

September 19, 2021



"THEREFORE DO NOT
WORRY ABOUT

TOMORROW.

FOR TOMORROW WILL
WORRY ABOUT ITSELF."

MATTHEW 6:34, NIV



MT. ZION

Evangelical Lutheran Church
Madison Heights, MI

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18th 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 433 (TLH): *Jesus, My Truth, My Way*

- 1. Jesus, my Truth, my Way, My sure, unerring Light,
On Thee my feeble soul I stay, Which Thou wilt lead aright.*
- 2. My Wisdom and my Guide, My Counselor Thou art;
Oh, let me never leave Thy side Nor from Thy paths depart!*
- 3. Thou seest my feebleness; Jesus, be Thou my Power,
My Help and Refuge in distress, My Fortress and my Tower.*
- 4. Give me to trust in Thee; Be Thou my sure Abode;
My Horn and Rock and Buckler be, My Savior and my God.*
- 5. Myself I cannot save, Myself I cannot keep;
But strength in Thee I surely have, Whose eyelids never sleep.*
- 6. My soul to Thee alone Now, therefore, I commend.
Thou, Jesus, having loved Thine own, Wilt love me to the end.*

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** 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: *Malachi 3:10-12*

Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need. ¹¹ I will rebuke the devourer for you, so that it will not destroy the fruits of your soil, and your vine in the field shall not fail to bear, says the LORD of hosts. ¹² Then all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a land of delight, says the LORD of hosts.

The Responsive Reading: *Psalms 65 Selected Verses*

- P** Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion,
C And to you shall vows be performed.
- P** When iniquities prevail against me,
C You atone for our transgressions.
- P** You visit the earth and water it; you greatly enrich it;
C The river of God is full of water; you provide their grain, for so you have prepared it.
- P** You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges,
C Softening it with showers, and blessing its growth.
- P** You crown the year with your bounty;
C Your wagon tracks overflow with abundance.
- P** The pastures of the wilderness overflow,
C The hills gird themselves with joy,
P The meadows clothe themselves with flocks,
C The valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy.



The Epistle Reading: James 4:13-17

Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit"--¹⁴ yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes.¹⁵ Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that."¹⁶ As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil.¹⁷ So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

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 384 (TLH): *Oh, How Great is Thy Compassion*

- 1. *Oh, how great is Thy compassion, Faithful Father, God of grace,
That with all our fallen race And in our deep degradation
Thou wast merciful that we Might be saved eternally!***
- 2. *Thy great love for this hath striven That we may from sin be free
And forever live with Thee; Yea, Thy Son Himself hath given
And extends an earnest call To His Supper unto all.***
- 3. *And for this our soul's salvation Voucheth Thy good Spirit, Lord,
In Thy Sacraments and Word. He imparts true consolation,
Granteth us the gift of faith That we fear nor hell nor death.***
- 4. *Lord, Thy mercy will not leave me,- Truth doth evermore abide,-
Then in Thee I will confide. Since Thy Word cannot deceive me,
My salvation is to me Well assured eternally.***
- 5. *I will praise Thy great compassion, Faithful Father, God of grace,
That with all our fallen race And in our deep degradation
Thou wast merciful that we Might bring endless praise to Thee.***

The Sermon: *Matthew 6:24-34*

"No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money. ²⁵ "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? ²⁸ And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹ yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? ³¹ Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' ³² For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. ³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

34 "Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

Theme: NOT TO WORRY!

- I. Trust in material things, and you've got a lot to worry about.
- II. Trust in the Lord, and your worries are over!



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 789 (WS2000): *I Walk in Danger All the Way*

- 1. Consider how the birds above Feed day by day with carefree ease
Does God not keep them in His love? Are we not worth much more than these?
- 2. See how the lilies do not toil, They grow with fair fragility;
If God clothes these which quickly spoil Will He not clothe both you and me?
- 3. Set not your heart on food or drink, Nor be weighed down by worldly care
About such things the godless think, Yet never thank the Lord in prayer.
- 4. Be on your guard against all greed, For life is more than what we own.
Our Father knows our ev'ry need Before our needs to us are known.
- 5. Seek first God's Kingdom and His grace His holy Name in all you do:
Christ first and last in ev'ry place; All else will then be given you.

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 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 52 (TLH): *Almighty Father, Bless the Word*

***1. Almighty Father, bless the Word
Which through Thy grace we now have heard,
Oh, may the precious seed take root,
Spring up, and bear abundant fruit!***

***2. We praise Thee for the means of grace
As homeward now our steps we trace.
Grant, Lord, that we who worshiped here
May all at last in heaven appear.***

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 CLEVELAND AREA WORSHIP SERVICE is today at 4pm at the Hughes' residence in North Olmsted.

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.

A CHURCH FALL FESTIVAL is being planned by LIFT for Sunday, October 31 from 4-6pm. Mark your calendars! More details will be coming soon.

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 CALL NEWS: Immanuel Lutheran Seminary graduate Nick Naumann has **returned** the call to Living Savior, Eden Prairie, MN. <> Pastor Timothy Daub of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Hecla, SD, has **returned** the call to Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO.

SERVING US THIS WEEK

September Usher: Jim Lucas <> Church Cleaning: Wittorps

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL

Worship Attendance Last Sunday = 21 <> Bible Class/Sunday School = 13

Bi-Weekly Offerings Needed:	\$3,076.92	Total Offerings Needed YTD:	\$58,461.54
Bi-Weekly Offerings Received:	\$3,349.10	Total Offerings Received YTD:	\$55,998.73
Missions Offerings YTD (includes 10% of GB & individual offerings):			\$5,599.87
Maisie Wittorp Christian Education Memorial Fund:			\$1,385.00

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES AT MT. ZION

Today	4pm	Cleveland Worship Service
Tue. 9/28 -		Joint Pastoral Conference (GLPC and SEPC)
Thu. 9/30		Mildford, OH and Creation Museum
Thu. 9/30	8pm	Trustees Meeting
Sun. 10/3	9am	Bible Class / Sunday School
	10am	Worship Service w/ Communion
Tue. 10/12	7pm	Elders Meeting
	7:30pm	Council Meeting
	8pm	Christian Ed. Meeting
	8:30pm	Outreach Meeting
Sun. 10/24	11am	Q4 Voters 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.