

March 19, 2023



There
is therefore now
NO CONDEMNATION
for those
who are in
Christ Jesus.



ROMANS 8:1 ESV

MT. ZION

Evangelical Lutheran Church
Madison Heights, MI

Pastor Tom Naumann
(248) 677-7242

mtzionlutheran.info



4th Sunday in Lent

Pre-Service Personal Prayer: *Blessed Redeemer, let us see the pains of body and agony of soul that were Yours, and help us to realize that our sins were also responsible for them. May we always by faith see You as our Substitute, Who bore the burden of our sin and guilt perfectly, so that we now stand pure and sinless in God's holy eyes. Hear us, for the sake of Your love. Amen.*

Today's Worship!

Greeting and Prayer

Opening Hymn 545 *Word of God, Come Down on Earth*

1 *Word of God, come down on earth, Living rain from heaven descending;
Touch our hearts and bring to birth Faith and hope and love unending.
Word almighty we revere You; Word made flesh, we long to hear You.*

2 *Word eternal, throned on high, Word that brought to life creation,
Word that came from heaven to die, Crucified for our salvation,
Saving Word, the world restoring, Speak to us, Your love outpouring.*

3 *Word that caused blind eyes to see, Speak and heal our mortal blindness;
Deaf we are: our healer be; Loose our tongues to tell your kindness.
Be our Word in pity spoken; Heal the world, by our sin broken.*

4 *Word that speaks God's tender love, One with God beyond all telling,
Word that sends us from above God the Spirit, with us dwelling,
Word of truth, to all truth lead us, Word of life, with one bread feed us.*

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: *Hosea 5:15-6:3*

I will return again to my place, until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face, and in their distress earnestly seek me.

6:1 "Come, let us return to the LORD; for he has torn us, that he may heal us; he has struck us down, and he will bind us up. ² After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him. ³ Let us know; let us press on to know the LORD; his going out is sure as the dawn; he will come to us as the showers, as the spring rains that water the earth."

The Responsive Reading: *Psalms 42:1-5*

- P** As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God.
- C** **My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God?**
- P** My tears have been my food day and night, while they say to me all the day long, "Where is your God?"
- C** **These things I remember, as I pour out my soul: how I would go with the throng and lead them in procession to the house of God with glad shouts and songs of praise, a multitude keeping festival.**
- P** Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me?
- C** **Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God.**



The Gospel Reading: *Matthew 20:17-28*

And as Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve disciples aside, and on the way he said to them, ¹⁸ "See, we are going up to Jerusalem. And the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and scribes, and they will condemn him to death ¹⁹ and deliver him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified, and he will be raised on the third day."

²⁰ Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came up to him with her sons, and kneeling before him she asked him for something. ²¹ And he said to her, "What do you want?" She said to him, "Say that these two sons of mine are to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom." ²² Jesus answered, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am to drink?" They said to him, "We are able." ²³ He said to them, "You will drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father." ²⁴ And when the ten heard it, they were indignant at the two brothers. ²⁵ But Jesus called them to him and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. ²⁶ It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, ²⁷ and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, ²⁸ even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

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 refresher in the six chief parts of Christian doctrine.

P What is the eighth commandment?

C You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

P What does this mean?

C We should fear and love God that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, or say anything that might ruin his good name and reputation; but we should defend him, speak well of him, and explain all his words and actions in the best possible way.

Hymn 431 *Not All the Blood of Beasts*

*1 Not all the blood of beasts On Jewish altars slain
Could give the guilty conscience peace Or wash away the stain.*

*2 But Christ, the heav'nly Lamb, Takes all our sins away;
A sacrifice of nobler name And richer blood than they.*

*3 My faith would lay its hand On that dear head of Thine,
While as a penitent I stand, And there confess my sin.*

*4 My soul looks back to see The burden Thou didst bear
When hanging on the cursed tree; I know my guilt was there.*

*5 Believing, we rejoice To see the curse remove;
We bless the Lamb with cheerful voice And sing His bleeding love.*

The Sermon: *Romans 8:1-10*

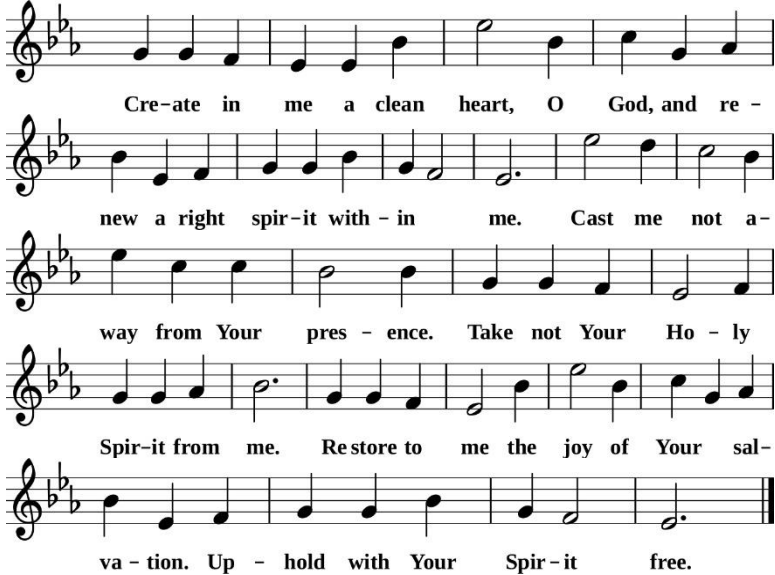
There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. ³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. ⁸ Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹ You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

Theme: ARE YOU IN OR OUT?

- I. Those "out" on Christ Jesus live to the flesh and die.
- II. Those "in" Christ Jesus live to the Spirit and never die.

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 555:1-2, 5-6 *Salvation unto Us Has Come*

1 *Salvation unto us has come By God's free grace and favor;
Good works cannot avert our doom, They help and save us never.
Faith looks to Jesus Christ alone, Who did for all the world atone;
He is our one Redeemer.*

2 *What God did in His Law demand And none to Him could render
Caused wrath and woe on ev'ry hand For man, the vile offender.
Our flesh has not those pure desires The spirit of the Law requires,
And lost is our condition.*

5 *Yet as the law must be fulfilled Or we must die despairing,
Christ came and has God's anger stilled, Our human nature sharing.
He has for us the Law obeyed And thus the Father's vengeance stayed
Which over us impended.*

6 *Since Christ has full atonement made And brought to us salvation,
Each Christian therefore may be glad And build on this foundation.
Your grace alone, dear Lord, I plead, Your death is now my life indeed,
For You have paid my ransom.*

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 Scashtag is "Scmctzion". While the usher brings the offering plate forward we sing the following hymn verse

*(WS 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 851:4 *Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us*

***4 Lord of glory, You have bought us
With Your life-blood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones
That tremendous sacrifice.
Give us faith to trust You boldly,
Hope, to stay our souls on You;
But, oh, best of all Your graces,
With Your love our love renew.***

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.

5th MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICE: This Wednesday at 7:00pm, we continue our midweek Lenten series, *Mementos of His Passion*, with a sermon on the cross. Pastor Wilke of Gethsemane, Saginaw, will be our guest preacher. Hope you can make it!

LIFT WILL BE HOSTING A "STOCK THE FREEZER PARTY" next Sunday, March 26 for the Wittorp family immediately following the service. In preparation for their baby due next month please bring a meal pre-made & ready to go in their freezer (Important note: Dietary restrictions are vegan and no nuts). The goal is to stock them on food to ease cooking as Danielle gets closer to delivery. Please see Andrea for a list of food suggestions. Light refreshments will be provided for all in attendance. We hope you can join us!

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION originally scheduled for this past Friday has been rescheduled to Friday, March 31 at 5:30pm. The board is continuing their work on a feasibility report (growth models and financial projections) in connection with our plans to open a Christian Day School in the fall of 2024. This will be presented at a congregational meeting on Sunday, April 23.

UPCOMING MT. ZION EVENTS

Wed. 3/22	7pm	5 th Midweek Lent Service (Pastor Wilke)
Fri. 3/24	2pm	UM Ann Arbor Bible Study
Sun. 3/26	9am	Bible Class / Sunday School
	10am	Worship Service (w/ Communion)
Fri. 3/31	5:30pm	Board of Ed Meeting (Church Basement)
Sun. 4/2	4pm	Cleveland Area Worship Service
Thu. 4/6	7pm	Maundy Thursday Communion Service
Fri. 4/7	7pm	Good Friday Tenebrae Service
Sun. 4/9	10am	Easter Breakfast Potluck (Men Cook)
	11am	Easter Worship Service
Tue. 4/11	7-9pm	Elders/Council/Trustees/Outreach Meetings
Sun. 4/23	11am	Congregational Meeting: Update from BoE on Christian Day School planning
Sun. 8/6	4pm	50 th Anniversary Service and Dinner

SERVING US THIS WEEK:

March Usher: Randy Wittorp Church Cleaning: D’Onofrio

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL *Offering numbers are from 3/12/23

Attendance Last Sunday: Worship = 30; Bible Class/Sunday School = 18

Total Offerings Budgeted YTD:	\$19,807.69	Bi-Weekly Offerings Budgeted:	\$3961.54
Total Offerings Received YTD:	\$26,401.82	Bi-Weekly Offerings Received:	\$9032.77
Missions Offerings YTD (includes 10% of GB & individual offerings):			\$2640.18
Maisie Wittorp Christian Education Memorial Fund:			\$70,337.99

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. **The Ryans** are expecting a baby in September.

WEEKLY MEMORY WORK:

- P** What is the ninth commandment?
- C** **You shall not covet your neighbor’s house.**
- P** What does this mean?
- C** **We should fear and love God that we do not sinfully desire to get our neighbor’s inheritance or house by a trick or in a way that appears to be right; but we should do everything we can to help him keep what is his.**

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: Peace Thru Christ, Middleton, WI is re-opening its Christian day school for Fall 2023. They **have called** Mrs. Leah Ude of Eau Claire, WI as teacher. <> Pastor Luke Bernthal of St. Stephen, Mountain View, CA, is **considering the call** to serve as the third pastor at Messiah, Eau Claire, WI.

CHRIST’S EXPLORERS CAMP: Holy Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church (W. Columbia, SC) will be hosting Christ's Explorers Camp July 20th - 23rd in Sevierville, TN. Camp is open to students entering grades 3-9 for the 2023-24 school year. *Registration opens on Saturday, April 1st at 9 AM (EST).* Registrations will be limited to the first 25 boys and 25 girls. You may register online at christsexplorerscamp.com.