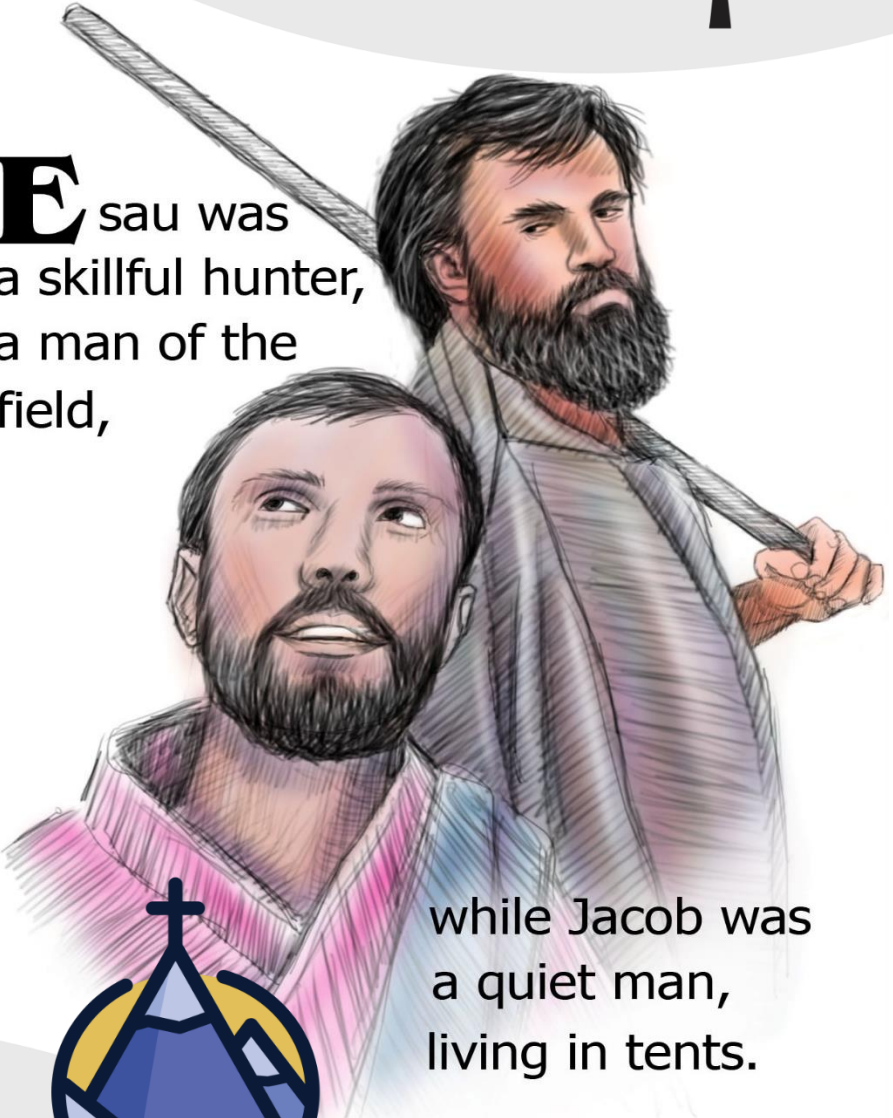


August 29, 2021



Esau was
a skillful hunter,
a man of the
field,



while Jacob was
a quiet man,
living in tents.

Genesis 25:27, NRSV



MT. ZION

Evangelical Lutheran Church
Madison Heights, MI

Pastor Tom Naumann
(248) 677-7242

mtzionlutheran.info



14th Sunday after Pentecost

Pre-Service Personal Prayer: *Lord Jesus Christ, living Savior, abide with us on our journey through this wicked world; for we are in constant need of Your comfort and instruction. Strengthen our faith, guide us daily by Your Word, and finally receive us into Your heavenly kingdom. Hear us for Your own sake, Amen.*

Today's Worship!

Greeting and Prayer

Opening Hymn 373:1-5 (TLH): *By Grace I'm Saved*

- 1. By grace I'm saved, grace free and boundless; My soul, believe and doubt it not. Why stagger at this word of promise? Hath Scripture ever falsehood taught? Nay; then this word must true remain; By grace thou, too, shalt heav'n obtain.*
- 2. By grace! None dare lay claim to merit; Our works and conduct have no worth. God in His love sent our Redeemer, Christ Jesus, to this sinful earth; His death did for our sins atone, And we are saved by grace alone.*
- 3. By grace! Oh, mark this word of promise When thou art by thy sins opprest, When Satan plagues thy troubled conscience, And when thy heart is seeking rest. What reason cannot comprehend God by His grace to thee doth send.*
- 4. By grace God's Son, our only Savior, Came down to earth to bear our sin. Was it because of thine own merit That Jesus died thy soul to win? Nay, it was grace, and grace alone, That brought Him from His heavenly throne.*
- 5. By grace! This ground of faith is certain; So long as God is true, it stands. What saints have penned by inspiration, What in His Word our God commands, What our whole faith must rest upon, Is Grace alone, grace in His Son.*

The Invocation

We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

I In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen!

The Confession and Absolution of Sins

We come before our Holy God admitting that we are sinful and need His forgiveness.

I We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

C Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

P God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will!

C Amen!

Lord, Have Mercy

Kyrie – Latin for “O Lord.” We approach our Lord with a cry for help in all the needs of our earthly life.

C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

Glory to God in the Highest

Gloria in Excelsis – Latin for “Glory in the Highest (to God).” A hymn glorifying and praising our God.

C: 1 Glo - ry to God, we give You thanks and praise;
 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son,
 3 A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord,
 Of heav'n - ly joy and peace on earth we sing.
 You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
 At God's right hand in maj - es - ty most high:
 We wor - ship You, to You our hearts we raise,
 O Lamb of God, Your glo - rious vic - t'ry won,
 Who, with the Spir - it wor - shiped and a - dored,
 Lord God, al - might - y Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.
 Re - ceive our prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.
 With all the heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

The Prayer for the Day

The main thoughts for the day are collected together in this prayer.

- P** Let us pray. . . through Christ Jesus, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever
- C** Amen.

The Epistle Reading: *Ephesians 5:21-31*

Submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ. ²² Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. ²⁴ Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, ²⁶ that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, ²⁷ so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. ²⁸ In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹ For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, ³⁰ because we are members of his body. ³¹ "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh."

Psalms,
Hymns,
&
Spiritual
Songs



The Responsive Reading: *Psalms 71:1-6*

- P** In you, O LORD, do I take refuge;
- C** Let me never be put to shame!
- P** In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me;
- C** Incline your ear to me, and save me!
- P** Be to me a rock of refuge, to which I may continually come;
- C** You have given the command to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress.
- P** Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked,
- C** From the grasp of the unjust and cruel man.
- P** For you, O Lord, are my hope,
- C** My trust, O LORD, from my youth.
- P** Upon you I have leaned from before my birth;
- C** You are he who took me from my mother's womb. My praise is continually of you.

The Gospel Reading: *John 6:60-69*

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?" ⁶¹ But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples were grumbling about this, said to them, "Do you take offense at this?" ⁶² Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? ⁶³ It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴ But there are some of you who do not believe." (For Jesus knew from the beginning who those were who did not believe, and who it was who would betray him.) ⁶⁵ And he said, "This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by the Father."

⁶⁶ After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him. ⁶⁷ So Jesus said to the Twelve, "Do you want to go away as well?" ⁶⁸ Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, ⁶⁹ and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God."

P Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

The Apostle's Creed *We boldly confess what we believe.*

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there 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.

Hymn 284 (TLH): *Father of Mercies, in Thy Word*

**1. *Father of mercies, in Thy Word What endless glory shines!
Forever be Thy name adored For these celestial lines.***

**2. *Here may the blind and hungry come And light and food receive;
Here shall the lowliest guest have room And taste and see and live.***

**3. *Here springs of consolation rise To cheer the fainting mind,
And thirsting souls receive supplies And sweet refreshment find.***

**4. *Here the Redeemer's welcome voice Spreads heavenly peace around,
And life and everlasting joys Attend the blissful sound.***

**5. *Oh, may these heavenly pages be My ever dear delight;
And still new beauties may I see And still increasing light!***

**6. *Divine Instructor, gracious Lord, Be Thou forever near;
Teach me to love Thy sacred Word And view my Savior here.***

The Sermon: *Genesis 25:21-34* ^{NKJV} *Pastor Andrew Schaller Guest Preaching*

Now Isaac pleaded with the LORD for his wife, because she was barren; and the LORD granted his plea, and Rebekah his wife conceived. ²² But the children struggled together within her; and she said, "If all is well, why am I like this?" So she went to inquire of the LORD. ²³ And the LORD said to her: "Two nations are in your womb, Two peoples shall be separated from your body; One people shall be stronger than the other, And the older shall serve the younger." ²⁴ So when her days were fulfilled for her to give birth, indeed there were twins in her womb. ²⁵ And the first came out red. He was like a hairy garment all over; so they called his name Esau. ²⁶ Afterward his brother came out, and his hand took hold of Esau's heel; so his name was called Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.

²⁷ So the boys grew. And Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field; but Jacob was a mild man, dwelling in tents. ²⁸ And Isaac loved Esau because he ate of his game, but Rebekah loved Jacob.

²⁹ Now Jacob cooked a stew; and Esau came in from the field, and he was weary. ³⁰ And Esau said to Jacob, "Please feed me with that same red stew, for I am weary." Therefore his name was called Edom. ³¹

But Jacob said, "Sell me your birthright as of this day." ³² And Esau said, "Look, I am about to die; so what is this birthright to me?" ³³ Then Jacob said, "Swear to me as of this day." So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. ³⁴ And Jacob gave Esau bread and stew of lentils; then he ate and drank, arose, and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

Theme: GOD IS PRO-LIFE

I. He gives life II. He blesses life III. He promises eternal life

The Offertory

Having heard God's Word, we ask Him to spiritually heal us, giving us the gift of the Holy Spirit.

C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me
 not a - way from Your pres - ence. Take not Your Ho - ly
 Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
 Your sal - va - tion. Up - hold with Your Spir - it free.

Hymn 783 (WS2000): Grace Has a Thrilling Sound

1. *Grace has a thrilling sound To each believer's ear;
 That peace with God through Christ is found Is news I gladly hear.
 Grace first described the way To save our fallen race;
 The Father sent His only Son Who came to take our place.*
2. *Grace first inscribed my name In God's eternal book,
 And grace has brought me to the Lamb, Who all my sorrows took.
 Grace led my wand'ring feet To tread the heav'nly road,
 and grace supplies each hour I meet While pressing on to God.*
3. *Grace taught my soul to pray, And made my eye o'er-flow;
 His grace has kept me to this day And will not let me go.
 Grace all our work shall crown, Through everlasting days;
 The heav'nly home God give His own Shall echo with our praise.*

The Offering of Thankful Hearts

In tangible evidence of our gratitude, we offer the Lord the gift of our money, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him. If you wish to give your church offering electronically, you can do so by using the CashApp on your mobile device. The church's \$cashtag is "\$clcmztzion". While the usher brings the offering plate forward we sing the following hymn verse (788:1):

***Lord, You love the cheerful giver Who with open heart and hand
Blesses freely, as a river That refreshes all the land.
Grant us, then, the grace of giving With a spirit large and true
That our life and all our living We may consecrate to You.***

Prayer of the Church – The Lord's Prayer

C 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.

The Benediction *The blessing given by God for His people (Numbers 6:24-26)*

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.
C Amen!

Closing Hymn 47:1,4 (TLH): *Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name*

***1. Savior, again to Thy dear name we raise
With one accord our parting hymn of praise.
Once more we bless Thee ere our worship cease,
Then, lowly bending, wait Thy word of peace.***

***4. Grant us Thy peace throughout our earthly life,
Our balm in sorrow and our stay in strife;
Then, when Thy voice shall bid our conflict cease,
Call us, O Lord, to Thine eternal peace.***

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

WELCOME EVERYONE! We pray that God’s Word and our worship today will help you grow in the grace and knowledge of our Savior Jesus. We ask our visitors to please sign our guest book. If you are looking for a church home, we hope you’ve found it with us. Ask our Pastor about a free Bible study he offers to explain what we believe and teach. Where and when? Your convenience.

THANK YOU to Pastor Andrew Schaller for bringing us the Gospel message today! Pastor Schaller shepherds Calvary Lutheran Church in Marquette and also serves as the Visitor of the Great Lakes Pastoral Conference.

NEW VIDEO DEVOTION SERIES: Pastor Naumann has begun a new video series called “Christlike: Building Christian Character.” Each video devotionally examines a different Christian character trait and Law and Gospel is taught to help you build Christian character. You can find these videos every Wednesday on Mt. Zion’s Facebook and Instagram pages: @clcmzion.

PRELIMINARY PROPERTY RELOCATION DISCUSSIONS: In accordance with the voters’ direction from the July Q3 meeting, Mt. Zion’s Board of Trustees, in connection with the Board of Christian Education, is beginning to investigate the possibility of relocating our congregation to another property which would better suit our needs (especially considering the CLC’s new domestic mission Christian day school initiative, see 2021 CLC Convention Summary at bit.ly/3D70kET). This investigation includes contacting and vetting local real estate agents and working with the CLC Board of Trustees to determine available financing from the CLC Church Extension Fund. All members of Mt. Zion are invited and encouraged to share their thoughts and opinions about a possible relocation. Mt Zion Trustees and Christian Ed members are Randy Wittorp, Jim Lucas, Carl Ryan, Matt Fobear, and Ben Mueller. Please pray over these matters as we seek to God’s will for the future of our congregation.

SCHOOL FUND: With hopes of opening a Christian Day School in 2-3 years, we are encouraging members who feel so moved to begin giving additional offerings for this purpose into the existing Maisie Wittorp Christian Education Memorial Fund. The current balance is \$1,385.00.

BIBLE CLASS AND SUNDAY SCHOOL will be resuming every Sunday at 9am beginning on September 12. Bible Class will be taking up the topic of “How the Church Grew,” studying the history of Christianity from the end of the Book of Acts until present day. Sunday School will be taught by Mrs. Susan Fobear for our two preschool students. Praise the Lord for providing a faithful teacher and eager students!

NEW PASTOR INSTALLATION AT REDEEMER, SISTER LAKES: The installation of Pastor Stefan Sonnenfeld at Redeemer, Sister Lakes, MI is today at 4pm with a potluck meal to follow. Pastor Tom Naumann will be guest preaching and Pastor Andrew Schaller of Calvary, Marquette will conduct the liturgy. All CLC members are invited and encouraged to attend this joyous occasion!

CLC CALL NEWS: Pastor Ben Libby of Ascension Lutheran Church of Tacoma, WA, has **received** the call to Redeemer Lutheran Church, Cheyenne, WY. <> Former Pastor Michael Sprengeler has **received** the call to the dual parish of Redeemer Lutheran Church, Bowdle, SD, and Zion Lutheran Church, Ipswich, SD. <> Pastor Caleb Schaller, Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI, has **received** the call to Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO.

SERVING US THIS WEEK

August Usher: Randy Wittorp <> Church Cleaning: Naumanns
Lawn Care: Randy Wittorp

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL

Worship Attendance Last Sunday = 21

Bi-Weekly Offerings Needed:	\$3,076.92	Total Offerings Needed YTD:	\$52,307.69
Bi-Weekly Offerings Received:	\$3,653.00	Total Offerings Received YTD:	\$50,930.93
Missions Offerings YTD (includes 10% of GB & individual offerings):			\$5,093.09

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES AT MT. ZION

Today	4pm	Installation of Pastor Stefan Sonnenfeld Redeemer Lutheran Church, Sister Lakes, MI
Thu. 9/2	8pm	Trustees Meeting
Sun. 9/5	10am	Sunday Worship with Communion
Sun. 9/12	9am	Bible Class / Sunday School Begin
Tue. 9/14	7pm	Elders Meeting
	7:30pm	Council Meeting
	8pm	Board of Education Meeting
	8:30pm	Outreach Committee Meeting
Sun. 9/19	11am	LIFT Meeting

IN OUR PRAYERS <> ENCOURAGEMENT LIST

Ephesians 6:18 "Be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people."

Jackie McGruder remains homebound as she continues to suffer from lupus, a chronic autoimmune disease that attacks tissues and organs. **Denise Troyan's** sister, Amy, is receiving treatment for cancer. **Carl and Michelle Ryan** are expecting a newborn baby in January 2022.