

Zion Bible Camp 2015: A New Song

"A NEW SONG" is the theme of the 2015 Zion Bible Camp, which will be June 22-26 from 9am to noon. The curriculum is by Pax Domini Press to teach the children about the Holy Liturgy.

Each day includes worship in the church, a puppet show, a lesson from the Holy Scriptures, a craft that reinforces the theme verse of the day, music, recreation activities, and lunch.

Invite your family members, friends, neighbors, and co-workers to send their children ages 3-12. There is no cost to attend the Bible Camp. Registration forms will be available in late May.

Donations are needed to cover the cost of the program materials (\$ 150) and supplies for food and crafts. Please put your donation in an envelope marked "Zion Bible Camp" and place it in the offering or send it to the parish office.

Volunteers are needed to teach, and help with food, crafts, puppet shows, and recreation. Please contact Robert Kelly III, chairman of the Board of Parish Education, if you can help.

The Zion Church Picnic will be Sunday, June 28, following Holy Mass. Volunteers are needed to help with set-up, clean-up, and to bring food. ✂



Ascension Day May 14

FORTY DAYS AFTER Easter, the Church commemorates Christ's Ascension, even as Christ ascended into heaven forty days after His resurrection. Join us to celebrate this major feast of Our Lord on Thursday, May 14, with a sung Mass in the Church at 7pm. ✂



The Chrism Mass, held on the morning of Maundy Thursday, includes the blessing of Sacred Chrism and Oil for the Infirm for the following year. Pictured on April 2, 2015 are James Gramzow, crucifer; the Rev. Fr. Ryan D. Beffrey, pastor of Mt. Olive-Cleveland Heights, OH, deacon; Dylan Smith, thurifer; the Rev. Fr. Mark P. Braden, Pastor of Zion, celebrant; the Rt. Rev. David P. Stechholz, Bishop of the English District, president; Nathaniel Jensen, chaplain to the bishop; Eric Chestnut, altar server, the Rev. Sem. Winston P.A. Grieser, Vicar of Zion, subdeacon, and the Rev. Fr. Gary W. Schultz, kantor.



Festival Mass commemorating the Resurrection of Our Lord, April 5, 2015. Elijah Edwards, crucifer; Dylan Smith, altar server, the Rev. Sem. Winston P. A. Grieser, Vicar of Zion, subdeacon; the Rev. Fr. Mark P. Braden, Pastor, celebrant; Kevin Wiedelman, thurifer; the Rev. Fr. Gary W. Schultz, kantor; and Eric Chestnut, altar server.

"Blow the Trumpet in Zion" (Joel 2.15)



Zion Trumpet

Zion Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Detroit

May/June 2015

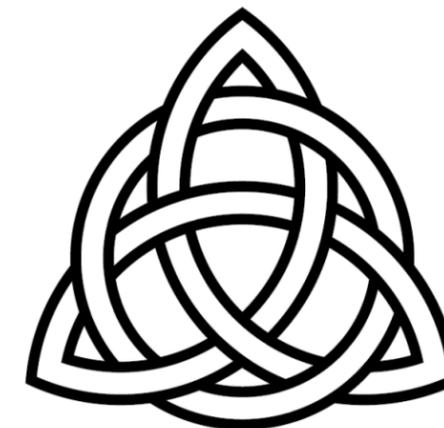
One in Three, Three in One

by Father Braden

IN THE BEGINNING, God said "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness." Notice the plural pronouns. It was a Trinitarian act, a council of the Three Persons of the Godhead in perfect agreement. As in the first sentence of Holy Scripture, the Hebrew word "God" in the Old Testament is a plural. God the Father created all things through God the Son as God the Spirit hovered over the creation. The Holy Trinity is before all things, without beginning or end, the Son begotten of the Father, the Holy Ghost proceeding from the Father and the Son, all Three coequal and coeternal.

Apart from knowing God in Three Persons and the Three Persons that are the only true God, there is no salvation. As the Athanasian Creed puts it, "And the catholic faith is this, that we worship one God in Trinity and Trinity in Unity... This is the catholic faith; which except a man believe faithfully and firmly, he cannot be saved." The doctrine of the Holy Trinity, found in Genesis 1, and

Continued on page 2



The Holy Trinity

Blessed be the Holy Trinity and the undivided Unity: We will praise and glorify Him because He has shown His mercy on us.

TOBIT 12: 6

from the Introit for the Feast of the Most Holy Trinity

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throughout the Old and New Testaments, although mysterious and beyond our understanding, by faith teaches us to know God aright.

After the resurrection of the Second Person of the Holy Trinity, the Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious day on which He took up His life again, the risen Lord appeared to many, taught, and did miracles for forty days. Then He ascended into heaven. Ten days later, on the fiftieth day after His resurrection, the Holy Spirit Who hovered over the waters in the beginning lit upon the Apostles in a miraculous demonstration of God's power. The curse of Babel was reversed. Now, by the same Spirit, the Church is One: One Lord, one faith, one Baptism imparting to us a unity that never ends.

Because the doctrine of the Trinity is the first doctrine we meet in Holy Scripture, one might think that it would have been celebrated very early in the history of the Church. No so. Easter and Pentecost were observed much earlier. Easter observances date to the first days of the Church, our Great Vigil of Easter uniting us to their Apostolic celebration. Pentecost was celebrated by the Church quite early in history as well. It wasn't for several hundred years after the first written records of the Pentecost celebration, however, that the celebration of Trinity Sunday is found. The Gelasian and Gregorian Sacramentaries, liturgical books that date to the end of the fifth and sixth centuries, both record Trinity observances.

On Trinity Sunday, the Athanasian Creed is confessed. The Athanasian Creed is named after St. Athanasius, bishop of Alexandria, who lived in the fourth century. The creed reflects his Trinitarian teaching, although the form of the creed we use was probably written after his death. The longest of the creeds, the Athanasian Creed is also the only



creed to contain "anathemas," or condemnations of those who reject the Trinitarian faith the Scriptures and the Creeds so clearly confess.

In unity with the apostolic church and the early church, our Easter celebration each year gives way on the fortieth day to our celebration of the Ascension of our Lord. Ten days later, on the fiftieth day after the Resurrection, we celebrate Holy Pentecost, also called "Whitsunday," a reference to the white vestments worn by the newly baptized. The following Sunday is Trinity Sunday, the day on which we celebrate the ancient, timeless Mystery of God in Three Persons, and Three Persons in One God.

This year the Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord Jesus Christ is celebrated on Thursday, May 14. Holy Pentecost is May 24. Trinity Sunday is May 31.

Join us for these ancient observances, won't you, as we confess the apostolic faith, the faith of our fathers, the faith that God the Spirit who hovered over the face of the waters at the creation of all things works through His Word to place into our hearts and upon our lips today, and in the mercy and grace of God the Father, the Body and Blood of God the Son is placed into our mouths and poured across our lips. ✠

From the Past

FROM THE FRONT page of Zion's Bulletin in the late 1940's:

If you are overwhelmed by loneliness and crave friendship and understanding, if you are burdened with sorrow and heartache and seek comfort and consolation, if your life is barren and unlovely and you long for the beauty of divine worship and devotion, if you are troubled by the falsehoods and deceptions of life and desire the absolute truth, if you are searching for an answer to the most important question of all time - "What must I do to be saved?" - this church bids you in Jesus' name a hearty WELCOME! ✠

The Psalter: The Church's First Hymnal

by Father Schultz

THE EARLIEST HYMNS, first and foremost, are the hymns of the Bible itself - the psalms. Early Christians did not get rid of the Old Testament, but embraced it as it foretold of Christ. So, in worship, Christians began with what they already knew - the 150 psalms. The psalms cover a multitude of topics and themes.

The psalms played an important role in the Old Testament prayer. This continued into the early church. Eventually, based on Psalm 119:164 "Seven times a day I praise you for your righteous rules," a series of daily prayer offices was developed. Schedules for praying all 150 psalms in one week were devised. Today, in the Divine Office - Matins and Vespers - psalms continue to make up a major part of the prayer. Often, psalms begin and end with an *antiphon*, a key verse that expresses the main theme of the psalm.

The psalms were meant to be sung. Certainly there is nothing wrong with reading the psalms, but their traditional use is to sing them. The usual way that this was done was through Gregorian chant tones, developed in the medieval church. There are many other tones that can be used and many choral settings of the psalms as well. The psalms also have been the inspiration for many hymns.

In addition to the Bible, you can find many of the psalms in *The Lutheran Hymnal*, pages 123-157. Consider praying one or more of the psalms a day in your individual or family prayers. ✠

Mother's Day Flowers

POTTED MUMS WILL adorn the altar in honor of Mother's Day on Rogate Sunday, May 10. Mums may be donated in memory of your deceased mother or in honor of your living mother. The plants are \$15, and may be taken home after Holy Mass on May 10. Please place your donation in an envelope marked "Mother's Day Flowers" and put it in the offering plate or mail it to the parish office. The deadline for donations is May 3. ✠



St. Michael Liturgical Conference

THE EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL St. Michael Liturgical Conference is Monday, September 28. Our keynote speaker is Dr. Charles J. Evanson, who will speak on the topic "Liturgical Renewal in the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod."

Donations are needed for the conference, as registration fees do not cover most of the conference costs. Volunteers are also needed to serve on the conference committee to plan the conference details. Please let Fr. Braden know how you can help. ✠

Articles Published

THE APRIL ISSUE of the *Lutheran Witness*, the monthly periodical of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, is on the doctrine of vocation. Father Schultz wrote the article "Perfect in Weakness," subtitled: "Our vocations are holy callings, but sin often gets in the way."

The current issue of *Concordia Theological Quarterly* includes an article review by Father Braden on an exegetical commentary: "The Pastoral Epistles: First Timothy, Second Timothy, Titus" by Benjamin Fiore. ✠

CONCORDIA THEOLOGICAL QUARTERLY



Voters' Assembly May 17

THE SPRING VOTERS' assembly will convene Sunday, May 17 following Holy Mass. On the agenda is the approval of the 2015-2016 budget and reports from the congregational officers: Mr. Thomas Habitz, chairman of the voters; Mr. Eric Russell, chairman of the Board of Deacons; Mr. Kevin Wiedelman, chairman of the Board of Trustees and treasurer; Mr. Robert Kelly III, chairman of the Board of Christian Education; and Fr. Braden, as pastor and as chairman of the Zion Endowment Board. Plan to attend and take an active role in the on-going business of our parish. ✠

To illustrate this, look at a treasure from our hymnal: “The Church’s One Foundation” (#473). In our hymns, the Church sings back to God and confesses to each other what He has told us in His Word. We learn from Holy Scripture who God is: Father, Son and Holy Ghost. We learn that we “**are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone,**” as St. Paul writes in Ephesians 2.19-20. Knowing that it is in Christ that we have our foundation, source of life, and eternal sustenance, we sing back to God this profound truth.

*The Church's one foundation, Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
She is His new creation by water and the Word.
From heaven He came and sought her to be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her and for her life He died.*

In this rich text, St. Paul’s words are set to music. We know that the Rock upon which the Church is built is this confession, Jesus is “the Christ, the Son of the living God” (Mt 16.16). Scripture also tells us that the Church, has always drunk from the same spiritual Rock, the Lord Jesus Christ (1 Cor 10.4). We confess in this stanza that we are made a new creation in Baptism, and that, “it is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God’s command and combined with God’s word” (Gal 6.15, *Luther’s Small Catechism*).

As the text continues we confess both the incarnation: *From heaven He came and sought her*, and our Lord’s return by recognizing the Church as the bride of Christ (Rev 21.2). Finally, we confess how our Lord has done all of this for us, namely, “not with gold or silver, but with His holy precious blood and innocent suffering and death” as we confess in Luther’s explanation to the Second Article.

From this one stanza see how much of our faith we are joyfully able to express. These words are thoughtful and full of meaning. This music was specifically created for the purpose of singing hymns and therefore, from the very beginning it was set apart for use by the Church.

Far too often we see churches introducing music that is foreign to the tradition of the Church and has not been set apart for worship. Rather, it is an

attempt of converting the secular to the holy. A hymn is not meant to entertain or bring you to some sort of emotional experience.

A hymn is meant to confess, teach, pray, and praise. If we are so caught up in trying to reach an emotional high, then worship is no longer about receiving God’s gifts, but self-gratification. New age hymns and failed attempts to “Christianize” secular music by putting on pseudo-rock concert is helpful neither to us nor our children. How could a young child differentiate between a contemporary worship service and a Beatles or Smash Mouth concert when they sound so very much alike? That is why we are so very blessed to have hymns and liturgy that have been handed down to us expressly for the Church to use.

Consider this: Many of these same hymns that we sing were sung by the likes of Martin Luther, St. Augustine, and St. Ambrose. Your parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents sang these same hymns. These hymns connect us to our rich heritage, for there is only one holy catholic Church. Our hymnody and liturgy speaks to that reality.

This reality is brought out in our liturgy when we pray: “Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Thy glorious name evermore praising Thee and saying, ‘Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.’ ” We are connected both to the Church militant and the Church triumphant. There is one Church, and Jesus Christ is her head. This is the very thing we confess in stanza 5:

*Mid toil and tribulation And tumult of her war
She waits the consummation Of peace forevermore,
Til with the vision glorious Her longing eyes are blest
And the great Church victorious Shall be the Church at rest.*

Singing these hymns, Our Lord will work to strengthen our confession. Teach them to your children and learn them yourself. Heresy cannot long endure where such mighty hymns and confessions of the faith are sung. Take delight in the fact that such hymns make devils’ ears bleed. The demons flee from Christ’s saints when we sing about the victory which Christ has won for us by His death upon the cross and resurrection from the dead. ✠



The **Zion Trumpet** is the informational and educational newsletter of Zion Evangelical-Lutheran Church. It communicates the news of Zion and instructs members in various aspects of the Christian Faith.

The **Trumpet** is published six times each year. It is free for members of Zion. Non-members are invited to contribute toward the production and mailing of the **Trumpet**.

Zion Evangelical-Lutheran Church is a parish of the one, holy catholic and apostolic Church and is affiliated with the English district of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

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English District Convention

THE TRIENNIAL CONVENTION of the English District of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod is June 17-20 at Concordia University—Ann Arbor. This year, after three terms of faithful and selfless service, the Rt. Rev. Bishop David Stechholz will step down from the *cathedra* of our district, and a new bishop will be elected.

At the convention, many other district positions will be filled, and resolutions for the 2016 synodical convention will be deliberated. Fr. Braden will serve as Zion’s pastoral delegate to the convention. Mr. Michael Edwards will serve as Zion’s lay delegate. Both Fr. Braden and Mr. Edwards will also vote in the 2016 synodical presidential election.



Fr. Braden has been nominated for the position of Vice President of the Lake Erie region of the English District. When he was notified of his nomination he accepted, and agreed to stand for election. Fr. Braden has also been nominated for five synodical positions, to be filled at the 2016 convention: the Board of Directors of the synod; the Commission for Theology and Church Relations; the Board of Directors of the Concordia University System; the Board of Regents of Concordia University Wisconsin (Mequon and Ann Arbor); and the Board of Regents of Concordia Theological Seminary—Fort Wayne.

Fr. Braden has remained standing for the district vice presidency, although election to any of the synodical positions would require him to step down from the district position. Because of the synodical nominations, several colleagues of Fr. Braden have encouraged him to remove his name from consideration for the district position, a suggestion that Fr. Braden is prayerfully considering at this time. Synodical regulations will limit Fr. Braden’s service to one of the positions to which he is nominated. None of the positions would require Fr. Braden to leave Zion.

Please keep Zion, Fr. Braden, our Bishop, our district, and our synod in your prayers. ✠

Christian Education at Zion

Sunday Adult Study 11:30am | Undercroft
Study of the book of Hosea; Coffee is provided;
Thanks to those who bring refreshments.

Sunday School 11:30am | Activities Center
Children ages 3—grade 8 study the Sunday Gospel
lesson and have activities and music designed to en-
hance the biblical teaching. September-May.

Sunday Youth Study 11:40am | Rectory
Young adults in high school and college who are con-
firmed meet to study the Holy Scriptures organized
around the six chief parts of Christian doctrine.

Wednesday Adult Study 10:45am | Rectory
Study of the book of Revelation. Often the group goes
out to lunch following the study.

Youth Catechesis Saturday | 10am | Rectory
For grades three-eight, this class instructs students in
the basics of the Christian Faith through *Luther's Small
Catechism* to prepare for First Communion.

Adult Catechesis Thursday | 7pm | Rectory
The study of Koehler's annotated *Small Catechism* is a
review for members and prepares new catechumens
for membership.

Men's Group 1 Thursday a month | 7pm | Rectory
Study of the *Solid Declaration of the Formula of Concord*.

Women's Group 2 Saturdays a month | 1pm | Rectory
Study of the Holy Liturgy.

International Work

AS IN YEARS past, Father Braden is planning to travel to South America to serve Christ by teaching pastors in the mission field. A trip to Medellín, Colombia is planned for late May. In Medellín, Father Braden is supporting the work of a missionary, Father Mario Marín, in his efforts to plant a confessional Lutheran mission in an urban setting. This will be Fr. Braden's third trip to Colombia, and will be four days during the week.



In August, the Bolivian Lutheran church has invited Father Braden back to teach another class. Last August he taught Ecclesiology in Cochabamba, Bolivia at the Lutheran Bible Institute there. The exact dates and topic of the course for this year's trip have yet to be determined. This trip will be ten days, and require two weekends in South America.

If you are interested in traveling with Fr. Braden, contact him for information. While Fr. Braden's trips are completely funded by outside support (there is no cost to Zion), members who travel will need to cover their own costs. ✕

Birthday Anniversaries

May

2 David Kasner
2 Gary Schultz
8 Anthony Spicer
12 Andrew Stechholz
13 Roderick Atkins
17 Earlene Maynarich
19 Jason Balaska
19 Herman (Carl) Luckwald
23 David Faerber
27 Towana Hooks-Brownlee
28 Susan Spicer
29 Roger Beaupied

June

3 Carlton Alford
6 Jayla Williams
7 Bobby Kelly III
9 Eugene Brown
9 Bobby Kelly IV
11 Renee Adkins
14 James Gramzow
14 Ellen Hayden
20 Margaret Alford
27 Monica Faerber
29 Shirley Cross
29 Taneisha Cross
30 Darwin Terry

Baptism Anniversaries

May

4 Carol Matschikowski
11 Michael Quinkert
14 Betty Gill
17 Dale Murdock
18 John Sibert
18 Paul Sibert
19 Gregory Durham
19 Phillip White
21 William Gramzow
21 Eric Russell
22 Natalie Balaska
24 Ralph Trevino
25 Darin Gray
29 Anthony Atkins
29 Roderick Atkins

June

1 Ruthalee Brown
1 Bernadine Cross
3 Jeanetta Bryant
12 Stacy Gray
15 Anna Dalton
17 Andrew Stechholz
18 Carlton Alford
18 Margaret Alford
18 LaToia Davis-Gray
24 David Faerber
30 Rhetta Dillon

Marriage Anniversaries

June

6 Jason & Jennifer Balaska
7 Robert & Leticia Kelly
11 Silas & Chandra Gray
19 Roger & Jeanne Beaupied

The Church's One Foundation

by Vicar Grieser

AS THE CHURCH continues celebrating the Resurrection of our Lord this Eastertide and moves into the Pentecost season, we once again look at our great heritage in hymnody and the unique blessing shared by confessional Lutherans. So, what is the Lutheran difference?

A hymn is a sung confession used to teach. A hymn can be a sung prayer. A hymn is a way to render thanks and praise to God for what He has done for us in Christ Jesus.

The saving work of our God through His Son is always the focus of hymnody. Hymns should also work in conjunction with the holy liturgy and lend their strength to reinforce the Gospel, which is the heart of the Mass found in the Word and Sacrament.

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The Zion Parish Record

For March & April 2015

Additions

By Transfer

Michael and Karen Anderson (March 15, 2015)
From St. Peter — Plymouth, MI

Removals

By Transfer

Gregory and Jennifer Gramzow; Katherine, James, and Charlotte (February 17, 2015)
to Our Shepherd — Birmingham, MI

Death

Pauline Louise Rivard (March 8, 2015)
Eleanor Amanda Luka (March 13, 2015)

Membership 206 Members

HOLY MASS is celebrated every Sunday and Wednesday at 10am, and on major feasts as announced.

THE DIVINE OFFICE MATINS: Daily at 8:45am (except when there is a morning Mass) in the Chapel of the Holy Incarnation in the Rectory; **VESPERS:** Tuesday/Thursday at 6:30pm in the Church.

COMMUNICANTS are baptized Christians who have been instructed in and publicly confess the Evangelical-Lutheran Faith. If you desire to commune at Zion, please visit with the Pastor before approaching the Altar.

PRIVATE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION is available on Saturday morning or by appointment.

PASTORAL CONSULTATION based on the Holy Scriptures is available by appointment.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM is for infants and adults, and may be arranged by contacting the Pastor.

COUPLES DESIRING HOLY MARRIAGE should contact the Pastor before finalizing the wedding date. Bible instruction in Holy Marriage is required. All marriages are conducted by the Pastor according to Zion's usual order.

NEW MEMBERS are received by baptism, confirmation, transfer or profession of faith. Instruction in Luther's Small Catechism and Private Absolution are required for all new members. Visit with the Pastor for further details.

THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND are visited regularly by the Pastor. Please contact the Parish Office if you know of any parishioner in need of pastoral visitation.

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS Adult Choir, Altar Guild, Children's Choir, Jubilate Deo Women's Choir, St. Seraphim Prayer Guild, Society of St. Samuel (Altar Boys), Usher Club, Zion Endowment Board.

DEACONS William Gramzow III, Thomas Habitz Jr., Eric Russell; **TRUSTEES** Paul Snoes, Kevin Wiedelman; **BOARD OF PARISH EDUCATION** Shirley Cross, Robert Kelly III, Pamela Ruffin; **OFFICERS OF THE VOTERS** Thomas Habitz Jr. (chairman), Jason Balaska (vice-chairman), Kristi Russell (secretary), Kevin Wiedelman (treasurer), Jessica Chavez (financial secretary)