

# ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



*Service of Prayer and Preaching*  
**Matthew 9:9-13**



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CHANGING GEARS!** We'll finish up our study of 2 Chronicles 28 next week. HOWEVER, last Sunday was the Minor Festival of St. Matthew. We focused on the regular readings for the Sunday instead of the ones for his special day. However, I thought it would be good to remember this saint by focusing on his call to follow Jesus this week in worship.

**NEW DIRECTORY!** It's been four years since we had our last Church Directory done; it's time for a new one. Family portraits will be taken 11/19-22; online sign-ups will begin on Monday, September 29. In church sign-ups will begin on Sunday, October 5!

**WHAT'S NEXT?** The sanctuary has been renovated, we have air conditioning, and we added a Music Director. What's next for Zion? The next project we have in store is to renovate the kitchen. Look for more information about our Kitchen Refresh in the monthly newsletter, in bulletins (like this one) and on-line.

**ZION'S GOT TALENT.** Do you like to sing? Do other people like it when you sing? Does your shower listen to you sing? There are sign-up sheets in the narthex area for the Adult Choir and Youth Choir at Zion! There's also a place for you to sign-up if you can play a musical instrument (or instruments). We are expanding our music ministry and we want YOU to be a part of it! More information will be available in Zion's monthly newsletter and on-line.

**BIBLE STUDIES.** We have a number of Bible studies throughout the week and weekend here at Zion. Thursday 10:00am for all ages, Saturday 8:00am for Men's Bible Breakfast, Sunday 9:30 for all ages, and Tuesday 7:30pm for women. It's good to be in God's Word together!

**MEN'S RETREAT.** Attention men, mark your calendars! We're going back to Camp Pioneer for our second men's retreat November 13-16<sup>th</sup>. We'll be talking about men's issues and what it's like for us to stand out as Christians in the world. The cost is \$150 (Thursday-Sunday) or \$125 (Friday-Sunday) plus the cost for breakfasts and dinners.

**CONFIRMATION.** Want to help our young people learn the basics of the Christian faith? Want to review the basics of the faith? We can use your help this year with our Confirmation Instruction. Talk to Pastor Duncan if you are interested in helping out. (Please be interested in helping out. –Pastor Duncan)

# The Service of Prayer and Preaching

## *Introduction to Worship*

### *The Invocation*

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

People: **Amen.**

### *Confession and Absolution*

Pastor: Lord, we come before you this evening as your chosen people, called to declare your praise and bring glory to your name in the world you created. And yet, we have put other things and people before you.

People: **Have mercy on us and allow us to put you first in our lives; give us the courage to speak your name and lead us to greater faith and obedience.**

Pastor: Lord, we have failed to call upon your name. We have trusted in our own strength, wit, and intellect when we should have trusted in the power of your gracious hand.

People: **Have mercy on us by teaching us to call on your name and to trust in your providential and gracious care.**

Pastor: Lord, we have failed to set aside sufficient time for you in our lives. Give us a passion for your word and a love for the discipline and privilege of prayer.

People: **Have mercy on us by causing us to call upon your name in every trouble, pray, praise and give thanks.**

Pastor: Have mercy on us, Lord, for we have sinned.

People: **Thank you for coming into our world, being one of us, fulfilling the law on our behalf, and laying down your life on the cross. All praise be to you, our Lord Jesus Christ, who has conquered death and who has promised to give all of us eternal life.**

(Please be seated)

## **The Reading: Matthew 9:9-13**

<sup>9</sup>As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him.

<sup>10</sup>While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples. <sup>11</sup>When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

<sup>12</sup>On hearing this, Jesus said, "[It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. <sup>13</sup>But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

## ***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 on 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.

## ***The Prayers***

*For the prayers this evening, you are invited to come to the Communion Rail and kneel. In between the petitions, we will observe silence while we pray to the Lord from our heart.*

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord:

Pastor: For the activities of the church: that they would be used by our Lord to create and strengthen faith in Jesus Christ. Let us pray.

Pastor: For our families: that they would be led to greater faith and obedience, experience the joy of their salvation, and trust in Christ for all things. Let us pray.

Pastor: For our friends and acquaintances: that our witness to them in word and deed would be used by the Holy Spirit for the glory of God. Let us pray.

Pastor: For people we know who are ill: that the Lord would grant them healing from their afflictions. Let us pray.

Pastor: For the lonely: that they would enjoy fellowship with God and that our Lord would bless them with companionship. Let us pray.

Pastor: For our sister congregations, especially Peace, Ascension and Zion in Lawrenceville: that they would be used by God to bring many people to faith in Christ. 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***