

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



Service of Prayer and Preaching
May 13th, 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!

ORANGE-OUT. Don't forget to wear ORANGE to church this Sunday. We'll be taking a picture of all of us in orange and take it to the internet. (We've actually been contacted by a national "wear orange" organization who wants to use what our church is doing as a model for other churches to follow!)

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!

FREE COFFEE FRIDAY! Come join us this Friday in the church parking lot (at 7am), or in the church kitchen (6:30am) for Free Coffee Friday. We'll be giving away coffee and doughnuts and the good news of Jesus. Hope to see you here, this Friday @ 6:30 or 7:00am!!

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!

This evening we are tackling a difficult topic. Last Sunday, our focus was on the Person of the Holy Spirit, the Third Person of the Trinity. Now, in our Midweek Service of Prayer and Preaching, we are going to take a look at one of the more misunderstood works of the Holy Spirit: the gift of tongues.

While not spoken about to any great degree, the gift of tongues defines and is an essential part of the worship of a number of Christian groups and denominations.

What is the “gift of tongues”? Is it necessary for salvation? Is it something you can work on, cultivate and grow—or is it something you either have or do not have? Does God still give this gift to his church?

We’ll take a look at this, as well as answer several other (very good) questions from last Sunday’s service as we spend time in Scripture and prayer together this evening.

Also, don’t forget to wear orange to church on Sunday!

God bless your time in worship!

-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 Reading: 1 Corinthians 14:1-25

Pursue love, and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy. For one who speaks in a tongue speaks not to men but to God; for no one understands him, but he utters mysteries in the Spirit. On the other hand, the one who prophesies speaks to people for their up building and encouragement and consolation. The one who speaks in a tongue builds up himself, but the one who prophesies builds up the church. Now I want you all to speak in tongues, but even more to prophesy. The one who prophesies is

greater than the one who speaks in tongues, unless someone interprets, so that the church may be built up.

Now, brothers, if I come to you speaking in tongues, how will I benefit you unless I bring you some revelation or knowledge or prophecy or teaching? If even lifeless instruments, such as the flute or the harp, do not give distinct notes, how will anyone know what is played? And if the bugle gives an indistinct sound, who will get ready for battle? So with yourselves, if with your tongue you utter speech that is not intelligible, how will anyone know what is said? For you will be speaking into the air. There are doubtless many different languages in the world, and none is without meaning, but if I do not know the meaning of the language, I will be a foreigner to the speaker and the speaker a foreigner to me. So with yourselves, since you are eager for manifestations of the Spirit, strive to excel in building up the church.

Therefore, one who speaks in a tongue should pray that he may interpret. For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays but my mind is unfruitful. What am I to do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will pray with my mind also; I will sing praise with my spirit, but I will sing with my mind also. Otherwise, if you give thanks with your spirit, how can anyone in the position of an outsider say "Amen" to your thanksgiving when he does not know what you are saying? For you may be giving thanks well enough, but the other person is not being built up. I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you. Nevertheless, in church I would rather speak five words with my mind in order to instruct others, than ten thousand words in a tongue.

Brothers, do not be children in your thinking. Be infants in evil, but in your thinking be mature. In the Law it is written, "By people of strange tongues and by the lips of foreigners will I speak to this people, and even then they will not listen to me, says the Lord." Thus tongues are a sign not for

believers but for unbelievers, while prophecy is a sign not for unbelievers but for believers. If, therefore, the whole church comes together and all speak in tongues, and outsiders or unbelievers enter, will they not say that you are out of your minds? But if all prophesy, and an unbeliever or outsider enters, he is convicted by all, he is called to account by all, the secrets of his heart are disclosed, and so, falling on his face, he will worship God and declare that God is really among you.

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 "Orange-Out" this Sunday, that the Lord would use it to draw awareness to our brothers and sisters in Christ who are suffering for the sake of the Gospel. That he would strengthen them in their distress, keep them faithful to his name, and provide relief to all their suffering. 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