

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



The Feast of the Passover

Second Sunday After Pentecost
June 26, 2011



ANNOUNCEMENTS

June 26, 2011



The **Altar Flowers** have been given to the Glory of God by Kathleen & Wayne Conn in honor of the birthdays of Jim Lynch and Lois Dittmer and by Ron & Judy Meier in honor of Brandon's and Meadow's first birthday.

The **Eternal Light** is lit to the Glory of the God by John, Carrie & Luke Lemonovich in honor of John, Claire, Elizabeth, and Kate's 3rd birthday.

There will be a **Voter's Meeting** following the service TODAY at 10:30 a.m.

Calling all vocalists and musicians! Zion is looking for volunteers to play or sing for the offertory during our summer services. Young people who are taking voice/instrument lessons are encouraged. Contact Paula Gardner at 412-276-0269 for more information.

We are in need of volunteers in the **nursery** during our **VBS** week, August 8-12. Please consider helping out with our little ones. Contact Katie Gielarowski if you are able to help.

Second Sunday After Pentecost

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Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church!

We've reached the end of our 4-week focus on the 7th Sign performed by Jesus in the Gospel of John: the raising of Lazarus from the dead. This sign, unlike his previous six, is one in which everyone who has the breath of life and stain of sin has a personal interest.

Jesus has just demonstrated that he is able to bring people back to life. If you were there, how would you respond to this miracle? If you were the chief priests and Pharisees, you would reason that his ability to bring people back to life will make him become popular. This popularity, they go on to reason, will become a problem to the Romans who will come in and destroy their city. End result: they will lose power. Therefore, instead of coming alongside of Jesus as the one who could give them eternal life, they chose to act out of fear of losing temporal power. They decide to arrest and/or kill Jesus.

We look at those Pharisees and chief priests and wonder how they could arrive at the conclusions they did. Kill the author and giver of life? Why? And yet we know that, in reality, the Pharisees and chief priests failed in the attempt to kill Jesus. In reality, it was our sin that took Jesus to the cross; our sin caused his death.

But, thanks be to God, the story doesn't end there. Our sin killed Jesus. But he overcame death and became the giver of eternal salvation for all people. His death is the source of our life.

-Pastor Duncan

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The Divine Service

The Prelude

Introduction to Worship and Announcements

(please stand)

Opening Hymn: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

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The Invocation

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Matthew 28:19

Confession and Absolution

Leader: 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.**

1 John 1:8-9

Leader: 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.

Hebrews 10:22

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

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

Psalms 124:8

Leader: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

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

Psalms 32:5

Leader: Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: **O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Leader: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

Mark 16:16, John 1:12

People: **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise: This Is the Feast

155

Refrain:

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Worthy is Christ the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

Refrain

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his.

Refrain

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation.

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

Refrain

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

Refrain

The Collect

Leader: The Lord be with you!

People: **And also with you!**

Leader: Let us pray. O God, whose never-failing providence sets in order all things both in heaven and earth, put away from us, we entreat you, all things hurtful, and give us those things that are profitable for us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

(Please be seated)

The Service of the Word

The Old Testament Lesson: Ezra 6:19-22

In returning to Israel, the exiles made certain to keep the Passover.

On the fourteenth day of the first month, the returned exiles kept the Passover. For the priests and the Levites had purified themselves together; all of them were clean. So they slaughtered the Passover lamb for all the returned exiles, for their fellow priests, and for themselves. It was eaten by the people of Israel who had returned from exile, and also by everyone who had joined them and separated himself from the uncleanness of the peoples of the land to worship the Lord, the God of Israel.

And they kept the Feast of Unleavened Bread seven days with joy, for the Lord had made them joyful and had turned the heart of the king of Assyria to them, so that he aided them in the work of the house of God, the God of Israel.

The New Testament Lesson: 1 Corinthians 5

Paul explains how Christians should properly keep the Passover by being morally upright and sexually pure.

It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and of a kind that is not tolerated even among pagans, for a man has his father's wife. And you are arrogant! Ought you not rather to mourn? Let him who has done this be removed from among you.

For though absent in body, I am present in spirit; and as if present, I have already pronounced judgment on the one who did such a thing. When you are assembled in the name of the Lord Jesus and my spirit is present, with the power of the Lord Jesus, you are to deliver this man to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, so that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord.

Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? Cleanse out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. For Christ, our Passover lamb has been sacrificed. Let us therefore celebrate the festival, not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

I wrote to you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral people—not at all meaning the sexually immoral of this world, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters, since then you would need to go out of the world. But now I am writing to you not to associate with anyone who bears the name of brother if he is guilty of sexual immorality or greed, or is an idolater, reviler, drunkard, or swindler—not even to eat with such a one. For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Is it not those inside the church whom you are to judge? God judges those outside. “Purge the evil person from among you.”

(Out of respect for our Lord Jesus Christ, please rise)

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 11th Chapter
People: **(sing) Glory to Thee, O Lord!**

The Gospel Lesson: John 11:45-57

The enemies of Jesus react to the raising of Lazarus from the dead.

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him, but some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the Council and said, "What are we to do? For this man performs many signs. If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation." But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all. Nor do you understand that it is better for you that one man should die for the people, not that the whole nation should perish." He did not say this of his own accord, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, and not for the nation only, but also to gather into one the children of God who are scattered abroad. So from that day on they made plans to put him to death.

Jesus therefore no longer walked openly among the Jews, but went from there to the region near the wilderness, to a town called Ephraim, and there he stayed with the disciples.

Now the Passover of the Jews was at hand, and many went up from the country to Jerusalem before the Passover to purify themselves. They were looking for Jesus and saying to one another as they stood in the temple, "What do you think? That he will not come to the feast at all?"

Now the chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders that if anyone knew where he was, he should let them know, so that they might arrest him.

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **(sing) Praise be to thee, O Christ!**

(Please be seated)

The Sermon Hymn: O God, Our Help in Ages Past 733

Sermon

(Please stand)

The Creed: Nicene Creed 191

The Offertory: We Give Thee But Thine Own 781 vs. 1,2,6

We give Thee but Thine own, Whatever the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from Thee.

May we Thy bounties thus as stewards true receive
And gladly, as Thou blessest us, to Thee our firstfruits give!

And we believe Thy Word, though dim our faith may be:
Whatever for Thine we do, O Lord, we do it unto Thee.

(Please be seated)

The Collection of the Offering

(Please stand)

The Prayer of the Church

Leader: 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.**

Matthew 6:9-13

Benediction

Leader: The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make His face shine
 on us and be gracious to us. The Lord look upon us with favor
 and give us peace.

People: **Amen!**

Num. 6:24-26

The Recessional: Onward, Christian Soldiers

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The Postlude

† *Service Participants* †

The Officiant:	The Rev. Duncan McLellan
Pastoral Assistant:	Darren Elikor
The Organist:	Paula Gardner
The Elders:	Jim Neill & Bill Bishop
The Acolyte:	Sydney Harris
The Greeters:	Ron & Judy Meier
The Ushers:	Jim Oelschlager, Dan Harris, & Loren Luedeman
Altar Guild:	Bernice DeBoe, Mary Hutula, & Elsie DallaPiazza

GUEST SPEAKER COMING TO ZION:

On Sunday July 3rd, we will welcome Dr. Dale Meyer as our guest pastor. Dr. Meyer is the current president of Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri and was the speaker of "The Lutheran Hour," a popular weekly religious radio broadcast, from 1989 to 2001. Prior to that, Dr. Meyer served as senior pastor at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Collinsville, Illinois and hosted a Bible class which was broadcast twice weekly over radio station KFJO-AM in St. Louis, Missouri. He also taught Homiletics and New Testament courses at Concordia Seminary-St. Louis and served there as the director of resident field education. In addition, Dr. Meyer served as a third vice-president for The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod, and has written several sermon booklets, Bible studies and articles for Christian publications. Dr. Dale A. Meyer is the host of the popular television talk show "On Main Street." Dr. Meyer holds masters and doctoral degrees in classical languages from Washington University in St. Louis, a Master of divinity degree from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, and an honorary doctorate in divinity from Concordia Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana.



