

November 3, 2024



God had planned something
better for us so that only
together with us would they

be made perfect.

Hebrews 11:40



MT. ZION

Evangelical Lutheran Church
Madison Heights, MI

Pastor Tom Naumann
(248) 677-7242

mtzionlutheran.info



All Saints Sunday

Pre-Service Personal Prayer: *Blessed Savior Jesus Christ, send Your Spirit from on high upon Your believing children everywhere that they may be true to the faith and at last receive the crown of everlasting life. May Your Word proclaimed to us this day continue to make us wise unto salvation and direct our lives to be fashioned after Your image. In Your name we pray, Amen.*

Today's Order of Service

Greeting and Prayer

Opening Hymn 677:1-3,7-8 *For All the Saints*

1 *For all the saints who from their labors rest,
Who Thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!*

2 *Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
Thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light. Alleluia! Alleluia!*

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!*

7 *But lo, there breaks a yet more glorious day;
The saints triumphant rise in bright array;
The King of glory passes on His way. Alleluia! Alleluia!*

8 *From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost: Alleluia! Alleluia!*

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-shipped 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.

The First Reading: *Revelation 7:9-17*

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰ and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹ And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." ¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" ¹⁴ I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵ "Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. ¹⁶ They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. ¹⁷ For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

The Responsive Reading: *Psalms 116 Selected Verses*

P I love the LORD, because he has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy.

C Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.

P The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish.

C Then I called on the name of the LORD: "O LORD, I pray, deliver my soul!"

P Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; our God is merciful.

C The LORD preserves the simple; when I was brought low, he saved me.

P Return, O my soul, to your rest; for the LORD has dealt bountifully with you.

C Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints.

Gospel Reading: *Matthew 24:3-14*

As he sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the close of the age?" ⁴ And Jesus answered them, "See that no one leads you astray. ⁵ For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and they will lead many astray. ⁶ And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not alarmed, for this must take place, but the end is not yet. ⁷ For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places. ⁸ All these are but the beginning of the birth pains. ⁹ "Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations for my name's sake. ¹⁰ And then many will fall away and betray one another and hate one another. ¹¹ And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. ¹² And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold. ¹³ But the one who endures to the end will be saved. ¹⁴ And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

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 image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of three staves of music in a treble clef. The melody is simple and repetitive, with a clear emphasis on the words "Al-le-lu-ia!". The lyrics are written below the notes, and the music ends with a double bar line.

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 676 *Behold a Host, Arrayed in White*

*1 Behold a host, arrayed in white, Like thousand snow-clad mountains bright!
With palms they stand; Who is this band Before the throne of light?
These are the saints of glorious fame, Who from the great affliction came
And in the flood Of Jesus' blood Are cleansed from guilt and shame.
They now serve God both day and night; They sing their songs in endless light.
Their anthems ring As they all sing With angels shining bright.*

*2 Despised and scorned, they sojourned here; But now, how glorious they appear!
Those martyrs stand, A priestly band, God's throne forever near.
On earth they wept through bitter years; Now God has wiped away their tears,
Transformed their strife To heav'nly life, And freed them from their fears.
They now enjoy the Sabbath rest, The heav'nly banquet of the blest;
The Lamb, their Lord, At festal board Himself is host and guest.*

*3 O blessed saints in bright array Now safely home in endless day,
Extol the Lord, Who with His Word Sustained you on the way.
The steep and narrow path you trod; You toiled and sowed the Word abroad;
Rejoice and bring Your fruits and sing Before the throne of God.
The myriad angels raise their song; O saints, sing with that happy throng!
Lift up one voice; Let heav'n rejoice In our Redeemer's song!*

The Sermon: Hebrews 11:32-12:2

And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets--³³ who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,³⁴ quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight.³⁵ Women received back their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life.³⁶ Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment.³⁷ They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword. They went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, mistreated--³⁸ of whom the world was not worthy--wandering about in deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.³⁹ And all these, though commended through their faith, did not receive what was promised,⁴⁰ since God had provided something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect. **12:1** Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,² looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Theme: THE FINAL FRONTIER

Summary: *Scripture provides many examples of faithful Christians. These sainted believers serve as inspiration to us who are still running the race of life. If God helped them make it heaven, He will surely help us too. Look to the saints for encouragement, but most importantly, look to Jesus. He is the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in Jesus is destined for the final frontier of heaven.*

Why is it good for us to remember the saints? (saint = "holy one"; or in this specific context a "believer who has gone to heaven")

Being a believer is not easy. What enables a believer to endure suffering?

When does a person become an inheritor of the promise of eternal life?

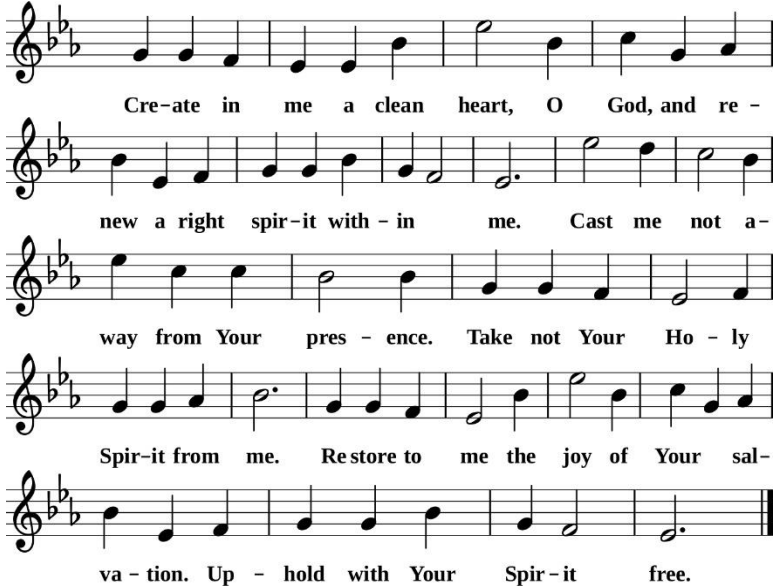
Is it good for us to compare ourselves to the saints? Why or why not?

Who is the ultimate encouragement for believers? What was His joy?

Why is it important for Christians to think often about heaven?

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 672 Jerusalem the Golden

***1 Jerusalem the golden, With milk and honey blest--
The promise of salvation, The place of peace and rest--
We know not, oh, we know not What joys await us there;
The radiancy of glory, The bliss beyond compare!***

***2 Within those halls of Zion Sounds forth the joyful song,
As saints join with the angels and all the martyr throng.
The Prince is ever with them; The daylight is serene;
The city of the blessed Shines bright with glorious sheen.***

***3 Around the throne of David, The saints, from care released,
Raise loud their songs of triumph To celebrate the feast.
They sing to Christ their leader, Who conquered in the fight,
Who won for them forever Their gleaming robes of white.***

***4 O sweet and blessed country, The home of God's elect!
O sweet and blessed country That faithful hearts expect!
In mercy, Jesus, bring us To that eternal rest
With You and God the Father And Spirit, ever blest.***

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 "Scslcmzion". While the usher brings the offering plate forward we sing the following hymn verse

(WS 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 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.

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.


P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up to the Lord.

P 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, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of 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

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 Sa-ba-oth, a-dored; Heav'n and
earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name. Sing ho -
san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san-na to the Lord; Tru-ly
blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

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.

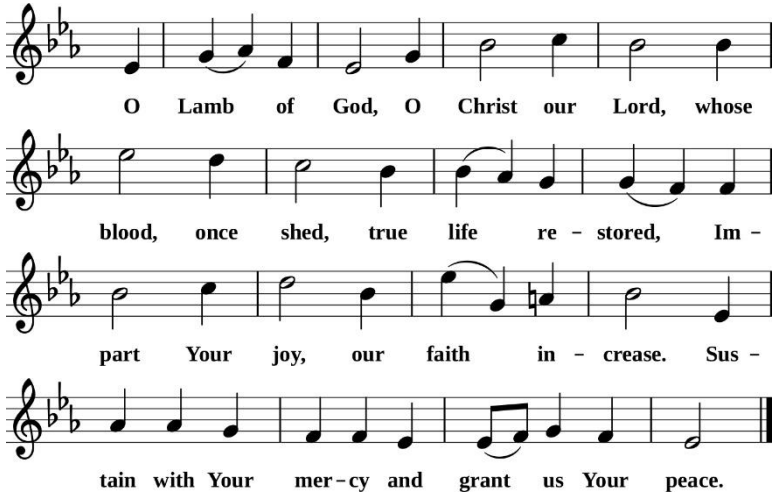
P Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread. And when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take, eat. This is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

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!

Lamb of God

The Agnus Dei – Latin for "Lamb of God." As we approach the Table of Forgiveness, we want to be thinking about the Lamb of God who was sacrificed for us on Calvary's cross.



O Lamb of God, O Christ our Lord, whose
blood, once shed, true life re - stored, Im -
part Your joy, our faith in - crease. Sus -
tain with Your mer - cy and grant us Your peace.

Distribution of the Sacrament

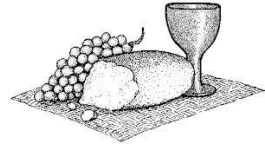
Communion Today is for Members Only Please

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."



O Lord, Now Let Your Servant

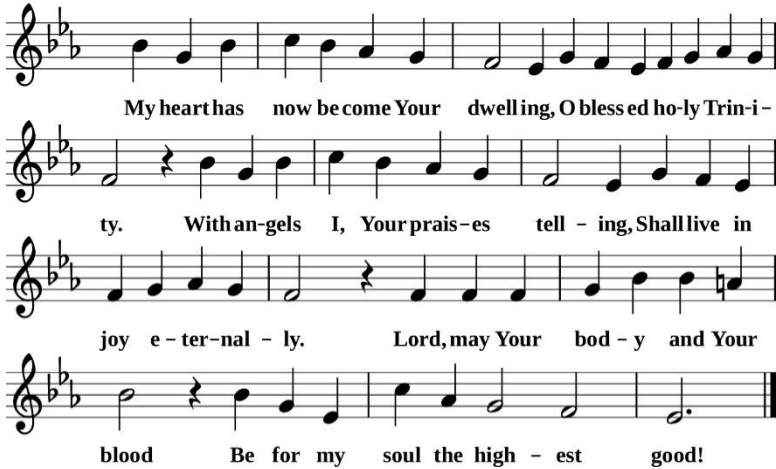
The Nunc Dimittis – Latin for "Now Dismiss." Simeon's words after seeing the Christ Child. (Luke 2:29-32)

O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De - part in heav'n-ly
 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All glo - ry to the
 peace, For I have seen the glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing
 Son, All glo - ry to the Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in -
 grace: A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un - to Your ho - ly
 One; For as in the be - gin - ning, Is now, shall ev - er
 hill, The glo - ry of Your peo - ple, Your
 be, God's tri - une name re - sound - ing Through
 cho - sen Is - ra - el.
 all e - ter - ni - ty.

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord with gladness.

Thanksgiving

We give thanks and praise the LORD for the forgiveness of sins received in the Sacrament.



My heart has now be come Your dwelling, O blessed ho-ly Trin-i-
ty. With an-gels I, Your prais-es tell - ing, Shall live in
joy e - ter - nal - ly. Lord, may Your bod - y and Your
blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

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 748:1 *I'm But a Stranger Here*

*1 I'm but a stranger here,
Heav'n is my home;
Earth is a desert drear,
Heav'n is my home.
Danger and sorrow stand
Round me on ev'ry hand;
Heav'n is my fatherland,
Heav'n is my home.*

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.

THANK YOU to Mr. Fletcher Hughes for his slideshow presentation on the CLC Mission Helper Trip to Zambia during the 9am Bible Class hour this morning. We appreciate learning more about God's kingdom work overseas!

THE ANNUAL VOTERS ELECTION MEETING is next Sunday, November 10. Church officers for 2025 will be elected.

FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL: LIFT is planning a fall harvest festival for Friday, November 15 from 6-8pm. Costumes, candy, and games! All are welcome, feel free to invite friends and family.

A CHURCH WORKDAY has been scheduled by the Trustees for Saturday, November 16 from 9am-noon. The building and property could use some general cleanup before winter arrives. Please lend a hand if you can!

SUMMARY OF Q4 VOTERS MEETING (10/27/24): Opened with prayer at 11:20am... Pastor Tom Naumann, Randy Wittorp, Ben Mueller, Carl Ryan, Dave Troyan, Jeremiah Rosen, Peter Voelzke, James Voelzke, James Lucas, Mason Dzakowic... Excused: Nicholas Jakel, Matt Fobear, Jesse Wilke... Q3 minutes read and approved... **2024 Q4 Reports:** Pastor's report read and accepted... Reports from Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Bd. of Christian Ed., Property Search Committee, and Outreach Committee all read and accepted... No reports given from Bd. of Trustees, Tech Committee, Constitution Committee... **Old Business:** None... **New Business:** MMC to authorize the Bd. of Trustees to renew listing agreement with Real Estate Professional Services for an additional six months... MMC to accept Q4 calendar as presented... Q1 voters meeting set for Sunday, Jan 12... **Meeting adjourned** with doxology at 12:33pm... Minutes respectfully submitted by Secretary Jeremiah Rosen.

SERVING US THIS MONTH:

Usher: Jeremiah Rosen Church Cleaning: Fobears

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL *Offering numbers are from 10/27/24

Last Sunday Attendance = 28; Bible Class/Sunday School = 18

General Fund Offerings Budgeted YTD: \$100,019.04	Weekly General Fund Offerings Budgeted: \$2,384.62
General Fund Offerings Received YTD: \$89,470.00	Last Week's General Fund Offerings Received: \$826.00
Missions Offerings YTD (includes 10% of GB & individual offerings): \$8,947.00	
Maisie Wittorp Christian Education Memorial Fund: \$127,585.86	

MT. ZION UPCOMING CALENDAR

Tue. 11/5	8pm	Nomination Committee Meeting
Thu. 11/7	10am	UM Ann Arbor Bible Study
Sun. 11/10	9am	Bible Class/Sunday School
	10am	Sunday Service (w/ Communion)
	11am	Voters Election Meeting
Tue. 11/12	7-9pm	Church Meetings (Elders/Council/Trustees/Outreach)
Thu. 11/14	8pm	Property Search Committee Meeting
Fri. 11/15	6-8pm	Fall Festival at Mt. Zion
Sat. 11/16	9am-12pm	Church Workday
Sun. 12/1	11am	Church Potluck Meal
	12-2pm	Church Christmas Decorating
Wed. 12/4	7pm	1 st Midweek Advent Service

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 our church and future school. **Susan Fobear's** father, Don Nagy, passed away last week. The funeral was yesterday in Saginaw. **CLC Pastors John Hein** and **Timothy Wheaton** are both receiving treatment for cancer. **Pastor Tim Daub** survived a medical emergency on a missionary flight to Pakistan. He has made it back home and is recovering.

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 Frank Gantt of Zion Ev. Lutheran Church, Loganville, GA has **received** the call to Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO.

2025 CLC MISSION HELPER TRIP: Applications are now being accepted for the 2025 Mission Helper Trip to Nepal. Space is limited for this trip, so please apply early. Find more information at: <https://mht.lutheranmissions.org/>