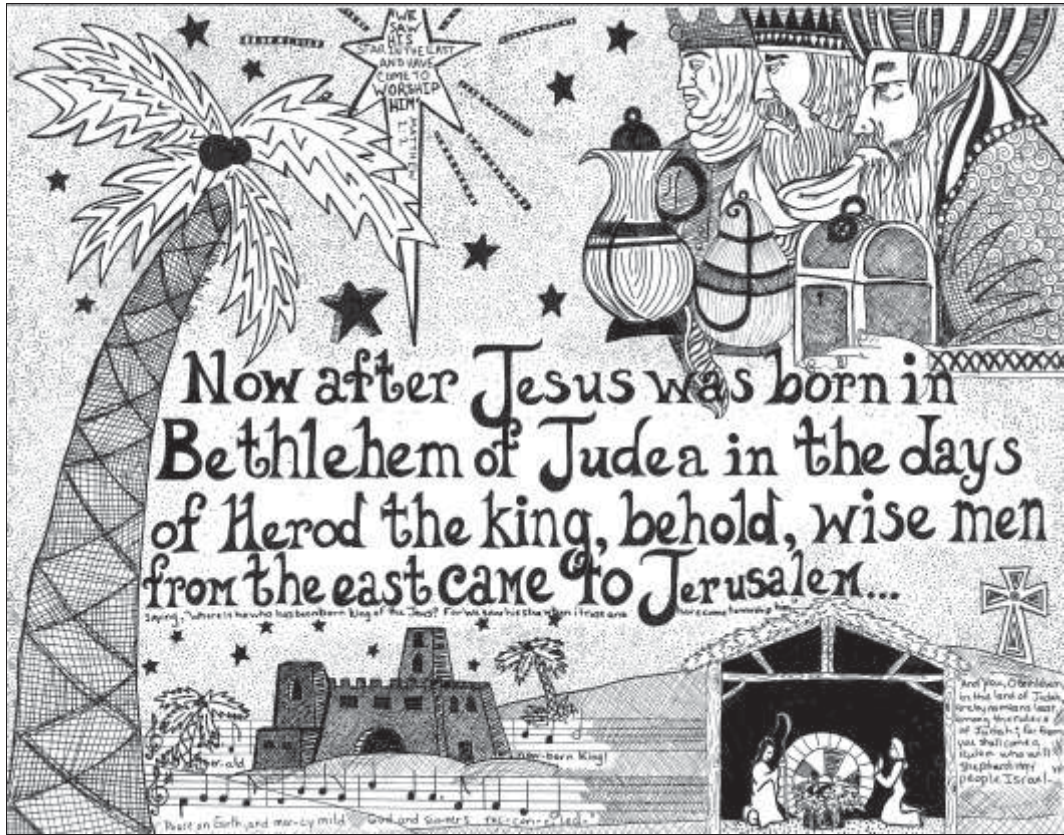


ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



Epiphany Sunday
January 4th, 2015



ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS are given by The Pasquini Family in Honor of Decklan's 6th Birthday & The Klemash Family in Memory of Loved Ones.

ETERNAL LIGHT is given by The Lemonovich Family in Honor of Luke's 8th Birthday.

CONGRATULATIONS to John Lemonovich and his team, 7Lemons for winning the 3rd annual Fantasy Football League at Zion: The Zion Experience. As the champion, John has asked that donations (from other Team Owners and anyone so inclined) be made to the ALS Association. <http://www.alsa.org/donate/> Thanks to everyone who participated in The Zion Experience and for donating to this worthy cause.

THANK YOU to Kristen Neill for her wonderful artwork for our Thanksgiving Eve, Christmas Eve and Epiphany bulletin covers.

FREE COFFEE FRIDAY! We're looking for volunteers for Free Coffee Friday and we can use your help. Our goal is to remind people of the love of God for them in Jesus as they drive to work. (And, hopefully, throughout the day.)

BACK TO THE BASICS. begins this SUNDAY! Join us as we take a year to go back and focus on the foundation of the Christian faith. There will be handouts summarizing what we cover in the Sermon as well as opportunities to ask questions. We hope that this series will help you grow in your Christ-centered faith and equip you to give a reason to those who ask for the hope that you have in our Lord Jesus Christ!

NEW MEMBER LUNCHEON is one week away! If you've joined our church in the last year or so (or if you've been visiting with us for a good bit of time), look for an invitation to come to a free lunch on January 11th, where you can get to know the church leadership.

USHERS NEEDED! Please consider volunteering to be an usher for early or late service for 2015. The sign-up sheet is in the narthex. Contact Larry Zreliak with any questions!

HELP NEEDED with changing the sayings on the outside sign. If you would like to help with this please contact Pastor or the church office.

OFFERING ENVELOPES for next year are now available. You can be picked them up in the back of the church.

NEED PRAYER? Stephen Ministers and Elders will be available to pray with or for you following the Service in the Chancel area.

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY will begin in January. We'll both be studying the same thing: Paul's Letter to the Galatians. Men will continue to meet on Saturday Jan. 10th at 8:00am; women on Tuesday Jan. 13th at 7:30. The study will last for six weeks; fun for the whole family! Sign-up sheets are hanging in the narthex.

FOOD BANK in December distributed to 124 families which includes adults, children and the elderly. Thank you for your generosity.

TODAY'S GOSPEL READING AND SERMON will be posted to the ZLCB.org website later today. For an archive of older sermons, visit www.zlcb.org/sermons

Welcome to worship!

This morning we begin our year-long commitment to going Back to Basics. I've been looking forward to this series for quite a while. There are a number of reasons why we chose to have the sermons in 2015 focus on the fundamental truths of the Christian Faith.

- With so many new members to the church, it's important that we spend time together learning (and re-learning) the core beliefs of the church, and drawing some very practical applications from them for our daily lives.
- Selfishly, I like going back to basics. It's good for your pastor, and it's good for you to refresh your memory on the cornerstone beliefs held dear by Scripture and our church.
- The Basics have tremendous practical application to our daily lives! I cannot emphasize this enough... but throughout the year, I hope to try.
- This series will be a resource for people new to the Christian faith, who want to know more about the main teachings of the Bible.

Also, there will be inserts in the bulletins this year asking for your questions on the topic discussed in the sermon. These questions will be answered during our Midweek Service of Prayer and Preaching (7pm Wednesday). I encourage you to attend this service, as in addition to answering the questions you have on Sunday, we will also springboard off the main topic from Sunday and dig a little deeper in God's Word. If you cannot attend our Midweek Service, you can catch the audio recording of the sermon (and answers to your questions) on the church website by Thursday afternoon.

God bless your time in worship this morning, as we focus on the importance of Biblical Teaching!

-Pastor Duncan

Rev. Duncan McLellan, Pastor

Pastor's Phone: 412-667-0967

Website: www.zlcb.org

Office Phone: 412-221-4776

Fax: 412-221-4780

The Divine Service

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

Introduction to Worship and Announcements

Opening Hymn: Come, Let Us Join Our Cheerful Songs 812

The Invocation

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

People: Amen.

Confession of Sins

Pastor: As we look to begin our year-long focus of going Back to the Basics, we encounter one of the most foundational truths of all: in the presence of a holy God, we have sinned and deserve divine wrath and punishment. But we also believe in the foundational truth that God is merciful and forgives sins on account of Christ. Therefore, let us confess our sins.

People: **Father in heaven, we confess to you that we have sinned. Some of our sins are known all too well by ourselves and others. But some sins are known only by you. Therefore, we ask that you would forgive us on account of the perfect life and all-conquering and atoning death of our Lord Jesus Christ. Restore us to a right relationship with you and lead us in righteousness and holiness all the days of our lives.**

Absolution Spoken by the Pastor

People: Amen.

The Hymn of Praise 933

*My soul rejoices, my spirit voices—Sing the greatness of the Lord!
For God my Savior has shown me favor—Sing the greatness of the Lord!
With praise and blessing, join in confessing
God, who is solely mighty and holy—O sing the greatness of God the Lord!*

*His mercy surely shall rest securely
On all who fear Him, love and revere Him—O sing the greatness of God the Lord!*

*His arm now baring, His strength declaring—Sing the greatness of the Lord!
The proud He scatters, their rule He shatters—Sing the greatness of the Lord!
Oppression halted; the meek exalted.
Full are the hungry; empty the wealthy—O sing the greatness of God the Lord!
Here is the token all that was spoken
To Abraham's offspring God is fulfilling—O sing the greatness of God the Lord!*

The Prayer of the Church

Pastor: ... Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

(Please be seated)

The Service of the Word

The Old Testament Reading: Deuteronomy 11:18-25

“You shall therefore lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul, and you shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall teach them to your children, talking of them when you are sitting in your house, and when you are walking by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates, that your days and the days of your children may be multiplied in the land that the Lord swore to your fathers to give them, as long as the heavens are above the earth. For if you will be careful to do all this commandment that I command you to do, loving the Lord your God, walking in all his ways, and holding fast to him, then the Lord will drive out all these nations before you, and you will dispossess nations greater and mightier than you. Every place on which the sole of your foot treads shall be yours. Your territory shall be from the wilderness to the Lebanon and from the River, the river Euphrates, to the western sea. No one shall be able to stand against you. The Lord your God will lay the fear of you and the dread of you on all the land that you shall tread, as he promised you.

The New Testament Reading: 2 Timothy 3:10-17

You, however, have followed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions and sufferings that happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra—which persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

Pastor: In honor of our Lord Jesus Christ, we rise for the reading of the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 7th chapter.

People: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The Gospel Reading: Matthew 7:24-27

“Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

(Please be seated)

Sermon Hymn: Lord, Help Us Ever to Retain

865

Sermon

(Please stand)

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, The Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth
And of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
The only-begotten Son of God, Begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, Very God of very God, Begotten, not made,
Being of one substance with the Father, By whom all things were made;
Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven.
And was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary And was made man;
And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into
heaven
And sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge
both the living and the dead, Whose kingdom will have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Spirit, The Lord and giver of life,
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son
together is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism
for the remission of sins, And I look for the resurrection of the dead
And the life of the world to come. Amen.

(Please be seated)

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.

(Please stand)

The Service of the Sacrament

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for

the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So 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.

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

People: And also with you.

The Sharing of the Peace

The Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)

163

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

(Please be seated until it is your time to commune.)

The Distribution

We welcome to the Lord’s Table all who have been baptized in the name of the Triune God, can examine themselves spiritually and believe they receive the true body and blood of the Lord Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins and as a profession of their faith. If you hold a profession of faith that differs from that of our congregation, please speak to the Pastor before the start of the service before communing.

- We believe the body and blood of Christ are truly present in the bread and wine.
- We believe Christ offers the forgiveness of sins in the Lord’s Supper, but that the Lord’s Supper is not necessary for salvation.
- We believe the Lord’s Supper remembers the death of Christ and proclaims his death until he returns.
- We believe the Lord’s Supper is a statement of unity in the body of Christ; we do not believe it creates that unity.

During the distribution, you are encouraged to sing the Distribution Hymns, pray, or meditate on the words "this is my body... this is my blood, given for you."
The cups at the center of the Individual Communion tray contain diluted wine for those with alcohol sensitivities.

Distribution Hymns

Take My Life and Let It Be	783
Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise	680
Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word	655

(Please stand)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pastor: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

Benediction

People: **Amen**

<i>The Recessional:</i> We All Believe in One True God	953
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† *Service Participants* †

Pastor:	The Rev. Duncan McLellan
Music Director:	Mark Killinger
The Organist:	Sandra Quinlan
The Elders:	John Gielarowski and David Hutula
The Acolyte:	Josiah Ackerman (8:00) Lara Luedeman (10:30)
The Greeters:	Gene & Sharon Koop (8:00) Jim & Marylou Neill (10:30)
The Ushers:	Kathleen Conn, Bill Schrag, Janet and Larry Zreliak (8:00) Neil Ackerman, Steve Gauer, Kari & John Gresh (10:30)
Altar Guild:	Elsie DallaPiazza & Mary Hutula

Last Week in Worship

Christmas Eve Attendance (12/24) - 275

Christmas Day Attendance (12/25) - 64

Sunday Worship Attendance (12/28) - 180

Christmas Eve Offering (12/24) - \$4,815.00

Christmas Day Offering (12/25) - \$ 920.00

Offering (12/28) - \$3,151.56

Week of Jan. 4 – Jan. 11

SUNDAY 1/4	8:00 AM – Worship w/Communion 9:15 AM – Bible Study/Sunday School 10:30 AM – Worship w/Communion 11:45 AM – Children’s Choir Practice
MONDAY 1/5	7:00 PM – Trustees Meeting
TUESDAY 1/6	7:15 PM – Board of Education Meeting
WEDNESDAY 1/7	7:00 PM – Prayer & Preaching Service
THURSDAY 1/8	10:00 AM – Bible Study 7:00 PM – Choir Practice 7:30 PM – Elders Meeting
FRIDAY 1/9	6:30 PM – Bowling @ AMF Mt.Lebanon
SATURDAY 1/10	8:00 AM – Men’s Bible Breakfast
SUNDAY 1/11	8:00 AM – Worship w/ Communion 9:15 AM – Bible Study / Sunday School 10:30 AM – Worship w/ Communion 11:45 PM – Children’s Choir Practice Food Bank Collection