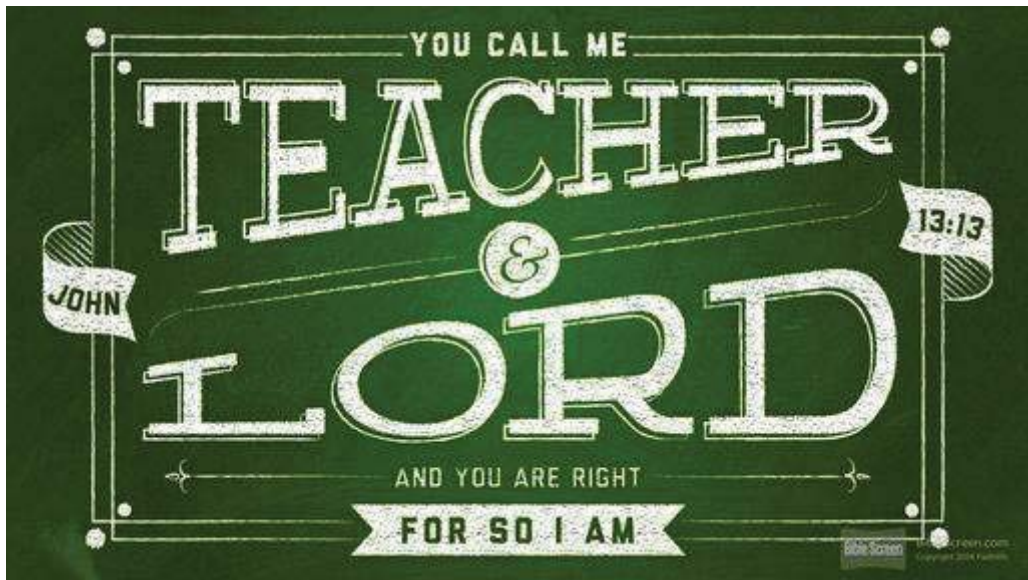


ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



*Third Midweek Advent
December 17th, 2014*



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS (EVE) services are coming up next week! 7:00pm Christmas Eve and 10:00am on Christmas Day. Please join us as we celebrate and remember the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ!

BACK TO BASICS: In 2015, our theme in worship will be Back to Basics. We will focus on the fundamentals of our faith, why we believe what we do, and how to live out our faith in the world. Please join us for worship in 2015 as we go BACK TO BASICS.

Interested in Joining Zion? While not necessary for salvation, visible membership in a congregation is, theologically speaking, a good idea. We'd love to have you (and your family) become part of our fellowship! Talk with Pastor Duncan or contact the church office if you are interested in learning more about church membership.

Women & Men's Bible Studies will begin in January. Men's Bible study will begin on Saturday January 10th and the Women's Bible study will begin Tuesday January 13th. Sign -up on the bulletin board in the narthex!

Sunday School for children and adults is offered on Sunday morning, starting at 9:15. We have some incredible and dedicated teachers who would love to share the good news of Jesus with your children! Pastor Duncan leads the adult class in the basement; we are currently studying the book of Genesis.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH. Tell all the 2-6 year-olds you know that on December 28th at the 10:30 service, we are going to have a special "Children's Church" during the sermon. With music, activities and plenty of adult supervision for our younger members, we are excited about this new ministry @ Zion!

FREE COFFEE FRIDAY. Are you interested in being part of our new community outreach? Can you give 2 hours of your time once every month? If so, then please prayerfully consider signing up to help out with Free Coffee Friday! More information is available in the December Newsletter. Look for the sign-up sheet on the Narthex bulletin board. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Duncan or the Church Office.

Welcome to worship!

It's hard to believe this is our last midweek Advent Service of 2014. But when Christmas falls on a Thursday, 3 midweek services are all we get. This year, we've been looking at the names given to the Christ. We spent the first week taking a look at the name Emmanuel. Last week, we studied the name Jesus. This week, we'll take a look at the name—or, more accurately, TITLE—Lord.

In the Greek, *kurios*.

And here's where it gets interesting. When applied to Jesus, *kurios* is sometimes a Greek translation of the Hebrew word for the proper name for God, YHWH. Here, the meaning clearly points to divinity. But *kurios* in its native Greek context can simply mean “lord,” or “master.” In this sense, it carries with it authority, but not divinity. However, in this Greek context, *kurios* is the same title given to Caesar. Calling Jesus “Lord” was a way the early Christians sent the message that there was one greater than Caesar; the symbol of the powers of this age, the rulers of the kings of the earth.

The earliest Christian creed was simply: “Jesus is Lord.” It was a claim to his divinity and authority over all earthly powers. This evening we are going to look at what the title “Lord” means for the one whose birth we will celebrate next week, as well as the implications it has for us—and for the world.

God bless your time in worship this evening!
-Pastor Duncan

Rev. Duncan McLellan, Pastor

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The Divine Service

The Prelude

(Please take a moment to fill out the Attendance books. Thank you!!)

Introduction to Worship and Announcements

Opening Hymn: Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding 345

The Invocation

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

People: Amen.

Confession of Sins

Pastor: This evening, our focus is on the name given to the Christ: the Lord. As either a claim against Caesar's dominion or to outright divinity, this name places Jesus above all else. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him.

People: **Dear Jesus, we believe that every knee will bow to you, and all tongues confess that you are Lord. Therefore, we confess our sins to you and ask that you would not hold them against us on that glorious day. Have mercy on us and renew us by your Spirit, that we might live lives worthy of the calling we have received.**
Amen.

Absolution Spoken by the Pastor

People: Amen.

The Prayer of the Church

Pastor: ... Lord, in your mercy.

People: **Hear our prayer.**

(Please be seated)

The Old Testament Reading: *Isaiah 45:20-25*

“Assemble yourselves and come; draw near together, you survivors of the nations! They have no knowledge who carry about their wooden idols, and keep on praying to a god that cannot save. Declare and present your case; let them take counsel together! Who told this long ago? Who declared it of old? Was it not I, the LORD? And there is no other god besides me, a righteous God and a Savior; there is none besides me. “Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other. By myself I have sworn; from my mouth has gone out in righteousness a word that shall not return: ‘To me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear allegiance.’ “Only in the LORD, it shall be said of me, are righteousness and strength; to him shall come and be ashamed all who were incensed against him. In the LORD all the offspring of Israel shall be justified and shall glory.”

The New Testament Reading: *Philippians 2:1-11*

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The Gospel Reading: *John 13:12-15*

When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, “Do you understand what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you.”

The Sermon Hymn: People, Look East

Insert

Sermon

(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 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.

(Please be seated)

The Collection of the Offering

(Please stand)

The Benediction

The Recessional: Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord

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† *Service Participants* †

Pastor:	Rev. Duncan McLellan
Music Director:	Mark Killinger
Pianist:	Sandra Quinlan
The Elders:	Frank Vallelunga and Ken Wuerthele
The Greeters:	TBD
The Acolyte:	Elder
Altar Guild:	Janet, Marian and Molly Oelschlager