

May 14, 2023



*So Paul, standing in the midst
of the Areopagus, said...*

— Acts 17:22



MT. ZION

Evangelical Lutheran Church
Madison Heights, MI

Pastor Tom Naumann
(248) 677-7242

mtzionlutheran.info



6th Sunday in Easter

Pre-Service Personal Prayer: *Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Most High, Who no longer dwells on earth in lowliness and poverty, but are seated at the right hand of the Father, Lord over all things in heaven and on earth, filling and ruling all, we ask You to send us Your Holy Spirit. Mightily protect Your Kingdom, until all enemies are laid at Your feet, and we overcome sin, death, and all things. In Your name, Amen.*

Today's Worship!

Greeting and Prayer

Opening Hymn 475 *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing*

1 *Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing! Now is the triumph of our King!
To all the world glad news we bring: "Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!"*

2 *The Lord of life is ris'n this day; bring flow'rs of song to strew His way;
Let all the world rejoice and say: "Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!"*

3 *Praise we in songs of victory That Love, that Life, which cannot die,
and sing with hearts uplifted high: "Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!"*

4 *Your name we bless, O risen Lord, And sing today with one accord
The life laid down, the life restored: "Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!"*

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.

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 in the high-est, and peace to all peo-ple on
earth. Lord God, heav-enly king, al-might-y God and
Fa-ther: We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we
praise You for Your glo-ry. Lord Je-sus
Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God,
Lamb of God: You take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. You are seat-ed at the right hand of the

Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer. For You a-lone are the
 Ho - ly One, You a-lone are the Lord, You a-lone are the
 Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

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 3:15-22

But in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶ having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

¹⁸ For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹ in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. ²¹ Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

The Responsive Reading: *Psalm 66* Selected Verses

- P** Shout for joy to God, all the earth;
- C** **Sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise!**
- P** Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! So great is your power that your enemies come cringing to you.
- C** **All the earth worships you and sings praises to you; they sing praises to your name."**
- P** Come and see what God has done: he is awesome in his deeds toward the children of man.
- C** **Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for my soul.**
- P** I cried to him with my mouth, and high praise was on my tongue.
- C** **If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.**
- P** But truly God has listened; he has attended to the voice of my prayer.
- C** **Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me!**

**Psalms,
Hymns,
&
Spiritual
Songs**



The Gospel Reading: *John 14:15-21*

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, ¹⁷ even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you. ¹⁸ "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹ Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."

- 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 First Petition of the Lord's Prayer?
- C** Hallowed be Thy name.
- P** What does this mean?
- C** God's name is certainly holy all by itself, but we pray in this petition that we also keep it holy.
- P** How is God's name kept holy?
- C** God's name is kept holy when the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we as children of God also live a holy life according to it. Help us do this, dear heavenly Father. But whoever teaches and lives contrary to the Word of God dishonors God's name among us. Keep us from doing this, heavenly Father.

Hymn 844 *Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace*

*1 Lord of all nations, grant me grace To love all people, every race;
And in each person may I see My kindred, loved, redeemed by Thee.*

*2 Break down the wall that would divide Thy children, Lord, on every side.
My neighbor's good let me pursue; Let Christian love bind warm and true.*

*3 Forgive me, Lord, where I have erred By loveless act and thoughtless word.
Make me to see the wrong I do Will grieve my wounded Lord anew.*

*4 Give me Thy courage, Lord to speak Whenever strong oppress the weak.
Should I myself the victim be, Help me forgive, remembering Thee.*

*5 With Thine own love may I be filled And by Thy Holy Spirit willed,
That all I touch, where're I be, May be divinely touched by Thee.*

The Sermon: Acts 17:22-34

So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. ²³ For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, 'To the unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. ²⁶ And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, ²⁷ that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, ²⁸ for "'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, "'For we are indeed his offspring.' ²⁹ Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. ³⁰ The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead." ³² Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked. But others said, "We will hear you again about this." ³³ So Paul went out from their midst. ³⁴ But some men joined him and believed, among whom also were Dionysius the Areopagite and a woman named Damaris and others with them.

Theme: A SPECIAL TRANSMISSION FROM MARS (HILL)

I. Unbelievers, we are not alone! II. Believers, we are God's emissaries!

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. 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 me with Your free Spir - it.

Hymn 826 Hark, the Voice of Jesus Crying

1 Hark, the voice of Jesus crying, "Who will go and work today?

Fields are white and harvests waiting-- Who will bear the sheaves away?"

Loud and long the Master calleth; Rich reward He offers thee.

Who will answer, gladly saying, "Here am I, send me, send me"?

2 If you cannot speak like angels, If you cannot preach like Paul,

You can tell the love of Jesus, You can say He died for all.

If you cannot rouse the wicked With the judgment's dread alarms,

You can lead the little children To the Savior's waiting arms.

3 If you cannot be a watchman, Standing high on Zion's wall,

Pointing out the path to heaven, Off'ring life and peace to all,

With your prayers and with your bounties You can do what God commands;

You can be like faithful Aaron, Holding up the prophet's hands.

4 Let none hear you idly saying, "There is nothing I can do,"

While the multitudes are dying And the Master calls for you.

Take the task He gives you gladly, Let His work your pleasure be;

Answer quickly when He calleth, "Here am I, send me, send me!"

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

- 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; but chiefly are we bound to praise You for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord; for He is the very Paschal Lamb, which was offered for us and has taken away the sins of the world. By His death He has destroyed death, and by His rising to life again He has restored to us 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."

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
heav'n and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho-

san - na in the high-est, ho - san-na in the high est.

Blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-

san - na in the highest, ho - san-na in the highest

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.

Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the

world; have mer-cyup - on us. Lamb of God, You

take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy up - on

us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world;

grant us 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."

Thanksgiving

We give thanks and praise the LORD for the forgiveness of sins received in the Sacrament.

Thank the Lord; sing His praise; tell ev'ry one what
He has done. Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and
bear Christ's ho - ly name. Thank the Lord;
sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.
Send us with Your prom - is - es, Lord; lead Your peo - ple
forth in joy with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Thank the Lord;
sing His praise; tell ev'ry one what He has done. Al - le - lu - ia, alle -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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 821:1 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

*1 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;
His the scepter, His the throne;
Alleluia! His the triumph,
His the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
Thunder like a mighty flood:
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation
Has redeemed us by His blood."*

WEEKLY MEMORY WORK:

P What is the Second Petition of the Lord's Prayer?

C Thy kingdom come.

P What does this mean?

C God's kingdom certainly comes all by itself, even without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it also come to us.

P How does the kingdom of God come?

C God's kingdom comes when our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His holy Word and live a godly life here in time and hereafter in eternity.

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.

HAPPY MOTHERS' DAY! *Thank God for mothers, young and old, Who live today within Christ's fold; Who pattern, as in days of yore, The godly mothers, gone before, Whose hands repose - complete their task. Thank God for these! Then Lord, we ask, Bless mothers who for us still pray. Thank God for them this Mother's Day. – Author Unknown*

LUTHERAN SPOKESMAN / DAILY REST RENEWAL: It’s time to renew our congregational subscriptions to the *Lutheran Spokesman* and *Daily Rest*. Mt. Zion covers the cost for each member household. Please verify your mailing address on the white sheet of paper near the guest book. If you are not a subscriber, please speak with Pastor to sign up.

VBS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Vacation Bible School at Mt. Zion is July 10-13, Monday – Thursday, 6:00pm – 8:00pm. We need volunteers to teach, do crafts, oversee snacks and recess. We are hoping that by holding evening sessions more church members will be available to help and more children will attend! Please speak to Pastor if you can help (even if only for a day).

“THE WORD FROM MOUNT ZION” SERMON PODCAST: The weekly sermon is now available as a podcast on Spotify. Simply search for “The Word from Mount Zion” and be sure to subscribe. The sermon podcast can easily be used as an outreach tool when shared with friends, co-workers, and neighbors. Thank you to the Outreach Committee for their work on this!

MT. ZION UPCOMING CALENDAR

Sun. 5/21	9am	Bible Class and Sunday School (last before summer recess)
	10am	Divine Worship Service
	11am	50 th Anniversary Committee Meeting
Sun. 5/28	11am	Special Voters Meeting (vote on 50 th Ann. Budget)
Mon.-Tue. 6/5-6/6		Great Lakes Delegates Conference Messiah Lutheran Church, Hales Corners, WI
Tue.-Thu. 6/20-6/22		CLC General Pastoral Conference Immanuel Lutheran College, Eau Claire, WI
Sun. 7/2	4pm	Cleveland Area Worship Service
Sun. 7/9	11am	Q3 Voters Meeting
Mon. 7/10 – Thu. 7/13	6pm- 8pm	Vacation Bible School
Mon. 7/17 – Thu. 7/20		Lower Michigan Youth Camp Pigeon Creek State Park, Ottawa County, MI
Sun. 8/6	4pm	50 th Anniversary Service and Dinner

SERVING US THIS MONTH:

Usher: Carl Ryan Church Cleaning: Troyans

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL

Attendance Last Sunday: Worship = 34 Bible Class/Sunday School: 22

Total Offerings Budgeted YTD:	\$37,634.62	Bi-Weekly Offerings Budgeted:	\$3961.54
Total Offerings Received YTD:	\$47,051.82	Bi-Weekly Offerings Received:	\$3194.00
Missions Offerings YTD (includes 10% of GB & individual offerings):			\$4705.18
Maisie Wittorp Christian Education Memorial Fund:			\$73,321.99

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 Ryans** are expecting a baby girl in September. **CLC Pastor John Hein**, 56, Grace, Fridley MN, is being treated for 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 Nathanael Mayhew of Grace, Sleepy Eye, MN and Faith, New Ulm, MN **has returned the call** to serve as the third pastor at Messiah, Eau Claire, WI. <> Messiah, Eau Claire has now **extended that call** to Pastor Matthew Hanel of St. Matthew, Dallas, TX.

WALK WITH THE APOSTLE PAUL (GREECE AND TURKEY TRIP): A group trip to Greece and Turkey is planned for May 27-June 5, 2024 with a possible three day extension to Rome for those who are interested. The trip will include visits to Athens, Corinth, Berea, Thessaloniki, Philippi, Ephesus and much more. It will include visits to the traditional sites of many of the visits of the Apostle Paul recorded in the Book of Acts. We will be reminded of the zeal and spread of the early Christian church. The extension to Rome will include visits to the Sistine Chapel, Basilica of St. Peter, Catacombs, Colosseum, St. Paul's Church, and more. A video of a similar trip can be seen here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=ul-o6E47MMw. If you would like more information about this trip, please contact Nathanael Mayhew (nnmayhew@sleepyeyelutheran.com). Brochures with additional trip details are available upon request.

COME REJOICE WITH MT. ZION! All CLC members are invited to a special worship service observing the 50th Anniversary of Mt. Zion Lutheran Church of Madison Heights (Detroit), MI, on Sunday, August 6, 2023, at 4:00pm. The three-part service will thank and praise God for His grace upon Mt. Zion's past, present, and future; with special guest preaching from Pastor Em. Walter Schaller, who served as pastor of Mt. Zion from 2000-17, and Pastor David Naumann, chairman of the CLC Board of Education and Publications. A catered meal will be provided following the service. Please RSVP to Pastor Tom Naumann at 920-266-5387 or tomnaumann.pastor@gmail.com.