

Zion Lutheran Church



Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 17th 2016

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **ALTAR FLOWERS** are given by the Pasquini Family in Honor of Ava's 11th Birthday and Bill & Nancy Koester in Memory of Charles & Helen Koester, Bill's Parents.
 - **ETERNAL LIGHT** is given Lois Ann Klemash in Memory of Loved Ones.
 - **WHY DO WE DO THIS?** New to the bulletin is a "Why do we do this?" explanation for one of the elements of the Service. Have you ever wondered why we have "The Invocation" or speak the words of the Creed? Each week, one of the elements of the Service will be explained so you can know why we do what we do in worship.
 - **VICAR!** Word on the street is that we will be assigned a Vicar at the annual Vicarage Assignment Service at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis at 4:00pm, Tuesday, April 26th. Thank you for your prayers and support for getting us back into the Vicarage Program!
 - **WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY** will begin a new study, "Fight Back with Joy" starting Tuesday April 19th from 7:30pm-8:45pm. Sign up is in the narthex of the church. Contact Alissa McLellan or Linda Kroeger with any questions.
 - **MARK JASA** is coming! Mark is a Pastor and Evangelist from sunny southern California who is coming to Zion on April 30th to teach us (and to show us) how to reach out to our friends and even total strangers with the good news of Jesus. Mark (get it?) your calendar for April 30th, 10am-3pm for a day with Pastor and Evangelist Mark Jasa!
 - **YOUTH GROUP** will be having Family Dinner at the Faini's House TONIGHT from 5:00pm-7:00pm! Come hungry and bring friends!
 - **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!
 - **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.)
- VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED. Sign-up sheet is in the narthex.
- **CHILDRENS CHOIR** is moving to Sunday's after late service. We will begin practices on Sunday April 10th!, Kids ages 7-12 are welcome!!
 - **ADULT CHOIR** rehearsals are Tuesdays from 6:45-7:45PM. 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!
 - **MEN'S BIBLE BREAKFAST** is back on at 8:00am down in the Fellowship Hall. Hope to see you there! You don't need to be a Bible Scholar; but being hungry helps.
 - **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!

This morning we are going to break from tradition and focus on readings that were not part of your Bible in a Year reading for the previous week. (I hope you were sitting down when you read that.) We are instead going to look at a passage from your Bible in a Year reading from the week before last. We are going to do this because the topic from 1 Corinthians 6 and 7 is too important to leave untouched. 1 Corinthians 6 deals with sexual purity; 1 Corinthians 7 handles marriage. The two are connected and we are going to take them head-on today.

The Federal Government has recently ordered the states to broaden the scope of whom it will declare to be married, without defining what marriage is. We are going to do them the much needed favor of not only defining what marriage is, but the purposes for which it was created, who created it and when it was created.

We've got a lot of ground to cover this morning! You might want to make use of the Sermon Notes Insert that is part of your Worship Bulletin ☺ The topic of marriage is one that I care a lot about and have spent a decent amount of time studying; I am excited for this morning's sermon and the opportunity to share what I have come to know about marriage from God's Word, especially how it relates to our relationship with Christ!

--Pastor Duncan

Rev. Duncan McLellan, Pastor
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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, 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: 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: This morning, our focus is on the Biblical understanding of marriage. In marriage, we see a picture of the relationship Christ has with us. He plays the role of the faithful and loving husband, protecting and providing for his beloved; treasuring and nurturing her to all maturity; laying his life down for her. We have been called to be faithful, obedient, and selfless in our relationship with Jesus. But we have not been. Like Israel in the Old Testament, we have cheated on Christ with other gods; we do not listen when he talks to us; we treat him more like a casual acquaintance instead of the one to whom we have been united by God. Therefore, let us confess our sins, trusting in God's mercy through Jesus to grant us forgiveness.

People: Lord Jesus Christ, you have called me out of darkness into your marvelous light. You love me more in one minute than anyone else will love me in a lifetime. But I have taken you for granted and have not treated you with the love and covenant faithfulness that you deserve. Therefore, I ask that you would forgive me. Teach me by your Spirit to make you the most important thing in my life. I ask this in your name. Amen.

Absolution Spoken by the Pastor

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

Psalm of the Day:

Psalm 107:1-15

Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever!
Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,
whom he has redeemed from trouble
and gathered in from the lands,
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.
Some wandered in desert wastes,
finding no way to a city to dwell in;
hungry and thirsty,
their soul fainted within them.
Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble,
and he delivered them from their distress.

He led them by a straight way
till they reached a city to dwell in.
Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love,
for his wondrous works to the children of man!
For he satisfies the longing soul,
and the hungry soul he fills with good things.
Some sat in darkness and in the shadow of death,
prisoners in affliction and in irons,
for they had rebelled against the words of God,
and spurned the counsel of the Most High.
So he bowed their hearts down with hard labor;
they fell down, with none to help.
Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble,
and he delivered them from their distress.
He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death,
and burst their bonds apart.
Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love,
for his wondrous works to the children of man!

New Testament Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:25-40

Now concerning the betrothed, I have no command from the Lord, but I give my judgment as one who by the Lord's mercy is trustworthy. I think that in view of the present distress it is good for a person to remain as he is. Are you bound to a wife? Do not seek to be free. Are you free from a wife? Do not seek a wife. But if you do marry, you have not sinned, and if a betrothed woman marries, she has not sinned. Yet those who marry will have worldly troubles, and I would spare you that. This is what I mean, brothers: the appointed time has grown very short. From now on, let those who have wives live as though they had none, and

those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no goods, and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

I want you to be free from anxieties. The unmarried man is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to please the Lord. But the married man is anxious about worldly things, how to please his wife, and his interests are divided. And the unmarried or betrothed woman is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to be holy in body and spirit. But the married woman is anxious about worldly things, how to please her husband. I say this for your own benefit, not to lay any restraint upon you, but to promote good order and to secure your undivided devotion to the Lord.

If anyone thinks that he is not behaving properly toward his betrothed, if his passions are strong, and it has to be, let him do as he wishes: let them marry—it is no sin. But whoever is firmly established in his heart, being under no necessity but having his desire under control, and has determined this in his heart, to keep her as his betrothed, he will do well. So then he who marries his betrothed does well, and he who refrains from marriage will do even better.

A wife is bound to her husband as long as he lives. But if her husband dies, she is free to be married to whom she wishes, only in the Lord. Yet in my judgment she is happier if she remains as she is. And I think that I too have the Spirit of God.

Pastor: In honor of our Lord Jesus Christ, we rise for the reading of the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 19th Chapter.

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

Gospel Reading:**Matthew 19:1-12**

Now when Jesus had finished these sayings, he went away from Galilee and entered the region of Judea beyond the Jordan. And large crowds followed him, and he healed them there.

And Pharisees came up to him and tested him by asking, "Is it lawful to divorce one's wife for any cause?" He answered, "Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female, and said, 'Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate." They said to him, "Why then did Moses command one to give a certificate of divorce and to send her away?" He said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart Moses allowed you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so. And I say to you: whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery."

The disciples said to him, "If such is the case of a man with his wife, it is better not to marry." But he said to them, "Not everyone can receive this saying, but only those to whom it is given. For there are eunuchs who have been so from birth, and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuchs by men, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. Let the one who is able to receive this receive it."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

Sermon Hymn: *Hark, the Voice of Jesus Crying*

826

Sermon

(Please stand)

The Nicene Creed

Why do we do this? To encourage each other by letting our brothers and sisters in Christ know that we stand united in our shared faith. To recognize that, because we share the same faith, we should not hesitate to share the Lord's Supper together. To proclaim to the world what it is we believe! The Nicene Creed was composed during the 4th Century and since then has served as the universal declaration of faith for the Christian Church (across denominations).

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

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: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. Grant us Your Spirit, gracious Father, that we may give heed to the testament of Your Son in true faith and, above all, firmly take to heart the words with which Christ gives to us His body and blood for our forgiveness. By Your grace, lead us to remember and give thanks for the boundless love which He manifested to us when, by pouring out His precious blood, He saves us from Your righteous wrath and from sin, death, and hell. Grant that we may receive the bread and wine, that is, His body and blood, as a gift, guarantee, and pledge of His salvation. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach 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

The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want – Adult Choir

Be Still, My Soul

752

Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord

637

Benediction

People: Amen

The Recessional: Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise 917

Postlude

† *Service Participants* †

Pastor:	Rev. Duncan McLellan
Music Director:	Mark Killinger
The Organist:	Sandra Quinlan
The Elders:	Michael Sterba & Robert Schmidt
The Acolyte:	Joey Ackerman (8:00) Lara Luedeman (10:30)
The Greeters:	Shane & Sandy Bryant (8:00) Robb Oelshlager(10:30)
The Ushers:	Carl Bauer, Gene Koop (8:00) Ron Meier, Jack Oelschlager Loren Luedeman, Vince Kimberland (10:30) Kari & John Gresh
Altar Guild:	Debra LaJeunesse, Carrie Lemonovich & Carolyn Wible
Nursery:	Jodi & Jennifer Fitzgerald

Last Week in Worship

Sunday Worship Attendance (4/10) – 213

Wednesday Attendance (4/13) – 25

Sunday Offering (4/10) - \$5,077.00

Online Offering (4/4-4/8) - \$1,115.00

Bell Choir Contributions - \$90.00

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

Week of April 17th – April 24th

SUNDAY 4/17	8:00 AM – Worship w/Communion 9:15 AM – Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 10:30 AM – Worship w/Communion 11:45 AM – Children’s Choir Practice 11:45 AM – Event’s Committee Meeting 5:00 PM – Youth Event – Faini Family Dinner (Joe’s House)
MONDAY 4/18	
TUESDAY 4/19	6:45 PM – Adult Choir 7:30 PM – Women’s Bible Study
WEDNESDAY 4/20	7:00 PM – Mid Week Service
THURSDAY 4/21	10:00 AM – Bible Study
FRIDAY 4/22	
SATURDAY 4/23	8:00 AM – Men’s Bible Breakfast
SUNDAY 4/24	8:00 AM – Worship w/Communion 9:30 AM – Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 10:30 AM – Worship w/Communion & Children’s Church 11:45 AM – Children’s Choir Practice

JOIN US TONIGHT!



*We're going to learn how
to cook Faini Pasta Sauce!*

Faini Family Dinner Night!

When? *April 17, 5-7:00pm*
Who? Middle or High School
Where? *Faini House*
650 Patterson Ave,
Bridgeville

Contact Joe Faini for More Info: youth@fchb.org

