

“Christ Is Our Cornerstone”

125th Anniversary

1893 - 2018



Zion Lutheran Church

5534 E. 600TH AVE., ALTAMONT, IL

125th ANNIVERSARY SERVICE

JULY 8, 2018

Welcome

Our congregation is overjoyed that you have come to join us on this special day and we extend our sincerest welcome to all of you. Please make sure to sign our Guest Book, marking this very special occasion of worship and fellowship. We pray the Lord's richest blessings upon you and thank you for being here to celebrate our 125th Anniversary with us.

Please join us under the tents after the service for a celebratory meal (air conditioned seating is available in the basement as well as limited seating in the parsonage). Restroom facilities are located in the north end of the basement and also in the parsonage. In your spare time, please take a few minutes to browse through our photo and memorabilia displays, as well as touring the Zion school building. At the conclusion of the meal, the Church bell will call us once again to join together in the sanctuary for a Veteran Recognition and Confirmation Reunion service.

Original Hymn Board

The hymn board displayed this morning is original to Zion's first church building, it was used from 1893 until the new church was built in 1922.

Today's Epistle Reading

Zion's first shepherd, Rev. Karl Mende, was installed on July 2, 1893 in an afternoon service. On July 9, he delivered his inaugural sermon to the Zion congregation. The text for his message, 125 years ago, came from 2 Corinthians 5:17-21. It will also serve as the text for Rev. Bueltmann's message to us today.

Historic Events in Zion's History

131 years ago – Zion School Organized – May 19, 1887

125 years ago – Zion Congregation Organized – April 16, 1893

51 years in service – The Original Church/School Building was used from 1887 – 1938

96 years ago – New Church Dedicated – August 6, 1922

80 years ago – New School Dedicated – September 8, 1938

46 years ago – Zion School Closed – 1972

Since April 16, 1893, the Lord our God has blessed us with the proclamation of His Word in all its truth and purity. May the Lord continue to abide among us with His Blessings! May the pure Word of God be proclaimed in a new era unto the salvation of many souls.

We commit our dear church and all that is ours into our heavenly Father's keeping. As we go forward with the banner of Christ and His saving Word, let our prayer ever be:

Lord, lead us as Thou pleases; but bless us and grant that we may be a blessing to others. Deal with us as it pleases Thee, for Thy will is good, and Thou doest all things well. Advance us on the way through trials and amid joys, over obstacles or surrounded by opportunities, in faith and patience, to eternal glory. "Abide, O dearest Jesus, Among us with Thy Word, And Thus now and hereafter True peace and joy afford." Amen!

Prelude
Ringing of the Church Bell
Welcome

OPENING HYMN “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

TLH #39

Stand

OPENING VERSICLES

P Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;

C **His mercy endureth forever!**

P The stone that the builders rejected

C **has become the cornerstone.**

P O Lord, open my lips,

C **and my mouth will declare Your praise.**

P Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

C **make haste to help me, O LORD,**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

PSALM 126

Congregation is invited to **respond** as indicated by **Bold print**

When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.

Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;

then they said among the nations,
“The LORD has done great things for them.”

The LORD has done great things for us;
we are glad.

Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like streams in the Negeb!

Those who sow in tears
shall reap with shouts of joy!

He who goes out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
bringing his sheaves with him.

Sit

READINGS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 12:1-6

You will say in that day:

“I will give thanks to you, O LORD,
for though you were angry with me,
your anger turned away,
that you might comfort me.

“Behold, God is my salvation;
I will trust, and will not be afraid;
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song,
and he has become my salvation.”

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

And you will say in that day:

“Give thanks to the LORD,
call upon his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples,
proclaim that his name is exalted.

“Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;
let this be made known in all the earth.
Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

“For Many Years, O God of Grace”

TLH #639

EPISTLE

2 Corinthians 5:14-21

For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.

From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

So he said to them again, "I am going away, and you will seek me, and you will die in your sin. Where I am going, you cannot come." So the Jews said, "Will he kill himself, since he says, 'Where I am going, you cannot come'?" He said to them, "You are from below; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world. I told you that you would die in your sins, for unless you believe that I am he you will die in your sins." So they said to him, "Who are you?" Jesus said to them, "Just what I have been telling you from the beginning. I have much to say about you and much to judge, but he who sent me is true, and I declare to the world what I have heard from him." They did not understand that he had been speaking to them about the Father. So Jesus said to them, "When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am he, and that I do nothing on my own authority, but speak just as the Father taught me. And he who sent me is with me. He has not left me alone, for I always do the things that are pleasing to him." As he was saying these things, many believed in him.

So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?"

Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Christ Is Our Cornerstone"

TLH #465

SERMON

"Life Is Good, Even at 125"

Text: 2 Corinthians 5:14-21

GUEST SPEAKER

Rev. Dr. David Bueltmann

HYMN

"Now Thank We All Our God"

TLH #36

THE OFFERING

Stand

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

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 was 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.**

VERSICLES

- P** Hear my prayer, O LORD;
C **let my cry come to You.**
- P** The stone that the builders rejected
C **has become the cornerstone.**
- P** God is our refuge and strength,
C **a very present help in trouble.**
- P** The LORD of hosts is with us;
C **the God of Jacob is our fortress.**
- P** The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer,
C **my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge,**
P my shield,
C **and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.**
- P** How lovely is your dwelling place,
C **O, LORD of hosts!**
- P** For a day in your courts is better
C **than a thousand elsewhere.**
- P** I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God
C **than dwell in the tents of wickedness.**
- P** The stone that the builders rejected
C **has become the cornerstone.**
- P** Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer;
C **listen to my plea for grace.**

COLLECTS

P Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, the unfailing Giver of good gifts, we thank Thee that Thou this day didst enter into this house with Thy Word; and we heartily beseech Thee continually to dwell among us with Thy Word and Thy Sacraments, so that by Thy grace we poor sinners may be converted unto Thee and saved eternally; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

C Amen.

LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER

I thank Thee, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Thy dear Son, that Thou hast kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray Thee that Thou wouldst keep me this day also from sin and every evil that all my doings and life may please Thee. For into Thy hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Thy holy angel be with me that the wicked Foe may have no power over me. Amen

BENEDICAMUS and BLESSING

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“Our God, Our Help in Ages Past”

TLH #123

Silent Prayer

Announcements

POSTLUDE

SERVING OUR LORD TODAY:

GUEST SPEAKER: Rev. Dr. David Bueltmann,
Former President, Central Illinois District,
Pastor, Concordia Lutheran Church,
Decatur, IL

PRESIDER & LITURGIST: Rev. Marcus G. Manley,
Pastor, Zion Lutheran Church

ORGANIST: Mr. Mike Mercier

THE CHURCH OFFICERS:

CHAIRMAN: David Suckow

SECRETARY: Gary Wendling

ELDERS: Ron Siebert
Dennis Stuemke
John Wohltman

TRUSTEES: Lloyd Alwardt (Missions Treasurer)
Dean Biggs (Building/Cemetery Treasurer)
Steven Suckow (Congregation Treasurer)

CHIEF USHER: Jason Suckow

SS SUPERINTENDENT: Robert Roedl

SCHOOL BOARD: Mark Suckow
Hona Roedl

LCC BOARD: Dean Biggs
Herb Stuemke

LLL REPRESENTATIVE: Gary Wendling

ORGANIZATIONS:

LADIES AID SOCIETY, LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE

SPECIAL THANKS:

We would like to extend a special thank you to Lynn Kull for the use of the tents for today's meal. Thank you also to Sherwin Williams for the donation of paint to update the exterior of the school house.