

September 12, 2021



Ephphatha!

Mark 7:34



MT. ZION

Evangelical Lutheran Church
Madison Heights, MI

Pastor Tom Naumann
(248) 677-7242

mtzionlutheran.info



15th Sunday after Pentecost

Pre-Service Personal Prayer: *Lord God, heavenly Father, We ask You, graciously abide among us with Your blessing, and keep us from covetousness and the cares of this life, that we may seek first Your kingdom and Your righteousness, and in all things needful for body and soul, provide Your ever-present help; through Jesus Christ, Amen.*

Today's Worship!

Greeting and Prayer

Opening Hymn 27 (TLH): *Oh, Bless the Lord, My Soul*

- 1. Oh, bless the Lord, my soul! Let all within me join
And aid my tongue to bless His name Whose favors are divine.*
- 2. Oh, bless the Lord, my soul, Nor let His mercies lie
Forgotten in unthankfulness And without praises die!*
- 3. 'Tis He forgives thy sins; 'Tis He relieves thy pain;
'Tis He that heals thy sicknesses And makes thee young again.*
- 4. He crowns thy life with love When ransomed from the grave;
He that redeemed my soul from hell Hath sovereign power to save.*
- 5. He fills the poor with good; He gives the sufferers rest:
The Lord hath judgments for the proud And justice for th' oppress.*
- 6. His wondrous works and ways He made by Moses known,
But sent the world His truth and grace By His beloved 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** Beloved of God: Let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our sins to God our Father, asking Him, in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to grant forgiveness:
- C** Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer: we confess that we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have not loved You above all

things. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Have mercy on us, and for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us our sins.

P God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

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.

God, We Praise You!

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

1 God, we praise You! God, we bless You! God, we name You
2 True a - pos - tles, faith - ful proph - ets, Saints who set their
sov - reign Lord! Might - y King whom an - gels wor - ship, Fa - ther,
world a - blaze, Mar - tyrs, once un - known, un - heed - ed, Join one
by Your Church a - dored: All cre - a - tion shows Your glo - ry;
grow - ing song of praise, While Your Church on earth con - fess - es
Heav'n and earth draw near Your throne, Sing - ing, “Ho - ly,
One ma - jes - tic Trin - i - ty: Fa - ther, Son, and
ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord of hosts and God a - lone!”
Ho - ly Spir - it, God, our hope e - ter - nal - ly.

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 Old Testament Reading: *Isaiah 35:4-7a*

Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you." ⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶ then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; ⁷ the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.

The Responsive Reading: *Psalm 146* *Selected Verses*

- P** Praise the LORD!
- C** Praise the LORD, O my soul!
- P** I will praise the LORD as long as I live;
- C** I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.
- P** Put not your trust in princes,
- C** In a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.
- P** When his breath departs, he returns to the earth;
- C** On that very day his plans perish.
- P** Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,
- C** Whose hope is in the LORD his God,
- P** Who made heaven and earth, the sea,
- C** And all that is in them, who keeps faith forever;
- P** Who executes justice for the oppressed,
- C** Who gives food to the hungry.
- P** The LORD sets the prisoners free;
- C** The LORD opens the eyes of the blind.
- P** The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
- C** the LORD loves the righteous.
- P** The LORD will reign forever,
- C** Your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD!

Psalms,
Hymns,
&
Spiritual
Songs



The Epistle Reading: James 1:17-27

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.¹⁸ Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

¹⁹ Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰ for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. ²¹ Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. ²² But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. ²³ For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. ²⁴ For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. ²⁵ But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing. ²⁶ If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless. ²⁷ Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

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.

Installation of Sunday School Teacher Susan Fobear

Hymn 572 (TLH): *Praise to God, Immortal Praise*

*1. Praise to God, immortal praise, For the love that crowns our days;
Bounteous Source of every joy, Let Thy praise our tongues employ,
All to Thee, our God, we owe, Source whence all our blessings flow.*

*2. All the plenty summer pours; Autumn's rich, o'erflowing stores;
Flocks that whiten all the plain; Yellow sheaves of ripened grain, --
Lord, for these our souls shall raise Grateful vows and solemn praise.*

*3. Peace, prosperity, and health, Private bliss, and public wealth,
Knowledge with its gladdening streams, True religion's holier beams,
Lord, for these our souls shall raise Grateful vows and solemn praise.*

*4. As Thy prospering hand hath blest, May we give Thee all our best
And by deeds of kindly love For Thy mercies grateful prove,
Singing thus through all our days Praise to God, immortal praise.*

The Sermon: *Mark 7:31-37*

Then he returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³² And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³ And taking him aside from the crowd privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. ³⁴ And looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." ³⁵ And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶ And Jesus charged them to tell no one. But the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷ And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, "He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

Theme: JESUS TAKES US ASIDE

I. Individually II. Compassionately III. Powerfully

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: A Wretched Man, Both Mute and Deaf *Sung to the tune of TLH 371*

- 1. A Wretched man, both mute and deaf, Was brought to Jesus for relief;
He came to know the Savior's pow'r, When he received a wondrous cure.**
- 2. The Savior used but simple means, Such as the haughty world disdains;
When He first took him from the throng, To make him hear and loose his tongue.**
- 3. His "Ephphatha," His sigh and look, Through all the pow'rs of darkness broke;
He loosed the devil's dreadful chain, The man could hear and speak again!**
- 4. Are we not also deaf and mute, And wretched creatures from our youth?
We cannot speak the Savior's praise, Until we hear His Word of grace:**
- 5. The chain of sin our Savior broke, Our guilt upon Himself He took;
He died that we might now be free, And with Him live eternally.**
- 6. When we are taken from the crowd, And with this light and grace endow'd;
Then by His Word we come to know, Our Savior's wondrous healing, too.**
- 7. Now of His wonders we can tell, And testify that all is well;
Then grace on other hearts will break – The deaf will hear, the mute will speak!**



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 "\$clcmztion". 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 Service of the Sacrament

Now we approach the second high point of the liturgy, the Sacrament, in which the Lord comes to bless us with His very body and blood. We move toward the Sacrament with prayers of thanksgiving and songs of adoration.

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up to the Lord.

P It is right and beneficial that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life; Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, we magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying...

Holy, Holy, Holy

The Sanctus – Latin for "Holy." We join our voices to the angels who sing, "Holy, Holy, Holy" around His throne."



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of Sa - ba-oth, a-dored; Heav'n and



earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name. Sing ho -

san - na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord; Tru - ly
 blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Words of Institution

The words spoken by Jesus the night He instituted the Lord's Supper by which our Lord assured to His Church the real presence of His sacramental body and blood for all time.

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread. And when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take, eat. This is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way He took the cup, after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always!

Lamb of God

The Agnus Dei – Latin for "Lamb of God." As we approach the Table of Forgiveness, we want to be thinking about the Lamb of God who was sacrificed for us on Calvary's cross.

O Lamb of God, O Christ our Lord, whose
 blood, once shed, true life re - stored, Im -
 part Your joy, our faith in - crease. Sus -
 tain with Your mer - cy and grant us Your peace.

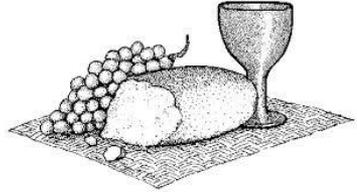
Distribution of the Sacrament

Communion Today is for Members Only Please

We don't judge anyone's faith, but we do stand up for our own. The Bible teaches what we call "Close Communion," that is, God wants you to commune only with those people with whom you are agreed in ALL the Bible's teachings. This belief is based upon the Bible passages listed below. Therefore, if you are a guest with us today, and BEFORE you come up to commune with us, you'll want to find out if our church teaches what the Bible does! The pastor would be happy to discuss this with you at your convenience!

1 Corinthians 1:10 "Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment."

1 Corinthians 11:26-30 "For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes. Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup. For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body."



O Lord, Now Let Your Servant

The Nunc Dimittis – Latin for "Now Dismiss." Simeon's words after seeing the Christ Child. (Luke 2:29-32)

C: 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
 2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All

part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
 glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the

glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace: A
 Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One; For

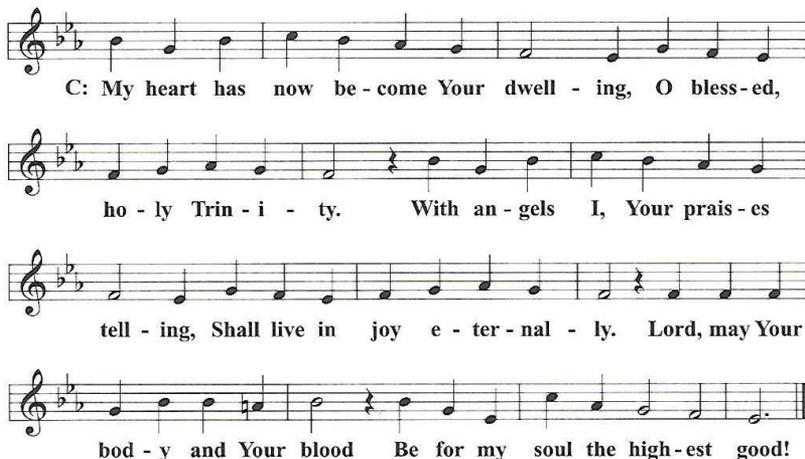
light to lead the be - Gen - tiles Un -
 as in the be - gin - ning, Is

to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
 now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -

peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
 sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord with gladness.

Thanksgiving



C: My heart has now be - come Your dwell - ing, O bless - ed,
ho - ly Trin - i - ty. With an - gels I, Your prais - es
tell - ing, Shall live in joy e - ter - nal - ly. Lord, may Your
bod - y and Your blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

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.

G Amen!

Closing Hymn 652:2 (TLH): *I Lay My Sins on Jesus*

2. I lay my wants on Jesus, All fulness dwells in Him;

He healeth my diseases, He doth my soul redeem.

I lay my griefs on Jesus, My burdens and my cares;

He from them all releases, He all my sorrows shares.

Worship at Mt. Zion

We have a singular goal in our worship: “Walk prudently when you go to the house of God; and draw near to hear rather than to give the sacrifice of fools.” (Ecc. 5:1 NKJV)

Our service follows the historic Biblical style of using a liturgy. The liturgy is meant to give order and structure to the worship service. We try to keep our worship respectful in order to foster an atmosphere which allows us to focus on the power of God’s Word. Our service is also meant to be reflective so that each individual can hear, understand, and meditate upon the wonderful works of God! (Acts 2:11)

The Bible teaches that God creates and sustains faith in a person’s heart through the power of His Word: Romans 1:16: “For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes.” In our fast-paced society, meditative and reflective worship is sometimes considered outdated, irrelevant, or boring. Yet, God Himself says, “faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ” (Romans 10:17). God has not changed His method of reaching people with the hope of forgiveness simply because our society has changed. He remains the same and His Word remains powerful.

If the worship service seems strange to you, don’t give up right away! Stick with it, try to learn something new each week, and develop a habit of being present in God’s house. The ability to quietly listen and learn is an acquired skill that takes time and practice. Our prayer each week is that we grow in our ability to listen to God’s Word and thereby increase our faith in Jesus. We hope you will continue to join us!

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.

BIBLE CLASS AND SUNDAY SCHOOL resumed today at 9am. Bible Class is taking up the topic of "How the Church Grew," studying the history of Christianity from the Book of Acts until present day. Sunday School is being taught by Mrs. Susan Fobear for our two preschool students.

A LIFT MEETING is scheduled for next Sunday at 11am. All women of the congregation are invited and encouraged to attend.

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: @clcmtzion.

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.

CLC SOUTHEASTERN WOMEN'S RETREAT A women's retreat is planned in Myrtle Beach, SC, from November 5-7. The theme is "Walking with Jesus." The registration fee is \$40, plus the cost of transportation and hotel. Details on hotel reservations, presentations, and registration can be found online at www.ladiesretreat.clclutheran.net. Contact Amy Osborne at 651-329-3662 or newyorker13@hotmail.com with any questions.

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 Ed. Memorial Fund.

CLC CALL NEWS: Pastor Ben Libby of Ascension Lutheran Church of Tacoma, WA, is still **considering** the call to Redeemer Lutheran Church, Cheyenne, WY. <> Former Pastor Michael Sprengeler has **returned** 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 **returned** the call to Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO. <> Immanuel Lutheran Seminary graduate Nick Naumann is still **considering** the call to Living Savior, Eden Prairie, MN.

SERVING US THIS WEEK

September Usher: Jim Lucas <> Church Cleaning: Muellers
Lawn Care: Pastor Naumann

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL

Worship Attendance Last Sunday = 15

Bi-Weekly Offerings Needed:	\$3,076.92	Total Offerings Needed YTD:	\$55,384.62
Bi-Weekly Offerings Received:	\$1,718.70	Total Offerings Received YTD:	\$52,649.63
Missions Offerings YTD (includes 10% of GB & individual offerings):			\$5,264.96
Maisie Wittorp Christian Education Memorial Fund:			\$1,385.00

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES AT MT. ZION

Tue. 9/14	7pm	Elders Meeting
	7:30pm	Council Meeting
	8pm	Board of Education Meeting
	8:30pm	Outreach Committee Meeting
Thu. 9/16	8pm	Trustees Meeting
Sun. 9/19	9am	Bible Class / Sunday School
	10am	Worship Service
	11am	LIFT Meeting
Sun. 9/26	4pm	Cleveland Worship Service

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 girl in January 2022.