

# Zion Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Detroit

The Rev. Mark P. Braden, Pastor

The Rev. Gary W. Schultz, Kantor

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Rev. Mark Braden (cell)

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**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 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 COUNSELING** 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.

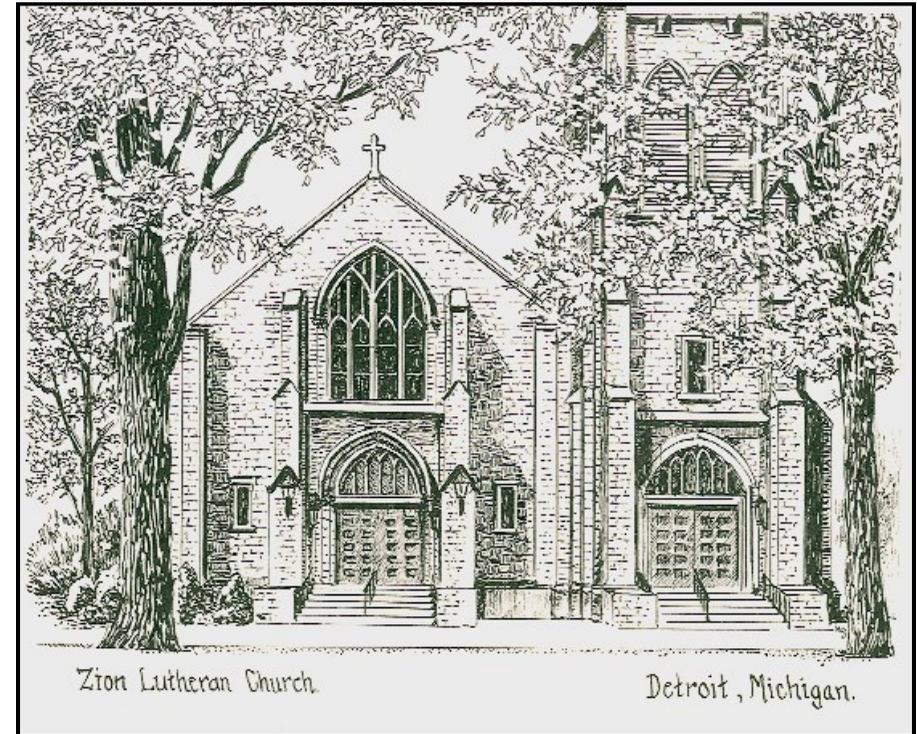
**SICK AND HOMEBOUND** are visited regularly by the Pastor with the Scriptures and Sacrament. Please contact the Parish Office if you know of any parishioner in need of pastoral visitation.

**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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# Sunday After Christmass

December 29, 2013

## The Man of Sorrows



If you are looking for a Jesus who is more than a baby in a manger, a Jesus who is destined to be your Peace, Goodwill, and Life, and a Jesus who will deliver you from yourself, then receive this Jesus as He comes to you and for you at His Holy Mass!

### The Theme of Today's Liturgy

In the midst of the Twelve Days of Christmass, we are reminded why the almighty Word of the Lord descended from the royal throne of heaven (*Introit*). Our Lord was born of a woman and born under the curse of the Law, so that He might buy us back from our slavery to sin and set us free to be children of God (*Epistle*). To accomplish this, Our Lord must be destined for the falling and rising of many and become

the Man of Sorrows (*Gospel*). Yet His destiny to death gladdens us since we know that He speaks the grace and is clothed with the strength that will overcome death and the devil (*Gradual and Alleluia*).

### The Sermon

Joseph marveled. Simeon blessed. Anna thanked God and prophesied. Then Jesus was returned to Nazareth. So it is with the Son of God. He is God, worthy of marvel, bringing great blessing, worthy of thanksgiving, the center of all true prophesy. But He must return to Nazareth. His time is not yet come. He is God in human flesh. He who was before all things must grow. He from whom the Spirit proceeds must become strong in spirit. The Omniscient must become filled with wisdom. These are all marks of His state of humiliation. And because of His Incarnation, you marvel, you are blessed, you thank God and know Christ as the fulfillment of prophesy. In Him are the thoughts of your heart revealed. Believing in Him who fell and rose, you return not to Nazareth, but to heaven.

### The Holy Eucharist

Those who receive Their Lord in the Holy Sacrament cannot escape the same sword piercing sorrow that comes to the Holy Mother. For while the Blessed Sacrament is a source of strength, it also sets us at odds with the devil, the world and our sinful flesh. But we take heart since Our Lord strengthens and uplifts us in this Holy Food!

### The Readings

Isaiah 63.7-16; Galatians 4:1-7; St. Luke 2.33-40

### The Prelude

Partita on 'Praise God the Lord, Ye Sons of Men' — J. G. Walther

The Hymns for Today's Mass are listed in the Ordo.

## The Circumcision of Our Lord

More than celebrating a new calendar year,

more than acknowledging God's providence in the past,

more than resolving something concerning the future,

Christians gather for worship on January 1 for something much greater. January 1 is a feast of Christ. It is our Lord's eighth day, the octave of Christmass.

January 1 is the Circumcision of Our Lord, the day the Son of Man is to be circumcised according to the Law, making the first sacrifice of His innocent flesh. It is about our Lord's perfect keeping of the Law. It is a shedding of blood that foreshadows His work on the cross. In Him, the Law of the Old Covenant is completed and fulfilled. In Him, the New Covenant begins.

Celebrate the new calendar year by recognizing there is more to life than flipping pages on a calendar, as months and years pass by. What is truly significant is Our Lord's work of salvation, which He has made yours in Holy Baptism. Resolutions and the world's celebrations pass away, but Christ's work is eternal.

Join us for Holy Mass on Wednesday, January 1, 2014 at 10am in the Church.

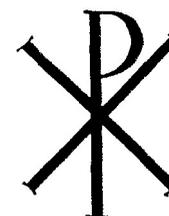
### Prepare for The Circumcision of Our Lord

**Wednesday, January 1, 2014—10am** *And When Eight Days Were Completed*

Genesis 17.1-14, Titus 2.11-15, St. Luke 2.21

Hymns: 96, 115, 117, 112, 361, 53

### Prepare for Next Sunday



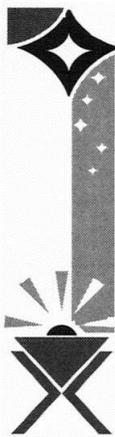
### The Holy Name of Jesus

*I AM who I AM*

### January 5, 2014

Exodus 3.1-15; Acts 4.8-12; St. Luke 2.21

Hymns: 81, 116, 80, 645, 85, 96



**He serves that I a lord might be; A great exchange indeed!** The PROCESSIONAL HYMN, “Praise God the Lord, Ye Sons of Men” (# 105) captures the mystery of the incarnation of God by looking at the paradoxes the Christ child brings. From the Father’s throne in heaven, he becomes poor and is laid in a manger (st. 2); He who made heaven and earth takes on a servant’s form (st. 3); He who receives the praise of angels is cared for by His mother (st. 4); He hides His majesty of God in flesh and blood (st. 6), and becomes a servant that we might inherit heaven (st. 7).

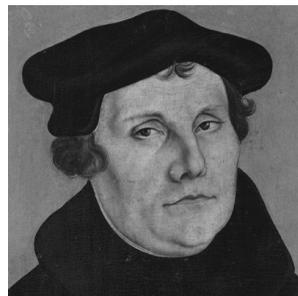
This marvelous Christmass text is from a collection of hymns for the Gospels of the church year *Die Sonntags Euangelia uber das gantze Jar* by Nikolaus Herman (1480-1561).

**Nikolaus Herman** was kantor at the church and Latin school in Joachimsthal, Germany. Working with the pastor, Johann Mathesius, Herman set many points of Christian doctrine in hymns. Herman used his hymns to teach the children in the school and to keep their minds off profane songs sung in society. His “Yea, As I Live, Jehovah Saith” (# 331) is one of the finest hymns on Confession and Absolution.”



In addition to writing hymn texts, Herman also wrote music, including the tune that accompanies today’s chief hymn.

**Death is but a slumber** The OFFERING HYMN, “In Peace and Joy I Now Depart” (# 137) is Martin Luther’s (1483-1546) hymn on the *Nunc Dimittis* (“*Now Dismiss*”), the “Song of Simeon” (St. Luke 2.29-32), that immediately precedes today’s Gospel text.



Luther connects the song of Simeon to our life: Christ, who is our Life, is our Help in every need and finally when we face death. Luther connects the song of Simeon to the lives of all people: He is the Light to Lighten the Gentiles [heathen] (“He is the Hope and saving Light, Of lands benighted”) and the Glory of His people Israel (“He is Israel’s Praise and Bliss, Their Joy, Reward, and Glory”).

THE CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

**Holy Mass for Sunday After Christmass**..... Today, 10a, Church  
**Holy Mass for the Sixth Day of Christmass** ..... Mon, 10a, Chapel  
**Holy Mass for the Seventh Day of Christmass** ..... Tues, 10a Chapel  
 Vespers ..... Tue, 5:30p, Chapel  
**Holy Mass for the Circumcision of Our Lord**..... Wed, 10a, Church  
**Holy Mass for the Ninth Day of Christmass** ..... Thr, 10a, Chapel  
 Vespers ..... Thr, 5:30p, Chapel  
**Holy Mass for the Tenth Day of Christmass** ..... Fri, 10a, Chapel  
 Christmass Open House at the Rectory (RSVP requested)..... Fri, 6:30p, Rectory  
 Private Confession and Absolution..... Sat, 9a, Chapel  
**Holy Mass commemorating St. Titus**..... Sat, 10a, Church  
 Youth Catechism..... Sat, 10a, Church  
 Women’s Group ..... Sat, 11a, Rectory  
**Holy Mass for the Holy Name of Jesus** ..... Sun, 10a, Church  
 Adult Bible Class.....Sun, 11:30a, Undercroft  
 Sunday School .....Sun, 11:30a, Activities Center

**IN OUR PRAYERS** David Beens, Edward Brown, Linda Buskirk, Lela Casey, John Chavez, Gladys Cline, Anna Dalton, Martha Draspa, Sandy Frey, Ellen Hayden, Dru-cilla 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 93. PRAY IT EVERY DAY!

This Christ Mass Psalm reminds us that the Lord who is wrapped in swaddling cloths (rags and diapers) is the same Lord who is robed and clothed in strength and majesty. He is the One through Whom all things were made, and who the whole earth must answer to. He is mightier than anything in all creation. Yet, more than all of that, is His Word and promise (v 5) that He will come and save us. And because of this, we are also clothed-in the holiness He gives us by virtue of His birth.

## Today's Announcements

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**LUTHERAN WITNESS SUBSCRIPTION** Anyone interesting in subscribing to the *Lutheran Witness* magazine for 2014 may do so by placing \$8.76 in an envelope labeled "Lutheran Witness" with their name and address in the offering plate. The last date to subscribe or renew your subscription will be January 23, 2014. The *Lutheran Witness* is the official magazine of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod.

**CHRISTMASS OPEN HOUSE AT THE RECTORY** All Zion members and friends are welcome to attend a Christmass Open House at the Rectory on Friday, January 3. Please RSVP on the sheet in the Narthex.

**2014 ZION PICTORIAL DIRECTORY** If you missed having your photograph taken for the directory, please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex today for the make-up day, Sunday, January 12 from 9-9:45am or 11:30am-12:30pm.

**WOMEN'S GROUP** The Zion Women's Group will meet this Saturday, January 4, at 11am in the Rectory. Please note the time change. This is to allow the participants to attend the Holy Mass at 10am in the Church before the study. We are beginning a study of the *Formula of Concord*.

**YOUTH CATECHISM CLASS** The youth catechism class will resume this Saturday, January 4, at 10am in the Church. The students will attend Holy Mass and then continue in the Rectory with the lesson.

**EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD** An ancient festival of the church year, Epiphany commemorates the visit of the Magi to Jesus. Mark your calendars to join us for the Holy Mass on **MONDAY, JANUARY 6 AT 9:30AM AND 7PM** in the Church.

### Daily Mass for Christmaside

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As we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, faith hungers for the saving gifts that Our Lord gives us in Holy Mass. As we celebrate the liturgical year, Zion will have Mass daily from Christmass Midnight through the Epiphany of our Lord.

<u>December:</u>	3 – Tenth Day of Christmass, 10am (Chapel)
30 – Sixth Day of Christmass, 10am (Chapel)	4 – <b>St. Titus, Bishop and Confessor, 10am</b>
31 – St. Sylvester, Bishop, 10am (Chapel)	5 – <b>Holy Name of Jesus, 10am</b>
<u>January:</u>	6 – <b>Epiphany of Our Lord, 9:30am &amp; 7pm</b>
1 – <b>Circumcision of Our Lord, 10am</b>	13 – <b>Baptism of Our Lord, 9:30am</b>
2 – Ninth Day of Christmass, 10am (Chapel)	

May God bless you richly through His gifts of Word and Sacrament as you join in our joyful celebration of the incarnation of God, the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh!

## Epitome of the Formula of Concord. Article 1. Of Original Sin

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The Zion Women's Group is studying the Epitome of the Formula of Concord. The text of the next section is presented here for the participants to prepare for the study, and for all members to explore and review Christian doctrine:

### Negative Theses – Rejection of the False Opposite Dogmas.

1. Therefore we reject and condemn the teaching that original sin is only a *reatus* or debt on account of what has been committed by another [diverted to us] without any corruption of our nature.
2. Also, that evil lusts are not sin, but con-created, essential properties of the nature, or, as though the above-mentioned defect and damage were not truly sin, because of which man without Christ [not ingrafted into Christ] would be a child of wrath.
3. We likewise reject the Pelagian error, by which it is alleged that man's nature even after the Fall is incorrupt, and especially with respect to spiritual things has remained entirely good and pure in *naturalibus*, i. e., in its natural powers.
4. Also, that original sin is only a slight, insignificant spot on the outside, dashed upon the nature, or a blemish that has been blown upon it, beneath which [nevertheless] the nature has retained its good powers even in spiritual things.
5. Also, that original sin is only an external impediment to the good spiritual powers, and not a despoliation or want of the same, as when a magnet is smeared with garlic-juice, its natural power is not thereby removed, but only impeded; or that this stain can be easily wiped away like a spot from the face or pigment from the wall.
6. Also, that in man the human nature and essence are not entirely corrupt, but that man still has something good in him, even in spiritual things, namely, capacity, skill, aptness, or ability in spiritual things to begin, to work, or to help working for something [good].
7. On the other hand, we also reject the false dogma of the Manicheans, when it is taught that original sin, as something essential and self-subsisting, has been infused by Satan into the nature, and intermingled with it, as poison and wine are mixed.
8. Also, that not the natural man, but something else and extraneous to man, sins, on account of which not the nature, but only original sin in the nature, is accused.
9. We reject and condemn also as a Manichean error the doctrine that original sin is properly and without any distinction the substance, nature, and essence itself of the corrupt man, so that a distinction between the corrupt nature, as such, after the Fall and original sin should not even be conceived of, nor that they could be distinguished from one another [even] in thought.