

Mount Zion Lutheran Church

26689
Northeastern Hwy
Madison Heights, MI
48071

Member
Congregation:



Church of the
Lutheran Confession

Pastor:
Tom Naumann
Office: 248-677-7242
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Congregation
President:
Randy Wittorp
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Worship 10:00am
Bible Class 9:00am

14th Sunday after
Pentecost
September 10, 2017

Mount Zion Lutheran Church

Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 9:00am (Sept – May)

Divine Service 10:00am

A Member of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC)

Pastor Tom Naumann

www.mtzionlutheran.info

The 14th Sunday after Pentecost

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Pre-Service Devotion: 1 Peter 3:20-21

In the days of Noah... eight persons, were brought safely through water. ²¹ Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ."

Today's Order of Service:

Worship Supplement p.12-21, omitting p.17-20

Today's Hymns

279 (red hymnal) – *Today Thy Mercy Calls Us*

750 (tan supplement) – *See This Wonder in the Making*

751 (tan supplement) – *God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It* (sung to the tune of TLH 151)

463:1-5,8 (red hymnal) – *For All the Saints Who from Their Labors Rest*

The Old Testament Reading: *Ezekiel 36:22-29*

“Therefore say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord GOD: It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations to which you came. ²³ And I will vindicate the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, and which you have profaned among them. And the nations will know that I am the LORD, declares the Lord GOD, when through you I vindicate my holiness before their eyes. ²⁴ I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. ²⁵ I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. ²⁶ And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules. ²⁸ You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God. ²⁹ And I will deliver you from all your uncleannesses. And I will summon the grain and make it abundant and lay no famine upon you.”

The Psalm of the Day: *Psalms 23*

Pastor: The LORD is my shepherd;

Congregation: I shall not want.

P: He makes me lie down in green pastures.

C: He leads me beside still waters.

P: He restores my soul.

C: He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

P: Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil,

C: For you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

P: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

C: You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

P: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

C: And I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

The Gospel Reading: *John 3:1-17*

Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ² This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." ³ Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." ⁴ Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" ⁵ Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶ That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' ⁸ The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

⁹ Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰ Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹ Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶ "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

The Baptism of Ezekiel Martin Scott Wittorp



The Sermon: *Galatians 3:23-27*

Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. ²⁴ So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵ But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, ²⁶ for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. ²⁷ For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

Baptized into the Family of Faith

- I. A faith which frees us from the Law
- II. A faith which clothes us in Christ

Sermon Notes



Announcements

"If the LORD wills, we will do this or that." James 4:15

Welcome Everyone! Especially any visitors who may be with us. We are glad you are here and invite you to join us again soon in our worship of the One true God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. If you are looking for a church home, we hope you've found it with us. If you'd like to become a member, we offer a free "Information Course" in which the Pastor will meet with you at your convenience to study and discuss the Bible's teachings. Just ask!

Important Dates at Mt. Zion

Tue. 9/12 → Thu. 9/14 – Great Lakes Pastoral Conference in Eau Claire, WI

Sun. 9/17 9am – Bible Class

10am – Divine Worship

Sun. 10/15 11am – Quarterly Voter's Meeting

Fri. 10/27 7pm – Reformation Seminar @ Carpathia Club in Sterling Heights, MI

Baptism: Congratulations to Randy and Danielle, the parents of Ezekiel Martin Scott Wittorp who is born again today of water and the Word. In this Sacrament, the Holy Spirit gives Ezekiel the gift of saving faith in Jesus Christ, thereby washing Ezekiel of his sins and making him a dear child of the heavenly Father, a member of the Holy Christian Church, and an heir of eternal life. No greater gift can be given to our children than this!

Bible Class resumed this morning! Next week we will continue our 6-part study of Pastor Bruce Naumann's booklet "Foundations of Our Faith: Does it really matter that I belong to a confessional Lutheran church?"

Reformation Seminar: In celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation, Mt. Zion is proud to be hosting a CLC-sponsored Reformation Seminar on Friday October 27, 2017 at 7pm at the Carpathia Club in Sterling Heights, MI. Pastor Emeritus John Schierenbeck, Pastor Caleb Schaller, and Pastor Tom Naumann will be presenting. Please plan to attend this faith-strengthening event! Tell your friends and family! It would be wonderful to have as many guests and visitors as possible and share with them the message of the Reformation: Grace Alone, Faith Alone, Scripture Alone!

CLC Call News: Immanuel Lutheran, Mankato MN, has called the Rev. David Schaller, pastor of Redeemer Lutheran, Dowagiac MI, to serve as co-pastor. <> Kayla Wendt of Immanuel Lutheran has accepted the call to serve part-time teaching Choir, PE, and Spanish.

Remember the Reformation!

People who write history call the events of Luther's life and the lives of other like-minded men of that time the REFORMATION. Many important Bible teachings were once again being taught by pastors and teachers in the church. Among them were these:



1) Justification by faith. The church had been incorrectly teaching that God would regard people “Not guilty” if they did good works first. Luther discovered from the Bible that God justified all the people of the world (declared them “Not guilty”) because of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross. God leads people through His Spirit to BELIEVE that He has indeed declared them “Not guilty” of their sins.

2) The Priesthood of All Believers. Before the Reformation people had been taught that the only way they could receive the gifts of God was through the church, especially the priests. The Catholic Church had developed a system of seven sacred acts (Sacraments), involving the whole life of the people. The priests alone could administer these Sacraments. Luther noted that the Bible calls all the believers priests before God. Each one could talk directly with God and receive His gifts. Each was given the privilege of using the two Sacraments mentioned in the Bible – Baptism and the Lord's Supper. Each head of the household could be the teacher and spiritual leader of his family.

3) The Bible. Before Luther's time there were very few Bibles. Most of those which did exist were in places where the common people couldn't get at them. They were also written in Latin, a language the people didn't understand. God had already prepared the world for the Reformation by seeing to it that movable metal type for the printing press had been invented. The year was 1454. This made printing much faster and cheaper. Already in 1521 Luther started translating the Bible from its original languages (Hebrew and Greek) into German – the language of his country. This way Luther's countrymen could find out for themselves what God had to say rather than rely on various church leaders. We in the Lutheran Church appreciate what God accomplished through his servant Martin Luther. We use his Catechism in our instruction classes because it presents in a simple way what the Bible teaches about our Savior from sin, our life as His people while on this earth, and the eternal future He has promised to all who believe in Him.

