May 2, 2021

YOU ARE NO LONGER STRANGERS AND ALIENS, BUT

RE K. AND ALSO MEMBERS OF THE

HOUSEHOLD OF GOD ...

EPHESIANS 2:19, NRSV

MT. ZION **Evangelical Lutheran Church** Madison Heights, MI

Pastor Tom Naumann (248) 677-7242

mtzionlutheran.info



5th Sunday in Easter

Pre-Service Personal Prayer: *O almighty God, You who made of one blood all nations of men to dwell on the face of the earth, use us as instruments of Your Holy Word, and let the light of Your salvation shine to all the ends of the earth. Keep our crucified and risen Savior the center of every message we bring, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved. For Jesus sake we ask it, Amen.*

Today's Worship!

Greeting and Prayer

Opening Hymn 205 (TLH): The Day of Resurrection

1. The day of resurrection, Earth, tell it out abroad, The Passover of gladness. The Passover of God. From death to life eternal, From this world to the sky, Our Christ hath brought us over With hymns of victory.

2. Our hearts be pure from evil That we may see aright The Lord in rays eternal Of resurrection light And, listening to His accents, May hear, so calm and plain, His own "All hail!" and, hearing, May raise the victor strain.

3. Now let the heavens be joyful, Let earth her song begin, Let all the world keep triumph And all that is therein. Let all things, seen and unseen, Their notes of gladness blend; For Christ the Lord hath risen,-- Our joy, that hath no end.

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.

- 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.

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.
 Amen.





The Prayer for the Day

The main thoughts for the day are collected together in this prayer.

 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.
 Amen.

The First Reading: Acts 8:26-40

Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. ²⁷ And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸ and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹ And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." ³⁰ So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹ And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. ³² Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth. ³³ In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."

³⁴ And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵ Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶ And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?" ³⁷ ³⁸ And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. ³⁹ And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰ But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

The Responsive Reading: Psalm 67

- May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us,
- C That your way may be known on earth, your saving power among all nations.
- P Let the peoples praise you, O God;
- **C** Let all the peoples praise you!
- P Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
- **C** For you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.
- P Let the peoples praise you, O God;
- **C** Let all the peoples praise you!
- The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, shall bless us.



God shall bless us; let all the ends of the earth fear him!

The Gospel Reading: John 5:19-29

So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise. ²⁰ For the Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing. And greater works than these will he show him, so that you may marvel. ²¹ For as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whom he will. ²² The Father judges no one, but has given all judgment to the Son, ²³ that all may honor the Son, just as they honor the Father. Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him. ²⁴ Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.

²⁵ "Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. ²⁶ For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself. ²⁷ And he has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of Man. ²⁸ Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice ²⁹ and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment. P Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.



- The Nicene Creed We boldly confess what we believe.
 - **C** 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.

Hymn 209 (TLH): Who Is This that Comes from Edom

- 1. Who Is this that comes from Edom, All His raiment stained with blood; To the captive speaking freedom, Bringing and bestowing good; Glorious in the garb He wears, Glorious in the spoil He bears?
 - 2. 'Tis the Savior, now victorious, Traveling onward in His might; 'Tis the Savior; oh, how glorious To His people is the sight! Satan conquered and the grave, Jesus now is strong to save.
 - 3. Why that blood His raiment staining? 'Tis the blood of many slain; Of His foes there's none remaining, None the contest to maintain. Fall'n they are, no more to rise; All their glory prostrate lies.

4. Mighty Victor, reign forever, Wear the crown so dearly won; Never shall Thy people, never, Cease to sing what Thou hast done. Thou hast fought Thy people's foes; Thou hast healed Thy people's woes.

The Sermon: Ephesians 2:19-22

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, ²¹ in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. ²² In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

CHRISTIANS ARE THE BUILDING BLOCKS OF THE CHURCH

I. Each block is connected to the Cornerstone.

II. Each block rests on the foundation.

III. Each block fits with the other blocks.



The Offertory



Hymn 473 (TLH): The Church's One Foundation

1. The Church's one foundation Is Jesus Christ, her Lord; She is His new creation By water and the Word. From heaven He came and sought her To be His holy bride; With His won blood He bought her, And for her life He died.

2. Elect from every nation, Yet one o'er all the earth, Her charter of salvation One Lord, one faith, one birth. One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food, And to one hope she presses, With every grace endued.

3. The Church shall never perish! Her dear Lord, to defend, To guide, sustain, and cherish, Is with her to the end. Though there be those that hate her. False sons within her pale, Against both foe and traitor She ever shall prevail.

 4. Though with a scornful wonder Men see her sore oppressed, By schisms rent asunder, By heresies distressed,
 Yet saints their watch are keeping; Their cry goes up, "How long?" And soon the night of weeping Shall be the morn of song.

5. Mid toil and tribulation And tumult of her war She waits the consummation Of peace forevermore, Till with the vision glorious Her longing eyes are blest And the great Church victorious Shall be the Church at rest. **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. 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 Service of the Sacrament

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **G** 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; but chiefly are we bound to praise You for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord; for He is the very Paschal Lamb, which was offered for us and has taken away the sins of the world. By His death He has destroyed death, and by His rising to life again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, we magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying...

Holy, Holy, Holy sanctus



Words of Institution

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!



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 "<u>Close</u> <u>Communion</u>," 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."



O Lord, Now Let Your Servant Nunc Dimittis

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord with gladness.

Thanksgiving



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 800:1,4 (WS2000): Go, My Children, with My Blessing

1. Go, My children, with My blessing, Never alone. Waking, sleeping, I am with you; You are My own. In My love's baptismal river I have made you Mine forever. Go, My children, with My blessing, You are My own.

4. I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;
I the Lord will smile upon you And give you peace;
I the Lord will be your Father, Savior, Comforter, and Brother.
Go, My Children; I will keep you And give you peace.

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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. 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, teach, and practice. Where and when? Your convenience.

OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT: The normal collection of the offering has been omitted from this service. If you have an offering that you wish to contribute, please deposit it in the gold plate on the shelf in the back of church. If you wish to give your church offering electronically, you can do so by downloading the CashApp on your mobile device. The church's \$cashtag is "\$clcmtzion". Please direct questions to Financial Secretary Nathan Fobear.

A CHURCH WORKDAY has been scheduled by the Board of Trustees for next Saturday, May 8, beginning at 9:00am. We have a number of building and maintenance projects that we hope to accomplish, including: landscaping, deep cleaning inside, installing vinyl sign anchors, and other things. If you can, please come help beautify God's house!

DIVINE CALL: I have received a divine call from Redeemer Lutheran Church of Cheyenne, WY, to be their full-time pastor. I now have two divine calls – one here to serve Mt. Zion congregation, and one to serve Redeemer congregation. As I prayerfully consider these calls, this is the main question: At which location (here or there) can I best serve the LORD with the talents He has given me? If you would like a copy of a paper (sent in latest congregational email) that outlines the biblical definition and consideration of divine calls, just ask. I welcome your comments, advice, and opinions. I ask for your prayers that the will of our LORD be done. – In Christ, Pastor Naumann.

PORCUPINE MOUNTAINS YOUTH CAMP-OUT: August 11-15, 2021; For Grades 8-12; Camp fee \$85 (from EC) or \$95 (from MN). Lodging and meals are included in this fee. We'll camp at the Union Bay group campsite on Lake Superior. Activities will include devotions, group discussions, hiking, swimming, beach time, lots of different games, and many other activities. It's okay if you haven't camped before, we'll help you learn! We have a limit of 48 campers. Registration deadline is Monday, July 5th. Transportation will be provided from Eau Claire, WI. Once registration has closed, we'll send packing lists and forms to be completed by a parent or guardian. Check out the <u>Porcupine Mountains Camp-Out</u> Facebook to see pictures and register at www.tinyurl.com/Porkies2021. Questions? Contact Adam Schmid: (608) 386-3714 aschmidy2003@gmail.com

CLC CALL NEWS: Pastor Tom Naumann, Mt. Zion, Madison Heights, MI has **received** the call to Redeemer, Cheyenne, WY. <> Pastor Caleb Schaller, Messiah, Eau Claire, WI has **received** the call to Redeemer, Sister Lakes, MI. <> Recently colloquized Pastor Johnathan Schnose, has **received** the call to serve Bethel, Morris, MN <> Recently collquized Pastor Luke Willitz has **received** the call to Redeemer, Bowdle, SD/Zion, Ipswich, SD. <> Education graduate Ben Hanson has accepted the call to St. John's, Okabena, MN. <> Mrs. Carrie Reim has **received** the call to teach with primary emphasis on kindergarten at Messiah, Hales Corners, WI. <> Mrs. Beth Sandeen, member at Messiah Lutheran in Eau Claire, WI, has **received** the call to serve as ILC's part-time on-campus mentor, the female counterpart in the on-campus counseling program, beginning in the 2021-22 academic year. This role is to complement Mr. Steve Sydow in his current role as the part-time on-campus counselor.

SERVING US THIS WEEK

May Usher: _____ <> Church Cleaning: Muellers

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL

In-Person Worship Last Sunday = 16 // In-Person Bible Class = 12

Bi-Weekly		Total Offerings	
Offerings Needed:	\$3,076.92	Needed YTD:	\$26,153.85
Bi-Weekly		Total Offerings	
Offerings Received:	\$2,384.00	Received YTD:	\$25,266.00
Missions Offerings YTD (includes 10% of GB & individual offerings):			\$2,526.60

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES AT MT. ZION

Tue. 5/4	7pm	Elders Meeting
	7:30pm	Council Meeting
	8pm	Outreach Meeting
Wed. 5/5	7pm	Trustees Meeting
Sat. 5/8	9am	Church Workday
Sun. 5/9	9am	Bible Class
	10am	Worship Service with Communion (Easter 6)
Sun. 5/23	4pm	Cleveland Worship Service

IN OUR PRAYERS <> ENCOURAGEMENT LIST

Ephesians 6:18 "Be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people." Jackie McGruder remains homebound as she continues to suffer from lupus, a chronic autoimmune disease that attacks tissues and organs. Jay Sandeen (at-distance member in Columbus, OH) is currently serving with his Army National Guard unit overseas in Kuwait. The Wittorps are expecting a newborn baby boy in May. Dave Troyan is in the hospital being treated for complications stemming from COVID-19.