## ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY JANUARY 31<sup>ST</sup>, 2016

## <u>ANNOUNCEMENTS</u>

- **ALTAR FLOWERS** are given by Carolyn Wible and The Bishop & Lemonovich Families in Memory of Richard Wible and Jim & Mary Lou Neill in Honor of their 49<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary.
- ETERNAL LIGHT is given by Brad & Jessica Boyle in Memory of all of their grandparents.
- **BIBLE IN A YEAR** readings are available on our church's website and in your monthly Zion Newsletter. Join us as we read the Bible in a Year in 2016!
- **OPERATION STARS & STRIPES** collections have begun. Please donate items for this great mission. Donations will be taken until the end of January. We currently have Raman Noodles -66, Granola Bars 36, Packs of Gum 9, Drink mix singles 127 and Slim Jim's 208
- **YOUTH GROUP** will be going to FLIGHT right here in Bridgeville next Sunday afternoon. The fun starts at 1:45 PM. Plan on having fun and bringing your friends!
- **SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY.** Wednesday's we will continue our study of Romans. Come and join us as we study the book of Romans together. The fun starts 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.)
- CHILDRENS CHOIR is every Tuesday from 6:00 6:45 PM, Kids ages 7-12 are welcome!!
- **BELL CHOIR.** We are looking to expand our music ministry and need your help! We are in the process of establishing a hand bell choir here at Zion! THE FIRST THING WE NEED TO DO IS BUY HANDBELLS. WHICH, AS YOU MIGHT IMAGINE, ARE NOT CHEAP. If you would like to give to this ministry, please note on the MEMO LINE OF YOUR CHECK (OR, IF YOU ARE GIVING CASH, ON THE OFFERING ENVELOPE) that you would like to give to the hand bell choir. Thank for you for support of the music ministry here at Zion! AND STAY TUNED FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR HANDBELL CHOIR!
- **CHILDREN'S CHURCH** has now grown to two Sundays each month—and we need your help! Contact Alissa or the church office if you would like to learn more or volunteer to help out at Children's Church! (In between the sermon hymn and offering at the late service.)
- **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 <a href="https://www.zlcb.org/sermons">www.zlcb.org/sermons</a>

# Welcome to worship!

This morning, our focus is on part of our Bible in a Year reading for today, Genesis 50:15-21. In this text, Joseph's brothers are brought to their knees in repentance for selling their brother (now the most powerful man in the land) into slavery. They are comforted by Joseph's words: "you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good." In saying this, Joseph opens up a huge theological can of worms: the unsearchable wisdom of an all-knowing and all-powerful God. In our New Testament Lesson, the Apostle Paul exclaims (rather excitedly) how great the wisdom of God is, as it is revealed in his plan of salvation for Jews and Gentiles. And in our Gospel Lesson, Jesus' disciples exclaim (again, rather excitedly) how glad they are that Jesus has revealed God to them in a way that they can understand.

There is a lot about God we do not know. In many ways God has remained hidden to us. We do not know what some things happen the way they do. We want answers. We try to find God where he is hidden. It is natural for us to want to do this.

But before we go looking for God's answers where he is silent, we should listen to him when he speaks. This is why reading the Bible, studying the Bible, getting to know God as he reveals himself to us through the Bible is one of the most important callings every Christian has. Please take advantage of the Bible Study opportunities we provide here at Zion (Sunday morning, Wednesday evening and Thursday morning) and that are available outside of church—insofar as they recognize the authority and inspiration of Scripture.

God bless your time in worship this morning! -Pastor Duncan

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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 - Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty

## Introduction to Worship and Announcements

*Opening Hymn*: Holy, Holy, Holy 507

#### The Invocation

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

People: Amen.

#### Confession of Sins

Pastor: Brothers and sisters in Christ, as we come together to listen to God's Word read and proclaimed, and as we receive the body and blood of Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess our sins to God and one another, asking and imploring his grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we confess to you, and to each other, that we have sinned and have done what is evil in your sight in our thoughts, words and deeds. We ask that you, and those gathered here this morning, would deal with us gently and in love. Remove our sins from us as far as the east is from the west and allow us the privilege of trusting in Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior and Lord. We ask this in his name. 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!

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

#### Old Testament Reading: Genesis 50:15-21

When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died: 'Say to Joseph, "Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you." And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people[a] should be kept alive, as they are today. So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

## **New Testament Reading:**

Romans 11:33-36

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

"For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?"

"Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?"

For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

Pastor: In honor of our Lord Jesus Christ, we rise for the reading of the

Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 16th Chapter.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

#### **New Testament Reading:**

John 16:25-30

"I have said these things to you in figures of speech. The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures of speech but will tell you plainly about the Father. In that day you will ask in my name, and I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf; for the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. I came from the Father and have come into the world, and now I am leaving the world and going to the Father."

His disciples said, "Ah, now you are speaking plainly and not using figurative speech! Now we know that you know all things and do not need anyone to question you; this is why we believe that you came from God."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

Sermon Hymn: To Jordan's River Came Our Lord 405

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)

163

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**

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness	636
In God, My Faithful God	745
Be Present at Our Table, Lord	775

#### Benediction

People: Amen

**The Recessional:** Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning 400

Postlude - Morning Star

#### † Service Participants †

Pastor: Rev. Duncan McLellan Music Director: Mark Killinger The Organist: Sandra Quinlan The Elders: Mike Sterba & John Gielarowski

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The Acolyte: Joey Ackerman (8:00)

Leah Luedeman (10:30)

The Greeters: Frank & Sandy Hervert (8:00)

John & Katie Gielarowski (10:30)

The Ushers: Kathleen Conn, Bill Schrag (8:00)

Janet & Larry Zreliak

Sam Dragan, Steve Gauger (10:30)

Kari & John Gresh

Altar Guild: Mary Hutula & Elsie DallaPiazza

Nursery: Jodi & Jenny Fitzgerald

#### Last Week in Worship

Sunday Worship Attendance (1/24) - 185 Wednesday Attendance (1/27) - 29

Sunday Offering (1/17) - \$4,468.00 Online Offering (1/18-1/22) - \$465.00

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

# Week of Jan.31st - Feb.7th

SUNDAY 1/31	8:00 AM – Worship w/Communion 9:30 AM –Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 10:30 AM – Worship w/Communion & Children's Church
MONDAY 2/1	
TUESDAY 2/2	6:00 PM – Children's Choir 7:00 PM – Adult Choir
WEDNESDAY 2/3	7:00 PM – Service of Prayer and Preaching & Romans Bible Study
THURSDAY 2/4	10:00 AM – Bible Study
FRIDAY 2/5	
SATURDAY 2/6	
SUNDAY 2/7	8:00 AM – Worship w/Communion 9:15 AM –Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 10:30 AM – Worship w/ Communion 1:45 PM – Youth Group Event @ Flight







Change in Time! Now: 1:45-4:00pm

## Zion Youth Group Feb 7, 1:45-4:00pm

Schedule: Drop off at Flight Trampoline Park:

1401 Washington Pike Suite #200, Bridgeville, PA 15017 - Behind Kmart @ 1:45pm, Jump from 2-3:00pm. Walk to Kmart for Little Caesars Pizza.

Pick up from Kmart at 4:00pm.

Cost: \$18 - 1 Hour Jump + Socks

IMPORTANT: If you are interested in going please contact Joe: <a href="mailto:youth@zlcb.org">youth@zlcb.org</a>
Please then go to Flight's website: <a href="http://flighttrampolinepark.com/pittsburgh">http://flighttrampolinepark.com/pittsburgh</a>
and Sign the Waiver online!

Who: Anyone in Middle or High School