

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



SERVICE OF PRAYER AND
PREACHING
AUGUST 31ST 2016



ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Book of Psalms! On Wednesday evenings, we will be having a small group Bible Study on the book of Psalms as part of our Midweek Service. We will be starting this study on Wednesday, September 28th. It is a Lifelight study just like the James and Jude study and books will be available for purchase. The sign-up sheet is on the narthex bulletin board.

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.

MINISTRY FAIR Next Sunday, September 11, Zion will be having a ministry fair to showcase the opportunities that we offer to grow in our faith, encourage one another, enjoy each other's company, and serve the community. The fair will take place during the Bible Study hour.

VICAR'S CHOICE. He can talk. He can preach. But can he teach? Come and find out this Sunday at 9:30 in the Fellowship Hall/ Basement/ Undercroft and listen to Vicar Joshua teach Bible Class. We will be discussing the Tower City of Babel.

Welcome to worship!

Money is one of the topics that Jesus returns to over and over in his earthly ministry. He cleanses the temple of those who have placed their love of money above their love of God and are turning his house into a den of robbers. He tells the rich man who approaches him "sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." (the man leaves disheartened). He exhorts his listeners that they cannot serve two masters, God and money. Why does Jesus talk so much about money?

In the Old Testament we see that God does not want to be one god in a pantheon of gods. He does not want to be the "creator god" alongside the "fertility god", the "afterworld god", and the "agriculture god". Worship of Yahweh is exclusive. One cannot worship Yahweh and Baal at the same time. Much of the Old Testament discusses the purity of the worship of Israel- God brought judgement on them for apostasy (worshipping other gods) and for syncretism (mixing worship of Yahweh with worship of other gods). He makes the other gods and their "abilities" look ridiculous. He humiliates their prophets and burns their altars.

Think of money as a false god. Money can be a tool that is used for the spread of the Gospel (Jesus and the twelve had a money bag), but that isn't what Jesus is fighting against. Money can be a false god that takes the place of the true God, and there is no place for the god of money in the life of a Christian. Because money can't take on flesh, die on the cross, or rise from the dead.

May God bless your worship!

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

The Invocation

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

People: Amen.

Confession of Sins and Absolution

Pastor: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

People: The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission for all your sins. Amen

People: I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

Pastor: The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission for all your sins. Amen

First Reading: Luke 12:13-21

Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." But he said to him, "Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?" And he said to them, "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." And he told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man produced plentifully, and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' And he said, 'I will do this: I will tear down my barns

and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry." But God said to him, "Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?" So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God."

Second Reading: James 4:13-5:6

Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit"—yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that." As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

Come now, you rich, weep and howl for the miseries that are coming upon you. Your riches have rotted and your garments are moth-eaten. Your gold and silver have corroded, and their corrosion will be evidence against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure in the last days. Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, are crying out against you, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. You have lived on the earth in luxury and in self-indulgence. You have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter. You have condemned and murdered the righteous person. He does not resist you.

Third Reading: Ecclesiastes 5:8-20

If you see in a province the oppression of the poor and the violation of justice and righteousness, do not be amazed at the matter, for the high official is watched by a higher, and there are yet higher ones over them. But this is gain for a land in every way: a king committed to cultivated fields.

He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves wealth with his income; this also is vanity. When goods increase, they increase who eat them, and what advantage has their owner but to see them with his eyes? Sweet is the sleep of a laborer, whether he eats little or much, but the full stomach of the rich will not let him sleep.

There is a grievous evil that I have seen under the sun: riches were kept by their owner to his hurt, and those riches were lost in a bad venture. And he is father of a son, but he has nothing in his hand. As he came from his mother's womb he shall go again, naked as he came, and shall take nothing for his toil that he may carry away in his hand. This also is a grievous evil: just as he came, so shall he go, and what gain is there to him who toils for the wind? Moreover, all his days he eats in darkness in much vexation and sickness and anger.

Behold, what I have seen to be good and fitting is to eat and drink and find enjoyment in all the toil with which one toils under the sun the few days of his life that God has given him, for this is his lot. Everyone also to whom God has given wealth and possessions and power to enjoy them, and to accept his lot and rejoice in his toil—this is the gift of God. For he will not much remember the days of his life because God keeps him occupied with joy in his heart.

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: In peace let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the gift of divine peace and pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For those who labor, for those whose work is dangerous or difficult, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy,
Amen.

The Service of the Sacrament

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

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 Words of Institution

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: And also with you.

The Distribution

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.