

February 19, 2023



"Listen to him!"

MATTHEW 17:5

TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY



MT. ZION

Evangelical Lutheran Church
Madison Heights, MI

Pastor Tom Naumann
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Transfiguration Sunday

Pre-Service Personal Prayer: *Lord Jesus Christ, at the height of Your Epiphany You revealed Your great power and glory to the disciples, eyewitnesses of Your transfiguration. Send now Your Holy Spirit to us through Your Word. Work in us repentance of sins and the assurance of Your forgiveness. Hear us for Your own sake, Amen.*

Today's Worship!

Greeting and Prayer

Opening Hymn 414 *'Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here*

**1. 'Tis good, Lord, to be here, Thy glory fills the night;
Thy face and garments, like the sun, Shine with unborrowed light.**

**2. 'Tis good, Lord, to be here, Thy beauty to behold
Where Moses and Elijah stand, Thy messengers of old.**

**3. Fulfiller of the past, And hope of things to be,
We hail Thy body glorified And our redemption see.**

**4. Before we taste of death, We see Thy kingdom come;
We long to hold the vision bright And make this hill our home.**

**5. 'Tis good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not remain;
But since Thou bidst us leave the mount, Come with us to the plain.**

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.

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.

Glo-ry to God, we give you thanks and praise; Of
 Lord Je-sus Christ, the Fa-ther's on-ly Son, You
 A-lone, O Christ, You on-ly are the Lord, At
 heav'n-ly joy and peace on earth we sing. We wor-ship
 bore for us the load of this world's sin. O Lamb of
 God's right hand in maj-es-ty most high: Who, with the
 You, to You our hearts we raise, Lord God, al-
 God, Your glo-rious vic-t'ry won, Re-ceive our
 Spir-it wor-shiped and a-dored, With all the
 might-y Fa-ther, heav'n-ly King.
 prayer, grant us Your peace with-in.
 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 Old Testament Reading: *Exodus 24:12,15-18*

The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and wait there, that I may give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction."...

¹⁵ Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶ The glory of the LORD dwelt on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud. ¹⁷ Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. ¹⁸ Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

The Responsive Reading: *Psalms 110*

- P** The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool."
- C** **The LORD sends forth from Zion your mighty scepter. Rule in the midst of your enemies!**
- P** Your people will offer themselves freely on the day of your power, in holy garments; from the womb of the morning, the dew of your youth will be yours.
- C** **The LORD has sworn and will not change his mind, "You are a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek."**
- P** The Lord is at your right hand; he will shatter kings on the day of his wrath.
- C** **He will execute judgment among the nations, filling them with corpses; he will shatter chiefs over the wide earth.**
- P** He will drink from the brook by the way;
- C** **Therefore he will lift up his head.**



The Gospel Reading: *Matthew 17:1-9*

And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. ² And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. ³ And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴ And Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." ⁵ He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." ⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. ⁷ But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and have no fear." ⁸ And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only. ⁹ And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Tell no one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised from the dead."

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

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! These words are
writ-ten that we may believe that Je-sus is the Christ, the
Son of God. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

The Apostles' 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.

From Luther's Small Catechism

A weekly refresher in the six chief parts of Christian doctrine.

- P** What is the fourth commandment?
- C** **You shall honor your father and your mother that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth.**
- P** What does this mean?
- C** **We should fear and love God that we do not despise nor anger our parents or superiors; but we should honor, serve, and obey them, and give them love and respect.**

Hymn 415 *Jesus on the Mountain Peak*

*1. Jesus on the mountain peak Stands alone in glory blazing;
Let us, if we dare to speak, Join the saints and angels praising. Alleluia!*

*2. Trembling at His feet we saw Moses and Elijah speaking
All the prophets and the law Shout through them their joyful greeting: Alleluia!*

*3. Swift the cloud of glory came: God proclaiming in its thunder
Jesus as the Son by name! Nations, cry aloud in wonder: Alleluia!*

*4. This is God's beloved Son! Law and prophets sing before Him,
First and last and only One. All creation shall adore Him! Alleluia!*

The Sermon: 2 Peter 1:16-19

For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷ For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," ¹⁸ we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. ¹⁹ And we have something more sure, the prophetic word, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.

Theme: THE WORD OF GOD IS MORE THAN SURE

- I. ... that Jesus is our God and Savior.
- II. ... to lead us straight to Him.

The Offertory

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



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 583 God Has Spoken by His Prophets

**1. God has spoken by the prophets, Spoken his unchanging Word,
Each from age to age proclaiming God, the one, the righteous Lord.
In the world's despair and turmoil One firm anchor holds us fast:
God is King, his throne eternal, God the first and God the last.**

**2 God has spoken by Christ Jesus, Christ, the everlasting Son,
Brightness of the Father's glory, With the Father ever one;
Spoken by the Word incarnate, God from God, before time was;
Light from Light, to earth descending, He reveals our God to us.**

**3. God is speaking by his Spirit, Speaking to our hearts again,
In the ageless Word declaring His own message, now as then.
Through the rise and fall of nations One sure faith yet standing fast:
God abides, his Word unchanging, God the first and God the last.**

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 Sčashtag is "Sclcmztzion". 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 582 *God’s Word Is Our Great Heritage*

*1. God’s Word is our great heritage And shall be ours forever;
To spread its light from age to age Shall be our chief endeavor.
Through life it guides our way, In death it is our stay.
Lord, grant, while worlds endure, We keep its teachings pure.
Throughout all generations!*



WEEKLY MEMORY WORK:

- P** What is the fifth commandment?
C You shall not murder.
P What does this mean?
C We should fear and love God that we do not hurt nor harm our neighbor’s body; but we should help and be a friend to him in every bodily need.

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 Pastor about a free Bible study he offers to explain our beliefs and teachings. Where & when? Your convenience.

50th ANNIVERSARY SERVICE has been set for Sunday, August 4, at 4pm. We will be inviting any and all CLC members to join us for a special worship service and fellowship meal, observing 50 years of God’s grace at Mt. Zion (1973-2023). The committee is preparing historical displays, photo albums, and purchasable memorabilia for the celebration. Mark your calendars!

MIDWEEK LENT SERVICES: The season of Lent begins this week with Ash Wednesday, February 22. This year Mt. Zion is again holding 6 midweek services every Wednesday at 7pm during the Lenten season. We will also be participating in a “pulpit exchange” with our sister congregations in Saginaw and Sister Lakes. Hope to see you on Wednesday!

DIVINE CALL: I have received a divine call to serve as the pastor of the joint parish of Redemption Lutheran Church, Lynnwood, WA (Seattle area) and Ascension Lutheran Church, Tacoma, WA. I now have two divine calls: One here to serve Mt. Zion congregation, and one to serve these two Washington congregations. As I prayerfully consider these calls, this is the main question: “At which location (here at Mt. Zion or there at Redemption/Ascension) can I best serve the LORD with the talents He has given me?” I welcome your comments, advice, and opinions. I ask for your prayers that the will of our LORD be done. – In Christ, Pastor Tom Naumann

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES AT MT. ZION

Wed. 2/22	7pm	Ash Wednesday Service
Fri. 2/24	2pm	UM Ann Arbor Bible Study
Sun. 2/26	9am	Bible Class / Sunday School
	10am	Worship Service
Tue. 3/14	7-9pm	Elders/Council/Trustees/Outreach Meetings

SERVING US THIS WEEK:

February Usher: Ben Mueller Church Cleaning: Wittorps

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL

Attendance Last Sunday: Worship = 27; Bible Class/Sunday School = 16

Total Offerings Budgeted YTD:	\$13,865.38	Bi-Weekly Offerings Budgeted:	\$3961.54
Total Offerings Received YTD:	\$15,295.05	Bi-Weekly Offerings Received:	\$4323.00
Missions Offerings YTD (includes 10% of GB & individual offerings):			\$1529.51
Maisie Wittorp Christian Education Memorial Fund:			\$70,277.99

IN OUR PRAYERS <> ENCOURAGEMENT LIST

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

Jackie McGruder remains homebound as she continues to suffer from lupus. **Jay Sandeen** is deployed with his army unit in Iraq. **The Wittorps** are expecting a baby girl in April. **CLC Pastor John Hein** (Grace Lutheran Church, Fridley, MN) is receiving treatment for stage 4 thymic carcinoma cancer.

CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION SYNODWIDE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity! Psalm 133:1

CLC CALL NEWS: Pastor Tom Naumann of Mt. Zion, Greater Detroit Area, MI, **has received the call** to Redemption, Lynnwood, WA and Ascension in Tacoma, WA. <> Pastor Neal Radichel of Immanuel, Mankato, MN, **is considering the call** to Messiah, Eau Claire, WI, as the third pastor.

MISSIONARY COMMISSIONING SERVICE: On Sunday March 12, Pastor Bruce Naumann will be commissioned as our CLC missionary to Tanzania. During the weekend of the CLC Grade School Basketball Tournament in Eau Claire, WI there will be three church services at Messiah: Saturday at 5 and 6:30 pm, and Sunday at 9 am. We will have a guest speaker for the weekend services, with the actual commissioning taking place on Sunday morning. Missionary Todd Ohlmann will present an overview of CLC foreign missions for the Bible class hour (Saturday at 7:45 pm; Sunday at 10:15 am). On Sunday this will be followed by a cake and coffee reception. All are welcome to join in sending Missionary Naumann to his field of service with our prayers and support.