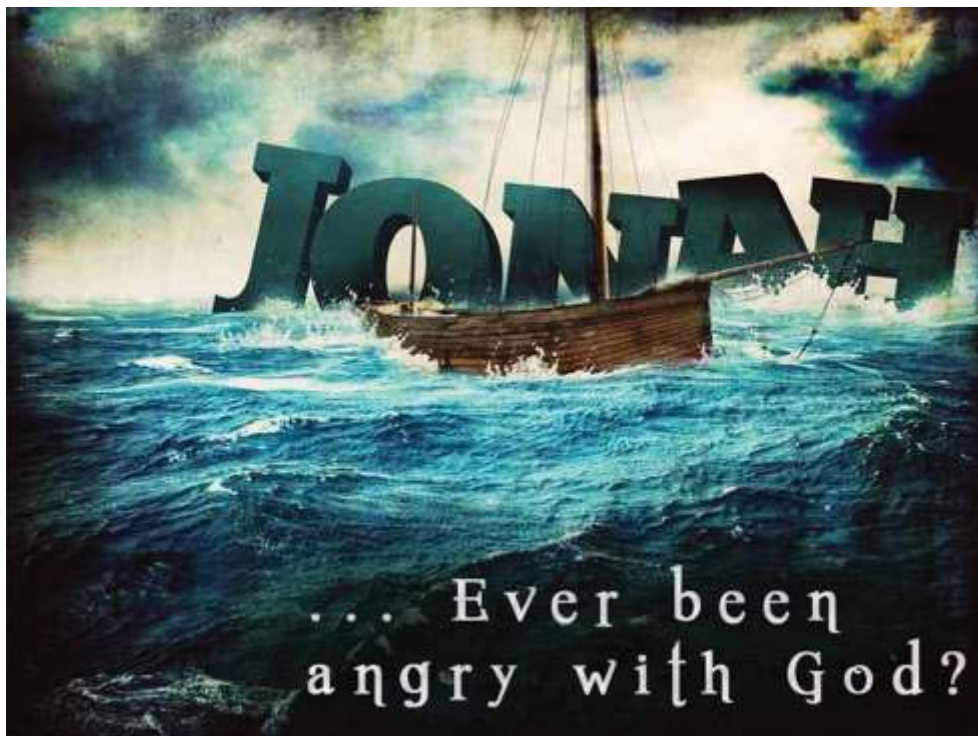


ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



Service of Prayer and Preaching
August 12th 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!

ISLAM. Our Sunday morning Bible Study on Islam will continue this weekend and next. This Sunday we will take a look at two very different biographies of the life and influence of Muhammad, the founder of Islam. Next Sunday we will study the history and influence of Islam. All are welcome!

HEY MUSIC PEOPLE! If you are interested in helping out with the Music Ministry here at Zion, we are interested in you! The Adult Choir meets up again next Wednesday after the Midweek Service of Prayer and Preaching, the Children's Choir will start up again shortly and, for those who are interested in something new and different, we will be meeting next Wednesday after Choir Practice (8:30ish) at the Crafty Jackalope in downtown Bridgeville to discuss the formation of a Zion Worship Band.

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!

Welcome to Worship!

This week, we wrap up our study on Jonah. We'll be taking a look at Jonah 4, where we see Jonah's reaction to God's reaction to the prayer and repentance of the Ninevites. We will also see God's reaction to Jonah's reaction to God's reaction to the prayer and repentance of the Ninevites.

At issue is the quantity and quality of God's grace.

The text makes us believe Jonah did not want God to extend the same amount of grace to the Ninevites as he himself (and his countrymen) had received; nor did he want the grace God extended to the Ninevites to be as pure as the grace he himself (and his countrymen) had received. God's grace is too great and there is too much of it for Jonah's liking.

As much as I do not want to admit it, I see myself writ large on God's Rebellious Prophet, Jonah. I have a hard time with God being gracious and merciful to people who are not like me, who I do not care for, or whose past includes sins and decisions I find most distasteful. And yet God's grace is more than sufficient even for the worst of sinners. God's grace does not discriminate.

God bless your time in worship this evening!

Pastor Duncan McLellan

Rev. Duncan McLellan, Pastor

Pastor's Phone: 412-667-0967

Office Phone: 412-221-4776

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: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: **who made heaven and earth.**

Pastor: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

People: **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

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.**

Absolution Spoken by the Pastor

People: **Amen.**

The Reading: Jonah 4

But to Jonah this seemed very wrong, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord, "Isn't this what I said, Lord, when I was still at home? That

is what I tried to forestall by fleeing to Tarshish. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity. Now, Lord, take away my life, for it is better for me to die than to live.”

But the Lord replied, “Is it right for you to be angry?”

Jonah had gone out and sat down at a place east of the city. There he made himself a shelter, sat in its shade and waited to see what would happen to the city. Then the Lord God provided a leafy plant and made it grow up over Jonah to give shade for his head to ease his discomfort, and Jonah was very happy about the plant. But at dawn the next day God provided a worm, which chewed the plant so that it withered. When the sun rose, God provided a scorching east wind, and the sun blazed on Jonah’s head so that he grew faint. He wanted to die, and said, “It would be better for me to die than to live.” But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?” “It is,” he said. “And I’m so angry I wish I were dead.”

But the Lord said, “You have been concerned about this plant, though you did not tend it or make it grow. It sprang up overnight and died overnight. And should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left—and also many animals?”

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.

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:
People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: ...let us pray to the Lord:
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 by 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 from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen

The Benediction