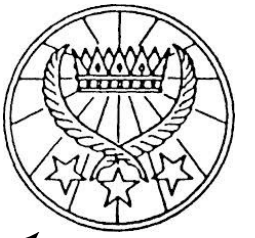


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“Blow the Trumpet in Zion” (Joel 2.15)



Zion Trumpet

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church of Detroit

April/May 2018

Eastertide

by Father Braden

They're not words that you use everyday: *Quasimodogeniti*, *Misericordia Domini*, *Jubilate*, *Cantate*, *Rogate*, *Exaudi*... but they are important words, words that help us understand the Church's Eastertide, the liturgical season that begins with the great Vigil of Easter. They are the names of the six Sundays after Easter, names taken from Holy Scripture, the first words of the Introit of each Mass.

Now the violet of Lent has given way to the bright gold of Easter. Lilies adorn the Chancel, many candles burn around the altar and in the windows. The first proclamation of the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, made “early while still dark” (John 20:1) on Easter Sunday, still rings in the church. But Easter is not over. The greatest event of the Church year is celebrated for six weeks following Easter Sunday, and indeed every Sunday, which we call “The Day of Resurrection”.



Resurrection of our Lord.

Confession and absolution, the *Confiteor*, is not counted properly as part of the Mass. That means the first words spoken in the Mass are the Words of the Introit, which is embellished with a triple *Alleluia* during Eastertide, as faith responds to the miracle of the Resurrection of our Lord.

The Sundays of Eastertide take their names from the Latin words of the Introit Psalm, with one exception, which I will explain later. The first Sunday after Easter, *Quasimodogeniti*, also known as “Low Sunday” (in comparison to the “highest Sunday”, Easter), begins with the Words “As newborn babies,

“As newborn babies, Alleluia, desire the pure milk of the Word, Alleluia, Alleluia! Sing aloud to God our strength, make a joyful shout to the God of Jacob!”

(The Introit for *Quasimodogeniti*)



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Enclosure:
April/May 2018 Calendar

desire the pure milk of the Word, that you may grow thereby." (1 Peter 2:2, New King James)

You can already see *Quasi* (like or as) *modo* (like our word "modern", "new") and *geniti* (like the word "Genesis", "born") in "As newborn babies". With the inspired Words of the Apostle, the church encourages all Christians, but especially those newly baptized at Easter Vigil, to spiritual growth. The newly baptized are "newborn" in the faith, and growth comes from the Word of God, our true Food (Luke 4:4). We too grow by the Word, as the Spirit works in us through God's Word to increase our knowledge of God, and our love for God and for neighbor.

Quasimodogeniti also has another name. It is commonly called *Dominica in Albis Deponendis*, or "Sunday in White Put Aside", as the newly baptized would take off and "put aside" the white baptismal gowns they wore the Sunday before.

Misericordia Domini, the second Sunday of Eastertide, means "Compassion of the Lord", Words taken from the Latin of Psalm 33: "The earth is full of the goodness (*misericordia*) of the Lord..." But *Misericordia Domini* is more commonly called "Good Shepherd Sunday", as the Lord teaches the



Christian that He is the Good Shepherd with the Words of John 10:11-16, first spoken to the Pharisees. The Good Shepherd gives His life for

the sheep, for you and for me. The baptized, those with faith in Jesus Christ, are the sheep of His Flock, the Holy Church.

Jubilate, the third Sunday of Eastertide, means "joyful shout", Words of Psalm 66:1-2: "Make a joyful shout to God all the earth. Sing out the honor of His Name, make His praise glorious!" With the Church of the ages we sing these Words, remembering what God has done for us in Christ. Recalling the glory of His resurrection, we continue "Say to God 'How awesome are your works!'" The Gospel reading appointed of old for *Jubilate* gives us the first hints of our Lord's Ascension, as He teaches the disciples "A little while and you will not see Me, and again a little while and you will see Me, because I go to the Father." (John 16:16-23) This is true for us as well; for now, for a little while, we do not see Him, but soon, dear Christian, He will come again riding on the clouds to judge the living and the dead, and you will see Him again.

Cantate the fourth Sunday of Eastertide, means "Sing!", from the Words of Psalm 98: "O sing unto the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things!" What could be more marvelous than His atoning death and glorious resurrection? Nothing on this side of heaven! So we place these Words of praise, still interlaced with a triple *Alelluia*, in our mouths, as we join with all creation in the attribution of praise to the True God, the God that for us conquered sin, death and the devil.

On *Jubilate* we learn from the Lord that for a while,



luncheon a few weeks ago, the intersection of I-94 and I-75 was closed down completely for several hours due to large truck hitting a bridge that was too low for it to pass under. The closure created a major traffic jam, that lasted for several days.

The slower traffic and regular snarls have been hard on many Southwest Detroit businesses that rely on the I-75 corridor traffic. They have published a booklet encouraging folks to brave the traffic and continue to support their enterprises during the construction shut downs and exit closures. If it is possible for you to do so, I also encourage you to support our local businesses during this difficult time.

All this is to say that before coming to Zion, please check for closures or detours. Leave a little extra time for the trip to church, and plan to arrive a bit early. Our Nave is always open 30 minutes before Mass, and we encourage our members to quietly pray in the Nave in reverent preparation for Mass. For it is there, in the Divine Service, that God graciously gives us the Pure Milk of His Word, and the Body and Blood of Christ for the forgiveness of our sins, and the strengthening of our faith.



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

THE DIVINE OFFICE MATINS: Daily at 8:45am (except when there is a morning Mass) in the Chapel of the Holy Incarnation in the Rectory; **VESPERS:** Tuesday/Thursday at 6:30pm or 7:00 pm in the Church.

COMMUNICANTS are baptized Christians who have been instructed in and publicly confess the Evangelical-Lutheran Faith. If you desire to commune at Zion, please visit with the Pastor before approaching the Altar.

PRIVATE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION is available every Saturday morning following Matins or by appointment.

PASTORAL CONSULTATION based on the Holy Scriptures is available by appointment.

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

COUPLES DESIRING HOLY MARRIAGE should contact the Pastor before finalizing the wedding date. Bible 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. Visit with the Pastor for further details.

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

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.

DEACONS William Gramzow, Thomas Habitz, Jr., Michael Anderson **TRUSTEES:** Silas Gray, Paul Snoes, **PARISH EDUCATION:** Shirley Cross, Robert Kelly III, Sarah Braden; **OFFICERS OF THE VOTERS:** Thomas Habitz, Jr. (chairman), Alan Kroske (vice-chairman), Pamela Ruffin (secretary), Paul Snoes (treasurer), Jessica Chavez (financial secretary).

Christian Education at Zion

Sunday Adult Study 11:30am | Undercroft
A study of the Gospel of St. John; Coffee is provided; Thanks to those who bring refreshments.

Sunday School 11:30am | Rectory

Children ages 3–grade 8 study the Sunday Gospel lesson and have activities and music designed to enhance the biblical teaching. September-May.

Sunday Youth Study 11:40am | Rectory
Young adults in high school and college who are confirmed meet to study the Holy Scriptures organized around the six chief parts of Christian doctrine.

Wednesday Adult Study 10:45am | Rectory
A study of the Book of Genesis. Held after Wednesday Mass each week. Often the group goes out to lunch following the study.

Youth Catechesis Saturday | 10am | Rectory
For children preparing for Confirmation, this class instructs students in the basics of the Christian Faith through *Luther's Small Catechism*.

Adult Catechesis Thursday | 7pm | Rectory
Following sung Vespers in the Church, a study of *The True Visible Church* by C.F.W. Walther, this class allows members and guests to study Christian doctrine at a more advanced level.

Men's Group 1 Tue. & 1 Thr. a month | 7pm | Rectory
Following sung Vespers in the Church, a study of Martin Chemnitz's *The Two Natures of Christ*.

Women's Group 2 Saturdays a month | 1pm | Rectory
Following sung Vespers in the Chapel, a study of The Book of Proverbs.

Birthdays Anniversaries

April
21 Barbara Bryant
23 William Gramzow
25 Bryan Westgate

May
2 David Kasner
8 Anthony Spicer
12 Andrew Stechholz
13 Roderick Atkins
28 Susan Spicer

Baptism Anniversaries

April
9 Anthony Spicer
14 Sarah Braden
11 Robert Kelly III
19 Fayth Atkins

May
4 Carol Matschikowski
11 Michael Quinkert
21 William Gramzow
22 Natalie Balaska
24 Ralph Trevino
25 Darin Gray
29 Anthony Atkins
29 Roderick Atkins

large, for free, on our website. Our volunteer also created a scrolling banner for our home page, directing visitors to the new resource. It is our hope that these Ordo covers are a blessing to the Church, and beautify the worship of many Lutheran congregations.

Like our website, our social media platforms generate a lot of interest, as well as visitors to Zion. We recently posted our Triduum/Easter/Eastertide liturgical calendar on our Zion Facebook page, and within a few days it had been viewed over 1400 times! I am thankful to God that we are able to use the internet and social media to share with others the blessings we enjoy at Zion!

Traffic

If it seems to you that some of the worst roads in the country are in metro Detroit, you are not alone. I am thankful for the many projects around us that are working to renovate our roads. At the same time, they often make travel difficult. For a parish in the city, many of whose members drive a fair distance on Sunday morning, this is especially troublesome.

The closure of I-75 has rerouted a significant number of tractor-trailers onto Livernois, since it runs between I-75 and I-94. The additional truck traffic has slowed down travel on all the roads around the church, and has greatly worsened the condition of those roads. In addition, regular weekend closures of major expressways, while allowing much-needed work to be accomplished, has made travel to Zion difficult.

The increased traffic has also resulted in an increase in "fender-benders". While returning to Zion from the Council of Lutheran Women annual

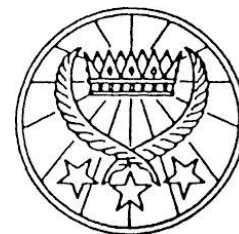
The Zion Trumpet is the informational and educational newsletter of Zion Evangelical-Lutheran Church. It communicates the news of Zion and instructs members in various aspects of the Christian Faith.

The **Trumpet** is published six times each year. It is free for members of Zion. Non-members are invited to contribute toward the production and mailing of the **Trumpet**.

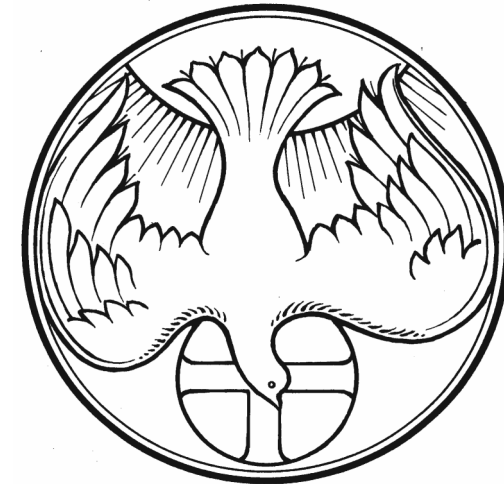
Zion Evangelical-Lutheran Church is a parish of the one, holy catholic and apostolic Church and is affiliated with the English district of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

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we will not see Him. Lest we fear abandonment by God, on *Cantate* our Lord comforts us with the promise of the Holy Spirit: "It is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away the Helper will not come to you, but if I depart, I will send Him to you." Our Eastertide celebration grows only more joyous with the Truth of the Ascension of our Lord, and the coming of the long-promised Spirit upon the Church, which finds its fulfillment on Pentecost, the 50th day after the Resurrection of our Lord.



Rogate Sunday does not take its name from the Introit: "With a voice of singing, declare and proclaim this: utter it to the end of the earth, say 'The Lord has redeemed His servant Jacob!'" (Isaiah 48:20) Were the Sunday to take its name from the Introit Psalm, this would be *In Voce Exultationis* Sunday (a bit hard to say, although it would be a fitting name for any

Sunday of the Church year!). The Words of Psalm 66, sung on *Jubilare*, find their way into the Introit once again on this day. But the word *Rogate* does not occur in the Introit on this Sunday.

Rogate is a present imperative, second person plural, from *Rogare*, "to pray" (see Matthew 26:53, where our Lord uses this Word, which in the Vulgate He speaks in Latin...). This Sunday, *Rogate Sunday*, is the Sunday of prayer. This is a reference to *Rogation Days*, which occur



several times a year, but especially this week on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, the three days preceding the Feast of the Ascension of our Lord. *Rogation Days* were kept of old as days of prayer around the agricultural cycle, which sought God's blessings on the crop. *Rogation Days* were marked by the reverent praying of ancient processional litanies.

As Christ is the Firstfruits (1 Corinthians 15:20-26), and His Holy Church is the blessed Harvest (Matthew 9:38). In the Risen Christ, by the work of His Spirit, the Spirit that proceeds from the Father and the Son, God brings forth a bountiful harvest. *Rogate Sunday* we anticipate the Ascension of our Lord, and pray for that Harvest.



The Thursday after *Rogate* is the Feast of the Ascension of our Lord. On that day, the 40th day after the Resurrection, the Lord ascended into heaven (see Acts 1:1-11). There He lives and reigns with the

Father and the Spirit. But as He promised, He will come again. But now, for a little while, we do not see Him.

Exaudi is the Sunday after the Ascension of our Lord. *Exaudi* is the Latin word for "Hear", from Psalm 27:7-9: "Hear, O Lord, when I cry with my voice." For the last time the triple *Aleluia* is interlaced with the Introit, marking the passing of Eastertide, and preparing us for the Feast of Pentecost, which we celebrate the following Sunday.

Again on *Exaudi* the Gospel reading is from the 16th chapter of St. John: "When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of Truth

who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me. And you also will bear witness..." By the Spirit, the Apostles will take the Truth of the death and resurrection of Jesus to the ends of the earth, as the Holy Church proclaims Christ and Him crucified, risen and ascended, the same Christ that soon comes again.



Join us, won't you, as we receive God's Saving Gifts of Word and Sacrament this Eastertide!

Vestments

While the details are lost to time, and rumor is seldom of help in establishing the truth, it is well known that when Fr. Evans left Zion in 1995 he took with him over 40 sets of vestments from the Zion vestry. Most of them were hand-made by Mrs. Evans. When I came to Zion nine years ago, I started to establish lines of communication with the folks that ended up with the vestments, in hope of getting them returned to Zion. That proved very difficult, since before he went to be with our Lord Fr. Evans charged a small group of people to care for the vestments, and to be sure they were not returned to Zion. I spoke with those who had the vestments, and was able to see them when I visited, but was not able to make any headway in getting them returned.

The small, independent Lutheran mission church that Fr. Evans founded on the Eastside of Detroit closed a few years ago. When that happened, the vestments went with the last members of the

mission to another Eastside congregation, this one a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. A few years later, that congregation also closed. I had thought that any hope of having the vestments returned to Zion was gone.

Much to my surprise, by the grace of God, the Pastor of a neighboring Eastside congregation contacted me a few months ago, and asked if we would like to receive some of the vestments that had been gone from Zion for almost 23 years. I said that we would definitely like them back. One of our members picked them up on the Eastside, and brought what amounts to five partial sets of vestments back to their home in Zion's Vestry. Thanks be to God! With the permission of the Board of Trustees, we have purchased special hangers to properly store the vestments, and have placed them in Zion's cedar-lined vestment closet.

On Wednesday of *Laetare*, the Fourth Sunday of Lent this year, I wore a chasuble that had not been worn at Zion for almost 23 years - a chasuble that was made to match our violet Lenten frontal. It is with great joy that I edited Zion's Sacristy Calendar to include many newly returned vestments made for Zion, vestments that match our paraments, which will be worn once again at Zion in the upcoming weeks. As you see me wearing vestments that appear to be new, rest assured that they are historic to Zion, the beautiful hand work of Mrs. Evans, sewn to enhance the Divine Service at Zion's High Altar. I am thankful to God, and to all who worked to secure the vestments and return them to Zion. It is my hope, according to the Lord's will, to locate more of the vestments that once filled Zion's vestry, and to work towards their return.

Website

Our internet presence is important to Zion. Through it we "touch" people all over the country, indeed, all over the world. Our webmaster is Fr. Lalrosiem Songate, who is recent past-President of the Lutheran Church of India. I met Fr. Songate when he was working on his PhD at our Fort Wayne Seminary. Although he has returned to India, location doesn't matter with regards to the maintenance of our web site. That could be done from anywhere in the world. I communicate with Fr. Songate regularly, as we work to keep our site fresh and inviting. I receive many inquiries about Zion and about the historic liturgy through our web site, and through it we share many resources with the Church around the world.

One of those resources, newly added, is the collection of Ordo covers that Zion uses every Sunday. Nine years ago I began creating Ordo covers appropriate to the liturgical seasons, many based on the Gospel reading appointed for the Sunday in the historic lectionary of the Church. You have probably noticed the covers. We have selected medieval and Renaissance art for them. The art is generally well-researched, and the back of the Ordo includes a description of the work and the artist. After nine years, we now have a fairly complete set of Ordo covers for the entire church year.

A faithful daughter of the congregation volunteered to edit each Ordo cover, save each one in a special file format, and upload them to our web site. On *Judica* Sunday, Zion's Ordo covers were made available to the Church at