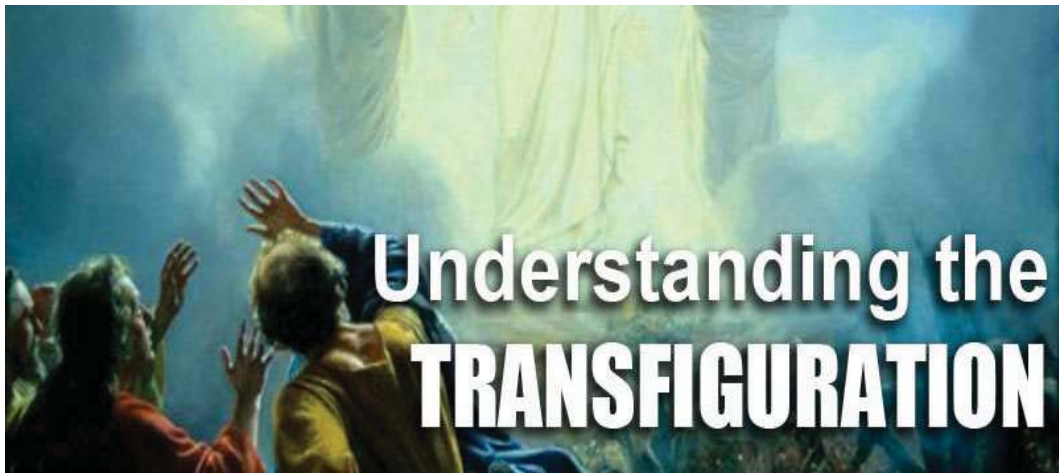


# ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



*Service of Prayer and Preaching*  
*April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015*



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CHURCH DIRECTORIES** have arrived. Please pick your directory up in the narthex (1 per household).

**“ALL IN.”** We leave this Friday for Camp Pioneer! If you’ve signed-up, you can expect an e-mail this week with details. If you haven’t signed-up, do so today! We’ll be joining men from four other congregations in our District to focus on our lives as Christian men, and what it means for us to go “all in” for Christ.

**IT’S A WR@P.** Mark your calendar today for our first **Women’s Retreat @ Pioneer**, May 1<sup>st</sup>- 3<sup>rd</sup>. Planning is underway for this event. Please sign up in the narthex if you are interested in attending! Any questions contact Megan Pasquini or Alissa McLellan or email [secretary@zlcb.org](mailto:secretary@zlcb.org).

**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!!

**BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN:** Zion is once again supporting the Pregnancy Resource Center of the South Hills through the **Baby Bottle Campaign**. You can help this pro-life ministry by taking a baby bottle from the table in the church narthex and filling it with your loose change or bills. Please return your filled bottle no later than **Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>**. For more information on the ministry of the PRCSH see the insert in your bulletin.

**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@zlcb.org](mailto:secretary@zlcb.org) to volunteer.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** is looking for four adults to teach who will not be attending the women's retreat in May. The unit is entitled "Paul". Please see the insert for more information or to volunteer.

**GOT CARE?** Life is full of unexpected events that catch us off guard, make us grieve, shake our understanding of how the world works, leave us feeling lonely, or take us to any number of places we simply don’t want to go. If you need the hand of a brother or sister in Christ to help you get through the difficult seasons of life, we can help! Talk to Pastor Duncan or Kristen Neill to see if Stephen Ministry is right for you!

# Welcome to worship!

Welcome back to Prayer and Preaching! I hope you enjoyed our Lenten worship (and last week's "time off").

Let's get down to business! We've entered into a 3-week mini-unit inside of our bigger Back-to-Basics unit (which will take us all year) where we will study what theologian-types call the Three-Fold Office of Christ: Prophet, Priest and King. Sounds intimidating, scary, and possibly not that relevant.

Relax! I think you'll find this mini-unit easy(ish) to understand and rather practical. When we say Christ is a "Prophet," all we're saying is that he goes from God to us. When we say Christ is a "Priest," all we're saying is that he goes from us to God. And when we say that Christ is "King," we're saying that he rules (has authority) over everything.

This evening, we're going to take a look at what it means that Christ goes from God to us. What does Jesus reveal to us about the Father that we could not figure out for ourselves? How is Jesus better than the Old Testament Prophets? How did the Old Testament Prophets point to Jesus? Does Jesus still speak as a Prophet today? We answered some of these questions at our Sunday Service, but this evening we'll take a look at what kind of Prophet Jesus was by looking at Matthew 17:1-8, the "Transfiguration."

Usually a text used to show that Jesus is God is actually better used to show that Jesus is a Prophet far above all the Prophets who came before him. This evening, we'll see what this means and why it is a good thing!

God bless your time in worship!

-Pastor Duncan

**Rev. Duncan McLellan, Pastor**

Pastor's Phone: 412-667-0967

Office Phone: 412-221-4776

[www.zlcb.org](http://www.zlcb.org)

# 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, this evening, we focus on the Fifth Commandment: You shall not kill. More than simply prohibiting murder, this Commandment prohibits all taking of human life. But more than that, it condemns any hurt or harm we might cause another person, made (as we are) in the image of God. Therefore, let us confess that we have broken this Commandment and ask that God would grant us forgiveness for Christ's sake.

People: **Father in heaven, Your Word is clear: You shall not murder. Yet I have failed to obey even this simple Commandment. My words, especially my thoughts, and even my actions, have hurt and harmed others. I have sought to destroy what You have created in Your image. Therefore, I ask that You would forgive my sins on account of my Lord Jesus Christ. Use me to bring life into a world devastated by sin. I ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

## *Absolution Spoken by the Pastor*

People: **Amen.**

## **The Reading:** Matthew 17:1-8

And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. And

Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and have no fear." And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.

## ***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 Lord would continue to guide and direct all that we do in his name, and cause us to trust in and rely on him to provide us with all we have and need for this life and the next. Let us pray.

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 a priority in their daily lives. Let us pray.

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.

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.

Pastor: For those who govern, that they would faithfully discharge the duties of their office with wisdom and integrity. Let us pray.

Pastor: For those who put themselves in harm's way on behalf of others, especially for police officers, those serving in the military, and all whose work is dangerous: that our God would keep them safe and give them the skills to do their job well. 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: that God would strengthen their faith, give them opportunities to witness to his gospel, and that they would be blessed to see him at work in their lives. 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*