

Zion Lutheran Church



Third Midweek Advent Service
December 14, 2016

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **MIDWEEK SERVICE.** Please join us again next week for Advent Midweek service. Come early at 6:00pm and have dinner here!
- **SUNDAY SCHOOL** leaders are needed for the January Sunday school unit "Jesus is Baptized". Available stations include: Art, Cookery, Games, Science, and Spiritual Practices. A helper for the preschool group is also needed. Please email sundayschool@zxcb.org to sign up.
- **OFFERING ENVELOPES** are now available in the back of the church. Please take your envelopes. Any questions please see Nancy Klemash.
- **JUBILEE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL** is seeking substitute teachers for grades K-8 at its Mt. Lebanon & Dormont campuses. Small class sizes in an atmosphere of prayer, praise and encouragement make Jubilee a great place to teach. Candidates must have a degree in elementary education or secondary education and a minimum of 2 years teaching experience. Visit their website at www.jubilee.org to apply online or call 412-561-5917 to learn more.
- **WELCOME CENTER!** Are you a guest or visitor looking for information about Zion? Hello and welcome to Zion! Stop by the table in the foyer after the service and we'll try to help.
- **BIBLE IN A YEAR** readings are available on our church's website and in your monthly Zion Newsletter. Join us as we read the Bible in a Year in 2016!
- **CHURCH NURSERY:** Is available for kids age 0-2 during the 10:30 Service! The Nursery ("Little Lions") is open during the late service in the lower level of the building. (If you need help locating the nursery, please ask an Usher or Greeter for assistance.)
- **NEED PRAYER?** Stephen Ministers and Elders will be available to pray with or for you following the Service in the Chancel area.
- **TODAY'S GOSPEL READING AND SERMON** will be posted to the ZLCB.org website later today. For an archive of older sermons, visit www.zxcb.org/sermons

Welcome to worship!

Here stands the font before our eyes,
Telling how God has received us;
Th'altar recalls Christ's sacrifice
And what His Supper here gives us.
Here sound the Scriptures that proclaim
Christ yesterday, today, the same,
And evermore, our Redeemer

This verse from the hymn "Built on the Rock" goes through several items in the church, pointing out the altar, the font, and the Scriptures. These three concrete items point to the word and the sacraments, where God's grace and forgiveness are given to us. In Baptism, the Lord's Supper, Absolution, and the preaching and reading of His Word, Jesus comes to you now. Although we are separated by 2000 years from the time when Christ walked the earth, in the Sacraments he comes to us even today. We will explore this more in our sermon this evening.

May God bless your worship!

-Vicar Joshua

Rev. Eric Carlson, Vacancy Pastor
Office Phone: 412-221-4776

Vicar Joshua Ulm
Website: www.zlcb.org



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 the Word

(Please take a moment to fill out the Attendance books, located at either end of the pew. If you are visiting us this morning and would like to be contacted by the church, please indicate so in the Attendance Book. We are glad you chose to worship at Zion this morning!)

Prelude

Introduction to Worship and Announcements

Opening Hymn: Hymn Sing (Concluding with LSB 338)

Opening Versicles

Vicar: O Lord, open my lips.

People: And my mouth will declare your praise.

Vicar: Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

People: Make haste to help me, O Lord. 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.

Kyrie-LSB 152

V In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

V For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

V For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

V For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

V Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

V The Lord be with you

C And also with you

V Let us pray... through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen**

The Sharing of the Peace

V The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

First Reading:

Romans 6:1-11

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.

Second Reading:

1 Corinthians 10:14-22

Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry. I speak as to sensible people; judge for yourselves what I say. The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a

participation in the body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread. Consider the people of Israel: are not those who eat the sacrifices participants in the altar? What do I imply then? That food offered to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything? No, I imply that what pagans sacrifice they offer to demons and not to God. I do not want you to be participants with demons. You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons. You cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons. Shall we provoke the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than he?

Advent Responsory (please stand)

V Stir up your strength, o Lord, and come

C **To reign over Your people Israel**

V I look from afar: and lo, I see the power of God coming, and a cloud covering the whole earth.

C **Stir up your strength, o Lord, and come. 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.**

V The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the First Chapter.

C **Glory to You O Lord.**

Gospel Reading:

Matthew 18:15-20

“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth

about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

V This is the Gospel of the Lord

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Gospel Reading:

John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

V This is the Gospel of the Lord

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

338

Sermon

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 Collection of the Offering

If you are visiting with us this morning, know that your presence here means far more to us than any gift of money you could make; please do not hesitate to let the plate pass you by.

Communal Prayer

This evening we will open up the floor for prayer requests. Vicar will begin with several petitions and then we will continue with a period of silence. During the silence, you may voice your petition saying For _____ and concluding "let us pray to the Lord i.e. "For Mark, that his cancer would be healed, let us pray to the Lord". The congregation will respond "Lord have mercy". If two people talk at the same time, one person will stop and continue with the next petition.

C ... let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**

V for these and for all our needs of body and soul let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

The Lord's Prayer

V Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C 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.**

Benedicamus

V: Let us bless the Lord

C Thanks be to God

Benediction

V The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn: O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide

355

V: Go in peace and serve the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

† *Service Participants* †

Vicar:

Joshua Ulm

Music Director:

Mark Killinger

The Organist:

Sandra Quinlan

The Elders:

John Gielarowski & Mike Sterba

Altar Guild:

Janet & Marian Oelschlager

A Bible Study for Teen Girls

Seamless

Understanding the
Bible as One Complete Story



angie smith

Who: Girls 7th grade and up

Begins: Sunday, January 8th

Time: 11:45 am - 12:45 pm

Sign up: Use the sign-up sheet in the sanctuary or email
Katie Gielarowski @ sundayschool@zfc.com

LifeWay | Girls

**Operation:
Bags of Love**



**Help support our
troops!**

Last year, we sent **264** bags of love to American troops in Afghanistan, Korea and Greenland.

Help make our 5th year the BEST EVER.

Your mission? Bring the following items and place in one of the Operation Stars and Stripes collection boxes:

Ramen Noodles

Drink Mix Singles (Propel, Coffee, etc.)

Snack sized packages of **Granola Bars**

Snack sized packages of **Jerky** or **Slim Jims**

Chewing **Gum**

Gallon-sized **ZipLok** Bags

Other ways you can help:

Monetary donations to help with shipping costs (*make checks payable to Zion Lutheran church and label "OSS"*)

Write a **Letter of Encouragement** to a soldier. Must be written on provided letterhead.

Draw a **Picture** on our Operation: Bags of Love drawing page.

Pray for our troops.

Help Sunday school kids assemble items on February 19th at 9:15am.

(Letterhead and drawing pages are available in the Narthex, school lobby and on the Sunday school tab at www.zlcb.org.)

Collections begin Sunday, December 11th

Thank you for your donations!
~Zion Lutheran Sunday school

For more information about Operation: Stars and Stripes, Inc., please visit their website at www.operationstarsandstripes.org.