

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



April 6th, 2014
Fifth Sunday in Lent



ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS are given by Joe DePalma in memory of his parents, Margaret and Joseph DePalma and by the Klemash family in honor of Rachel's birthday.

ETERNAL LIGHT is given by the parents of Bart Fleischmann in memory of their son.

HAPPY 90TH MILLIE! We would like to wish our mom, Millie Thielet, a happy 90th birthday! Please join us downstairs after the 8:00am service (before Bible Study) for a piece of cake as we celebrate God's blessing to our family.

--With love, Marianne and Brent Miller.

YOUTH GROUP is seeing the movie NOAH tonight! Meet at church at 4:30pm if you'd like to join us!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED at Concordia South Hills. Residents of Personal Care and the Medical Center would love a visit from you. Volunteers are needed to usher residents to activities and encourage them. Simple activities include art, music and cooking, led by a professional. Assistance with the once-a-month birthday party is also needed. Or you can just visit, listen and pray with them. If you could give of your time occasionally, it could be once a month, once a week or every other month. You can choose to be a blessing to these lovely residents looking for a sympathetic ear or pat on the back. Contact Barbara Fisher at 412-881-8446 or Kelly Epperson, Activities Director, at 412-294-1357.

BABY BOTTLES are still being collected in the narthex area. Thank you for your support of the Pregnancy Resource Center and the life-affirming work that they do.

SOFTBALL begins later this month. There's a sign-up sheet in the narthex area. Please let us know if you want a spot on the team!

FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY is rapidly approaching. If you are thinking about inviting someone to come with you on May 11th, please allow us to partner with you in prayer by completing the Friendship Sunday insert-card and placing it in the offering plate.

J@CK. That's the name of our Summer Mission Trip: **July at Camp for the Kingdom.** We'll be going to Camp Pioneer from the 27th of July to the 3rd of August to serve. Details to come, mark your calendars now; all are welcome!

LENTEN SERVICES are at 7:00 on Wednesday evenings. Please come and worship with us; our focus will be on the Old Testament Lesson from this Sunday. There is a dessert in the Fellowship Hall following the service! Yum.

MEN'S RETREAT is scheduled for the week/weekend of April 10-13 at Camp Pioneer. If you are interested in going, **SIGN-UP TODAY**; there are sign-up sheets and pamphlets on the bulletin board in the narthex. Campfires, archery and a back-to-basics walk through the Gospel and our faith will be some of the things that we'll focus on. This will be a great time for fellowship, recreation and growing in your faith.

CREATION SEMINAR. Zion will be hosting a Creation Seminar the weekend of June 13-15th. Mark your calendars and prepare to come and listen to experts in different scientific fields defend the Biblical account of creation.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY will resume this Tuesday, 7:30-8:45pm with their study of the Feeding of the 5,000.

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

Welcome to worship!

This morning, we are back in the Gospel of John, where Jesus has some difficult words for people who had followed him, but had turned their backs on him and his Father.

Jesus' teaching for us this morning is that those who belong to the Father conduct themselves in a certain way. Twenty-three years ago, the McLellan family decided to have a reunion in Maine. It was in the middle of the summer when we converged on a small resort town in the middle of the mosquito-filled woods Maine is known for. And we conducted ourselves as you would expect a family with the last name McLellan should. We had a professional bagpipe player attend our outdoor picnic. We had sweatshirts (remember: Maine) made that had our family crest proudly displayed front and center. We ate corned beef. And cabbage. We drank beer. (For those of you who are doing the math, I was not part of that "we.") We did what McLellans should do when they gather together in the middle of the woods in Maine to celebrate the fact that they are McLellans.

So how do people who belong to the family whose father is God behave? Do they follow cleverly-devised religious laws? Do they pray five times daily facing the same direction? Do they try to extinguish passion and desire? Do they meditate in quiet places?

In our text for this Sunday, Jesus gives a simply answer; those who belong to the Father conduct themselves in a certain way: they believe in him. Period. It's just that simple, yet just that narrow. It's just that easy, yet just that hard. It is exclusive and universal, it is a narrow road and a city with gates opened wide. It is a mystery revealed. It is the putting to death of the flesh and it is life! God bless your time in worship this morning...

-Pastor Duncan

Rev. Duncan McLellan, Pastor (pastor@zlc.org)
David Schultz, Vicar (vicar@zlc.org)

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The Divine Service

Welcome to Zion! Please take a minute to sign the attendance book (at the end of the pew) and let us know you are here. If you are visiting with us, please take a minute to review the communion policy (in this bulletin) and let us know if you would like someone from the church to contact you. God's blessings on your worship this morning!

Announcements

Opening Hymn: Come, Thou Almighty King

905

The Invocation

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

People: Amen.

Confession of Sins

Vicar: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: who made heaven and earth.

Vicar: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

People: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Vicar: Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Absolution Spoken by the Vicar

People: **Amen.**

The Prayer of the Church

Vicar: Lord, in your mercy.

People: **Hear our prayer.**

(Please be seated)

The Service of the Word

The Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 49:8-13

Thus says the Lord:

“In a time of favor I have answered you;

in a day of salvation I have helped you;

I will keep you and give you

as a covenant to the people,

to establish the land,

to apportion the desolate heritages,

saying to the prisoners, ‘Come out,’

to those who are in darkness, ‘Appear.’

They shall feed along the ways;

on all bare heights shall be their pasture;

they shall not hunger or thirst,

neither scorching wind nor sun shall strike them,

for he who has pity on them will lead them,

and by springs of water will guide them.

And I will make all my mountains a road,

and my highways shall be raised up.

Behold, these shall come from afar,

and behold, these from the north and from the west,
and these from the land of Syene.”
Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth;
break forth, O mountains, into singing!
For the Lord has comforted his people
and will have compassion on his afflicted.

The New Testament Reading: Acts 2:41-47

So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Vicar: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 6th Chapter.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel Reading: John 8:46-59

Which one of you convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me? Whoever is of God hears the words of God. The reason why you do not hear them is that you are not of God.”

The Jews answered him, “Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?” Jesus answered, “I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and

you dishonor me. Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is One who seeks it, and he is the judge. Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death.” The Jews said to him, “Now we know that you have a demon! Abraham died, as did the prophets, yet you say, ‘If anyone keeps my word, he will never taste death.’ Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets died! Who do you make yourself out to be?” Jesus answered, “If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, of whom you say, ‘He is our God.’ But you have not known him. I know him. If I were to say that I do not know him, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and I keep his word. Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad.” So the Jews said to him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?” Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.” So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

Sermon Hymn: Holy, Holy, Holy

507

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 and Choir Offertory

(Please Stand)

The Service of the Sacrament

Pastor: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us 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 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)

163

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 Music

O Jesus, King Most Wonderful	554
Lamb of God	550
Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word	655

The Benediction

Closing Hymn: Great Is Thy Faithfulness 809

Stephen Ministers and Elders will remain in the chancel area (by the steps close to the communion rail) for those who wish to pray or to be prayed for.

† Service Participants †

Pastor:	The Rev. Duncan McLellan
Vicar:	David Schultz
The Organist:	Dennis Johnson
The Elders:	Rob Oelschlager and David Hutula
The Acolyte:	Nathan Morgan (8:00) Josiah Ackerman (10:30)
The Greeters:	Brent & Marianne Miller and Millie Thielet (8:00) Rose Steranko (10:30)
The Ushers:	Kathleen Conn, Bill Schrag and Larry and Janet Zreliak (8:00) Sam Dragan, Dan Harris, Simon Martin and Richard Quinlan (10:30)
Altar Guild:	Debra LaJeunesse, Carrie Lemonovich and Carolyn Wible

Last Week in Worship

Sunday Attendance (3/30) – 177
Sunday School and Bible Class (3/30) – 91
Midweek Attendance (3/26) - 55
Offerings (3/26 & 3/30) - \$5781
Sanctuary Improvement (3/30) –\$25

Week of Mar 30 – Apr 6

SUNDAY 4/6	8:00AM – Worship w/ Communion 9:15AM – Sunday School and Adult Bible Class 10:30AM – Worship w/ Communion 12:00PM – Stephen Ministry Training (Conf. Rm) 4:30PM – Youth Movie “Noah” (Zion)
MONDAY 4/7	7:00PM – Trustees Meeting (Conference Room) 8:00PM – Long Term Planning (Conference Room)
TUESDAY 4/8	7:15PM – Board of Ed (Conference Room) 7:30PM – Women’s Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
WEDNESDAY 4/9	7:00PM – Lent Service 7:45PM – Choir Practice
THURSDAY 4/10	10:00AM – Bible Study (Conference Room) 6:00PM – Men’s Retreat @ Pioneer (Leave from Zion)
FRIDAY 4/11	Men’s Retreat @ Zion
SATURDAY 4/12	Men’s Retreat @ Zion
SUNDAY 4/13 FOOD BANK COLLECTION	8:00AM – Worship w/ Communion 9:15AM – Sunday School and Adult Bible Class 10:30AM – Worship w/ Communion Men Come Home