

Zion Lutheran Church



Good Friday
April 3rd 2015



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH DIRECTORIES have arrived. Please pick your directory up in the narthex (1 per household).

“ALL IN.” That’s the theme for the upcoming men’s retreat at Camp Pioneer. Mark your calendars for April 16-19th; registration forms and a sign-up sheet are in the Narthex area.

IT’S A WR@P. Mark your calendar today for our first **Women’s Retreat @ Pioneer**, May 1st- 3rd. Planning is underway for this event. Please sign up in the narthex if you are interested in attending! Any questions contact Megan Pasquini or Alissa McLellan or email secretary@zxcb.org.

FREE COFFEE FRIDAY! Come join us this Friday in the church parking lot (at 7am), or in the church kitchen (6:30am) for Free Coffee Friday. We’ll be giving away coffee and doughnuts and the good news of Jesus. Hope to see you here, this Friday @ 6:30 or 7:00am!!

BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN: Zion is once again supporting the Pregnancy Resource Center of the South Hills through the **Baby Bottle Campaign**. You can help this pro-life ministry by taking a baby bottle from the table in the church narthex and filling it with your loose change or bills. Please return your filled bottle no later than **Sunday, April 19th**. For more information on the ministry of the PRCSH see the insert in your bulletin.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL Volunteer spots are going fast! Stations available are Games and Opening/Closing skits. Crew leader/helper positions are also available. Contact Katie Gielarowski or email secretary@zxcb.org

GOT CARE? Life is full of unexpected events that catch us off guard, make us grieve, shake our understanding of how the world works, leave us feeling lonely, or take us to any number of places we simply don’t want to go. If you need the hand of a brother or sister in Christ to help you get through the difficult seasons of life, we can help! Talk to Pastor Duncan or Kristen Neill to see if Stephen Ministry is right for you!

??????? If you have questions about what you heard in this morning’s sermon, or about the topic we discussed, fill out the insert and put it in the Offering Plate. Your question will be answered on Wednesday’s service and posted online.

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 Zion Lutheran Church!

Why did you come to church tonight?

Good Friday is, for me, the most powerful worship service of the year. It doesn't feel like other worship services. We dim the lights. The music is simple. We leave in dark silence. The cross is laid to rest on the altar. There's no shaking hands and camaraderie. There is no benediction.

While we remember the death and resurrection of Christ at all of our worship services throughout the year, what makes Good Friday unique is that the suffering and death of Christ is all we are remembering. This greatest demonstration of love is also the greatest act of obedience.

Beaten, mocked, tortured and crucified, the Son of God reigns triumphantly from the throne of the cross. What looked like defeat to the crowds that passed by and hurled their insults is actually God's Kingdom coming in power and glory. What looked like the end of a reformation movement was actually the start of the church. What looked like the sealing of a tomb was actually the setting of the stage of the all-conquering resurrection.

This evening, we come together to remember the reason why we have hope that our sins are forgiven, that atonement has been made and that we have been reconciled to God by the death of his son. This evening, as we listen to the horrific details of the suffering and death of Christ, we can be confident that we now have the peace of God that surpasses all understanding.

God bless your time in worship this evening.

-Pastor Duncan

Rev. Duncan McLellan, Pastor

www.zlcb.org

Office Phone: 412-221-4776

The Service of the Word

(Please take a moment to fill out the Attendance Books, located at either end of the pew. Thank you!)

The Prelude

Introduction to Worship and Announcements

(please stand)

Opening Hymn: Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus

531

The Invocation

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

People: Amen.

The Confession and Absolution

Pastor: This evening we come together to remember with somber joy the amends-making sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ for the sins of the world. As we do so, we come face to face with the humbling reality that it was our sins that deserve the punishment Jesus received. You and I are the reason Jesus suffered as he did. Therefore, let us confess our sins to the one who laid his life down for us, trusting in the mercy of God and the sufficiency of the sacrifice he made with his own blood on the cross.

People: **Lord Jesus Christ, I confess that I have sinned. I have sinned against strangers. I have sinned against people I know. I have sinned against people I call my friends. I have sinned against my own family. I have sinned against you. Forgive my sins with the blood of your cross. Blot out my transgressions with the blood of your cross. Restore me to a right relationship with you by the blood of your cross. By the blood of your cross, save me. Amen.**

The Absolution

Mark 14:32-52

And they went to a place called Gethsemane. And he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." And he took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be greatly distressed and troubled. And he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death. Remain here and watch." And going a little farther, he fell on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. And he said, "Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. Remove this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will." And he came and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not watch one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy, and they did not know what to answer him. And he came the third time and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? It is enough; the hour has come. The Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand."

And immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the scribes and the elders. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man. Seize him and lead him away under guard." And when he came, he went up to him at once and said, "Rabbi!" And he kissed him. And they laid hands on him and seized him. But one of those who stood by drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his ear. And Jesus said to them, "Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture me? Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not seize me. But let the Scriptures be fulfilled." And they all left him and fled.

And a young man followed him, with nothing but a linen cloth about his body. And they seized him, but he left the linen cloth and ran away naked.

First Devotion: *All Things Are Possible for You*

The Second Song: *Go to Dark Gethsemane*

436

Mark 14:53-72

And they led Jesus to the high priest. And all the chief priests and the elders and the scribes came together. And Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. And he was sitting with the guards and warming himself at the fire. Now the chief priests and the whole council were seeking testimony against Jesus to put him to death, but they found none. For many bore false witness against him, but their testimony did not agree. And some stood up and bore false witness against him, saying, "We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.'" Yet even about this their testimony did not agree. And the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus, "Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?" But he remained silent and made no answer. Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?" And Jesus said, "I am, and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven." And the high priest tore his garments and said, "What further witnesses do we need? You have heard his blasphemy. What is your decision?" And they all condemned him as deserving death. And some began to spit on him and to cover his face and to strike him, saying to him, "Prophesy!" And the guards received him with blows.

And as Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came, and seeing Peter warming himself, she looked at him and said, "You also were with the Nazarene, Jesus." But he denied it, saying, "I neither know nor understand what you mean." And he went out into the gateway and the rooster crowed. And the servant girl saw him and began again to say to the bystanders, "This

man is one of them.” But again he denied it. And after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, “Certainly you are one of them, for you are a Galilean.” But he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, “I do not know this man of whom you speak.” And immediately the rooster crowed a second time. And Peter remembered how Jesus had said to him, “Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times.” And he broke down and wept.

Second Devotion: *Being with the Nazarene*

The Third Song: *What Wondrous Love Is This*

543

Mark 15:1-20

And as soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. And they bound Jesus and led him away and delivered him over to Pilate. And Pilate asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” And he answered him, “You have said so.” And the chief priests accused him of many things. And Pilate again asked him, “Have you no answer to make? See how many charges they bring against you.”⁹ But Jesus made no further answer, so that Pilate was amazed.

Now at the feast he used to release for them one prisoner for whom they asked. And among the rebels in prison, who had committed murder in the insurrection, there was a man called Barabbas. And the crowd came up and began to ask Pilate to do as he usually did for them. And he answered them, saying, “Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?” For he perceived that it was out of envy that the chief priests had delivered him up. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release for them Barabbas instead. And Pilate again said to them, “Then what shall I do with the man you call the King of the Jews?” And they cried out again, “Crucify him.” And Pilate said to them, “Why, what evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “Crucify him.” So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified.

And the soldiers led him away inside the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters), and they called together the whole battalion. And they clothed him in a purple cloak, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on him. And they began to salute him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" And they were striking his head with a reed and spitting on him and kneeling down in homage to him. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. And they led him out to crucify him.

Third Devotion: *A Worthy Accusation*

The Fourth Song: *Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted*

451

Mark 15:21-32

And they compelled a passerby, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry his cross. And they brought him to the place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he did not take it. And they crucified him and divided his garments among them, casting lots for them, to decide what each should take. And it was the third hour when they crucified him. And the inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." And with him they crucified two robbers, one on his right and one on his left. And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!" So also the chief priests with the scribes mocked him to one another, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also reviled him.

Fourth Devotion: *The King of the Jews*

The Fifth Song: *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded*

449

Mark 15:33-41

And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" And some of the bystanders hearing it said, "Behold, he is calling Elijah." And someone ran and filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." And Jesus uttered a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!" There were also women looking on from a distance, among whom were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. When he was in Galilee, they followed him and ministered to him, and there were also many other women who came up with him to Jerusalem.

Fifth Devotion: *The Forsaken Son of God*

The Sixth Song: *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

425

Mark 15:42-47

And when evening had come, since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the Sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate was surprised to hear that he should have already died. And summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the corpse to Joseph. And Joseph bought a linen shroud, and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud and laid him in a tomb that had been cut out of the rock. And he rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where he was laid.

Sixth Devotion: *Resurrection Preparation*

The Seventh Song: *Were You There*

456 (vs. 1-3)

The Lord's Prayer (Spoken softly by the Congregation)

The Strepitus

The Ringing of the Bell and Lowering of the Cross

The Congregation leaves in silence.

† *Service Participants* †

The Officiant:	The Rev. Duncan McLellan
The Organist:	Sandra Quinlan
The Elders:	Bill Bishop and David Hutula
The Acolyte	Josh Gielarowski
The Ushers:	TBD
Bulletin Cover	Kristen Neill
Altar Guild:	Debra Lajeunesse, Carrie Lemonovich and Carolyn Wible