

January 11, 2026



The Gentiles are ...
sharers together
in the promise
in Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 3:6, NIV



MT. ZION

Evangelical Lutheran Church
Madison Heights, MI

Pastor Tom Naumann
(248) 677-7242

mtzionlutheran.info



Epiphany Sunday



Pre-Service Personal Prayer: *We thank You, gracious Father in heaven, for the priceless blessings You have given us in and through Your Word. Nothing on earth can equal this treasure, given to make us wise unto salvation through faith in Your Son, Jesus Christ. Bless our hearing of Your holy Word. Strengthen and keep us in our saving faith unto eternal life through this blessed Means of Grace. We ask this in Jesus' name, Amen.*

Today's Order of Service

Greeting and Prayer

Opening Hymn 398 *Hail to the Lord's Anointed*

1 *Hail to the Lord's anointed, Great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed, His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression, To set the captive free,
To take away transgression And rule in equity.*

2 *He comes with rescue speedy To those who suffer wrong,
To help the poor and needy And bid the weak be strong;
To give them songs for sighing, Their darkness turn to light,
Whose souls, condemned and dying, Were precious in His sight.*

3 *He shall come down like showers Upon the fruitful earth;
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers, Spring in His path to birth.
Before Him on the mountains Shall peace, the herald, go;
And righteousness in fountains From hill to valley flow.*

4 *Kings shall fall down before Him And gold and incense bring;
All nations shall adore Him, His praise all people sing.
To Him shall prayer unceasing And daily vows ascend;
His kingdom still increasing, A kingdom without end.*

5 *O'er ev'ry foe victorious, He on His throne shall rest,
From age to age more glorious, All blessing and all-blest.
The tide of time shall never His covenant remove;
His name shall stand forever— That name to us is Love.*

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.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of text, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

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

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of text, the second for the second line, the third for the third line, and the fourth for the fourth line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

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: *Isaiah 60:1-6*

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ² For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. ³ And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. ⁴ Lift up your eyes all around, and see; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from afar, and your daughters shall be carried on the hip. ⁵ Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and exult, because the abundance

of the sea shall be turned to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. ⁶ A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

Responsive Psalm Reading: *Psalm 72:1-11*

- P** Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the royal son!
- C** **May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice!**
- P** Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness!
- C** **May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor!**
- P** May they fear you while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!
- C** **May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth!**
- P** In his days may the righteous flourish, and peace abound, till the moon be no more!
- C** **May he have dominion from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth!**
- P** May desert tribes bow down before him, and his enemies lick the dust!
- C** **May all kings fall down before him, all nations serve him!**



Gospel Reading: *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.

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 Apostle's 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.

Installation of Church Officers

President Randy Wittorp (1yr) Vice President Ben Mueller (1yr)
Secretary Jesse Wilke (1yr) Treasurer Carl Ryan (1yr)
Financial Sec. Dave Troyan (1yr) Trustee Nicholas Jakel (3yr)
Elder Dave Troyan (3yr) Bd. Education: Carl Ryan (3yr)
Board of Finance: Mason Dzakowic, James Voelzke, Peter Voelzke (1yr)

Hymn 397 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.**

**2 As with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to Thy lowly bed,
There to bend the knee before Thee, whom heav'n and earth adore;
So may we with willing feet Ever seek Thy mercy seat.**

**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.**

**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.**

**5 In the heav'nly country bright Need they no created light;
Thou its light, its joy, its crown, Thou its sun which goes not down;
There forever may we sing Alleluias to our King.**

The Sermon: Ephesians 3:1-9

For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles--² assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you,³ how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly.⁴ When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ,⁵ which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit.⁶ This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.⁷ Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power.⁸ To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ,⁹ and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things.

THEME: EPIPHANY SHOWS THE GOSPEL

IS NEVER JUST ANOTHER RE-RUN (sermon worksheet →)

Sermon Summary: Does the good news of Jesus Christ sometimes sound a bit stale and tired? Perhaps like an old television re-run? It shouldn't! The Apostle Paul explains why not. The season of Epiphany revives our excitement for salvation by showing us the incredible true value of our riches in Christ.

Sermon Worksheet:

What does the word “epiphany” mean? Why is it used to describe the Sundays after the Christmas season?

What is a Gentile? Why were the Jews having such a hard time accepting God’s message about the Gentiles?

Why is it astounding that God should choose to spend eternity with us?

What does it mean that the riches of Christ are “unsearchable”?

What is the greatest charity donation of all time?

How is the “rebroadcast” of the Christ’s episode of salvation superior to the most popular live television broadcasts?

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 409 *Hail, O Source of Every Blessing*

**1 Hail, O Source of ev'ry blessing, Father of our human race!
Gentiles now, Your grace possessing, In Your courts obtain a place.
Grateful now, we fall before You, In Your Church rejoice to live,
See Your glory and adore You, Thankful for the grace You give.**

**2 Once far off but now invited, We approach Your sacred throne,
In Your covenant united, Reconciled, redeemed, made one.
Now revealed to Eastern sages, See the Star of Mercy shine,
Myst'ry hid in former ages, Myst'ry great of love Divine.**

**3 Hail, O all-inviting Savior! Gentiles now their off'rings bring,
In Your temples seek Your favor, Jesus Christ, our Lord and King.
May we, body, soul, and spirit, Live devoted to Your praise,
Glorious realms of bliss inherit, Grateful anthems ever raise.**

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 "Scilmztion". 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 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.

☪ The Lord be with you.

☪ And also with you.

☪ Lift up your hearts.

☪ We lift them up to the Lord.

☪ 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...

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!

Come, Let Us Eat (Hymn 626)

As we approach the Table of Forgiveness, we sing of the spiritual blessings of receiving our Lord's body and blood.



1 Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,
2 Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured,
3 In His pres - ence now we meet and rest,
4 Rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y Word,



Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.
Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.
In His pres - ence now we meet and rest.
Rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y Word.



Our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er,
Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er,
In the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er,
Je - sus ris - en will bring in the King - dom,



Our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er.
Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er.
In the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er.
Je - sus ris - en will bring in the King - dom.

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-joyce 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, al-le-
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The Benediction *The blessing given by God for His people (Numbers 6:24-26)*

Closing Hymn 632 *O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee*

*1 O Jesus, blessed Lord, to Thee My heartfelt thanks forever be,
Who hast so lovingly bestowed On me Thy body and Thy blood.*

*2 Break forth, my soul, for joy and say: What wealth is come to me this day!
My Savior dwells within my heart - How blest am I! How good Thou art!*

LIVESTREAM on  **YouTube** @MtZionLutheranChurch

SERMON PODCAST on  **Spotify** @TheWordFromMtZion

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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.

- † Restrooms are located to the left after you exit down the main aisle.
- † A Parents Room is located in the back of the sanctuary.
- † If you are visiting with us today, please sign the Guest Book in the back.
- † If you are looking for a church home, ask Pastor Tom about a free one-on-one Bible study for new people. Where & when? Your convenience.

UPDATE FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TODAY: Immediately after the service President Randy Wittorp and the Board of Education will give a brief update on the plans to open our Christian Day School.

CHURCH UNDECORATING TODAY: Please stay after church to help take down the indoor and outdoor church Christmas decorations. It shouldn't take too long. Many hands make light work!

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS MEETING TODAY: The Sunday School teachers are asked to meet briefly with Pastor following (during?) the church undecorating.

THANK YOU to everyone who attended the church Christmas party on Friday evening. About 30 people joined together for food, fellowship, fun and games!

THE Q1 VOTERS MEETING has been rescheduled to Sunday, January 25 at 11am. 2025 Board/Committee Chairmen are asked to please submit their annual reports to President Wittorp by January 18 for the congregation's annual report.

CLC VIRTUAL WOMEN'S RETREAT – MT. ZION WATCH PARTY: Last year we had a great turnout! We are again inviting all to church on Saturday, January 31 from 12:00-2:00pm to participate in a watch party for the virtual CLC women's retreat held via Zoom. Questions? Speak with Ashley Naumann for more information.

UPCOMING CALENDAR

Tue. 1/13	7-9pm	Church Meetings (Elders/Council/Trustees/Ed)
Sun. 1/18	9am	Bible Class/Sunday School
	10am	Divine Worship Service
Sun. 1/25	11am	Q1 Voters Meeting (rescheduled from 1/18)
Sat. 1/31	12-2pm	CLC Virtual Women's Retreat (meet at Mt. Zion)

SERVING US THIS MONTH:

Usher: Carl Ryan **Church Cleaners:** Ryans

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL

Last Sunday Attendance = 17

General Fund Offerings Budgeted YTD: TBD	Weekly General Fund Offerings Budgeted: TBD
General Fund Offerings Received YTD: 1,230.00	Last Week's General Fund Offerings Received: \$1,230.00
Building Fund Offerings Received YTD: \$0.00	School Fund (Maisie Wittorp Christian Education Fund): \$106,286.09
Building Fund Balance: \$9,624.45	Missions Offerings YTD: TBD

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.

CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION SYNODWIDE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity! Psalm 133:1

CALL NEWS Pastor Emeritus John Schierenbeck has **received** the vacancy call to Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, Spokane, WA. <> Mr. Peter Reim has **received** the vacancy call to Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church, Red Wing, MN. <> Pastor Michael Wilke of Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Saginaw, MI, has **received** the part-time call to Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church, Red Wing, MN. <> Pastor Joe Naumann of Immanuel Ev. Lutheran Church, Mankato, MN, has **received** the call to Holy Cross Ev. Lutheran Church, Phoenix, AZ.

Last Chance to Apply for the 2026 CLC Mission Helper Trip: The application deadline for the 2026 Mission Helper Trip to Africa is quickly approaching. Applications need to be submitted by Sunday, January 18, 2026. There are still spots remaining, so please apply soon. For more information and to apply, visit www.mht.lutheranmissions.org.

CLC National Women's Retreat Coming in January! Before your 2026 calendar begins to fill up, we want you to mark your calendars and get ready to *Press Pause* with women across the country!

- **What:** Press Pause for the National Women's (Virtual) Retreat 2026
- **When:** Saturday, January 31, 2026 // 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. (Pacific Time)
- **How:** Join us virtually via Zoom
- **Cost:** Free event – all are welcome!
- **Register now:** <https://tinyurl.com/PressPause26>