

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



Service of Prayer and Preaching
May 20th, 2015



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY is May 31 at the 10:30 service. Our Confirmands will be making their vows of faithfulness and desire to join our congregation as well as receiving their First Communion. We'll be celebrating after the service in the Fellowship Hall; all are welcome.

2.10.66. For those who are interested in joining, as well as for those who want to take a crash-course in the basic teachings of the books of the Bible, we'll be having a weekend full of fellowship and learning. Mark your calendars for June 12 (7-9pm) and June 13 (10-6) and let Pastor (or the church office) know you are interested in coming. Hope to see you there!

THANK YOU for wearing Orange to church last Sunday! The Post Gazette ran a very favorable article about what we did, a number of people asked our members why they were wearing orange, and we were asked to guest post on a popular Christian blog. Doors were opened, the name of Christ was spoken, the church was prayed for, and the persecution of the church was put in the public eye. We will be doing another Orange-Out on July 19th. Look for more information in the June newsletter and on the church website.

CAR WASH. Come on out Saturday 5/30 to Zion's Annual End of Spring Car Wash! We'll be washing and detailing cars for free from 10-2 in the church parking lot. We can use your help washing, vacuuming, drying, spritzing and spraying, grilling and serving. Oh, did I forget to mention that in addition to getting a free car wash and detail, you'll also get something to eat while you wait? Absolutely! Mark your calendars and come out to Zion on Saturday, May 30th!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: Crew leader and helper positions are still available. We are also looking for help in the nursery. Contact Katie Gielarowski or email secretary@zlc.org to volunteer.

Welcome to worship!

What a Sunday we had here at Zion! With the Post Gazette taking pictures at the late service for an article they ran about our Orange-Out, to so many of us wearing orange to raise awareness for the persecuted church! We had more “hits” on our church Facebook page for the Orange-Out than we had for any other event. It was a tremendous success; one that we will try to improve upon on July 19th when we do it again. (More about this in the June Newsletter and on our website.)

So much ORANGE was happening that you might have missed the focus of our Back to Basics series: the One, Holy, Christian and Apostolic Church. Well, this evening we focus in on the difference between relating to someone in the church verses someone outside the church; between interacting with Christians and non-Christians.

We will be taking a look at a couple of passages from 1 Corinthians and the Gospel of Matthew. And we will wrestle with our two-fold calling to be salt and light *in the world*, but also our call to live holy lives and flee from the immorality *of the world*.

God bless your time in worship this evening as we wrestle with a couple of difficult, but very practical issues!

-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, Scripture is clear that even those who are living under the controlling influence of the Holy Spirit mess up and, all too often, sin. These sins, left unchecked, would erode our most precious faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, let us confess our sins to God, trusting in his mercy for the sake of his Son Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

People: **Almighty God, we confess that we have all sinned against you, against each other, and against our neighbors. Not only have we hurt ourselves and others, but we have dishonored you. Therefore, we ask that you would forgive us. Set us on the right path and teach us to live our days in faith and obedience. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

Absolution Spoken by the Pastor

People: **Amen.**

The Readings:

1 Corinthians 5:6-13

Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? Cleanse out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. Let us therefore celebrate the festival, not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

I wrote to you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral

people—not at all meaning the sexually immoral of this world, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters, since then you would need to go out of the world. But now I am writing to you not to associate with anyone who bears the name of brother if he is guilty of sexual immorality or greed, or is an idolater, reviler, drunkard, or swindler—not even to eat with such a one. For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Is it not those inside the church whom you are to judge? God judges those outside. “Purge the evil person from among you.”

Matthew 18:12-20

“What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

“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.”

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 Spirit of God would protect our doctrine and life together, that both may agree with the Word of God, so that we might walk in true faith and obedience. Let us pray.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

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 and prayer a priority in their lives. Let us pray.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

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.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For our enemies: that we would be reconciled to each other by the peace of God that passes all understanding so that our witness to them in word and deed would bear the fruit of repentance and faith. Let us pray.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

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.

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For Free Coffee Friday, that the Lord would use the conversations we have with our neighbors to speak the name of Jesus and make a difference in their lives for the sake of the kingdom of God. Let us pray.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For our Car Wash, that through it the name of Jesus would be spoken and the people of the community served by Christ's church. let us pray.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For our Sunday School and VBS, that our young people would learn the truth of the Gospel and God's Word, grow in their faith in Christ and be firmly committed to their Lord. Let us pray.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For our ministry to the youth, teenagers and young adults, that God would lead the right person to us to lead this ministry, so that not only the young people in our congregation would grow in faith and obedience, but that the Gospel of Jesus Christ would have an impact on all of the young people in our community. Let us pray.

People: Lord, have mercy.

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