

April 21, 2024



*"I will see you
again... and no
one will take
away your joy."*

John 16:22



MT. ZION

Evangelical Lutheran Church
Madison Heights, MI

Pastor Tom Naumann
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4th Sunday of Easter

Pre-Service Personal Prayer: *Lord Jesus Christ, our living Savior, abide with us on our journey through this wicked world; for we are in constant need of Your comfort and instruction. Guide us daily by Your Word, strengthen our faith, and finally receive us into Your heavenly kingdom. Amen.*

Today's Order of Service

Greeting and Prayer

Opening Hymn 727 *On Eagles' Wings*

1 *You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, Who abide in His shadow for life,
Say to the Lord, "My Refuge, My Rock in Whom I trust."*

[Refrain]: *And He will raise you up on eagle's wings, Bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun, And hold you in the palm of His Hand.*

2 *The snare of the fowler will never capture you, And famine will bring you no fear;
Under His Wings your refuge, His faithfulness your shield. [Refrain]*

3 *You need not fear the terror of the night, Nor the arrow that flies by day,
Though thousands fall about you, Near you it shall not come. [Refrain]*

4 *For to His angels He's given a command, To guard you in all of your ways,
Upon their hands they will bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone. [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 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.

C 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!

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, we give you thanks and praise; Of
Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son, You
A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord, At
heav'n - ly joy and peace on earth we sing. We wor - ship
bore for us the load of this world's sin. O Lamb of
God's right hand in maj - es - ty most high: Who, with the
You, to You our hearts we raise, Lord God, al -
God, Your glo - rious vic - t'ry won, Re - ceive our
Spir - it wor - shiped and a - dored, With all the
might - y Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.
prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.
heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

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 40:25-31*

To whom then will you compare me, that I should be like him? says the Holy One. ²⁶ Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name, by the greatness of his might, and because he is strong in power not one is missing. ²⁷ Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"?

²⁸ Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. ²⁹ He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. ³⁰ Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; ³¹ but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

The Responsive Reading: *Psalms 147 Selected Verses*

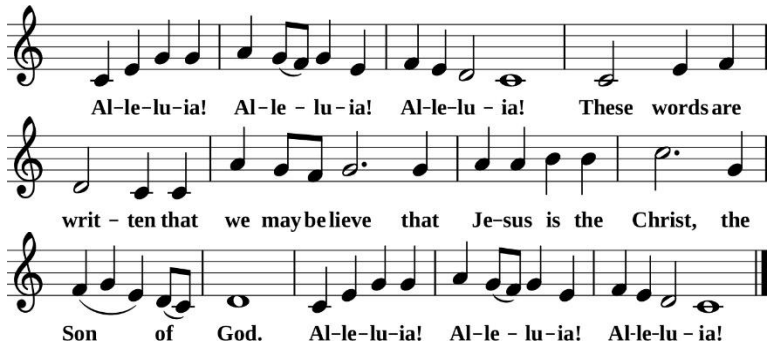
- P** Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God;
- C** For it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.
- P** The LORD builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel.
- C** He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.
- P** He determines the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names.
- C** Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure.
- P** The LORD lifts up the humble; he casts the wicked to the ground.
- C** Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make melody to our God on the lyre!
- P** His delight is not in the strength of the horse, nor his pleasure in the legs of a man,
- C** But the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him, in those who hope in his steadfast love.



Epistle Reading: 1 John 3:1-3

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ² Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ³ And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

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.

The Baptism of Cassidy Desirae Naumann

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. Romans 6:3-4

Hymn 594 *God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It*

**1 God's own child, I gladly say it: I am baptized into Christ!
He, because I could not pay it, gave my full redemption price.
Do I need earth's treasures many? I have one worth more than any
That brought me salvation free, Lasting to eternity!**

**2 Sin, disturb my soul no longer: I am baptized into Christ!
I have comfort even stronger: Jesus' cleansing sacrifice.
Should a guilty conscience seize me, since my baptism did release me
In a dear forgiving flood, sprinkling me with Jesus' blood?**

**3 Satan, hear this proclamation: I am baptized into Christ!
Drop your ugly accusation; I am not so soon enticed.
Now that to the font I've traveled, all your might has come unraveled,
And, against your tyranny, God, my Lord, unites with me!**

**4 Death, you cannot end my gladness: I am baptized into Christ!
When I die, I leave all sadness to inherit paradise!
Though I lie in dust and ashes faith's assurance brightly flashes:
Baptism has the strength divine to make life immortal mine.**

**5 There is nothing worth comparing to this lifelong comfort sure!
Open-eyed my grave is staring: Even there I'll sleep secure.
Though my flesh awaits its raising, still my soul continues praising:
I am baptized into Christ; I'm a child of paradise!**

The Sermon: John 16:16-22

"A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me." ¹⁷ So some of his disciples said to one another, "What is this that he says to us, 'A little while, and you will not see me, and again a little while, and you will see me'; and, 'because I am going to the Father'?" ¹⁸ So they were saying, "What does he mean by 'a little while'? We do not know what he is talking about." ¹⁹ Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, "Is this what you are asking yourselves, what I meant by saying, 'A little while and you will not see me, and again a little while and you will see me'?" ²⁰ Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. ²¹ When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. ²² So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you.

Theme: WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU'RE A CHRISTIAN...

I. Sin-induced sorrow for a little while. II. Jesus-won joy forever.

The Offertory

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



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and 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 with Your Spir - it free.

Hymn 741:1-4 Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense

**1 Jesus Christ, my sure defense And my Savior, now is living!
Knowing this, my confidence Rests upon the hope here given,
Though the night of death be fraught Still with many an anxious thought.**

**2 Jesus, my Redeemer, lives; Likewise I to life shall waken.
He will bring me where He is; Shall my courage then be shaken?
Shall I fear, or could the Head Rise and leave His members dead?**

**3 No, too closely I am bound By my hope to Christ forever;
Faith's strong hand the Rock has found, Grasped it, and will leave it never;
Even death now cannot part From its Lord the trusting heart.**

**4 I am flesh and must return To the dust, whence I am taken;
But by faith I now discern That from death I shall awaken
With my Savior to abide In His glory, at His side.**

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 "\$clcmztzion". 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

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 601 *All Who Believe and Are Baptized*

*1 All who believe and are baptized
Shall see the Lord's salvation;
Baptized into the death of Christ,
They are a new creation.
Through Christ's redemption they shall stand
Among the glorious, heav'nly band
Of ev'ry tribe and nation.*

*2 With one accord, O God, we pray:
Grant us Your Holy Spirit.
Help us in our infirmity
Through Jesus' blood and merit.
Grant us to grow in grace each day
That by this sacrament we may
Eternal life inherit.*

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. 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.

BAPTISM: We welcome the newest member of Mt. Zion: Cassidy Desirae Naumann, born April 18, the daughter of Pastor Tom and Ashley Naumann, is born again today of water and the Word. In this Sacrament, the Holy Spirit gives Cassidy the gift of saving faith in the Savior Jesus Christ, thereby washing Cassidy of her sins and declaring her a dear child of the heavenly Father, a member of the Holy Christian Church, and an heir of eternal life. God is good!

A LIFT MEETING (Ladies In Fellowship Together) is today, following the service. All women of the congregation are invited and encouraged to attend.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AND SPECIAL VOTERS MEETING: On Sunday, May 12 at 11am, we will be holding a meeting to update the congregation on the latest progress toward relocating our congregation and opening a Christian Day School. Following that, the voters will meet to officially decide on listing our church property for sale. Please plan to attend these very important church meetings and continue to pray diligently about these things!

REMINDER FROM THE PROPERTY SEARCH COMMITTEE: Anyone who finds a potentially suitable building (for sale or lease), is invited to please submit the following form and the committee will investigate: shorter.me/gxWXm

MT. ZION UPCOMING CALENDAR

| | | |
|------------------|----------|--|
| Today | 11am | LIFT Meeting (Ladies In Fellowship Together) |
| Thu. 4/25 | 8pm | Property Search Committee Meeting |
| Sun. 4/28 | 9am | Bible Class & Sunday School |
| | 10am | Divine Worship Service |
| Tue. 4/30 | 8pm | Board of Education Meeting |
| Fri. 5/10 | 5:30-8pm | Friday Night Bible School |
| Sun. 5/12 | 11am | Congregational Meeting (Update on Property Search) |
| | 11:30am | Special Voters Meeting (Listing the church for sale) |
| Tue. 5/14 | 7-9pm | Church Meetings (Elders/Council/Trustees/Outreach) |
| Sat. 5/18 | 9am | Church Clean-up Workday |

SERVING US THIS MONTH:

Usher: Jesse Wilke Church Cleaning: Fobears

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL

Last Sunday Attendance = 27 Bible Class/Sunday School = 17

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|--|--|
| General Fund Offerings Budgeted YTD: \$33,386.58 | Weekly General Fund Offerings Budgeted: \$2,384.62 |
| General Fund Offerings Received YTD: \$36,538.00 | Last Week's General Fund Offerings Received: \$1,559.00 |
| Missions Offerings YTD (includes 10% of GB & individual offerings): \$3,654.00 | |
| Maisie Wittorp Christian Education Memorial Fund: \$115,677.00 | |

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. <>
We continue to search for a **new building** for 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: Seminary graduate Paul Agenten **has accepted the calls** from St. Peter's of Iron River, MI and Calvary of Marquette, MI. <> Ms. Ann Sprengeler **has accepted the limited call** from Grace in Valentine, NE to teach the lower grades from August through December 2024. <> Pastor David Ude, Living Hope, Appleton, WI, **has been called** to Grace, Sleepy Eye, MN. <> Teacher Mathew Kranz, Immanuel School, Mankato, MN, **has been called** to Berea School, Inver Grove Heights. MN. <> Teacher Neal Bernthal, Immanuel School, Winter Haven FL, **has been called** to Messiah School, Eau Claire, WI. <> Mrs. Karen Swyter, a member of Peace with God Church, Onalaska, WI, **is still considering the call** to be the 1st & 2nd grade teacher of Faith School, Markesan, WI. <> Teacher Katie Naumann of Immanuel School in Winter Haven, FL **has returned the call** to teach at Luther Memorial in Fond du Lac, WI. <> Blair Sydow **has received a one-year call** to teach the upper grades at Holy Trinity School in West Columbia, SC. Blair is a member of Holy Trinity.