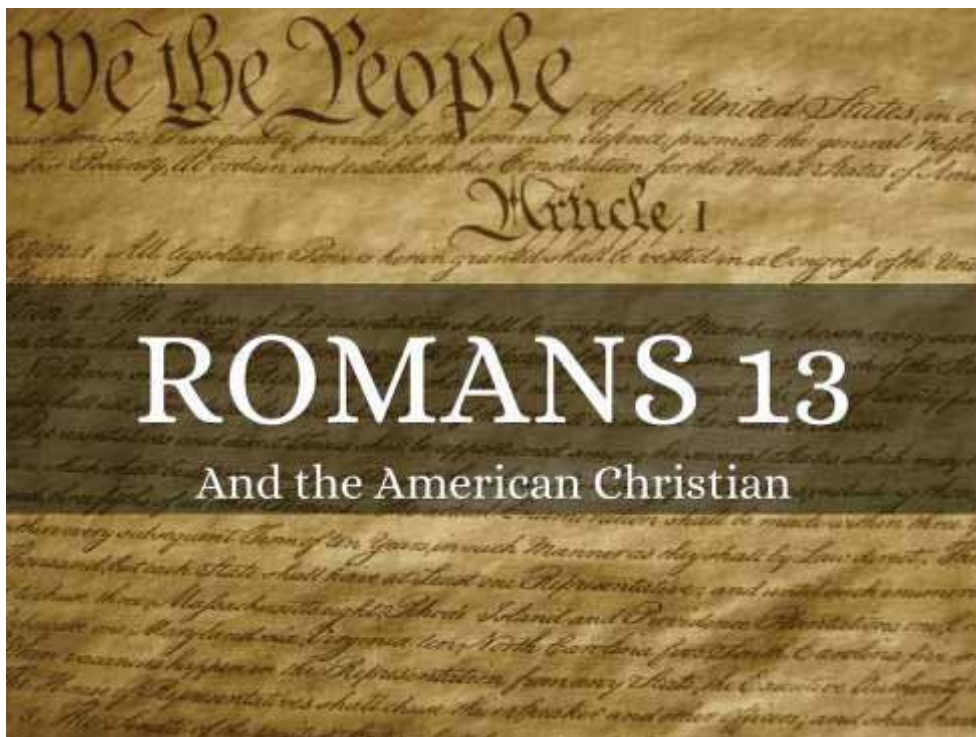


Zion Lutheran Church



*Service of Prayer and
Preaching*

February 3rd 2016



ANNOUNCEMENTS

FAMILY FUN NIGHT. Coming in February, Zion's Events Committee will be sponsoring a Family Fun Night. There will be trivia for the adults, a magician and balloons for the kids, and much more. Come and join your Zion family on February 20th for a Family Fun Night!

VICARAGE. Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous member family, Zion has the opportunity to re-enter the Vicarage Program for the 2016-2017 Academic Year. Look for more information about the Vicarage Program and what it would mean for us, our ministry and mission in the Newsletter, online, and right here in the Worship Bulletin.

FLIGHT! This Sunday the youth are going to Flight from 1:45-4:00 for some pre-Superbowl fun! Bring your friends. We'll be heading over to the Little Caesar's in Kmart following our time at Flight in Bridgeville. Hope you can make it!

ADD ME TO THE LIST! If you are not currently on our email prayer chain and would like to be added to the prayer chain please contact the church secretaries by phone or email (secretary@zlc.org)!!

REV. MARK JASA will be coming to Zion to lead a workshop on outreach and evangelism. Rev. Jasa has been doing outreach on college campuses across the country for over a decade and has a heart for the lost. Come, listen and participate; April 16-17 right here at Zion!

Welcome to worship!

This evening, our study of Romans continues as we take a look at the first half of chapter 13 where we find Paul's teaching on the God-given role of government. I felt that, in view of the recent Iowa Caucus and upcoming New Hampshire Primary, that we study this passage instead of something from the end of Romans 13, or Romans 14. It is not my intent for this to become some sort of political grandstanding, but I hope to provide you with some Biblical tools to wrestle with what God created government to do (and, as a result, what it was not created to do).

I think you will be challenged by the high position Paul gives to the governing authorities. But I also think you will be struck with exactly what it is that Paul says government has the authority to do (especially when you compare it to the talking points of those who are aspiring to our nation's highest office).

Next week is Ash Wednesday. And while we will have our Small Group study following the worship service, our focus next week will be on our mortality and the need for God to save us. And so this is our last week of studying Romans in our midweek service. I hope you enjoyed the study and have grown in your understanding and appreciation of Paul's preeminent work.

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

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ZION EQUIPS, EDUCATES, AND ENCOURAGES BELIEVERS IN CHRIST, SENDING THEM INTO THE WORLD TO SHARE THE GOSPEL.

Zion Lutheran Church 3197 Washington Pike Bridgeville, PA 15017

The Service of Prayer and Preaching

Confession and Absolution

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Brothers and sisters in Christ, before we listen to the Word of God read and proclaimed, and before we offer our prayers of thanksgiving and supplication to our Heavenly Father, let us first consider our unworthiness to do both and ask God for mercy to help us in our time of need.

People: **Father in heaven, I come before you at the end of another day of your grace and favor. I should be able to come before you with a joyful heart, but instead, I come to you as one burdened by my sins. Look upon me in mercy and, for the sake of Christ, forgive me. Renew a steadfast spirit within me, and lead me to greater faith and obedience. I ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

Absolution Spoken by the Pastor

People: **Amen!**

The First Reading: Psalm 33

Shout for joy in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the upright.

Give thanks to the Lord with the lyre; make melody to him with the harp of ten strings!

Sing to him a new song; play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.

For the word of the Lord is upright, and all his work is done in faithfulness.

He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord.

By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth all their host.

He gathers the waters of the sea as a heap; he puts the deeps in storehouses.
Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him!

For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.

The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the peoples.

The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations.

Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage!

The Lord looks down from heaven; he sees all the children of man;
from where he sits enthroned he looks out on all the inhabitants of the earth,
he who fashions the hearts of them all and observes all their deeds.

The king is not saved by his great army; a warrior is not delivered by his great strength.

The war horse is a false hope for salvation, and by its great might it cannot rescue.

Behold, the eye of the Lord is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love,

that he may deliver their soul from death and keep them alive in famine.

Our soul waits for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

For our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name.

Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us, even as we hope in you.

The Second Reading: Romans 13:1-7

Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by

God. Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

Pastor: O Lord, have mercy on us.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Pastor: 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.

People: **Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.**

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

Pastor: Let my prayer rise before You as incense,
People: and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.
People: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.

Pastor: ... Lord, in your mercy;
People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: Abide with us, Lord, for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. Abide with us and with Your whole Church. Abide with us at the end of the day, at the end of our life, at the end of the whole world. Abide with us with Your grace and goodness, with Your holy Word and Sacrament, with Your strength and blessing. Abide with us when the night of affliction and temptation comes upon us, the night of fear and despair, the night when death draws near. Abide with us and with all the faithful, now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy;
People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us 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 Benedicamus and Benediction

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Let us go forth in peace,

People: **in the name of the Lord. Amen.**