and cannot save ourselves. Therefore, in view of the manger, angels and shepherds, let us confess our sins.

People: **Father in heaven, we thank you for sending your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ into the world for we cannot save ourselves. Have mercy on us, forgive our sins and lead us to greater faith and obedience. Give us the privilege of speaking your name to the world you love and sent your Son to redeem. Amen.**

The Absolution (spoken by the Pastor)

People: Amen.

The Hymn of Praise – Now Sing We Now Rejoice 386

The Prayer of the Church

Pastor: ... Lord, in your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

The Old Testament Lesson: Micah 5:2-5a

But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,
who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to be ruler in Israel,
whose coming forth is from of old,
from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has given birth;
then the rest of his brothers shall return
to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord,
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.

And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth.

And he shall be their peace.

When the Assyrian comes into our land
and treads in our palaces,
then we will raise against him seven shepherds
and eight princes of men;

The New Testament Lesson: Revelation 12:1-6

And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pains and the agony of giving birth. And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads seven diadems. His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven and cast them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she bore her child he might devour it. She gave birth to a male child, one who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron, but her child was caught up to God and to his throne, and the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, in which she is to be nourished for 1,260 days.

Pastor: The Holy Gospel, according to St. John the 1st chapter.

People: **Glory to Thee, O Lord!**

The Gospel: John 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive

him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'") For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise be to thee, O Christ!**

(Please be seated)

The Sermon Hymn: Once in Royal David's City

376

Sermon

(Please stand)

The Creed: 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)

The Collection of the Offering

(Please stand)

Pastor: Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever.

People: Amen!

The Recessional: Hark the Herald Angels Sing

380

† Service Participants †

Pastor:	The Rev. Duncan McLellan
Music Director:	Mark Killinger
The Organist:	Sandra Quinlan
The Elders:	Paul Klemash & Neil Ackerman
The Acolyte:	Carley Rockovich
The Crucifer:	Elder
The Greeters:	Peter & Barbara Fisher
The Ushers:	Carl Bauer, Gene Koop, Ron Meier and Jack Oelschlager
	Vince Kimberland, Ted Siek, Loren Ludeman & Jim Oelschlager
Altar Guild:	Janet, Marian & Molly Oelschlager