

September 19, 2021



Then they drew Jeremiah up  
with ropes and lifted him out  
of the cistern. *Jeremiah 38:13*



# MT. ZION

Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Madison Heights, MI

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## 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

**Pre-Service Personal Prayer:** *Lord Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, strengthen our faith in You the only true God, and increase our wisdom in Your holy Word. Restore unto us the joy of Your Salvation, and the hope of eternal life. Through Jesus Christ we ask it, Amen.*

### Today's Worship!

#### Greeting and Prayer

**Opening Hymn 428 (TLH):** *I Am Trusting Thee Lord Jesus*

- 1. I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus, Trusting only Thee;  
Trusting Thee for full salvation, Great and free.**
- 2. I am trusting Thee for pardon; At Thy feet I bow,  
For Thy grace and tender mercy Trusting now.**
- 3. I am trusting Thee for cleansing In the crimson flood;  
Trusting Thee to make me holy By Thy blood.**
- 4. I am trusting Thee to guide me; Thou alone shalt lead,  
Ev'ry day and hour supplying All my need.**
- 5. I am trusting Thee for power; Thine can never fail.  
Words which Thou Thyself shalt give me Must prevail.**
- 6. I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus; Never let me fall.  
I am trusting Thee forever And for all.**

#### The Invocation

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

- P** 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.*

- P** 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: 1 Peter 4:12-19

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. <sup>13</sup> But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. <sup>14</sup> If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. <sup>15</sup> But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. <sup>16</sup> Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. <sup>17</sup> For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? <sup>18</sup> And "If the righteous is scarcely saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?" <sup>19</sup> Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.

## The Responsive Reading: Lamentations 3 *Selected Verses*

- P** "I have been hunted like a bird by those who were my enemies without cause;
- C** **They flung me alive into the pit and cast stones on me;**
- P** Water closed over my head; I said, 'I am lost.'
- C** **"I called on your name, O LORD, from the depths of the pit;**
- P P** You heard my plea, 'Do not close your ear to my cry for help!'
- C** **You came near when I called on you; you said, 'Do not fear!'**
- P** "You have taken up my cause, O Lord; you have redeemed my life.
- C** **You have seen the wrong done to me, O LORD; judge my cause.**
- P** "You will repay them, O LORD, according to the work of their hands.
- C** **You will pursue them in anger and destroy them from under your heavens, O LORD."**



## The Gospel Reading: Mark 8:27-35

And Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi. And on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" <sup>28</sup> And they told him, "John the Baptist; and others say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets." <sup>29</sup> And he asked them, "But who do

you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Christ." <sup>30</sup> And he strictly charged them to tell no one about him. <sup>31</sup> And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup> And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup> But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."

<sup>34</sup> And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup> For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it.

**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 421 (TLH): Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spake**

**1. Come, follow me, the Savior spake, All in My way abiding;  
Deny yourselves, the world forsake, Obey My call and guiding.  
Oh, bear the cross, whate'er betide, Take my example for your guide.**

**2. I am the Light, I light the way, A godly life displaying;  
I bid you walk as in the day, I keep your feet from straying.  
I am the Way, and well I show How you must sojourn here below.**

**3. My heart abounds in lowliness, My soul with love is glowing,  
And gracious words my lips express, With meekness overflowing.  
My heart, My mind, My strength, My all, To God I yield, on Him I call.**

**4. I teach you how to shun and flee What harms your soul's salvation,  
Your heart from every guile to free, From sin and its temptation.  
I am the Refuge of the soul And lead you to your heavenly goal.**

**5. Then let us follow Christ, our Lord, And take the cross appointed  
And, firmly clinging to His Word, In suffering be undaunted.  
For who bears not the battle's strain The crown of life shall not obtain.**

**The Sermon: Jeremiah 38:1-13**

Now Shephatiah the son of Mattan, Gedaliah the son of Pashhur, Jucal the son of Shelemiah, and Pashhur the son of Malchiah heard the words that Jeremiah was saying to all the people, <sup>2</sup> "Thus says the LORD: He who stays in this city shall die by the sword, by famine, and by pestilence, but he who goes out to the Chaldeans shall live. He shall have his life as a prize of war, and live. <sup>3</sup> Thus says the LORD: This city shall surely be given into the hand of the army of the king of Babylon and be taken." <sup>4</sup> Then the officials said to the king, "Let this man be put to death, for he is weakening the hands of the soldiers who are left in this city, and the hands of all the people, by speaking such words to them. For this man is not seeking the welfare of this people, but their harm." <sup>5</sup> King Zedekiah said, "Behold, he is in your hands, for the king can do nothing against you." <sup>6</sup> So they took Jeremiah and cast him into the cistern of Malchiah, the king's son, which was in the court of the guard, letting Jeremiah down by ropes. And there was no water in the cistern, but only mud, and Jeremiah sank in the mud.

<sup>7</sup> When Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, a eunuch who was in the king's house, heard that they had put Jeremiah into the cistern--the king was sitting in the Benjamin Gate-- <sup>8</sup> Ebed-melech went from the king's house and said to the king, <sup>9</sup> "My lord the king, these men have done evil in all that they did to Jeremiah the prophet by casting him into the cistern, and he will die there of hunger, for there is no bread left in the city." <sup>10</sup> Then the

king commanded Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, "Take thirty men with you from here, and lift Jeremiah the prophet out of the cistern before he dies."

<sup>11</sup> So Ebed-melech took the men with him and went to the house of the king, to a wardrobe in the storehouse, and took from there old rags and worn-out clothes, which he let down to Jeremiah in the cistern by ropes. <sup>12</sup> Then Ebed-melech the Ethiopian said to Jeremiah, "Put the rags and clothes between your armpits and the ropes." Jeremiah did so. <sup>13</sup> Then they drew Jeremiah up with ropes and lifted him out of the cistern. And Jeremiah remained in the court of the guard.

## Theme: THE LORD PULLS YOU OUT OF THE MUD

I. The sinful world wants to see you sink (1-6)

II. The LORD's salvation is closer than you think (7-13)

### 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 413:1-2,5-6 (TLH): *I Walk in Danger All the Way*

**1. I walk in danger all the way. The thought shall never leave me  
That Satan, who has marked his prey, Is plotting to deceive me.**

***This foe with hidden snares May seize me unawares  
If e'er I fail to watch and pray. I walk in danger all the way.***

**2. I pass through trials all the way, With sin and ills contending;  
In patience I must bear each day The cross of God's own sending.**

***Oft in adversity I know not where to flee;  
When storms of woe my soul dismay, I pass through trials all the way.***

**5. I walk with Jesus all the way, His guidance never fails me;  
Within His wounds I find a stay When Satan's power assails me;  
And by His footsteps led, My path I safely tread.  
In spite of ills that threaten may, I walk with Jesus all the way.**

**6. My walk is heavenward all the way; Await my soul, the morrow,  
When thou shalt find release for aye From all thy sin and sorrow.  
All worldly pomp, begone! To heaven I now press on.  
For all the world I would not stay; My walk is heavenward all the way.**

## **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**

**☩** 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)*

**☩** 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.

**☩** Amen!

## **Closing Hymn 784:1-2 (WS2000): Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me**

**1. Lord, take my hand and lead me Upon life's way;  
Direct, protect, and feed me From day to day.  
Without Your grace and favor I go astray  
So take my hand, O Savior, And lead the way.**

**2. Lord, when the tempest rages, I need not fear;  
For You, the Rock of Ages, Are always near.  
Close by Your side abiding, I fear no foe,  
For when Your hand is guiding, In peace I go.**



## **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.

**A LIFT (Ladies in Fellowship Together) MEETING** is today following the service. All women of the congregation are invited and encouraged to attend.

**A CLEVELAND AREA WORSHIP SERVICE** is scheduled for next Sunday at 4pm at the Hughes’ residence in North Olmsted. Speak with Pastor if you are interested in attending.

**A JOINT PASTORAL CONFERENCE** of the Great Lakes Region and the Southeast Region is taking place September 28-30 in Milford, OH in connection with a visit to the Creation Museum in Petersburg, KY. Pastor Naumann will be attending and serving as the Communion Service preacher. The following essays will be presented: “Pornography, Desertion, & Divorce” by Pastor Frank Gantt; “Old Testament Exegesis” by Pastor Terrel Kesterson; “Homiletical Study” by Professor John Ude; “How to Pastorally Approach the Topics of Health and Science” by Pastor Sam Rodebaugh.

**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](http://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 CALL NEWS:** Pastor Ben Libby of Ascension Lutheran Church of Tacoma, WA, has **accepted** the call to Redeemer Lutheran Church, Cheyenne, WY. <> Immanuel Lutheran Seminary graduate Nick Naumann is still **considering** the call to Living Savior, Eden Prairie, MN. <> Pastor Timothy Daub of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Hecla, SD, has **received** the call to Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO.

**SERVING US THIS WEEK**

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

**OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL**

Worship Attendance Last Sunday = 23 <> Bible Class/Sunday School = 18

Bi-Weekly Offerings Needed:	\$3,076.92	Total Offerings Needed YTD:	\$56,923.08
Bi-Weekly Offerings Received:	\$2,493.80	Total Offerings Received YTD:	\$54,276.73
Missions Offerings YTD (includes 10% of GB & individual offerings):			\$5,427.67
Maisie Wittorp Christian Education Memorial Fund:			\$1,385.00

**IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES AT MT. ZION**

<b>Today</b>	11am	LIFT Meeting
<b>Sun. 9/1</b>	9am	Bible Class / Sunday School
	10am	Worship Service
<b>Sun. 9/26</b>	4pm	Cleveland Worship Service
<b>Tue. 9/28 - Thu. 9/30</b>		Joint Pastoral Conference (GLPC and SEPC) Mildford, OH and Creation Museum
<b>Thu. 9/30</b>	8pm	Trustees Meeting
<b>Tue. 10/12</b>	7pm	Elders Meeting
	7:30pm	Council Meeting
	8pm	Christian Ed. Meeting
	8:30pm	Outreach 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 girl in January 2022. **Krista Geschwind** is recovering from a serious bout with COVID pneumonia.

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