

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



Service of Prayer and Preaching
Matthew 22



ANNOUNCEMENTS

IDEAS, PLEASE! We're looking for ideas for sermon series themes for 2015. If you have a topic, book, doctrine, issue, or area of interest that you would like to hear a sermon (or sermons) on, please let Pastor Duncan know. Thanks!

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; sign-ups are going on as you read this! We will have someone on Sunday available to help you sign-up for a time.

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 13-16th. 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. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex area.

FREE COFFEE FRIDAY. Coming soon...

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: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

People: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

The Reading: Matthew 22:23-33

The same day Sadducees came to him, who say that there is no resurrection, and they asked him a question, saying, "Teacher, Moses said, 'If a man dies having no children, his brother must marry the widow and raise up offspring for his brother.' Now

there were seven brothers among us. The first married and died, and having no offspring left his wife to his brother. So too the second and third, down to the seventh. After them all, the woman died. In the resurrection, therefore, of the seven, whose wife will she be? For they all had her.”

But Jesus answered them, “You are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God. For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven. And as for the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was said to you by God: ‘I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’? He is not God of the dead, but of the living.” And when the crowd heard it, they were astonished at his teaching.

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 those who grieve: that the Lord would strengthen their faith in him and 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. 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