

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



SERVICE OF PRAYER AND
PREACHING
MAY 11TH 2016



ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERVICE PROJECT? In the past, we have done Service Projects/ Work Weeks/ Mission Trips at Lutheran Camps across this great land of ours (most recently at Camp Pioneer) over the summer months. But the reality is, we've got nothing planned for this summer. If you are interested in going on a Service Project/ Work Week/ Mission Trip this summer, please let me know. It's not too late to put something together...

CONFIRMATION. Coming this fall, we will be starting a new Confirmation class for kids 6-8th 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 3rd 2.10.66!

CAR WASH! We are going to have our 8th Car Wash here at Zion on June 4th. 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 10:00am; set-up starts at 9am. If you want to come earlier than that, you can come to the Bible Study & Breakfast at 8:00am.

PITTSBURGH LUTHERAN. The Pittsburgh Lutheran is a monthly publication that informs the LCMS community of southwest Pennsylvania what other congregations are doing. This month is the first month that the Pittsburgh Lutheran has been edited and published by an intrepid and talented team from Zion!

Welcome to worship!

Welcome to Worship!

First, let me say THANK YOU for your prayers and patience during the recent health scare with my folks down in North Carolina. We have certainly entered a new phase with dad in recent months, but God has been good in giving us so much time together to enjoy the blessings of faith and family.

This evening, our focus is going to be on several short verses from 1 John 2, part of our Bible in a Year Reading for today. Among other things, in his letter to the church-at-large, John gets into how a Christian should view the things of this world, and how they should relate to worldly things. John (and Paul and Jesus) all teach what can be a middle-path when it comes to how we relate to the things of this world, avoiding the extremes of monasticism on one side and indulgence on the other. Monasticism teaches that the world is so bad that any good Christian will not only not want to have anything to do with the world, but will not have anything to do with the world. They teach that the Christian life is best lived in isolation from the world. On the other side are those who teach indulgence. God created everything good, therefore it is good to do everything. We are saved by grace, not by works, so there is no harm in exposing ourselves to things we know are evil. John teaches that both views are flawed. While we have to encounter the world (both out of necessity, but also out of a sense of God's mission to bring Christ to the world), we should do so without making friends with worldly (sinful) things.

As you can see, we've got lots of ground to cover this evening as we take a look at the Christian's role in the world. Is the accepted saying true that we are "in the world, but not of the world"?

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 high priesthood of Jesus (and what this means for us). As our high priest, Jesus provided an atoning sacrifice for our sins. That sacrifice was his body, crucified on the cross. Therefore, as we confess our sins, we do so in the confidence that our Great High Priest gives us what we need to make us right with God.

People: **Lord Jesus Christ, my Great High Priest, I ask that you would continue to look on me with your mercy, forgive my sins, and lead me to follow your example all the days of my life. Allow the Holy Spirit to have his way with me, that I may glorify you in my life. I ask this in your name. Amen.**

Absolution

People: **Amen!**

The First Reading: 1 John 2:15-17

Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.

The Second Reading: Psalm 131

○ Lord, my heart is not lifted up;
my eyes are not raised too high;
I do not occupy myself with things

too great and too marvelous for me.
But I have calmed and quieted my soul,
like a weaned child with its mother;
like a weaned child is my soul within me.
O Israel, hope in the Lord
from this time forth and forevermore.

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.