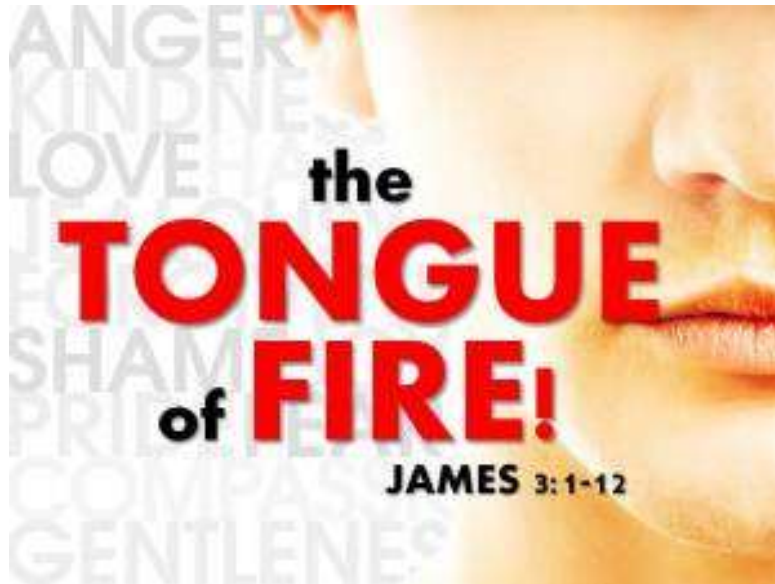


ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



SERVICE OF PRAYER AND
PREACHING
AUGUST 17TH 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 for our 3rd 2.10.66. September 2nd 6-9pm and the 3rd from 10-5.

CONFIRMATION is coming! 6-8th graders, this is for you! Our Parent Meeting is scheduled for 8/29 at 7:00pm with the first Confirmation Class scheduled for 9/12 at 7:00pm. Look for more in September's newsletter, on-line and in the worship bulletin.

GENESIS SEMINAR. Thanks to everyone who came out to the Genesis Seminar last weekend. We were blessed with excellent presenters and learned a lot about the Scriptures and Science behind the creation of the world. Will we do this again? Probably. Let us know if you are interested in a Genesis Seminar 3!

Welcome to worship!

Does your tongue control you? Do you feel that you have power over your tongue or does it often exert its power over you? James talks about the power of the tongue in our passage tonight. The imagery of our tongue steering our body like a rudder is striking. Something so small has the ability to drive us into the trap of sin, divide the body of Christ, and make us look like something we aren't. Whether it is lying, cursing, gossip, or divisive language within the body of Christ, the tongue takes the reigns much too often.

As we come together this evening to continue our study of James we see a shift. James has moved on from the nature of faith to the concrete actions which flow from it in the life of a believer. Our identity is established in Christ. James keeps it clear throughout this text with figurative language and interjections (my brothers!) that he is speaking to Christians, and that the good work of keeping one's tongue in check flows from the identity that one has in Jesus. The words we read and reflect on tonight fall into the category; "in light of the death and resurrection of Jesus (which has become our death and resurrection in our baptisms), how then shall we live?". Strange as it may seem, James is telling you "you are a fig tree... so bear figs!"

God's blessings on your worship this evening!

-Vicar Joshua

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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: The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night and peace at the last
People: Amen.

Pastor: It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praise to Your name, O Most High.
People: To herald Your love in the morning, Your truth at the close of the day.

Psalm 92:1

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.*

Psalm: Psalm 77

I cry aloud to God,
aloud to God, and he will hear me. In the day of my trouble I seek the Lord;
in the night my hand is stretched out without wearying;
my soul refuses to be comforted. When I remember God, I moan;
when I meditate, my spirit faints. You hold my eyelids open;
I am so troubled that I cannot speak. I consider the days of old,
the years long ago. I said, "Let me remember my song in the night;
let me meditate in my heart." Then my spirit made a diligent search: "Will the
Lord spurn forever, and never again be favorable?
Has his steadfast love forever ceased? Are his promises at an end for all time?
Has God forgotten to be gracious? Has he in anger shut up his compassion?"
Then I said, "I will appeal to this, to the years of the right hand of the Most
High." I will remember the deeds of the Lord; yes, I will remember your wonders of
old. I will ponder all your work, and meditate on your mighty deeds.
Your way, O God, is holy. What god is great like our God?
You are the God who works wonders; you have made known your might among the

peoples. You with your arm redeemed your people, the children of Jacob and Joseph. When the waters saw you, O God, when the waters saw you, they were afraid; indeed, the deep trembled. The clouds poured out water;

the skies gave forth thunder; your arrows flashed on every side. The crash of your thunder was in the whirlwind; your lightnings lighted up the world; the earth trembled and shook. Your way was through the sea, your path through the great waters; yet your footprints were unseen. You led your people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

Reading: James 3:1-12

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things.

How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? Can a fig tree, my

brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.

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: Heavenly Father, You are the creator of all things. Guide us, your baptized creatures, by your Holy Spirit so that we use our tongues to glorify you and build up our brothers and sisters in Christ; 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: 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 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.

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.