

January 26, 2025



"Truly, I tell you,  
with no one in Israel  
have I found  
such faith."

Matthew 8:10 ESV



# MT. ZION

Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Madison Heights, MI

Pastor Tom Naumann  
(248) 677-7242

[mtzionlutheran.info](http://mtzionlutheran.info)



# 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Epiphany

**Pre-Service Personal Prayer:** *Lord God, heavenly Father, make us diligent in the use of Your Word, and enable us by the grace of Your Holy Spirit to walk before You in fervent faith and all holy obedience. Through the Word made flesh, Your Son and our Savior Jesus Christ, work Your blessings in us for now and eternity. In His saving name, Amen.*

## Today's Order of Service

### Greeting and Prayer

#### Opening Hymn 412 *The People That in Darkness Sat*

**1** *The people that in darkness sat A glorious light have seen;  
The light has shined on them who long, In shades of death have been (2x).*

**2** *To hail Thee, Sun of Righteousness, The gath'ring nations come;  
They joy as when the reapers bear, Their harvest treasures home (2x).*

**3** *To us a Child of hope is born, To us a Son is giv'n,  
And on His shoulder ever rests, All pow'r in earth and heav'n (2x).*

**4** *His name shall be the Prince of Peace, The Everlasting Lord,  
The Wonderful, the Counselor, The God by all adored (2x)*

**5** *His righteous government and pow'r Shall over all extend;  
On judgment and on justice based, His reign shall have no end (2x).*

**6** *Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray, And make us Thine alone,  
Who with the Father ever art, And Holy Spirit, one (2x).*

### 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-en-ly 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.

## Old Testament Reading: *Jeremiah 33:6-9*

Behold, I will bring to it health and healing, and I will heal them and reveal to them abundance of prosperity and security. <sup>7</sup> I will restore the fortunes of Judah and the fortunes of Israel, and rebuild them as they were at first. <sup>8</sup> I will cleanse them from all the guilt of their sin against me, and I will forgive all the guilt of their sin and rebellion against me. <sup>9</sup> And this city shall be to me a name of joy, a praise and a glory before all the nations of the earth who shall hear of all the good that I do for them. They shall fear and tremble because of all the good and all the prosperity I provide for it.

## The Responsive Reading: *Psalms 30:1-5*

**P** I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up and have not let my foes rejoice over me.

**C** O LORD my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me.

**P** O LORD, you have brought up my soul from Sheol; you restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.

**C** Sing praises to the LORD, O you his saints, and give thanks to his holy name.

**P** For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime.

**C** Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

### Epistle Reading: *Romans 12:16-21*

Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. <sup>17</sup> Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup> If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. <sup>19</sup> Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." <sup>20</sup> To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." <sup>21</sup> Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

**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.

## Hymn 848 *Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service*

*1 Lord, whose love through humble service Bore the weight of human need,  
Who upon the cross forsaken, Offered mercy's perfect deed,  
We, Your servants, bring the worship Not of voice alone, but heart  
Consecrating to Your purpose Ev'ry gift that You impart.*

*2 Still Your children wander homeless; Still the hungry cry for bread;  
Still the captives long for freedom; Still in grief we mourn our dead.  
As, O Lord, Your deep compassion Healed the sick and freed the soul,  
Use the love Your Spirit kindles Still to save and make us whole.*

*3 As we worship, grant us vision, Till Your love's revealing light  
In its height and depth and greatness, Dawns upon our quickened sight,  
Making known the needs and burdens Your compassion bids us bear,  
Stirring us to tireless striving, Your abundant life to share.*

*4 Called by worship to Your service, Forth in Your dear name we go,  
To the child, the youth, the aged, Love in living deeds to show;  
Hope and health, goodwill and comfort, Counsel, aid, and peace we give,  
That Your servants, Lord, in freedom May Your mercy know and live.*

### **The Sermon: Matthew 8:1-13**

When he came down from the mountain, great crowds followed him. <sup>2</sup> And behold, a leper came to him and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, if you will, you can make me clean." <sup>3</sup> And Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, "I will; be clean." And immediately his leprosy was cleansed. <sup>4</sup> And Jesus said to him, "See that you say nothing to anyone, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer the gift that Moses commanded, for a proof to them." <sup>5</sup> When he entered Capernaum, a centurion came forward to him, appealing to him, <sup>6</sup> "Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, suffering terribly." <sup>7</sup> And he said to him, "I will come and heal him." <sup>8</sup> But the centurion replied, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof, but only say the word, and my servant will be healed." <sup>9</sup> For I too am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. And I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it." <sup>10</sup> When Jesus heard this, he marveled and said to those who followed him, "Truly, I tell you, with no one in Israel have I found such faith. <sup>11</sup> I tell you, many will come from east and west and recline at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, <sup>12</sup> while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." <sup>13</sup> And to the centurion Jesus said, "Go; let it be done for you as you have believed." And the servant was healed at that very moment.

### **Theme: BRAVE FAITH**

- I. Boldly trusts Jesus' will. (1-4)    II. Humbly believes Jesus' Word. (5-13)

## Sermon Worksheet:

*How would the crowd likely have reacted to the leper approaching Jesus?*

*What do the leper's words reveal about his brave faith in Jesus?*

*How did Jesus' touch reveal His deep love for sin-stained people?*

*In what way did the centurion exhibit a humble yet brave faith?*

*What does brave faith believe about the plain-seeming Bible and its verses which we still read and memorize today?*

*Think of one danger, adversity, or uncertainty that you're facing today.*

*Write a short prayer asking Jesus to make your faith brave to trust His will and believe His Word:*

## **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 720 *We Walk by Faith*

**1 We walk by faith and not by sight, No gracious words we hear  
From Him who spoke as none e'er spoke, But we believe Him near.**

**2 We may not touch His hands and side, Nor follow where He trod;  
But in His promise we rejoice And cry "My Lord and God!"**

**3 Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; And may our faith abound  
To call on You when You are near And seek where You are found.**

**4 For You, O resurrected Lord, Are found in means divine:  
Beneath the water and the Word, Beneath the bread and wine.**

**5 Lord, when our life of faith is done, In realms of clearer light  
We may behold You as You are, With full and endless sight.**

## 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 \$cashtag is "\$clcmztion". While the usher brings the offering plate forward we sing the following hymn verse*

**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

**☑ 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)*

## Closing Hymn 849:3 *Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness*

**3. Let us praise the Word Incarnate, Christ, who suffered in our place;  
Jesus died and rose victorious That we may know God by grace.  
Let us sing for joy and gladness, Seeing what our God has done;  
Let us praise the true Redeemer, Praise the One who makes us one.**

LIVESTREAM on  **YouTube** @MtZionLutheranChurch

SERMON PODCAST on  **Spotify** @TheWordFromMtZion

Hymns and liturgical settings under copyright are used by permission through Concordia Publishing House License #000014224 or OneLicense.net #A-732884. All Rights reserved. Used by permission. Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.



## **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.

**THANK YOU** to all the women who came to church yesterday afternoon for the virtual CLC women's retreat! By all accounts it was very edifying. We thank Danielle Wittorp for representing Mt. Zion as one of the special presenters, and thanks to Ashley Naumann for organizing the watch party for our women.

**RESCHEDULED: TODAY'S LIFT MEETING** is rescheduled for next Sunday, February 2 at 11am. Election for 2025 LIFT officers will be held. All women of the congregation are invited and encouraged to attend.

**2024 ANNUAL REPORT:** A PDF was sent to your email yesterday. Hard copies are available on the hymnal rack. Please take one home and read it. Our officers spent lots of time preparing this report and it is a helpful way to remember all the blessings which God gave us last year and thank Him for our congregation!

**Q1 VOTERS MEETING SUMMARY (January 12, 2025):** Opened with prayer at 11:50am... In attendance: Pastor Tom Naumann, Randy Wittorp, Ben Mueller, Carl Ryan, Dave Troyan, Peter Voelzke, James Voelzke, Mason Dzakowic, Nicholas Jakel, Matt Fobear, Jesse Wilke... Excused: None... 2024 Q4 minutes read and approved... **2024 Annual Reports:** Pastor's report read and accepted (no membership matters)... Treasurer's and Financial Secretary's reports referred until difference in final numbers can be reconciled... Outreach Committee's, Board of Education's, President's, and Board of Trustee's reports and all read and accepted... **Old Business:** None... **New Business:** Appointment of 202 committees for 1-year terms: • Outreach committee: Jesse Wilke, Mason Dzakowic, Michelle Ryan • Constitution Committee: Carl Ryan, Nicholas Jakel, Matt Fobear • Property Search Committee: Dave Troyan, Nicholas Jakel • Nominating Committee: Carl Ryan, Nicholas Jakel • Compensation Committee: Randy Wittorp, Carl Ryan, Ben Mueller, Dave Troyan, Nicholas Jakel • Tech Committee dissolved... MMC to adopt 2025 IRS mileage rate of 70¢... MMC to increase Pastor annual salary by 10% to \$47,927.00... MMC to task Compensation committee to come up with annual called worker evaluation criteria and continuing education reimbursement... MMC to adopt 2025 Annual Budget of \$128,000 as amended by the voters... MMC to adopt Q1 calendar as presented... Q2 meeting date set for April 6, 2025... **Meeting adjourned** at 1:35pm and closed with singing of the doxology... Minutes recorded by Secretary Jesse Wilke.

**MT. ZION UPCOMING CALENDAR**

<b>Fri. 1/31</b>	2pm	UM Ann Arbor Bible Study (Shapiro Library)
<b>Sun. 2/2</b>	9am	Bible Class/Sunday School
	10am	Sunday Service
	11am	LIFT Meeting
	4pm	Cleveland Area Worship Service
<b>Tue. 2/11</b>	7-9pm	Church Meetings (Elders/Council/Trustees/Ed)
<b>Thu. 2/13</b>	8pm	Property Search Committee Meeting
<b>Wed. 3/5</b>	7pm	Ash Wednesday Service (Lent Begins)

**SERVING US THIS MONTH:**

Usher: Carl Ryan      Church Cleaning: Naumanns

**OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL**

Last Sunday Attendance = 17; Bible Class/Sunday School = 11

General Fund Offerings Budgeted YTD: \$7,384.62	Weekly General Fund Offerings Budgeted: \$2,461.54
General Fund Offerings Received YTD: \$7,470.00	Last Week's General Fund Offerings Received: \$3,425.00*
Missions Offerings YTD (includes 10% of GB & individual offerings): \$747.00	
Maisie Wittorp Christian Education Memorial Fund: \$131,562.64	

\*\$2400 Memorial Offering given by the family of Robert W. Cavanaugh

**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. **Dave and Peggy Green** remain homebound as Dave continues to suffer from a very debilitating form of Parkinson's disease. **Randy Wittorp's** grandmother, Charlotte Sotnyk, passed away this past Monday. We continue to search for a **new building** for our church and future school.

**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:** Ms. Blair Sydow has **received and accepted** the call to continue serving as the full time upper grade teacher at Holy Trinity Lutheran School, West Columbia, SC. <> Pastor Paul Krause of Trinity Lutheran Church and School, Watertown, SD and Zion Lutheran Church, Hidewood Township, SD has **received** the call to St. Stephen Lutheran Church and School, Mountain View, CA. <> Sam Naumann of Eau Claire, WI has **received** the call to Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO. <> Teacher Claire Abbas of Berea Lutheran School, Inver Grove Heights, MN has **received** the call to Trinity Lutheran School, Watertown, SD.