

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



SERVICE OF PRAYER AND
PREACHING
SEPTEMBER 14TH 2016



ANNOUNCEMENTS

GOING AWAY PARTY! If you have not yet RSVP'd to (or if we forgot to send you an invitation and you'd like to attend) the going away party for Pastor and his family, please contact the church office right now. This very minute. Go! Do it. We'd love to have you come, eat, and say goodbye.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING October 1st from 6-9pm? Whatever it is, it's probably not nearly as fun as what the youth are doing. What are the youth doing, you may ask. So glad you asked. WHIFFLE BALL. Middle schoolers, this is for you. Moms and dads with middle schoolers and other kids, we can take your younger kids too (we have childcare) so you can enjoy a nice, peaceful, relaxing evening together.

SOUTH FAYETTE CHILLI COOKOFF. Tickets are available. You should go. It's big dumb fun for the whole family. We have an entry in the competition, so come out and vote for the best chili (ours of course) in the 'burgh! Contact the church office if you would like to help out!

Welcome to worship!

Looking at 3 passages from the Bible on Sunday morning is extremely important. It is a fantastic opportunity to look at the Old Testament and how it ties in to the new. It allows us to reflect on the Gospel reading in light of what the apostles wrote in their letters. The lectionary system (assigned readings for the entire church year that you can find in the beginning of your hymnal) or 3 readings selected by the preacher are a helpful way for us to learn of Jesus. Along with those 3 readings, it is important for each of us to be reading Scripture and studying it in our homes, with our families, on our own. Sunday morning is a great chance to hold one text up to the microscope, but during the week you can cover a good deal of ground on your own.

"Zooming out", reading through the entire Bible or through whole books allows you to see the common themes running through Scripture; God is faithful to his promises, God intervenes on behalf of the poor and downtrodden, God is gracious in redemption but also has great wrath against those who reject him, money can and will become a false god, sexual immorality is a sin against your own body and will drag you away from God, unity in the church is important. These themes, and others, are clearly shown in the whole of Scripture, but not in every individual text. You might go a few weeks in church without hitting a passage that talks about the evil of money or sexual immorality, but moving through books at a time you are sure to find those themes.

One of these themes in Scripture, the looming threat of false doctrine, is clearly seen throughout God's Word but seems to get the short end of the stick when it comes to preaching. Jesus talks about it. Paul, Peter, and Jude discuss the danger of false teachers and their teaching as well. Why does this discussion seem to be less prominent among Christians today? Is it because our situation no longer requires it, or are we complacent? Jude sure seems to take false teachers seriously. We will discuss this in our sermon and study tonight. May God bless you as you hear His Word tonight!

-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

Vicar: The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night and peace at the last

People: Amen.

Vicar: 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.*

First Reading: Jude 1-16

Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ and brother of James,
To those who are called, beloved in God the Father and kept for Jesus Christ:

May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.

Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints. For certain people have crept in unnoticed who long ago were designated for this condemnation, ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

Now I want to remind you, although you once fully knew it, that Jesus, who saved a people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe. And the angels who did not stay within their own position of authority, but left their proper dwelling, he has kept in eternal chains under gloomy darkness until the judgment of the great day— just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding cities, which likewise indulged in sexual immorality and pursued unnatural desire, serve as an example by undergoing a punishment of eternal fire.

Yet in like manner these people also, relying on their dreams, defile the flesh, reject authority, and blaspheme the glorious ones. But when the archangel Michael, contending with the devil, was disputing about the body of Moses, he did not presume to pronounce a blasphemous judgment, but said, "The Lord rebuke you." But these people blaspheme all that they do not understand, and they are destroyed by all that they, like unreasoning animals, understand instinctively. Woe to them! For they walked in the way of Cain and abandoned themselves for the sake of gain to Balaam's error and perished in Korah's rebellion. These are hidden reefs at your love feasts, as they feast with you without fear, shepherds feeding themselves; waterless clouds, swept along by winds; fruitless trees in late autumn, twice dead, uprooted; wild waves of the sea, casting up the foam of their own shame; wandering stars, for whom the gloom of utter darkness has been reserved forever.

It was also about these that Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of his holy ones, to execute judgment on all and to convict all the ungodly of all their deeds of ungodliness that they have committed in such an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things that ungodly sinners have spoken against him." These are grumblers, malcontents, following their own sinful desires; they are loud-mouthed boasters, showing favoritism to gain advantage.

But you must remember, beloved, the predictions of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ. They said to you, "In the last time there will be scoffers, following their own ungodly passions." It is these who cause divisions, worldly people, devoid of the Spirit. But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life. And have mercy on those who doubt; save others by snatching them out

of the fire; to others show mercy with fear, hating even the garment stained by the flesh.

Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

Second Reading: Romans 6:1-14

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. For one who has died has been set free from sin. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for

righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

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

Vicar: In peace let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Vicar: 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.

Vicar: 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.

Vicar: 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.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Vicar: 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.

Vicar: 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.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Vicar: 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

Vicar: 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.