

# ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



*Ninth Sunday After Trinity*  
*August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014*



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given by Lois and Henry Dittmer, in honor of their wedding anniversary.

**ETERNAL LIGHT** is given by Robert and Bernice DeBoe, in memory of their parents, Roman and Anna Raybarski and Stanley and Anna DeBoe.

**FANTASY FOOTBALL** is coming up! We will be having our draft on Sunday, August 31<sup>st</sup> at a time To Be Announced. Sign-up to be part of the fun in the Narthex or contact Pastor Duncan. The cost is \$20, with the season winner selecting the charity the money goes to. Sign-up today!

**OKTOBERFEST** is scheduled for September 7<sup>th</sup>. Help Vicar Chris and make this, our 6<sup>th</sup> annual, the best Oktoberfest yet. We are looking for volunteers to help man concession stands for the event. Additionally, we are seeking donations for raffle baskets, if anyone has access to businesses who might be willing to donate items/gift baskets for this event.

**ZION'S GOT TALENT!** Musical talent, that is. There are sign-up sheets for our Chancel Choir, Youth Choir (3-8<sup>th</sup> grade) and Instrumental Music in the narthex area. Practices for all of our music groups will begin in the fall. We hope you'll become a part of our music ministry here at Zion!

**CAR WASH!** Zion is having its 7<sup>th</sup> Car Wash on Saturday, August 30<sup>th</sup> from 10-2. Sign-up sheets for helping out are in the Narthex. We can use your help as we reach out to the community with this service. Fun and fellowship await!

**MIDWEEK WORSHIP!** Come join us for a Prayer Vigil for the Persecuted Church this Wednesday at 7:00. With all that we hear is going on in places like Iraq, the best place for us to be is on our knees together, lifting all things up to the sovereign mercy of our heavenly Father. Please join us.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** begins September 7<sup>th</sup>! Children ages 3-18 are welcome. If your child has never attended Sunday school and would like to, please register via email to [winechick123@gmail.com](mailto:winechick123@gmail.com) or contact our church secretary.

**LEAGUE BOWLING STARTS SEPTEMBER 12.** Zion's league bowling season starts on Friday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. and consists of 18 sessions, one every-other-week. The bowling fee is \$12 per session (session consists of 3 games) and does not include shoes. There is a \$20 start-up fee which helps fund the league throughout the season. We welcome members 18 and older (some exceptions may apply) for a great evening of bowling and fellowship. Plus we have a bowling banquet at the end of the season! If you're interested in bowling, please talk to Jim or Janet Oelschlager or email Jim at [oelsch@verizon.net](mailto:oelsch@verizon.net) or Janet at [nanao2710@yahoo.com](mailto:nanao2710@yahoo.com). This is a great way for new members to make friends in a casual atmosphere.

**STEPHEN MINISTRY** will see its second Leader commissioned during this morning's worship service. We welcome Kristen Neill to our Stephen Ministry and pray for the Lord's blessing on her service!

**EASTERN DISTRICT LWML FALL RETREAT** Sept. 19-21, 2014. See Barb Fisher for more info.

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY!** Coming TUESDAYS this fall.....Ruth: Love, Loss and Legacy. Ruth's journey of unbearable loss, redeeming love, and divine legacy comes alive in Kelly Minter's Ruth: Loss, Love and Legacy-the second study in the Living Room Series. This 6-week Bible study delves into the virtuous character of Ruth, her unique relationship with her mother-in-law Naomi, and her blossoming love with Boaz. If you've ever felt devastated, struggled as a stranger, longed to be loved, or wept along the way, you'll find a loyal sister in Ruth.

Stay tuned for more details....Contact Alissa McLellan with questions.

**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](http://www.zlcb.org/sermons)

# Welcome to worship!

“It’s not you, it’s me.” When those words are spoken you can bet that someone’s heart is broken and someone else is lying. This morning, we are going to take a look at the impossibly difficult text from the first half of Luke 16. Try as I might, I cannot tell you with certainty that I “get” what the purpose of this text is. Yes, I’ve read commentaries. Yes, I’ve prayed. Yes, I’ve tried to put it in context. I’ve even given the Thursday morning Bible Study group a shot at putting the pieces of the text together into one beautiful and congruous whole. But to no avail. I wish the text would say: “It’s not you, it’s me.”

My hunch is that there is something in our text that would be understood by someone living in Jesus’ day, but that is inaccessible to people living 5,000 miles and 2,000 years away from the origins of the text. With that all being said, there are a number of worthwhile teachings and personal applications we can take away from this text without fully understanding how the whole thing fits together. So we are going to have to tread lightly this morning. We are going to have to admit we don’t know all there is to know about the passage, and that we probably won’t ever be able to know.

Since I have your attention here, let me change gears and invite you to our Midweek Service this week. With all the tragic news coming out of Iraq and Syria about the persecution of the church, we are going to hold a prayer vigil for our brothers and sisters in Christ who are under severe duress for their faith. Please consider joining us and supporting them. 7:00pm Wednesday, right here at Zion.

-Pastor Duncan

**Rev. Duncan McLellan, Pastor**  
Pastor’s Phone: 412-667-0967  
Website: [www.zlcb.org](http://www.zlcb.org)

**Vicar Chris McCarthy**  
Office Phone: 412-221-4776  
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# 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:** Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng

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## *The Invocation*

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

People: Amen.

## *Confession of Sins*

Vicar: Brothers and sisters in Christ, the Word of God tells us that if we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But it also promises us that if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Therefore, with a healthy dose of fear mixed with unshakable hope, let us confess our sins to God.

**People: Merciful God, we confess to you that we have sinned against you and other people in what we have said. We have let careless, loveless words replace the name of Jesus and speaking forgiveness to others. We confess that we have sinned against you by what we have done and failed to do; putting stumbling blocks in the way of others who are trying to walk the same narrow path of faith. We confess that we have sinned against you by what we have thought. We have allowed the unwholesome images we have seen twist and warp our thoughts, taking our focus off of you and on to objects of lust and covetousness, idolatry and envy. In Jesus' name, forgive us. Amen.**

## *Absolution Spoken by the Vicar*

People: Amen.

## ***Hymn of Praise: This Is the Feast***

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### **Refrain:**

*This is the feast of victory of our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

*Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.*

### **[REFRAIN]**

*Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing and glory are His.*

### **[REFRAIN]**

*Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:*

*Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.*

### **[REFRAIN]**

*For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.*

### **[REFRAIN]**

## ***The Prayer of the Church***

Vicar: ... Lord, in your mercy.

**People: Hear our prayer.**

(Please be seated)

## ***Commissioning of Stephen Leader Kristen Neill***

### **The Service of the Word**

#### **The Old Testament Reading: 2 Samuel 22:26-34**

“With the merciful you show yourself merciful;

with the blameless man you show yourself blameless;

with the purified you deal purely,

and with the crooked you make yourself seem tortuous.

You save a humble people,

but your eyes are on the haughty to bring them down.

For you are my lamp, O Lord, and my God lightens my darkness.

For by you I can run against a troop, and by my God I can leap over a wall.

This God—his way is perfect; the word of the Lord proves true;  
he is a shield for all those who take refuge in him.  
“For who is God, but the Lord? And who is a rock, except our God?  
This God is my strong refuge and has made my way blameless.  
He made my feet like the feet of a deer and set me secure on the heights.

### **The New Testament Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:6-13**

Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.” We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

(Please stand)

**Pastor:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 16<sup>th</sup> Chapter.

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

### **The Gospel Reading: Luke 16:1-13**

He also said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. And he called him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.’ And the manager said to himself, ‘What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do, so that

when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He said, 'A hundred measures of oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.' Then he said to another, 'And how much do you owe?' He said, 'A hundred measure of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and write eighty.' The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.

“One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.”

**Pastor:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

(Please be seated)

***Sermon Hymn:*** O God of God, O Light of Light

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***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 was 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***

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:** This morning, we come to the table of our Lord as people who have served unrighteous wealth, instead of using it to serve our neighbor to bring glory to God. Our Lord meets us here with the righteous treasure of his body and blood, broken and shed for you to forgive your sins, strengthen your faith, and give you the privilege of proclaiming his death until he comes again in glory. And so, as you eat and drink, may the Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

**Pastor:** Let us 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 Words of Institution***

**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)***

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*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***

|                               |     |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| We Give Thee But Thine Own    | 781 |
| Take My Life and Let It Be    | 784 |
| Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense | 741 |

(Please stand)

## ***Benediction***

**People:**           **Amen**

***The Recessional:*** Fight the Good Fight 664

### **† Service Participants †**

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| Pastor:       | The Rev. Duncan McLellan   |
| Vicar:        | Chris McCarthy   |
| The Organist: | Sandra Quinlan   |
| The Elders:   | Frank Vallelunga and David Hutula                                  |
| The Acolyte:  | Augie Bishop   |
| The Greeters: | Shane and Sandy Bryant   |
| The Ushers:   | Joe Gielarowski, Loren Luedeman,<br>Jim Oelschlager and Lois Sauro |
| Altar Guild:  | Volunteers   |

## Last Week in Worship

Sunday Worship Attendance (8/10) – 181

Midweek Attendance (8/13) – 22

Offerings (8/10) – \$5118.38

## Week of Aug 17 - 24

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <b>SUNDAY</b><br>8/17    | 9:00 AM – Worship w/Communion<br>10:15AM – Bible Class (Fellowship Hall)<br>11:30AM – Stephen Ministry (Conference Room) |
| <b>MONDAY</b><br>8/18    |  |
| <b>TUESDAY</b><br>8/19   |  |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b><br>8/20 | 7:00PM – Prayer and Preaching  |
| <b>THURSDAY</b><br>8/21  | 10:00AM – Bible Study (Conference Room)  |
| <b>FRIDAY</b><br>8/22    |  |
| <b>SATURDAY</b><br>8/23  | 8:00AM – Men’s Bible Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)   |
| <b>SUNDAY</b><br>8/24    | 9:00 AM – Worship w/ Communion<br>10:15AM – Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)  |