

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



Maundy Thursday
March 24th, 2015

Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church!

This evening we celebrate and remember what happened 2,000 years ago, in an upper room in Jerusalem, as Jesus and his disciples made preparations to celebrate the Passover on the night when he was betrayed.

Having angered the authorities in Jerusalem and after predicting his death three times to his disciples, Jesus knows that the hour is near for the Son of Man to be betrayed into the hands of sinners. But he does nothing to stop Judas. He takes no steps to get to safety by getting out of Jerusalem. He lets events unfold that he knows will lead to his death. But why?

As the words of the Gospel of Mark are read, pay careful attention to what Jesus says after speaking what we call the “words of institution.” And listen again to what Jesus says after he and the remaining disciples to out to the Mount of Olives. Listen and you will hear why it was not necessary for Jesus to restrain Judas, leave Jerusalem under the cover of darkness, or try in any other way to stop the events that he knew would lead to his death from unfolding.

I hope that, as we explore the text from Mark 14, you will see Maundy Thursday doesn't make sense without the resurrection of Jesus. More than pointing forward to his death, Maundy Thursday looks forward to Christ's resurrection—when he would again drink the fruit of the vine with his disciples, when he would go ahead of them back to Galilee, and when his victory over sin and death would be revealed to the whole world.

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



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 the Word

The Prelude

Introduction to Worship and Announcements

(please stand)

Opening Hymn: *When You Woke That Thursday Morning* 445

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.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

The Prayer of the Church

Pastor: ...Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

The Scripture Lesson

Matthew 26:17-29

Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where will you have us prepare for you to eat the Passover?" He said, "Go into the city to a certain man and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is at hand. I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'" And the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover.

When it was evening, he reclined at table with the twelve. And as they were eating, he said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me." And they were very sorrowful and began to say to him one after another, "Is it I, Lord?" He answered, "He who has dipped his hand in the dish with me will betray me. The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born." Judas, who would betray him, answered, "Is it I, Rabbi?" He said to him, "You have said so."

Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

The Sermon Hymn: You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

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The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God, begotten not made,
being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made:
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen

The Offering

The Lord's Prayer

The Words of Institution

The Sharing of the Peace

The Distribution

We welcome to the Lord's Table all who have been baptized in the name of the Triune God, can examine themselves spiritually and believe they receive the true body and blood of the Lord Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins and as a profession of their faith. If you hold a profession of faith that differs from that of our congregation, please speak to the Pastor before the start of the service before communing.

- We believe the body and blood of Christ are truly present in the bread and wine.
- We believe Christ offers the forgiveness of sins in the Lord's Supper, but that the Lord's Supper is not necessary for salvation.

- We believe the Lord's Supper remembers the death of Christ and proclaims his death until he returns.
- We believe the Lord's Supper is a statement of unity in the body of Christ; we do not believe it creates that unity.

During the distribution, you are encouraged to sing the Distribution Hymns, pray, or meditate on the words "this is my body... this is my blood, given for you."

The cups at the center of the Individual Communion tray contain diluted wine for those with alcohol sensitivities.

Communion Hymns:

<i>Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me</i>	722
<i>There Is a Balm in Gilead</i>	745
<i>Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me</i>	715

Benediction

Pastor: 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 Stripping of the Altar

Psalm 22

The Congregation waits for the Altar to be stripped, then leaves in silence.

† Service Participants †

Pastor:	Rev. Duncan McLellan
Organist:	Sandra Quinlan
Elders:	Bill Bishop & Peter Fisher
Acolyte	Elder
Ushers:	Brian Pasquini, Dale Miller, Barb & Wayne Oechslein
	Ross Chilcott, Dan Harris, Vince Kimberland, Chuck LaJeunesse
Altar Guild:	Janet, Marian Oelschlager

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE is tomorrow at 7:00. We will be celebrating a Tenebrae service as we contemplate the death of our Savior Jesus.