

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



LENT

March 23, 2011

LENT Midweek Service

March 23, 2011

Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church!

Welcome back for our second midweek Lent Service!

This week, our look at prayers from the Bible continues. This week we will take a look at Psalm 88, the prayer of the Sons of Korah. Not all prayers are upbeat and positive; some are full of laments and packed full of complaints and suffering. This is one of those prayers.

When it comes to our prayer life, are we honest with God? Do we tell him what we think he wants to hear, or do we speak honestly about our condition? Is there a value to being painfully honest with God, or should we be careful how we pray?

The Sons of Korah have a lot to share with us about the stark honesty we have the privilege of coming to God with in prayer. The one who bore the sins of the whole world and received punishment for those sins, is more than able to not only sympathize with us in our time of need, but give us more than what we need... or even imagine.

Also, don't forget: after the service, we have deserts and coffee in the church basement for a time of fellowship and refreshment! Hope you're able to make it!

God bless your time in worship this evening.

-Pastor Duncan

Rev. Duncan McLellan, Pastor
Pastor's Phone: 412-667-0967
Website: www.zlcb.org

Darren Elikor, Pastoral Assistant
Office Phone: 412-221-4776
Fax: 412-220-9741

Service of the Word

The Prelude

Introduction to Worship

Hymn-sing

Before the service begins, offer your hymn requests to the pianist. We'll spend some time singing your favorites! Out of respect for our Lenten traditions, please do not choose hymns that contain "alleluias".

Announcements

(please stand)

Opening Hymn: Lord of All Hopefulness

738

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, but 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 called and ordained 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 Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

The Apostles' Creed

LSB 192

(Please be seated)

The Offering

The Scripture Lessons

Psalm 88

A Song. A Psalm of the Sons of Korah. To the choirmaster: according to Mahalath Leannoth. A Maskil of Heman the Ezrahite.

O Lord, God of my salvation; I cry out day and night before you.

Let my prayer come before you; incline your ear to my cry!

For my soul is full of troubles, and my life draws near to Sheol.

I am counted among those who go down to the pit; I am a man who has no strength,

Like one set loose among the dead, like the slain that lie in the grave,

Like those whom you remember no more, for they are cut off from your hand.

You have put me in the depths of the pit, in the regions dark and deep.

Your wrath lies heavy upon me, and you overwhelm me with all your waves.
You have caused my companions to shun me; you have made me a horror to them.

I am shut in so that I cannot escape; my eye grows dim through sorrow.

Every day I call upon you, O Lord; I spread out my hands to you.

Do you work wonders for the dead? Do the departed rise up to praise you?
(Selah)

Is your steadfast love declared in the grave, of your faithfulness in Abaddon?

Are your wonders known in the darkness, or your righteousness in the land of forgetfulness?

But I, O Lord, cry to you; in the morning my prayer comes before you.

O Lord, why do you cast my soul away? Why do you hide your face from me?

Afflicted and close to death from my youth up, I suffer your terrors; I am helpless.

Your wrath has swept over me; your dreadful assaults destroy me.

They surround me like a flood all day long; they close in on me together.

You have caused my beloved and my friends to shun me; my companions have become darkness.

Luke 6:12-16

In these days he went out to the mountain to pray, and all night he continued in prayer to God. And when day came, he called his disciples and chose from them twelve, whom he named apostles: Simon, whom he named Peter, and Andrew his brother, and James and John, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon who was called the Zealot, and Judas the son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.

Sermon

The Final Prayer

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 Postlude

† *Service Participants* †

The Officiant:	The Rev. Duncan McLellan
Pastoral Assistant:	Darren Eliker
The Organist:	Paula Gardner
The Elders:	Jim Neill and David Hutula
The Acolytes:	Joshua Gielarowski
The Ushers:	Bill Becker, Brent Miller, Wayne Oechslein, & Larry Zreliak and Richard Quinlan, Robert Oelschlager, & Ross Chilcott
Altar Guild:	Janet and Marian Oelschlager