

August 24, 2025

A close-up photograph of a weathered metal helmet, likely from a historical military unit, serves as the background for the central text. The helmet is dark and shows signs of use, with several rivets visible along its edge.

# BE STRONG IN THE LORD

EPHESIANS 6:10



## MT. ZION

Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Madison Heights, MI

Pastor Tom Naumann  
(248) 677-7242

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



# 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity



**Pre-Service Personal Prayer:** *Merciful God and Father, we give You heartfelt thanks that through Your Word You have graciously preserved this congregation these past years, and we humbly ask You to continue to guard and direct us by Your Holy Spirit in the way of truth, that we may at last obtain the crown of righteousness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.*

## Today's Order of Service

### Greeting and Prayer

### Opening Hymn 662 *Onward, Christian Soldiers*

**1 *Onward, Christian soldiers, Marching as to war,  
With the cross of Jesus Going on before.  
Christ, the royal master, Leads against the foe;  
Forward into battle See His banners go!***

***[Refrain]: Onward, Christian soldiers, Marching as to war,  
With the cross of Jesus Going on before.***

**2 *Like a mighty army Moves the Church of God;  
Brothers, we are treading Where the saints have trod.  
We are not divided, All one body we,  
One in hope and doctrine, One in charity. [Refrain]***

**3 *Crowns and thrones may perish, Kingdoms rise and wane,  
But the church of Jesus Constant will remain.  
Gates of hell can never 'Gainst that church prevail;  
We have Christ's own promise, And that cannot fail. [Refrain]***

**4 *Onward, then, ye faithful, Join our happy throng,  
Blend with ours your voices In the triumph song:  
Glory, laud, and honor Unto Christ, the king;  
This through countless ages Men and angels sing. [Refrain]***

### 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.

## Old Testament Reading: Exodus 17:8-16

Then Amalek came and fought with Israel at Rephidim. <sup>9</sup> So Moses said to Joshua, "Choose for us men, and go out and fight with Amalek. Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the staff of God in my hand." <sup>10</sup> So Joshua did as Moses told him, and fought with Amalek, while Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. <sup>11</sup> Whenever Moses held up his hand, Israel prevailed, and whenever he lowered his hand, Amalek prevailed. <sup>12</sup> But Moses' hands grew weary, so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it, while Aaron and Hur held up his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side. So his hands were steady until the going down of the sun. <sup>13</sup> And Joshua overwhelmed Amalek and his people with the sword. <sup>14</sup> Then the LORD said to Moses, "Write this as a memorial in a book and recite it in the ears of Joshua, that I will utterly blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven." <sup>15</sup> And Moses built an altar and called the name of it, The LORD Is My Banner, <sup>16</sup> saying, "A hand upon the throne of the LORD! The LORD will have war with Amalek from generation to generation."

## The Responsive Reading: *Psalm 91 Selected Verses*

**P** He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

**C** **I will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."**

**P** For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence.

**C** **He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.**

**P** You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day,

**C** **Nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday.**

**P** Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place-- the Most High, who is my refuge—

**C** **No evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent.**

**P** For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

**C** **On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.**



## Gospel Reading: *Luke 7:1-10*

After he had finished all his sayings in the hearing of the people, he entered Capernaum. <sup>2</sup> Now a centurion had a servant who was sick and at the point of death, who was highly valued by him. <sup>3</sup> When the centurion heard about Jesus, he sent to him elders of the Jews, asking him to come and heal his servant. <sup>4</sup> And when they came to Jesus, they pleaded with him earnestly, saying, "He is worthy to have you do this for him, <sup>5</sup> for he loves our nation, and he is the one who built us our synagogue." <sup>6</sup> And Jesus went with them. When he was not far from the house, the centurion sent friends, saying to him, "Lord, do not trouble yourself, for I am not worthy to have you come under my roof. <sup>7</sup> Therefore I did not presume to come to you. But say the word, and let my servant be healed. <sup>8</sup> For I too am a man set 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>9</sup> When Jesus heard these things, he marveled at him, and turning to the crowd that followed him, said, "I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith." <sup>10</sup> And when those who had been sent returned to the house, they found the servant well.

**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 660 *Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus*

- 1** *Stand up, stand up for Jesus, Ye soldiers of the cross.  
Lift high His royal banner; It must not suffer loss.  
From vict'ry unto vict'ry His army He shall lead  
Till ev'ry foe is vanquished, And Christ is Lord indeed.*
- 2** *Stand up, stand up for Jesus; The trumpet call obey;  
Stand forth in mighty conflict In this His glorious day.  
Let all His faithful serve Him Against unnumbered foes;  
Let courage rise with danger And strength to strength oppose.*
- 3** *Stand up, stand up for Jesus; Stand in His strength alone.  
The arm of flesh will fail you, Ye dare not trust your own.  
Put on the Gospel armor; Each piece put on with prayer.  
Where duty calls or danger, Be never wanting there.*
- 4** *Stand up, stand up for Jesus; The strife will not be long;  
This day the din of battle, The next the victor's song.  
The soldiers, overcoming, Their crown of life shall see  
And with the King of Glory Shall reign eternally.*

## **The Sermon: Ephesians 6:10-18**

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. <sup>11</sup> Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. <sup>12</sup> For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. <sup>13</sup> Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. <sup>14</sup> Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, <sup>15</sup> and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup> In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; <sup>17</sup> and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, <sup>18</sup> praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication.

### **Theme: I'M IN THE LORD'S ARMY**

- I. The forces of Satan are here to assail me.
- II. The triumph of Jesus has already prevailed me.
- III. The armor of God will never fail us.

#### Sermon Worksheet:

*Why is a warrior/soldier an appropriate descriptor for a Christian?*

*Who are the spiritual enemies Christians fight against? (v.12)*

*What weapon do our enemies use to try to break through our defenses?*

*What good news does Christ's resurrection mean for our spiritual warfare?*

*How is Christ's resurrection like a joke played on our spiritual enemies?*

*What important detail should be noted regarding the verbs in vv.13-18?  
What does this mean for the Christian Warrior?*

*Where can the Christian Warrior go to be equipped with the armor of God?*

## 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 665 *Be Strong in the Lord*

**1** *Be strong in the Lord in armor of light,  
With helmet and sword, with shield for the fight;  
On prayer be dependent, be belted and shod,  
In breastplate resplendent: the armor of God.*

**2** *Integrity gird you round to impart  
The truth of His Word as truth in your heart;  
His righteousness wearing as breastplate of mail,  
His victory sharing, be strong to prevail.*

**3** *With eagerness shod, stand firm in your place,  
Or go forth for God with news of His grace;  
No foe shall disarm you nor force you to yield,  
No arrow can harm you with faith as your shield.*

**4** *Though Satan presume to test you and try,  
In helmet and plume, your head shall be high;  
Beset by temptation be true to your Lord,  
Your helmet, salvation, and Scripture, your sword.*

**5** *So wield well your blade, rejoice in its powers,  
Fight on undismayed for Jesus is ours!  
Then in Him victorious your armor lay down,  
To praise, ever glorious, His cross and His crown.*

## 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*

***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 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.

**C** Amen!

## Closing Hymn 677:3,5,6 *For All the Saints*

***3 Oh, may Thy soldiers, faithful, true, and bold,  
Fight as the saints who nobly fought of old  
And win with them the victor's crown of gold!  
Alleluia! Alleluia!***

***5 And when the fight is fierce, the warfare long,  
Steals on the ear the distant triumph song,  
And hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!***

***6 The golden evening brightens in the west;  
Soon, soon to faithful warriors cometh rest;  
Sweet is the calm of paradise the blest.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!***

## **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 Tom about a free Bible study he offers to explain our beliefs and teachings. Where & when? Your convenience.

**DEDICATION SERVICE:** Our first service at the new church will be a special dedication service on Sunday, September 14, at 4:00pm. We have invited the entire CLC and we hope to have lots of visitors. A meal will be provided following the service. We look forward to praising the LORD on this special occasion!

**PROGRESS AT THE NEW CHURCH PROPERTY:** We continue to make progress on preparing our new house of worship at 510 W. Girard, thanks in large part to the work of our Property Planning Committee! In addition, many volunteers have spent much time and effort on the projects for the new church, and many generous donors have contributed to the Building Fund to move things along financially. Praise the Lord for cheerful givers and hard workers! Please keep these things in your prayers as we move toward our opening dedication service in only 3 weeks! If you are able to volunteer a few hours of work, there is a running list of projects (big and small) for anyone to tackle at any time. Please speak to Randy or Jesse for project details.

**NEW BUILDING FUND:** At a voters meeting on June 8, a new "Building Fund" was established. The purpose is to allow members to give directly to the building projects at the new church. The target goal for Phase 1 projects is \$20k. Please prayerfully consider this option in addition to your regular church offering.

### **MT. ZION UPCOMING CALENDAR**

<b>Tue. 8/26</b>	8pm	Property Planning Committee Meeting
<b>Sun. 8/31</b>	10am	Divine Worship Service
<b>Sun. 9/14</b>	<del>10am</del>	<del>Divine Service</del> No Morning Service
	4pm	Dedication Service at New Church Property
	5:30pm	Meal following the service
<b>Sun. 9/21</b>	9am	Bible Class and Sunday School Resume

### **SERVING US THIS MONTH:**

Usher: Matt Fobear      Church Cleaning: Troyan

## OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL

Last Sunday Attendance = 30

General Fund Offerings Budgeted YTD: \$78,717.04	Weekly General Fund Offerings Budgeted: \$2,384.62
General Fund Offerings Received YTD: \$79,545.00	Last Week's General Fund Offerings Received: \$1,451.86
Building Fund Offerings Received YTD: \$22,540.00 (Phase 1 Goal: \$20k)	School Fund (Maisie Wittorp Christian Education Fund): \$64,941.25
Building Fund Balance: \$15,984.04	Missions Offerings YTD: \$5,813.00

### 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. **Dave and Peggy Green** remain homebound as Dave continues to suffer from a very debilitating form of Parkinson's disease. **Carl and Michelle Ryan** are expecting a baby boy in October. **Our congregation** continues to pray for a buyer for our old church property at 26689 Northeastern Hwy.

## 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 Ben Libby of Redeemer Ev. Lutheran Church, Cheyenne, WY, has **received** the call to Living Hope Lutheran Church, Appleton, WI. <> Pastor Matthew Hanel of St. Matthew Ev. Lutheran Church, Dallas, TX, has **returned** the call to Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI.

**"MANUP" CLC MEN'S RETREAT:** ManUp allows the opportunity to strengthen and encourage men 18 and older in their personal faith, family, and fellowship at church. The weekend includes Bible Study, Fellowship, Leadership Training, Team and Relationship Building and Worship, as well as many awesome outdoor activities. The retreat will be held September 25 - 28, 2025 at beautiful Wyalusing State Park near Prairie du Chien, WI about an hour south of La Crosse. You can also find out more information, see pictures of the park, and register for ManUp online at [www.manup.clclutheran.org](http://www.manup.clclutheran.org). The cost is only \$75 for the weekend and includes lodging, meals, and activities. Generous CLC donors have offered grants for men 25 and younger to attend for only \$25. Registration deadline is August 31st, 2025.

**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.