

Zion Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Detroit

The Rev. Mark P. Braden, Pastor

The Rev. Gary W. Schultz, Kantor

Parish Office:

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Facsimile:

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Rev. Mark Braden (home)

313-429-9252

Rev. Mark Braden (cell)

313-404-1883

HOLY MASS is celebrated every Sunday and Wednesday at 10am, and on holy days as announced.

COMMUNICANTS ARE BAPTIZED CHRISTIANS who have been instructed in and publicly confess the Evangelical-Lutheran Faith. If you desire to commune at Zion, please speak with the Pastor before approaching the Altar.

THE DIVINE OFFICE OF MATINS is prayed Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 8:45am in the Chapel of the Holy Incarnation in the Rectory.

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION is taught every Sunday and Wednesday immediately following Holy Mass.

SUNDAY SCHOOL for children ages 3-12 is from September through May. Lessons are Bible-story based and activities are designed to reinforce the biblical lesson.

PRIVATE ABSOLUTION is available on Saturdays from 9 – 10am and by appointment.

PASTORAL CONSULTATION based on the Holy Scriptures is available from the Pastor. An appointment is necessary.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM is for infants and adults, and may be arranged by contacting the Pastor for an appointment.

COUPLES DESIRING HOLY MARRIAGE should contact the Pastor before finalizing the wedding date. Biblical instruction in Holy Marriage is required. All marriages are conducted by the Pastor according to Zion's usual order.

NEW MEMBERS are received by Baptism, Confirmation, Transfer or Profession of Faith. Instruction in Luther's Small Catechism and Private Absolution are required for all new members. Please ask the Pastor for further details.

SICK AND HOMEBOUND are visited regularly by the Pastor with the Scriptures and Sacrament. Please contact the Parish Office if you know of any parishioner in need of pastoral visitation.

PARISH OFFICERS DEACONS: William Gramzow, Thomas Habitz, Jr., Eric Russell TRUSTEES: Roderick Atkins, Gregory Gramzow, Paul Snoes; PARISH EDUCATION: Shirley Cross, Alan Kroske, Pamela Ruffin; OFFICERS OF THE VOTERS: Roderick Atkins (chairman), Jason Balaska (vice-chairman), Kristi Russell (secretary), Gregory Gramzow (treasurer), Jessica Chavez (financial secretary).

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS Adult Choir, Altar Guild, Children's Choir, Jubilate Deo Women's Choir, St. Seraphim Prayer Guild, Society of St. Samuel (Altar Boys), Usher Club, Zion Endowment Board.

Zion Evangelical-Lutheran Church

"THE LORD HAS CHOSEN ZION;
HE HAS DESIRED HER AS HIS DWELLING PLACE"



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Septuagesima

February 16, 2014

Wages and Grace



The Grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ is not only spoken, but is given and poured out on the Faithful in the Preaching and Sacraments. May that Grace enliven and uplift your Faith and Hope in Our God and Savior.

The Theme of Today's Liturgy

During the three Sundays before Ash Wednesday, we are instructed in Our Lord's grace. Today we learn that our Lord's grace does not depend on how hard we work, but that He freely gives what is good (*Gospel*). So our prayer is that "we, who are justly punished for our offenses, may be mercifully delivered by His goodness" (*Collect*). Because this grace is tied to Our Lord and His death, He is your strength, rock and fortress (*Introit*).

We can rely on Him (*Old Testament*) and trust in Him in every need (*Gradual, Tract*). With this grace of Our Lord, we live in the certainty that He has given and continues to give us the incorruptible crown (*Epistle*).

The Sermon

The flesh is proud of its achievements. So Christ's Words rail against human sensibility. Men who work twelve hours ought to be paid more than those who work one. But it is not so in the Kingdom of God. Your sin has made you deaf to Divine will, to holy justice. In your transgression, you have had ears, but have not heard. He went out at the third hour, and was crucified. From the sixth hour till the ninth hour He hung in darkness. Then having cried out, He breathed His last. He finished the work. He wet the soil with His precious Blood. It is His work that saves you. In His Blood there is forgiveness and life for you. And in His grace, because He is good, the reward of everlasting life is the same for all the elect, those called out of the world and into the Kingdom of God.

The Holy Eucharist

What is Our Lord's own He gives us. His own is His life – His Body broken and Blood poured out. Here, at His table, we are equally and freely given this grace. It depends not on what we have done, but how He chooses to deal with us.

The Readings Jeremiah 9.23-24; 1 Corinthians 9.24-10.5; St. Matthew 20.1-16

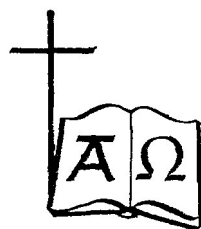
The Prelude Two Settings of "Salvation Unto Us Has Come"
— Anonymous / Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck (1562-1621)

The Postlude Salvation Unto Us Has Come (BWV 638) — J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

The Hymns for Today's Mass

Processional Hymn	528 (stanzas 1-6)
Chief Hymn	377 (stanzas 1-6)
Offering Hymn	267
Distribution Hymns	528 (stanzas 10-15); 373
Retiring Processional Hymn	377 (stanzas 7-10)

Prepare for Next Sunday



Sexagesima
February 23, 2014

Amos 8.11-12; 2 Corinthians 11.19 – 12.9; St. Luke 8.4-15
Hymns: 366, 500, 49, 261, 249, 52

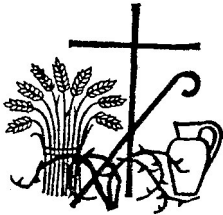


Faith looks to Jesus Christ alone The CHIEF HYMN, “Salvation Unto Us Has Come,” (# 377) is one of the oldest core Lutheran chorales. Written by Pastor Paul Speratus (1484-1551) in 1523, it was included in the first Lutheran hymnal *Etlich Christlich lider*, also known as the *Achtliederbuch* (“Eight Song Book”) of 1524. In its first printing, it was described as “a hymn of Law and Faith, Powerfully Furnished with God’s Word.”

Originally in fourteen stanzas, in our current version it sets forth the doctrine of justification, man’s bondage to sin under the Law (stanzas 2-4), the work of Christ for salvation (stanzas 5-6), the Christian life, and rendering praise to the Triune God for His great work.



Speratus was forced to leave several parishes because of his evangelical views. Eventually he came to Wittenberg and associated with Luther. He became pastor in Königsberg and served as the Lutheran bishop of Pomerania until his death.



The PRELUDE is two settings of “Salvation Unto Us Has Come.” The first is by an anonymous composer. The second is by the Dutch musician Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck (1562-1621). He served as kantor for 44 years at the Amsterdam Oude Kerk. Representing the highest Dutch musical development, Sweelinck was also known for his influence on other musicians. Called the “maker of organists,” he was a teacher in high demand. His pupils form the core of the north German organ tradition. In addition to keyboard music, he composed a large number of choral works.

The POSTLUDE is J.S. Bach’s (1685-1750) setting of “Salvation Unto Us Has Come” from the *Orgelbuchlein* (“Little Organ Book”).

The PROCESSIONAL HYMN, “If God Himself Be For Me” (# 528) is one of Paul Gerhardt’s (1607-1676) greatest hymns. Based on Romans 8.31-39, it is summarized as follows:

- Our Declaration of trust in Our Lord – stanza 1
God has given His Son for us – stanzas 2 and 3
In Him, God gives us: ✠ access to the mercy-seat – stanza 4, ✠ freedom from sin, death, judgment, and hell – stanzas 5-6, ✠ the gift of the Spirit, who gives us assurance of our sonship, pleads for us, and comforts us – stanzas 7-10
Therefore nothing can separate us from the love of God – stanzas 11-15

THE CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

Holy Mass for Septuagesima.....	Today, 10a, Church Adult Bible Class.....
Sunday School.....	Today, 11:30a, Undercroft
Matins.....	Today, 11:30a, Activities Center
Matins (Martin Luther, Doctor and Confessor).....	Mon, 8:45a, Chapel
Vespers.....	Tue, 8:45a, Chapel
Holy Mass for Wednesday of Septuagesima.....	Tue, 5:30p, Chapel
Bible Class.....	Wed, 10a, Chapel
Matins.....	Wed, 10:45a, Rectory
Vespers.....	Thr, 8:45a, Chapel
Matins.....	Thr, 5:30p, Chapel
Matins.....	Fri, 8:45a, Chapel
Private Confession and Absolution.....	Sat, 8:45a, Chapel
Youth Catechism.....	Sat, 9:15a, Chapel
Women’s Group.....	Sat, 10a, Rectory
Holy Mass for Sexagesima.....	Sat, 1p, Rectory
Adult Bible Class.....	Sun, 10a, Church
Sunday School.....	Sun, 11:30a, Undercroft
	Sun, 11:30a, Activities Center

IN OUR PRAYERS David Beens, Edward Brown, Linda Buskirk, Lela Casey, John Chavez, Gladys Cline, Anna Dalton, Martha Draspa, Sherry Edwards, Sandy Frey, Ellen Hayden, Drucilla Huddleston, Florine Kaiser, Lawrence Kasner, Eleanor Luka, Earlene Maynarich, Michael Maynarich, Robert Murdock, Margaret Quinkert, Pauline Rivard, and Sylvia Schleif.

THE PSALM FOR THIS WEEK IS PSALM 18. PRAY IT EVERY DAY!

This Psalm may be prayed in three parts: v 1-15; 16-30; 31-50. Throughout, the focus is on the merciful rescue and help Our Lord gives at all times. In the first part, we confess that Our Lord delivers us in times of distress (v 6) In the second part, we remember that the Lord’s deliverances and support is what makes us righteous, clean, blameless, merciful, humble and pure in His sight. In the third part, we recount how the Lord delivers us – by being our strong rock, by giving us victory over our enemies, and by lifting us up above those who go against us. And what is our response? To bless God and give thanks for His victory over death which He has given us (v. 46-50).

Today's Announcements

LITURGICAL OBSERVANCES DURING SEPTUAGESIMA During the Septuagesima season (see facing page for more information), the *Gloria in Excelsis* is omitted from the Mass, and “Alleluia” is not used in the Mass or the Daily Office.

CIRCUIT VISITOR AT ZION We welcome the Rev. Fr. Joel Holls, circuit visitor for the Metro Detroit South circuit of the English District of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, who will address the congregation at the beginning of Bible class today.

BIBLE CLASS Today: This week’s study of “A Survey of the New Testament” examines key passages in St. Paul’s Epistle to the Romans. Wednesday: “Ministry, Word, and Sacrament: An Enchiridion” by Martin Chemnitz on the topic “Good Works, or New Obedience.”

WOMEN’S GROUP Saturday, February 22 at 1pm. This week’s study of the Formula of Concord is Article IV “Of Good Works.” The text is available on-line: <http://www.bookofconcord.org/fc-ep.php>. Scroll down to “IV. Good Works.”

ST. MATTHIAS, APOSTLE: Next Monday, February 24, Mass at 10am in the Chapel. Remember this day in your daily prayer at home. Read Acts 1.15-26 and St. Matthew 11.25-30. Pray the Collect on page 90.



ADULT CHOIR Thanks to those participating in the Adult Choir recently: Leslie Braden, Patty Braden, Sarah Braden, Brent Habitz, Thomas Habitz, Eric Russell, Andrew Stechholz, and Janet Stechholz. We are in need of more singers for upcoming services: Laetare (Mar 30), Good Friday (Apr 18), and Easter (Apr 20).

VESPERS is the church’s evening prayer office and is prayed on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5:30pm in the Chapel of the Holy Incarnation in the Rectory.

Septuagesima

Today we enter the season of the Church year known as “Septuagesima.” The three weeks of this brief season provide a liturgical transition between Epiphany and Lent. The season of Septuagesima is an ancient observance, included in the Gelasian Sacramentary dating to the early sixth century, probably earlier. Our observance of these three Sundays unites us with the Church of the ages.

The names of these Sundays may strike us as a bit odd: *Septuagesima*, *Sexagesima*, and *Quinquagesima*. To understand these Latin names, we must first understand that Ash Wednesday is *Quadragesima*. *Quadragesima* is the Latin number “fortieth”. Ash Wednesday is the fortieth day before Easter (not counting Sundays). The great Forty Day Fast of Lent does not include the Sundays in the enumeration of days. Ash Wednesday falls this year on March 5.

Counting backwards three days from *Quadragesima*, and adding the Sundays in Lent back in, we come to *Quinquagesima*, the fiftieth day before Easter. Although they are not exactly the sixtieth and seventieth days before Easter, the two Sundays before *Quinquagesima* are called *Sexagesima* (sixtieth) and *Septuagesima* (seventieth). Today is *Septuagesima* Sunday. (“Septuagesima” is used to designate the entire three-week season.)

To mark the transition from Epiphany to Lent, during Septuagesima, the *Gloria in Excelsis* and *Alleluias* are omitted, and the *Benedicamus* is used. The altar is today vested with a touch of violet, preparing us for the upcoming Lenten season.

In the late 1960s, the Pope eliminated Septuagesima with the introduction of the three-year lectionary. Sadly, many Lutheran churches followed Rome in this innovation. You may have friends in other Lutheran churches that will not celebrate the Transfiguration of our Lord for several weeks yet, and so will not be afforded the opportunity to join with the Church of the ages in observing Septuagesima season.

At Zion, however, we keep the historic tradition of the Lutheran Church. Luther preached and celebrated the Septuagesima season, as had the Church for a millennium before him. Join us this year for the observance of Septuagesima, and for the Holy Forty Day Fast of Lent, as we reverently, penitentially, and expectantly prepare for Holy Easter, the joyous Feast of the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Gospel Lessons of the Season

Septuagesima: The Parable of the laborers in the vineyard (Matthew 20:1-16)

Sexagesima: The Parable of the Sower and the Seed (Luke 8:4-15)

Quinquagesima: The healing of the blind man (Luke 18:31-43)