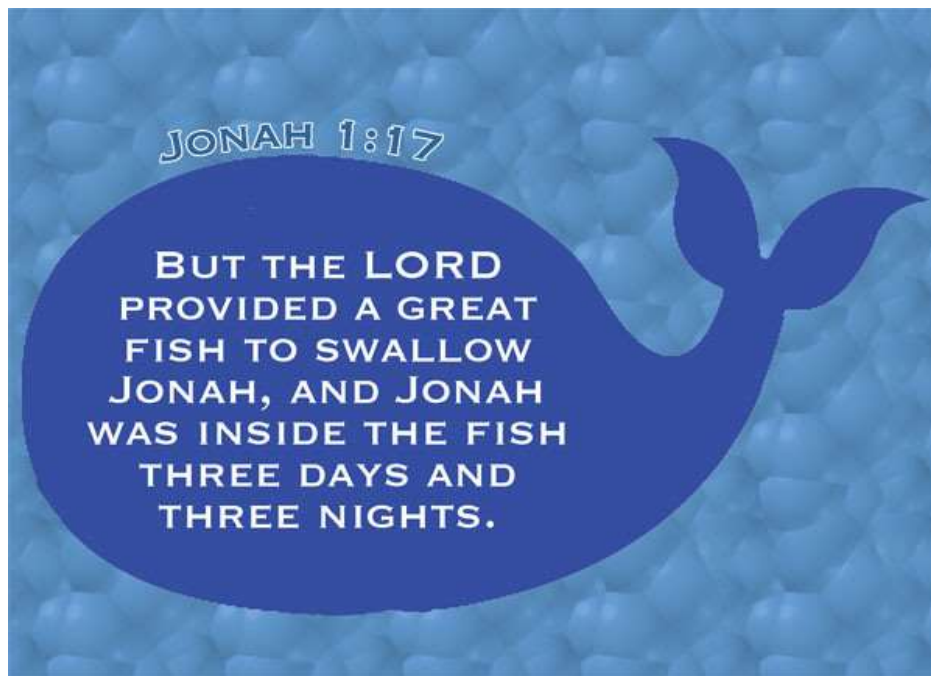


# ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



Service of Prayer and Preaching  
July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**NURSERY!** Zion will have a staffed nursery for children 2 and under during the late service. If you are interested in helping out or would like to know more, please contact the church office!

**THE LUTHERAN THEOLOGY OF MARRIAGE**, a Bible Study looking at what the Bible says about marriage and how we can live out our callings as single and married children of God continues this Sunday in the Fellowship Hall during the Sunday School Hour. All are welcome to attend!

**JOE FAINI**, our Director of Youth Ministry, will be installed on August 9<sup>th</sup> at the 10:30 Service. We welcome Joe and his wife Lindsey to our congregation and pray God's blessing on his work among us, that it might be for the building up of God's Kingdom so that all people may know the Good News of Jesus Christ!

**EVENTS COMMITTEE.** At last month's Voters' Meeting, the proposal was put forth to form an Events Committee, responsible for events that focus on outreach and fellowship. We will be voting to amend our Church Constitution to give the head of the Events Committee a seat on the Council at the next Voters' meeting. If you would like more information about the Events Committee and the proposed Amendment to the Constitution, please contact the church office.

**ROMANS.** We will be starting a Bible Study Series on the book of Romans in conjunction with our Wednesday Evening Service of Prayer and Preaching starting in October. Look for more information in the August Newsletter.

# Welcome to worship!

This evening, we continue our mini-series on the book of Jonah. Last week we saw how Jonah's rebelliousness contrasted with the righteousness of the people around him. He came off looking back, but the unbelievers around him came off looking good! We see the same thing in our world and even in our own lives. When it comes to good works, we always fall short of the perfect standards God has for us, but we also fall behind people who either do not know Jesus as Savior and Lord, or who openly reject him. And just as Jonah was a disgrace to God's people in his day, too many times we shame our Lord by what we say, think and do in our day.

But all is not doom and gloom. God rescued Jonah from the raging waters by means of a great fish. From inside the fish, we will see this evening, Jonah calls out to the God of his salvation, praising him for his deliverance, and uttering words of faith that he would see Zion.

And so we too, coming into the shelter of God's house in the middle of the week, call out to him, praising him for all that he has done for us, trusting in his forgiveness, and asking him to order and direct our paths, so that our lives might boldly bear witness to his mercy and grace.

Welcome to worship; I'm glad you are here!

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: This evening, we continue our mini-series on the book of Jonah. From the belly of the great fish, Jonah calls out to God and proclaims that he is savior and Lord. Let us do the same. Stuck in the heart of a world that has turned its back on God, and guilty of great sin, suffering ails of body and soul, let us call out in faith to the God of our salvation.

People: **Father in heaven, from the belly of the great fish Jonah called out to you. From the heart of a sinful world and in the midst of personal sin and struggle, I call out to you. Lord save me. Save me from the evils of this world, the devil and my own sinful flesh. Lead me to follow you all the days of my life. I ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

## *Absolution Spoken by the Pastor*

People: **Amen.**

## **The Reading: Jonah 2**

Then Jonah prayed to the Lord his God from the belly of the fish, saying, "I called out to the Lord, out of my distress, and he answered me; out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and you heard my voice. For you cast me into the deep, into the heart of the seas, and the flood surrounded me; all your waves and your billows passed over me. Then I said, 'I am driven away from

your sight; yet I shall again look upon your holy temple.' The waters closed in over me to take my life; the deep surrounded me; weeds were wrapped about my head at the roots of the mountains. I went down to the land whose bars closed upon me forever; yet you brought up my life from the pit, O Lord my God. When my life was fainting away, I remembered the Lord, and my prayer came to you, into your holy temple. Those who pay regard to vain idols forsake their hope of steadfast love. But I with the voice of thanksgiving will sacrifice to you; what I have vowed I will pay. Salvation belongs to the Lord!" And the Lord spoke to the fish, and it vomited Jonah out upon the dry land.

## ***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 we would recognize our need to seek and save the lost with the good news of Jesus Christ and that we would practice the unconditional forgiveness we have received. 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 the Holy Spirit would make us bold to speak the name of Jesus to those walking in darkness, giving us the words to say at the proper time. 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, that we would live in peace and freedom. Let us pray.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives: that we would practice the kind of forgiveness we have received so that the name of God would be glorified in this age. Let us pray.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the upcoming retreat at Camp Pioneer, that it would be used by our Lord to strengthen the faith of those who participate, and be used as a witness to the world of the love of God in Christ Jesus. Let us pray.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For our witness in the world: that we would not be afraid to speak the name of Jesus, give the reason we have for the hope that is in us, and be used by God to share the good news of Jesus for all people. 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*