

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



Third Week of Lent
March 11th, 2015

Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church!

How many of you took advantage of our midweek women's and Saturday morning men's study on the book of Galatians? The women wrapped up their study a couple of weeks ago; the men still have two weeks to go. Because we eat bacon and eggs while we study. That's why. Anyway, it's been a good study, focusing on God's grace and the role of the Law now that Christ has come.

Well, if you missed out on the Galatians study, or if you're in need of a quick refresher, we've got what you need this evening! The focus of our time together is unpacking Galatians 4:1-7, where we are told that when the time had fully come, God sent Jesus to be our Savior, and made it possible to call God our father. Breaking down the barrier created by sin, Jesus has opened the way to eternal life.

The churches in Galatia had been told by a certain group of religious teachers, called Judaizers, that they had to become circumcised in order to be truly the people of God. In other words, the route to salvation through Christ had to go through Judaism. Paul hears about this and he is not amused. The letter to the Galatians is the result.

In the book of Galatians, Paul makes a (divinely inspired) case for what the original purpose for the Law was, how salvation has always been by faith, and how those who rely on the Law for salvation reject any benefit they would have from Christ and are on their own.

We've got a lot to cover this evening, so please take advantage of the sermon outline insert and have your Pew Bible (or Bible that you brought from home) ready!

God bless your time in worship this evening!
-Pastor Duncan

Rev. Duncan McLellan, Pastor

www.zlcb.org
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Service of the Word

The Prelude

Announcements

(please stand)

Opening Hymn: Go to Dark Gethsemane

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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.**

The Absolution

The Prayers

Pastor: ...Lord, in your mercy.

People: **Hear our prayer.**

The Reading: Galatians 4: 1-7

I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God**

Sermon Hymn: Not All the Blood of Beasts

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Sermon

The Offering

The Lord's Prayer

Benediction

Pastor: Finally, brothers, rejoice. Aim for restoration, comfort one another, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: **Amen!**

The Recessional: O Bless the Lord, My Soul

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The Postlude

† *Service Participants* †

Pastor:	Rev. Duncan McLellan
Organist:	Sandra Quinlan
Elders:	Peter Fisher & Rob Oelschlager
Acolyte	Elder
Ushers:	Josh Gielarowski, Dale Miller, Barb & Wayne Oechslein Ross Chilcott, Sam Dragan, Dan Harris & Chuch LaJeunesse
Altar Guild:	Janet, Marian & Molly Oelschlager