

# ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



SERVICE OF PRAYER AND  
PREACHING  
APRIL 27<sup>TH</sup> 2016



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**REV. MARK JASA** is coming to Zion **this Saturday**. Who is Mark Jasa, and why should you care? Mark and I went to seminary together; he is a Pastor in the Los Angeles area and has a very enjoyable way of doing outreach and evangelism. He is going to give a presentation (and workshop) for us starting at 10:00 in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome and lunch will be served.

**CONFIRMATION.** Coming this fall, we will be starting a new Confirmation class for kids 6-8<sup>th</sup> grade to learn the basics of the Christian faith and become communicant members of the congregation. Look for more information in upcoming newsletters and in this place as we get closer to the summer season!

**2.10.66!** We've done it twice; will the third time be the charm? Going through all 66 books of the Bible over 10 hours and 2 days. Look for a sign-up sheet in the narthex area as we look at the interest level and possible times for doing a 3<sup>rd</sup> 2.10.66!

**CAR WASH!** We are going to have our 8<sup>th</sup> Car Wash here at Zion on June 4<sup>th</sup>. We'll need people to help out washing, waxing, drying, and cleaning the interiors of the cars we'll get. We also need people to help serve food. The Car Wash begins at 10:00; set-up starts at 9. If you want to come earlier than that, you can come to the 8:00 Bible Study & Breakfast at 8:00.

**VICARAGE.** A group of us (hopefully) got back from St. Louis on an odyssey to meet our Vicar and his family. Look for updates here in the coming weeks about what the Vicar and his family might need and how we can supply his needs!

# Welcome to worship!

This evening, we are going to study the first chapter of 1 Timothy, part of our Bible in a Year Reading for today. This is Paul's first letter to a man he disciplined, took under his wing, and poured his life into. Now responsible for the church in Ephesus, Timothy receives this letter from his former teacher, now partner in ministry. What the Apostle writes to the Pastor matters to the Parishoner.

Paul writes about competing theologies and philosophies, the role of the Law in the life of the Christian, the transforming power of the Gospel and the forgiveness of sins, and the role of church discipline and the real possibility of losing one's faith. That's a lot to choose from for a 15-20 minute sermon. And I am sure in the time between when I am writing this (Monday morning) and when the sermon is put together (possibly Monday afternoon... maybe on the ride back from St. Louis on Wednesday afternoon), I'll narrow down what we are going to spend our time together contemplating. (The whole chapter is simply just too much for one sermon!)

There is a lot of good stuff here in 1 Timothy 1; too much to cover in one message. If you are doing Bible in a Year, I know you'll appreciate your time in 1 Timothy (especially this first chapter). If you are not doing Bible in a Year; please take the time to study at least this first chapter of 1 Timothy. We'll cover a little bit of it this evening, but the whole chapter (the whole book!) is more than worthy of your time and attention.

God bless your time in worship this evening!

--Pastor Duncan

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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 Service of Prayer and Preaching

## *Confession and Absolution*

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

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: This evening, our focus is on the importance of sound doctrine. We have been called to cling to what is good, and reject what is evil. But too often, we have tried to accommodate the futile thinking of this age with our Christ-centered faith. We have called disobedience compromise. Therefore, let us confess our sins to God, trusting in his mercy through our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

People: **Lord Jesus Christ, I confess to you that I have ignored the truth of Your Word, choosing friendship with the world over friendship with God. I have led myself astray. Forgive me. Return me to the truth of Your Word. Teach me to delight in the truth and to look for opportunities to demonstrate my faith in you through obedience to Your Word. I ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

## *Absolution*

People: **Amen!**

## **The First Reading: 1 Timothy 1**

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by command of God our Savior and of Christ Jesus our hope,

To Timothy, my true child in the faith:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

As I urged you when I was going to Macedonia, remain at Ephesus so that you may charge certain persons not to teach any different doctrine, nor to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies, which promote speculations rather than the stewardship from God that is by faith. The aim of our charge is

love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. Certain persons, by swerving from these, have wandered away into vain discussion, desiring to be teachers of the law, without understanding either what they are saying or the things about which they make confident assertions.

Now we know that the law is good, if one uses it lawfully, understanding this, that the law is not laid down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderers, the sexually immoral, men who practice homosexuality, enslavers, liars, perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine, in accordance with the gospel of the glory of the blessed God with which I have been entrusted.

I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

This charge I entrust to you, Timothy, my child, in accordance with the prophecies previously made about you, that by them you may wage the good warfare, holding faith and a good conscience. By rejecting this, some have made shipwreck of their faith, among whom are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I have handed over to Satan that they may learn not to blaspheme.

## **The Second Reading: Psalm 117**

Praise the Lord, all you nations;  
extol him, all you peoples.  
For great is his love toward us,  
and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.  
Praise the Lord.

## ***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***

**Pastor:** Let my prayer rise before You as incense,  
**People:** **and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**  
**People:** **I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ,  
Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day;  
and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I  
have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For  
into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and**

**all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.**

Pastor: For... Let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: Abide with us, Lord, for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. Abide with us and with Your whole Church. Abide with us at the end of the day, at the end of our life, at the end of the whole world. Abide with us with Your grace and goodness, with Your holy Word and Sacrament, with Your strength and blessing. Abide with us when the night of affliction and temptation comes upon us, the night of fear and despair, the night when death draws near. Abide with us and with all the faithful, now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy;

**People: Hear our prayer.**

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 Benediction***

Pastor: The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make His face shine upon us and be gracious to us. The Lord lift up His countenance upon us and give us peace.

**People: Amen.**