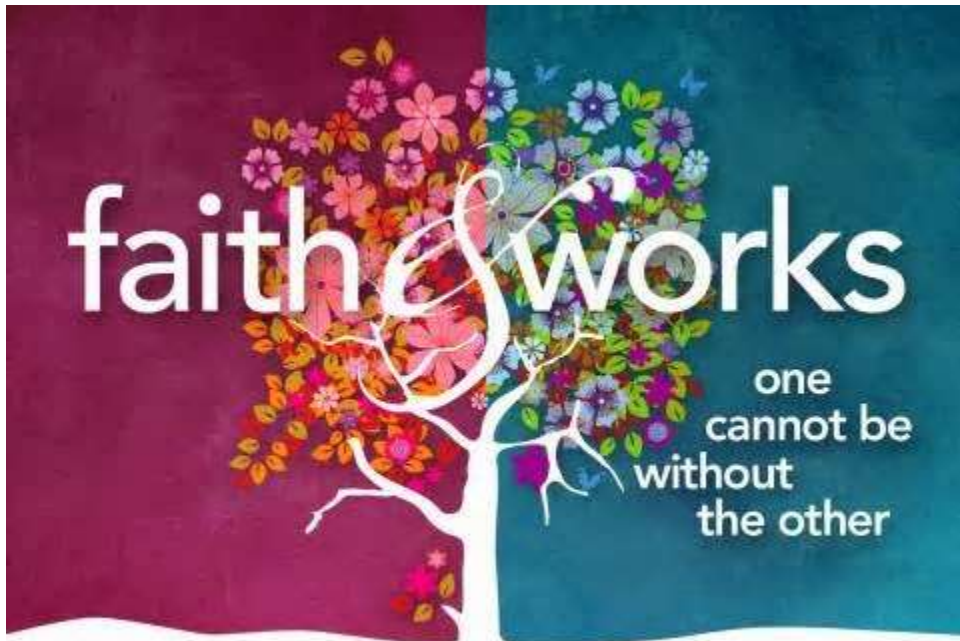


# ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



James 2:15-18

SERVICE OF PRAYER AND  
PREACHING  
AUGUST 10<sup>TH</sup> 2016



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**JAMES AND JUDE!** On Wednesday evenings, we will be having a small group Bible Study on the books of James and Jude as part of our Midweek Service. It's not too late to pick up your study guide following the service this evening. We'll be going over the first unit after the service this week!

**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!

**CREATION CONFERENCE.** Keep an eye out for our second Genesis Seminar here at Zion in August (12-14). We will have a group of scientists and theologians come and present their research and inform us on the truth of the Biblical account of creation. You won't want to miss this conference; a great opportunity to learn and grow in your faith!

# Welcome to worship!

As much as Vicar might want to give me a hard time for sticking him with the first two sermons from our study of James, even he would have to admit that I have saved the most difficult passage for myself. The second half of James 2 is routinely seen as a thorn in the side of faith-alone Christians, as it seems to proclaim that, when it comes to salvation, works are necessary. So let's talk about that.

How can James write the following and still be viewed as canonical by the Christian Church? So faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. And later on, You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone.

Are we wrong? Did the Lutheran Theologians, Augustine, and Paul not know about James? Do we need to abandon the core principles of our doctrine and embrace works righteousness? Or could it be that James is actually agreeing with what Paul and the other apostles and prophets wrote concerning salvation? And, if so, what does James add to our understanding of our relationship with God and witness in the world?

As you can see, we've got a lot to cover this evening—both in our service of Prayer and Preaching and also in our small groups! Glad you are here! 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

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.***

## **Reading:** James 2:14-26

What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

But someone will say, “You have faith and I have works.” Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder! Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that faith apart from works is useless? Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar? You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works; and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”—and he was called a friend of God. You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone. And in the same way was not also Rahab the prostitute justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out by another way? For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead.

## **Message**

(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.

## ***The Prayers***

**Pastor:** Merciful God, we humbly implore You to cast the bright beams of Your light upon Your Church that we, being instructed by the doctrine of the blessed apostles, may walk in the light of Your truth and finally attain to the light of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

**Pastor:** Almighty and everlasting God, You desire not the death of a sinner but that all would repent and live. Hear our prayers for those outside the Church. Take away their iniquity, and turn them from their false gods to You, the living and true God. Gather them into Your holy Church to the glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

**Pastor:** Almighty and ever-living God, You make us both to will and to do those things that are good and acceptable in Your sight. let Your fatherly hand ever guide us and Your Holy Spirit ever be with us to direct us in the knowledge and obedience of Your Word that we may obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: Lighten our darkness, O Lord, and by Your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of Your only Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: ...Lord, in your mercy.

**People: Hear our prayer.**

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 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.

*Numbers 6:24-26*

**People: Amen.**