

MT. ZION

Evangelical Lutheran Church Madison Heights, MI Pastor Tom Naumann (248) 677-7242 mtzionlutheran.info



Pre-Service Personal Prayer: Dear Child of Bethlehem, our Lord and Savior, graciously forgive our many sins. Supply us with hearts prepared by Your holy Word to worship You even as those believers, Simeon and Anna of old, who by faith believed and waited for Your first coming into the world. Guard and keep us through that Word until Your second appearance, when You will come in all power and glory to judge the world. In Your name, Amen.

Today's Worship!

Greeting and Prayer

Opening Hymn 394:1,5 Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

1 Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to thee we raise, Manifested by the star To the sages from afar, Branch of royal David's stem In Thy birth at Bethlehem: Anthems be to Thee addressed, God in man made manifest.

5 Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Present in Thy holy Word– Grace to imitate Thee now And be pure, as pure art Thou; That we might become like Thee At Thy great epiphany And may praise Thee, ever blest, God in man made manifest.

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.
- 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!

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.

Hymns...... Congregation's Favorites

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined. ³ You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. ⁴ For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁵ For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶ For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Hymns...... Congregation's Favorites

The Responsive Reading: Psalm 96 Selected Verses

- P Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth!
- Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.
- P Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!
- For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods.



- P For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the LORD made the heavens.
- Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.
- P Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness; tremble before him, all the earth!
- Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it.

Hymns...... Congregation's Favorites

Epistle Reading: Colossians 1:23-27

Continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister. ²⁴ Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church, ²⁵ of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, ²⁶ the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints. ²⁷ To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

Hymns...... Congregation's Favorites

The Nicene Creed We boldly confess what we believe.

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, The Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the

Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Installation of Church Officers

President Randy Wittorp (1yr)

Vice President Ben Mueller (1yr)

Tananana Carl Brown (1yr)

Secretary Jeremiah Rosen (1yr) Treasurer Carl Ryan (1yr) Financial Secretary Dave Troyan (1yr) Trustee Jesse Wilke (3yr)

Elder Matt Fobear (3yr)

Board of Finance: Mason Dzakowic (1yr) and Jim Lucas (1yr) Board of Education: Dave Troyan (3yr) and Carl Ryan (2yr)

Hymns...... Congregation's Favorites

The Sermon: Matthew 2:1-12

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ² saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." ³ When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵ They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: 6 "'And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel." ⁷ Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. 8 And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." ⁹ After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. 10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. 11 And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. 12 And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

Theme: TRUST GOD TO GUIDE YOU TO JESUS

I. Over Obstacles II. Around Evil III. Down to your knees

The Offertory

Having heard God's Word, we pray for spiritual healing through the gift of the Holy Spirit.



Hymns...... Congregation's Favorites

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 "Sclemtzion". While the usher brings the offering plate forward we sing the following hymn verse

(397:3): As they offered gifts most rare At Thy cradle, rude and bare, So may we with holy joy, Pure and free from sin's alloy, All our costliest treasures bring Christ to Thee our heav'nly King!



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.
- **©** 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, for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory, that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may be drawn to the love of these things which are not seen; Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, we magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying...

Hymns...... Congregation's Favorites

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!

Hymns...... Congregation's Favorites

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."



Hymns...... Congregation's Favorites

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.

C Amen!

Closing Hymn 397:1,4 As with Gladness Men of Old

1 As with gladness men of old Did the guiding star behold; As with joy they hailed its light Leading onward, beaming bright, So, most gracious Lord, may we Evermore be led by Thee!

4 Holy Jesus, ev'ry day Keep us in the narrow way; And, when earthly things are past, Bring our ransomed souls at last Where they need no star to guide, Where no clouds Thy glory hide.

LIVESTREAM on VouTube @MtZionLutheranChurch

SERMON PODCAST on Spotify @TheWordFromMtZion

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Common Hymn Favorites

347 Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

364 Away in a Manger

387 Joy to the World

392 God Loves Me Dearly

411 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

415 Jesus on the Mountain Peak

420 Christ, the Life of All the Living

422 On My Heart Imprint Your Image

425 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

427 In the Cross of Christ I Glory

428 Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow

430 My Song Is Love Unknown 436 Go to Dark Gethsemane

437 Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

443 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

445 When You Woke That Thursday Morning

451 Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted

457 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

461 I Know That My Redeemer Lives

465 Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

480 He's Risen, He's Risen

488 He Is Arisen! Glorious Word

490 Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won

493 A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

507 Holy, Holy, Holy

525 Crown Him with Many Crowns

537 Beautiful Savior

543 What Wondrous Love Is This

547 The Lamb

555 Salvation unto Us Has Come

556 Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice

561 The Tree of Life

563 Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness

566 By Grace I'm Saved

570 Just as I Am, without One Plea

571 God Loved the World So That He Gave

575 My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

578 Thy Strong Word

582 God's Word Is Our Great Heritage

588 Jesus Loves Me

594 God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It

605 Father Welcomes

611 Chief of Sinners Though I Be

621 Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

629 What Is This Bread

644 The Church's One Foundation

656 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

660 Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus

662 Onward, Christian Soldiers

664 Fight the Good Fight

672 Jerusalem the Golden

676 Behold a Host, Arrayed in White

677 For All the Saints

686 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

707 Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

710 The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want

712 Seek Ye First

720 We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

722 Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me

725 Children of the Heavenly Father

727 On Eagles' Wings

728 How Firm a Foundation

729 I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus

740 I Am Jesus' Little Lamb 741 Jesus Christ. My Sure Defense

744 Amazing Grace

748 I'm But a Stranger Here

752 Be Still. My Soul

760 What God Ordains Is Always Good

761 Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

767 Jesus, Remember Me

783 Take My Life and Let It Be

790 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

801 How Great Thou Art

816 From All That Dwell Below the Skies

826 Hark, the Voice of Jesus Crying

835 On Galilee's High Mountain

837 Lift High the Cross

849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

861 Christ Be My Leader

869 With the Lord Begin Your Task

878 Abide with Me

883 All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night

887 Now the Light Has Gone Away

895 Now Thank We All Our God

910 Now the Silence

912 Christ Is Our Cornerstone

918 Guide Me. O Thou Great Redeemer

922 Go, My Children, with My Blessing

924 Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

932 Jesus Sat with His Disciples

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.

CHURCH UNDECORATING TODAY: If you can stay for a little while after church today, please help take down the indoor and outdoor church Christmas decorations. It shouldn't take too long. Many hands make light work!

THE 1st QUARTER VOTERS MEETING is next Sunday, January 14 at 11am. 2023 Board/Committee Chairmen are asked to please submit their 2023 annual reports to President Carl Ryan ASAP so that he can compile the congregation's annual report.

AN AFTER-CHRISTMAS PARTY is being planned by the Outreach Committee for <u>Friday</u>, <u>January 19 at Andrea's house (198 Deray Ct, Auburn Hills)</u>. Pizza will be served at 5:30pm and games/activities will follow at 6:15pm. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share and a wrapped white elephant gift (under \$10, and can be something you already have). Everyone is welcome!

NICHOLAS JAKEL HELP FUND: The Church Council met Dec 12 and established a "Help Fund" for Nicholas Jakel. Being a self-employed landscaper, Nicholas is facing serious financial difficulty due to the car accident he was involved in Dec 8. The Church Council is asking the congregation to please consider donating to this fund in order to help Nicholas with his accident-related expenses. He is facing 1-2 weeks of lost wages, an Emergency Room fee, and the total loss of his GMC Sierra Pickup (which also doubled as his work truck). If the Lord moves you to contribute to this fund, please make checks payable to "Mt. Zion Lutheran Church" with the memo "Nicholas Jakel Help Fund". CashApp donations can be sent to \$clcmtzion with the subject line "Nicholas Jakel Help Fund." Galatians 6:10 So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

THANK YOU to the members of Mt. Zion for the monetary Christmas gift to the Naumanns. We are humbled once again by your great generosity. We could not ask for a better church family. Your love for the LORD is made evident by your love for us. We love you back. Serving Christ with you, Pastor, Ashley, Aurora, Jed, Gabe, and Baby Girl.

SERVING US THIS MONTH:

Usher: Matt Fobear Church Cleaning: Naumanns

MT. ZION UPCOMING CALENDAR

Tue. 1/9	7-9pm	Church Meetings		
		(Elders/Council/Trustees/Outreach)		
Thu. 1/11	8pm	Board of Ed Meeting		
Fri. 1/12	3pm	UM Ann Arbor Bible Study Resumes		
	5:30-8pm	Friday Night Bible School		
Sun. 1/14	9am	Bible Class & Sunday School		
	10am	Divine Worship Service (w/ Communion)		
	11am	Q1 Voters Meeting		
Fri. 1/19	5:30pm	After-Christmas Church Party		
Sun. 1/21	11am	LIFT Meeting		

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL

Last Sunday Attendance = 27 Bible Class/Sunday School = RECESS

General Fund Offerings		Bi-Weekly General Fund	
Budgeted YTD:	\$107,000.00	Offerings Budgeted:	\$4115.38
General Fund Offerings		Bi-Weekly General Fund	
Received YTD:	\$118,932.89	Offerings Received:	\$11,048.00
Missions Offerings YTD (in	\$11,893.29		
Maisie Wittorp Christian	\$86.886.99		
Nicholas Jakel Help Fund:	\$2740.00		

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 Kuwait. Andrea D'Onofrio's grandmother passed away last week. Denise Troyan's sister, Amy, is again battling cancer. The Naumanns are expecting a baby girl in April. CLC Pastor John Hein, 56, Grace, Fridley MN, is being treated for thymic carcinoma cancer. Kate Sauers, wife of CLC pastor Rob Sauers, is being treated for lymphoma 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 Thomas Schuetze of St. Paul, Lakewood, CO *is still considering* the calls from Calvary, Marquette, MI and St. Peter's, Iron River, MI. <> Pastor Aaron Ude of Good Shepherd, Rapid City, SD *is still considering* the call from Immanuel, Mankato, MN.

2023 CLC MISSION HELPER TRIP: Applications are still being accepted for the 2024 CLC Mission Helper Trip to Africa. Participants will have the privilege of helping to spread the Gospel to children in Kenya/Uganda, Tanzania, or Zambia in July. The application period will end on January 16th. Find more information and apply online at www.mht.lutheranmissions.org.

NATIONAL WOMEN'S RETREAT: You're Invited! Join your Christian sisters near and far at the next virtual retreat held via Zoom on Saturday, January 20th (Noon ET / 11:00 a.m. CT / 10:00 a.m. MT / 9:00 a.m. PT). This year's theme is "Press Pause: God Made Me..." and will highlight the differing gifts that God gave each of us to use to His glory. Register at: tinyurl.com/NatRetreat24 Questions? Contact: teichstadt@gmail.com or 651-398-2386.

BELC CYCLONE AID: In early December, Cyclone Michaung struck the eastern coast of India and damaged and flooded churches of the BELC as well as the Martin Luther Bible School (MLBS) pastor training center. Eleven of the fourteen districts of the BELC were affected. A total of 55 churches, as well as the MLBS, were damaged by the cyclone and are in need of repair. The Board of Missions has approved \$12,000 of disaster relief to be sent from Kinship to assist with building repair and reconstruction. Please remember our brethren of the BELC in your prayers, and consider supporting this effort through offerings to Kinship.

ILC TOUR CHOIR: For many years the ILC Tour Choir has been granted a special rate for using a charter bus during their yearly tour in holding concerts at various CLC congregations. This year that rate is being discontinued. After comparing the cost of using various bus companies, the common rate would be approximately \$11,000 higher than expected for budgetary reasons. Normally an offering is collected during the tour which will still happen. But this year CLC President Michael Wilke is authorizing this synod-wide announcement to allow others to share in their support of the Tour Choir. This offering would help offset the extra expense needed for the bus. Therefore, if members of CLC congregations wish to support this, please designate your offering to "ILC Tour Choir."

WALK WITH THE APOSTLE PAUL (GREECE AND TURKEY TRIP): The deadline for registering for the group trip to Greece/Turkey/Italy is this week, January 12th. The trip is currently planned for May 27-June 5, 2024 with a three day extension to Rome for those who are interested. We are currently a couple of travelers short of our minimum group size. If you have been thinking of going, please register this week. The trip will include stops in Athens, Corinth, Berea, Thessaloniki, Philippi, Ephesus and visits to the traditional sites of many of the locations visited by the Apostle Paul as recorded in the Book of Acts. 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.