

July 16, 2023



MT. ZION
VBS 2023

MT. ZION

Evangelical Lutheran Church
Madison Heights, MI

Pastor Tom Naumann
(248) 677-7242

mtzionlutheran.info



Vacation Bible School Sunday

Pre-Service Personal Prayer: *Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank You for the blessing of knowing your Son Jesus as our only Savior from sin and our sure hope of eternal life. Send Your Holy Spirit to inspire a desire to share this knowledge with our children and all children. Help us to support Bible-based Christian Education with our efforts, prayers, and offerings to the glory of Your name through Your Son Jesus Christ. Amen.*

Today's Worship!

Greeting and Prayer

Opening Hymn 725 *Children of the Heavenly Father*

1 *Children of the Heavenly Father Safely in His bosom gather
Nestling bird nor star in heaven Such a refuge e'er was given.*

2 *God His own doth tend and nourish In His holy courts they flourish
From all evil things He spares them In His mighty arms He bears them.*

3 *Neither life nor death shall ever From the Lord His children sever
Unto them His grace He showeth And their sorrows all He knoweth.*

4 *Though He giveth or He taketh God His children ne're forsaketh
His the loving purpose solely To preserve them pure and holy.*

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

Glory 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: *Genesis 6:17-22; 7:17-23*

"For behold, I will bring a flood of waters upon the earth to destroy all flesh in which is the breath of life under heaven. Everything that is on the earth shall die. ¹⁸ But I will establish my covenant with you, and you shall come into the ark, you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you. ¹⁹ And of every living thing of all flesh, you shall bring two of every sort into the ark to keep them alive with you. They shall be male and female. ²⁰ Of the birds according to their kinds, and of the animals according to their kinds, of every creeping thing of the ground, according to its kind, two of every sort shall come in to you to keep them alive. ²¹ Also take with you every sort of food that is eaten, and store it up. It shall serve as food for you and for them." ²² Noah did this; he did all that God commanded him.

7:17 The flood continued forty days on the earth. The waters increased and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. ¹⁸ The waters prevailed and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the face of the waters. ¹⁹ And the waters prevailed so mightily on the earth that all the high mountains under the whole heaven were covered. ²⁰ The waters prevailed above the mountains, covering them fifteen cubits deep. ²¹ And all flesh died that moved on the earth, birds, livestock, beasts, all swarming creatures that swarm on the earth, and all mankind. ²² Everything on the dry land in whose nostrils was the breath of life died. ²³ He blotted out every living thing that was on the face of the ground, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens. They were blotted out from the earth. Only Noah was left, and those who were with him in the ark.

The Responsive Reading: *Exodus 20 Selected Verses*

P And God spoke all these words, saying,

C "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

P "You shall have no other gods before me.

C "You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain.

- P** "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.
- C** "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.
- P** "You shall not murder.
- C** "You shall not commit adultery.
- P** "You shall not steal.
- C** "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
- P** "You shall not covet your neighbor's house;
- C** "You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's."

The Gospel Reading: *Luke 5:4-11*

He said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." ⁵ And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets." ⁶ And when they had done this, they enclosed a large number of fish, and their nets were breaking. ⁷ They signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. ⁸ But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." ⁹ For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish that they had taken, ¹⁰ and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men." ¹¹ And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed 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.

Children's Sermon

THEME: Jesus Leads the Way

Anthem by the Vacation Bible School Children

Hymn 722 *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.*

*3 Lord, when the shadows lengthen And night has come,
I know that You will strengthen My steps toward home,
And nothing can impede me, O blessed Friend!
So take my hand and lead me Unto the end.*

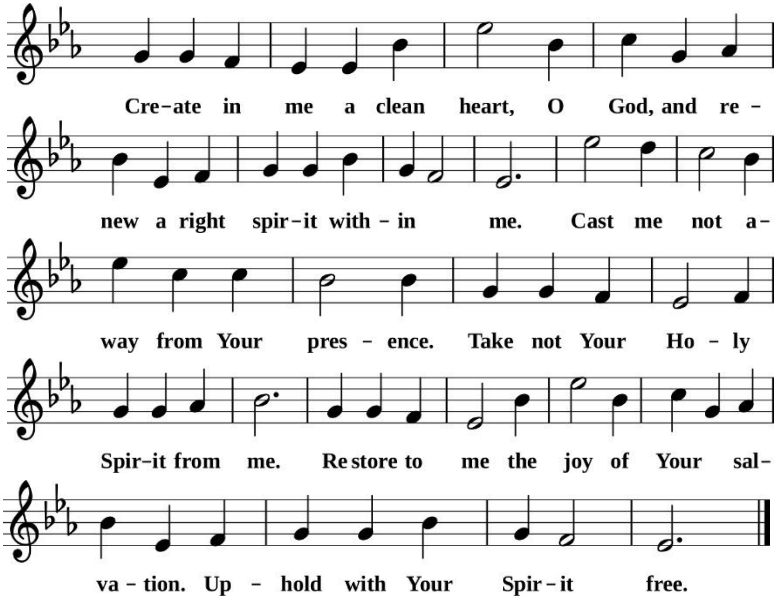
The Sermon: Romans 11:33-34

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways! ³⁴ "For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?"

Theme: JESUS LEADS THE WAY

The Offertory

Having heard God's Word, we pray for spiritual healing through 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 861 *Christ Be My Leader*

***1 Christ be my leader by night as by day;
Safe through the darkness, for he is the way.
Gladly I follow, my future his care,
Darkness is daylight when Jesus is there.***

***2 Christ be my teacher in age as in youth,
Drifting or doubting, for he is the truth.
Grant me to trust him; though shifting as sand,
Doubt cannot daunt me; in Jesus I stand.***

***3 Christ be my Savior in calm as in strife;
Death cannot hold me, for he is the life.
Nor darkness nor doubting nor sin and its stain
Can touch my salvation: with Jesus I reign.***

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 "Scclmtzion". 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 588 *Jesus Loves Me*

***1 Jesus loves me! This I know, For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong: They are weak, but He is strong.***

Refrain:

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!

Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

***2 Jesus loves me! He who died Heaven's gates to open wide.
He has washed away my sin, Lets His little child come in. [Refrain]***

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.

THANK YOU to our Vacation Bible School children for blessing us with your singing today. This past week, VBS was held Monday-Thursday from 6:00-8:00pm each evening. In all, 18 children (5 members; 13 non-members) attended. We praise God for the opportunity to bring the good news of Jesus to these precious children. Thank you especially to teachers Nicholas Jakel and Andrea D’Onofrio, and all the coordinators and helpers! To God be with glory!

LOWER MICHIGAN YOUTH CAMP THIS WEEK: The 20th Annual Lower Michigan Youth Camp is this week, July 17-20 (Mon-Thurs). The camp is open to students entering grades 6-12. The cost is \$60/camper. There is still time to register at mtzionlutheran.info/lowermichiganyouthcamp.

A SPECIAL VOTERS MEETING has been scheduled for Sunday, July 30 at 11:00am. The only agenda item is to open and recess the meeting for the purpose of selecting a new property for our future church/school (for more details, see below the Q3 Voters Meeting minutes and the “Procedure for Leasing a New Building”).

MEMBER PHOTOS: Over two Sundays (July 9 and July 16) we will be taking photos of our congregation members. Our goal is to have a photo of each member and/or household before our upcoming anniversary celebration. Photos will be taken outside after church, weather permitting. For anyone not available on one of those two Sundays, we will offer another chance to take photos later this year.

CHURCH DIRECTORY: We are creating a church directory of Mt. Zion members/friends in order to share contact information with one another. Please review the draft of the directory printed at the back of church to ensure your contact information is up to date!

FRIDAY NIGHT BIBLE SCHOOL is a new program being organized by the outreach committee. On the second Friday of each month (beginning 8/11), we will be hosting a VBS-style evening Bible School for a limited number of children ages PreK-5th. See the flyer on the hymnal rack for more information. Please keep this new outreach effort in your prayers and speak with Outreach Chairman Jesse Wilke if you are interested in volunteering.

50th ANNIVERSARY WORSHIP SERVICE: We are hosting a special worship service observing the 50th Anniversary of Mt. Zion 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.

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL **Offering numbers are from 7/9/23*

Attendance Last Sunday = 24

Total Offerings Budgeted YTD:	\$53,480.77	Bi-Weekly Offerings Budgeted:	\$3961.54
Total Offerings Received YTD:	\$64,309.82	Bi-Weekly Offerings Received:	\$3464.00
Missions Offerings YTD (includes 10% of GB & individual offerings):			\$6430.98
Maisie Wittorp Christian Education Memorial Fund:			\$77,361.99

SERVING US THIS MONTH:

Usher: Jesse Wilke Church Cleaning: Fobears

MT. ZION UPCOMING CALENDAR

Today	11am	50 th Anniversary Committee Meeting
Mon. 7/17		Lower Michigan Youth Camp
– Thu. 7/20		Pigeon Creek State Park, Ottawa County, MI
Sun. 7/23	10am	Divine Worship Service
Tue. 7/25	7-9pm	Elders/Council/Trustees/Outreach
Sun. 8/6	10am	NO Morning Service
	4pm	50 th Anniversary Service and Dinner
Fri. 8/11	5:30-8pm	Friday Night Bible School
Sun. 9/10	4pm	Cleveland Area Worship Service

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.

SUMMARY OF LAST SUNDAY'S Q3 VOTERS MEETING: Opened with prayer at 11:25am. In attendance: Matt Fobear, Dave Troyan, Nathan Fobear, Pastor Tom Naumann, Randy Wittorp, Nicholas Jakel, Carl Ryan, and Jim Lucas. Excused: Jeremiah Rosen, Mason Dzakowic, Ben Mueller, and Jesse Wilke... Minutes from the 2023 Q2 meeting read and approved... **Reports:** MMC to accept Pastor's report as presented... MMC to receive Elizabeth Wittorp into pre-communicant membership... MMC to release with regret Dan, Krista, William, and Levi Geschwind from church membership at their request... MMC to accept treasurer's report as presented... MMC to accept Financial Secretary's report as presented by President Carl Ryan... MMC to accept Trustee's oral report as presented; Trustees continue to investigate possible new building locations; Trustees request a procedure for finalizing a decision on a new property... No Board of Christian Education report... MMC to accept Outreach committee report as presented by President Carl Ryan... **Old Business: 1)** Benevolence budget category line: MMC to adopt the Board of Finance's recommendation to add a budget line item for benevolence (recommendation parts 1a, 1b, and 1d)... MMC to direct the Constitution Committee to consider the Board of Finance's recommendation part 1c for inclusion in the church constitution as a by-law... **2)** Anniversary committee budget: MMC to add \$1000 budget line item for Anniversary Committee... **New Business: 1)** Pastor's salary: MMC that we increase Pastor Tom Naumann's salary to match CLC code effective July 1st and direct the Board of Finance to make a recommendation at the Q4 Voter's meeting for an additional increase to Pastor's salary, to also be prorated back to July 1st with the additional request to present criteria for regularly evaluating the salaries of our called workers going forward... **2)** Tech Committee Appointment: Matt Fobear appointed as the 2023 Tech Committee... **3)** Board of Trustee's have requested criteria for narrowing down candidates for our next property: **a.** Specs: min 2400 sq ft assuming mixed use sanctuary, smaller location radius around Berkley. **b.** Schedule: January 2024 move in date **c.** Cost: \$4000/month. **d.** Any other assumptions, e.g. visibility etc. will also continue to be included in criteria... **4)** Board of Trustee's have requested a written procedure for making a decision on a church property: MMC to adopt the Mt Zion Procedure for Leasing a New Building (attached), to bring and present the procedure to the congregation following the service on July 16th, and to call a special property selection meeting on July 30th to facilitate the leasing decision by the congregation according to the procedure laid out in the aforementioned document... **5)** Calendar: MMC to approve the calendar with the Evangelism Workshop stricken to be rescheduled... Elders/Council/Trustees/Outreach meetings rescheduled for July 25th... Special Property Selection meeting scheduled for July 30th... Election meeting scheduled for Nov. 5th... **6)** Lay services: MMC to call Randy Wittorp as primary, Dave Troyan as secondary, to conduct the church service on September 24th... **7)** Next meeting date (Q4 Quarterly) set for October 1st... **8)** Randy Wittorp appointed to Election Committee for 2024 elections... Meeting adjourned at 2:10 pm and closed with the Doxology.

Mt. Zion Procedure for Leasing a New Building (adopted by the voters 7/9/23)

1. The Voters will recess a special "Property Selection Voters Meeting" in lieu of adjourning the meeting.
2. The Trustees find a building to lease that suits the church's needs.
3. The Congregation is informed of the findings of the Trustees and encouraged to visit the building and pray about it.
4. The first Sunday after the Congregation has been informed, a Congregational meeting will be held. During this meeting, everyone will be given a chance to voice their opinions on the proposed lease building. The meeting will be streamed for those unable to attend.
5. Subsequently, the special "Property Selection Voters Meeting" will have the option to resume and a vote will be cast on whether or not to sign a lease at this building. A quorum will be required and a supermajority needed to pass.
6. If the vote passes, the Trustees will be tasked to sign a lease agreement and the meeting will be adjourned. If the vote does not pass, the Trustees will continue to search for a building to lease and the meeting will recess.

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: Messiah, Eau Claire, WI **has called** Pastor Sam Rodebaugh of Faith, Manchester, MO, to be their third pastor. <> Missionary Peter Evensen **has returned the call** from Calvary, Marquette, MI. <> Mrs. Loretta Leinberger **has accepted the call** from Gethsemane, Saginaw, MI to be its Pre-K teacher, as well as Kindergarten assistant.

MANUP! WEEKEND: The 2023 ManUp! Men's Weekend will be held September 21-24, 2023, at beautiful Wyalusing State Park near Prairie du Chien, WI. The weekend will offer strength and encouragement for men 18 and older for their personal faith, family, and fellowship at church. The weekend will include Bible study, fellowship, leadership training, team building, relationship building, worship, and many outdoor bonding activities. Register and send in your payment before August 31st for the discounted rate of \$75. Registration increases to \$150 after September 1st. The registration includes lodging and meals. You can register by going to the Man Up! website here: www.manup.clclutheran.org. and clicking on the Registration Form. Sign up today!

PACIFIC COAST WOMEN'S RETREAT: Gethsemane Lutheran Church of Spokane Valley, WA is hosting a Women's Retreat, October 6-8, 2023 at Ponderosa Lodge in Cusick, WA. The congregation extends an invitation to all of the sisters in Christ across the CLC and will welcome you warmly if you are able to attend. The theme of the retreat is "Grow in Grace" and is based upon Psalm 1:3, "He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers." There will be four main sessions and four devotions. Other activities may include small group book discussion, outdoor activities such as zip line, archery, canoe/kayaking, and more. The price is \$150 for the full weekend which includes five meals. Daily rates are also available for participants who can't stay the whole weekend. **Go to:** <https://gethsemaneccl.org/events/pacific-coast-womens-retreat> to get more information, to sign-up for email updates, and to register.