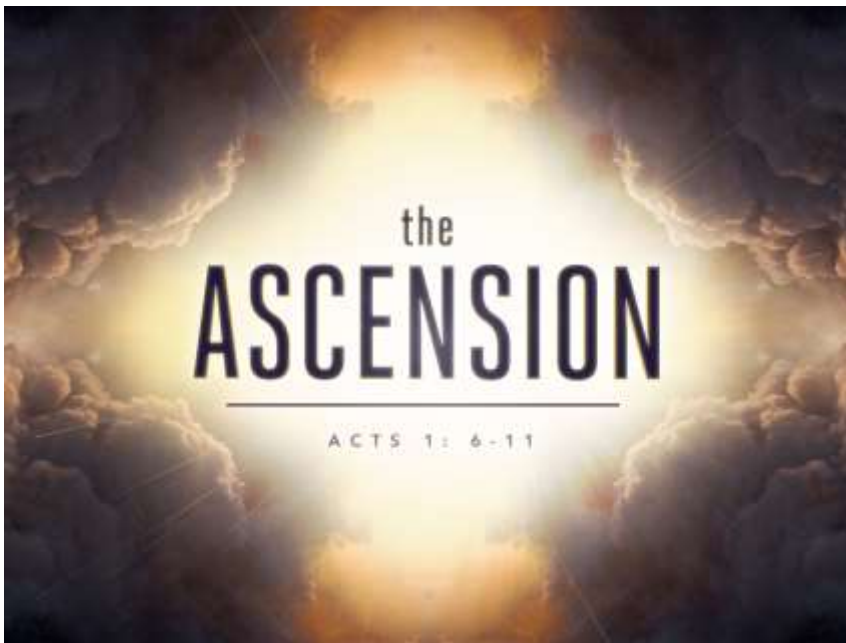


ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



SERVICE OF PRAYER AND
PREACHING
MAY 25TH 2016



ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRE PIT! We have a fire pit. It's a fine fire pit. There's wood to burn and hay bales to sit on. But we can do better! On June 4th, starting at 2pm (when the Car Wash ends), a group of us is going to the back yard to work on the fire pit. Long story short, we are going to make it better. And then we are going to break it in. Join us: June 4th behind the church, 2pm.

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!

This evening we are going to take a look at the opening verses of the book of Acts. With a quick pause to recognize Christ's ascension, the opening chapter of Acts is usually nothing more than a speed bump on the way to Acts 2, the giving of the gift of the Holy Spirit, the first Pentecost, and the exponential growth of the church. So it makes sense that, a week and a half after the church's annual celebration of Pentecost, we would take a look at the events that preceded the event from which we date half of the Sundays in the church year.

When you take a look at the pre-Pentecost church, you see Christians who look (and sound) a lot like us. They want Christ to come back right now. They need to be told to be patient. They need Christ to tell them that their purpose, high calling, and privilege is to bring his gospel to the whole world. They were weak, like we are, needing the Holy Spirit to come on them in order to get anything done.

And, like us, God was patient with his early church. He provided for all their needs—selecting a replacement for Judas, sending the Holy Spirit, and bringing “all nations” to them for them to speak his name and Gospel. God also has provided for us as people and families, but also as his church. He has given us everything we need in Word and Sacrament to have a meaningful relationship with him through faith in Jesus Christ; he provides for our daily bread; he has promised that we will live with him forever. God bless your time in worship this evening!

-Pastor Duncan McLellan

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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

Pastor: O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare Your praise.

Psalm 51:15

People: **Make haste, O God, to deliver me. Make haste to help me, O Lord.**

Psalm 70:1

All: *Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.*

First Reading: Acts 1:1-11

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

Second Reading: Psalm 145

I will extol you, my God and King,
and bless your name forever and ever.

Every day I will bless you
and praise your name forever and ever.

Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised,
and his greatness is unsearchable.

One generation shall commend your works to another,
and shall declare your mighty acts.

On the glorious splendor of your majesty,
and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.

They shall speak of the might of your awesome deeds,
and I will declare your greatness.

They shall pour forth the fame of your abundant goodness
and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

The LORD is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

The LORD is good to all,
and his mercy is over all that he has made.

All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD,
and all your saints shall bless you!

They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom
and tell of your power,
to make known to the children of man your mighty deeds,
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and your dominion endures throughout all generations.

The LORD is faithful in all his words
and kind in all his works.

The LORD upholds all who are falling
and raises up all who are bowed down.

The eyes of all look to you,
and you give them their food in due season.

You open your hand;
you satisfy the desire of every living thing.

The LORD is righteous in all his ways
and kind in all his works.

The LORD is near to all who call on him,
to all who call on him in truth.

He fulfills the desire of those who fear him;
he also hears their cry and saves them.

The LORD preserves all who love him,
but all the wicked he will destroy.

My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD,
and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.

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.

Psalm 141:2

Pastor: My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior; for he has regarded the lowliness of His hand-maiden.

People: For behold, from this day all generations will all me blessed. For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name; and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.

Pastor: He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly.

People: He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty away. He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy and He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.

Luke 1:46-55

Pastor: ...Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
All: *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*

Matthew 6:9-13

The Benediction

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

Numbers 6:24-26

People: Amen.