

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



Service of Prayer and Preaching
2 Chronicles 28



ANNOUNCEMENTS

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; look for a sign-up sheet in the narthex area in the next several weeks.

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.

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.**

Vespers

Pastor: O Lord, open my lips,

People: **and my mouth will declare your praise**

Ps.51:15

Pastor: Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

People: **make haste to help me, O Lord.**

Ps. 70:1

Pastor: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

People: **as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Pastor: Praise to you, O Christ. Alleluia.

People: **Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your truth. Unite my heart to fear your name that I may walk in your truth. Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.**

Ps. 86:11, 119:105

Pastor: My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior.

People: **For he has regarded the lowliness of his hand maiden. For behold, from this day all generations will call be blessed. For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is his name; and his mercy is on those who fear him from generation to generation.**

Pastor: My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior.

People: **He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent empty away.**

Pastor: My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior.

People: **He has helped his servant Israel in remembrance of his mercy as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.**

Luke 1:46-55

(Please be seated)

The Reading: 2 Chronicles 28

¹Ahaz was twenty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem. And he did not do what was right in the eyes of the Lord, as his father David had done, ²but he walked in the ways of the kings of Israel. He even made metal images for the Baals, ³and he made offerings in the Valley of the Son of Hinnom and burned his sons as an offering, according to the abominations of the nations whom the Lord drove out before the people of Israel. ⁴And he sacrificed and made offerings on the high places and on the hills and under every green tree.

Judah Defeated

⁵Therefore the Lord his God gave him into the hand of the king of Syria, who defeated him and took captive a great number of his people and brought them to Damascus. He was also given into the hand of the king of Israel, who struck him with great force. ⁶For Pekah the son of Remaliah killed 120,000 from Judah in one day, all of them men of valor, because they had forsaken the Lord, the God of their fathers. ⁷And Zichri, a mighty man of Ephraim, killed Maaseiah the king's son and Azrikam the commander of the palace and Elkanah the next in authority to the king.

⁸The men of Israel took captive 200,000 of their relatives, women, sons, and daughters. They also took much spoil from them and brought the spoil to Samaria. ⁹But a prophet of the Lord was there, whose name was Oded, and he went out to meet the army that came to Samaria and said to them, "Behold, because the Lord, the God of your fathers, was angry with Judah, he gave them into your hand, but you have killed them in a rage that has reached up to heaven. ¹⁰And now you intend to subjugate the people of Judah and Jerusalem, male and female, as your slaves. Have you not sins of your own against the Lord your God?" ¹¹Now hear me, and send back the captives from your relatives whom you have taken, for the fierce wrath of the Lord is upon you."

¹²Certain chiefs also of the men of Ephraim, Azariah the son of Johanan, Berechiah the son of Meshillemoth, Jehizkiah the son of Shallum, and Amasa the son of Hadlai, stood up against those who were coming from the war ¹³and said to

them, “You shall not bring the captives in here, for you propose to bring upon us guilt against the Lord in addition to our present sins and guilt. For our guilt is already great, and there is fierce wrath against Israel.” ¹⁴ So the armed men left the captives and the spoil before the princes and all the assembly. ¹⁵ And the men who have been mentioned by name rose and took the captives, and with the spoil they clothed all who were naked among them. They clothed them, gave them sandals, provided them with food and drink, and anointed them, and carrying all the feeble among them on donkeys, they brought them to their kinsfolk at Jericho, the city of palm trees. Then they returned to Samaria.

¹⁶ At that time King Ahaz sent to the king of Assyria for help. ¹⁷ For the Edomites had again invaded and defeated Judah and carried away captives. ¹⁸ And the Philistines had made raids on the cities in the Shephelah and the Negeb of Judah, and had taken Beth-shemesh, Aijalon, Gederoth, Soco with its villages, Timnah with its villages, and Gimzo with its villages. And they settled there. ¹⁹ For the Lord humbled Judah because of Ahaz king of Israel, for he had made Judah act sinfully and had been very unfaithful to the Lord. ²⁰ So Tiglath-pileser king of Assyria came against him and afflicted him instead of strengthening him. ²¹ For Ahaz took a portion from the house of the Lord and the house of the king and of the princes, and gave tribute to the king of Assyria, but it did not help him.

²² In the time of his distress he became yet more faithless to the Lord—this same King Ahaz. ²³ For he sacrificed to the gods of Damascus that had defeated him and said, “Because the gods of the kings of Syria helped them, I will sacrifice to them that they may help me.” But they were the ruin of him and of all Israel. ²⁴ And Ahaz gathered together the vessels of the house of God and cut in pieces the vessels of the house of God, and he shut up the doors of the house of the Lord, and he made himself altars in every corner of Jerusalem. ²⁵ In every city of Judah he made high places to make offerings to other gods, provoking to anger the Lord, the God of his fathers. ²⁶ Now the rest of his acts and all his ways, from first to last, behold, they are written in the Book of the Kings of Judah and Israel. ²⁷ And Ahaz slept with his

fathers, and they buried him in the city, in Jerusalem, for they did not bring him into the tombs of the kings of Israel. And Hezekiah his son reigned in his place.

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.

The Prayers

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the upcoming men's retreat, that it would lead the men who attend to put Christ first in all areas of their life, becoming more comfortable making important decisions based on their Christian faith, and grow closer to each other in Christian unity, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the Bible Studies at Zion, that they would be used to strengthen faith, increase knowledge and lead to greater fellowship between the body of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For our brothers and sisters in Christ who labor under adverse conditions, that their faithful witness to the truth of the Gospel would bear the fruit of repentance and faith in the lives of their family, friends and those who persecute them, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For members of our congregation who have been blessed with musical gifts and abilities, that they would consider how they might use their gifts in service to their Lord and His body, the church, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For missionaries throughout the world, that they would be blessed to see you at work through what they do, keep them safe, and all them to cling to Christ for all their needs, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**
Pastor: For our sister congregations, especially Christ, Good Shepherd, St. Luke's and First Trinity, that the Lord would continue to bless and grow their ministries and impact on the community for the kingdom of God, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**
Pastor: For... let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**
Pastor: For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:

People: **Alleluia! Amen.**
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