

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



*Service of Prayer and Preaching
February 4th, 2015*



ANNOUNCEMENTS

BACK TO BASICS. We are going Back to Basics here at Zion for 2015. On both Sunday morning and Wednesday evening services, the focus will be on the core beliefs of our Christian faith. If you miss a Sunday (or Wednesday) service, the messages are available on our website.

ALL IN! The men of the church are going back to Camp Pioneer this April, 16-19th. Along with men from three other congregations in our District, we are going to spend time in fellowship and prayer learning what it means to go “all in” as a Christian man. Look for a sign-up sheet in the Narthex area in the coming months, along with more information about the retreat.

WR@P! The females of our congregation are going to get WR@Ped May 1-3 at Camp Pioneer at the first ever Women’s Retreat @ Pioneer. Join your sisters-in-Christ for fellowship, Bible Study, and time for reflection and relaxing. More information about the retreat will be available soon in your Newsletter and on the Website.

WOMEN’S AND MEN’S BIBLE STUDIES continue this Saturday. 8am for the guys and Tuesday (7:30pm) for the women. If you haven’t signed-up for the study yet, don’t worry! We ordered extra books and would love to have you join us! It’s not too late to come. Please join us.

FUNERAL SERVICE FOR DICK WIBLE will be tomorrow, February 5th at 10:300 here at Zion. A time for refreshments and fellowship will follow in the church basement with a luncheon to commence when those who attended the burial return. We lift up the Wible family in our prayers as they mourn the loss of a dear brother in Christ. Maranatha!

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! Look for the sign-up sheet on the Narthex bulletin board. Our **FIRST EVER FREE COFFEE FRIDAY** is next week! If you have questions, please contact Pastor Duncan or the Church Office.

Welcome to worship!

Our worship this evening is overshadowed by the sudden death of a dear brother in Christ, Richard Wible. I'm sure we all have our Dick stories and will profoundly feel his absence from Zion and our lives for a long time to come. But, unlike other people, we grieve in hope—hope that Dick enjoys God's presence now in a way that is different and better than how we enjoy his presence in this life, and that he—along with all who are in Christ—will be raised to an indestructible life with our Lord returns in glory.

And so we press on. Befitting the memory of a man committed to reading and inwardly digesting the Scriptures, out time this evening will be spent in God's Word, specifically the 4th Commandment: Honor your father and your mother.

We looked at this Commandment in general last Sunday; this evening we are going to look at a part of the Commandment we took a pass on last Sunday: under what conditions may Christians rebel against unjust authority? I think you will be surprised how clearly Scripture teaches us when it is the lesser of two evils to “obey God rather than man,” but that the condition it gives might surprise you. Hint: not surprisingly, at the center of it all is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ!

God bless your time in worship!

-Pastor Duncan

Rev. Duncan McLellan, Pastor

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The Service of Prayer and Preaching

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

The Invocation

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

People: Amen.

Confession of Sins

Pastor: Brothers and sisters in Christ, before we listen to God's Word and contemplate its meaning for us this evening, let us unburden our consciences and set our minds at rest by confessing our sins to our heavenly Father.

People: **Father in heaven, before I listen to your Word and come before you with the prayers of my heart, I need to confess to you that I have sinned against you in thought, word and deed. I have not done what you have told me to do, and I have also done what is evil in your sight. On account of Christ Jesus my Lord, have mercy on me and forgive me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and uphold me with your Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Absolution Spoken by the Pastor

People: Amen.

The Reading: Acts 5:17-32

But the high priest rose up, and all who were with him (that is, the party of the Sadducees), and filled with jealousy they arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life." And when they heard this, they entered the temple at daybreak and began to teach.

Now when the high priest came, and those who were with him, they called together the council, all the senate of the people of Israel, and sent to the prison to have them brought. But

when the officers came, they did not find them in the prison, so they returned and reported, "We found the prison securely locked and the guards standing at the doors, but when we opened them we found no one inside." Now when the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these words, they were greatly perplexed about them, wondering what this would come to. And someone came and told them, "Look! The men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people." Then the captain with the officers went and brought them, but not by force, for they were afraid of being stoned by the people.

And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest questioned them, saying, "We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man's blood upon us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

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 Prayers

For the prayers this evening, you are invited to come to the Communion Rail and kneel.

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord:

Pastor: For our congregation: that the Lord would continue to guide and direct all that we do in his name, sanctify and bless the work we do in His name, and lead us to a greater understanding of the mystery of our union with him. Let us pray.

Pastor: For our families: that the Lord would bless them in every way, that their faith in Christ would grow daily, and that they would make time in God's word a priority in their daily lives. Let us pray.

Pastor: For our friends and acquaintances: that they would come to know Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, and that God would make us bold to speak the name of Jesus to those walking in darkness. Let us pray.

Pastor: For people we know who are ill: that the Lord would demonstrate his authority over sickness through restoring them to health. Let us pray.

Pastor: For those who govern, that they would faithfully discharge the duties of their office with wisdom and integrity. Let us pray.

Pastor: For those who grieve, especially the Wible family: that the Lord would strengthen their faith in him, the forgiveness of sins and resurrection unto eternal life, and that he would turn their mourning to joy in his time. Let us pray.

Pastor: For our brothers and sisters in Christ who faithfully witness to the resurrection and the love of God in Christ Jesus: that God would strengthen their faith, give them opportunities to witness to his gospel, and that they would be blessed to see him at work in their lives. Let us pray.

Pastor: For the concerns we have in our hearts. Let us pray.

Pastor: Taught by our Lord and trusting in his promises, we are bold 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.

The Benediction