Welcome! We thank God that you have joined us at worship today. Please sign our guest book near the double door front entrance. Restrooms are in the basement near the steps in the back of the church.

Today we gather together in the very presence of God. He is present among us in a special way through his Word and the Sacraments. We humbly acknowledge our sin and rejoice in the good news of forgiveness through the life and death of Christ. This is the focus of all of our worship.

Glorifying God as we Grow in the Gospel and Go with the Gospel

Our Stewardship of the Means of Grace:

Worship: 269 Communion: 152

Midweek Advent: 148 (112, 36) **Children's Program:** 754 (185, 569)

Candlelight: 55

Christmas Festival: 217 Communion: 101

Bible Study: 40 (5, 35)

Sunday 7:30 p.m. New Year's Eve Worship with Communion Monday 9:00 a.m. New Year's Day Worship with Communion

Tuesday 4:00 p.m. Directory Meeting at school

Wednesday 4:30 p.m. Confirmation Class

5:30 p.m. Bible History Class

Thursday 7:30 p.m. Worship

8:30 p.m. Adult Christ-Light Bible Study, basement

Sunday 8:00 a.m. Adult Christ-Light Bible Study, basement

9:00 a.m. Worship

6:30 p.m. His Word – My Life Bible Study

New Year's Eve Worship Next Sunday at 7:30 p.m. we will have a special worship service to mark the end of the year. Worship will include communion. Please join us!

New Year's Day Worship On Monday, January 1 we will worship the Lord to mark the beginning of the new year as well as celebrating the minor festival, The Naming of Jesus. Worship will include the Lord's Supper. Please join us!

Thank You Pastor Ott and his family thank all of you who remembered us in your prayers, with cards, or with gifts this past year. May God's peace through Jesus be with you through the coming year!

His Word—My Life Bible Study will not meet until January 7.

Sunday School will not meet until January 7.

Youth Group will not meet again until January 8.

Tuesday Bible Study will not meet again until January 9.

Adult Christ Light Bible Study Next week we will study "*Peter's Confession*." We meet Thursday at 8:30 p.m. and Sunday at 8:00 a.m.

Pictorial Directory We will have a new church directory done March 1, 2, and 3, 2007. We are looking for 5 or 6 volunteers to help recruit callers, hosts, and also lay out the new directory. If you are interested in helping, please speak with Pastor Ott today. There will be an organizational meeting on Tuesday, January 2 at 4:00 p.m.

Worship In The Gym When we worship in the gym in January and February we will need help setting up for worship and taking things down after worship. There are sign up sheets in the basement for those who can help set up before worship. We are also looking for help moving things out of church on Monday, January 1 after worship and at 1:00 p.m. There is a sign up sheet in the basement. Thank you for all your help.

Questions/Comments about our congregation may be directed to:Pastor Randy Ott864-2348Principal Brian Humann864-2349President Dennis Griepentrog864-2539Board of Elders: Herold Treichel864-2414Board of Education: Ervin Zeamer864-7243

School Faculty: Brenda Kuchenbecker, Katie Muchka, Joan Wegner,

Brian Humann, Rick Muchka

Today's Organist: Beverly Leiterman

Website: www.mzluth.org Synod Website: www.wels.net

Custodian: Beverly Leiterman 864-2355

Church and School Secretary: Nancy Pantzlaff 864-7334

Wisconsin Lutheran Child and Family Service (WELS counseling)

1011 N Lyndndale Dr, Suite 2D, Appleton, WI 54914

Kathleen Jasman, Administrator and Counselor 731-9798

1st Sunday after Christmas

December 31, 2006

Peace Through Jesus Know it. Live it. Share it.

Prayer before worship

Lord, you are beyond my understanding. Help me rejoice in what I do understand; you love me and have taken away my sins. Amen

Lessons are on the back cover

Service

Service of the Word (p. 38)

Hymns

64, 41, 35, 53

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, in mercy you sent your one and only Son to take upon himself our human nature. By his gracious coming deliver us from the corruption of our sin and transform us into the likeness of his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 111 (p. 106)

Sermon: <u>Hebrews 2:10-18</u> Welcome Your Brother

Born like you

Born to make atonement for you

1st Sunday after Christmas – Series C

Christ Jesus lives as our substitute.

First Lesson: 1 Samuel 2:18-20,26

The boy Samuel served in the temple of the Lord. This was his home and here was his work. The Lord was pleased with Samuel.

But Samuel was ministering before the LORD --a boy wearing a linen ephod. Each year his mother made him a little robe and took it to him when she went up with her husband to offer the annual sacrifice. Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, saying, "May the LORD give you children by this woman to take the place of the one she prayed for and gave to the LORD." Then they would go home.

And the boy Samuel continued to grow in stature and in favor with the LORD and with men.

Psalm of the Day: Psalm 111 (page 106)

We continue to sing praises to God for the marvelous work of redemption which he provided through his Son, our new-born Savior.

Second Lesson: Hebrews 2:10-18

God demanded a perfect sacrifice for the sins of the world. Therefore Jesus became fully human. He became our brother, like us in every way, except without sin, that he might atone for our sins. In the face of temptation, we turn to Jesus who overcame all temptations to sin.

In bringing many sons to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the author of their salvation perfect through suffering. Both the one who makes men holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers.

He says,

"I will declare your name to my brothers; in the presence of the congregation I will sing your praises."

And again,

"I will put my trust in him."

And again he says,

"Here am I, and the children God has given me."

Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death--that is, the devil-- and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham's descendants. For this reason he had to be made like his brothers in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

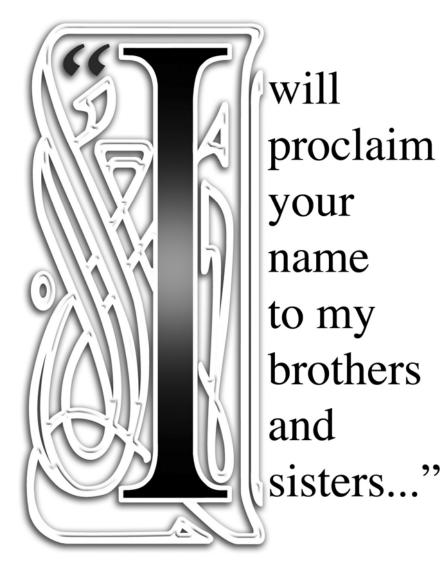
Gospel: <u>Luke 2:41-52</u>

Even as a 12-year-old boy Jesus was zealous for God's Word. He stayed in the temple, his Father's house, to learn even more. When his parents found him, he obediently followed them home, thus keeping the fourth commandment perfectly for us. In all things, Jesus served as our perfect substitute.

Every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up to the Feast, according to the custom. After the Feast was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you."

"Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.



Hebrews 2:12

Morrison Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

Glorifying God as we Grow in the Gospel and Go with the Gospel