

**Welcome!** We thank God that you have joined us at worship today. Please sign our guest book near the double door entrance. Restrooms are in the hallway outside the gym.

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.

## Morrison Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod      *Glorifying God as we Grow in the Gospel and Go with the Gospel*

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

March 18, 2007

*God's plan of salvation is wisdom to believer's but it is foolishness to the unbelievers.*

### Gathering Rite: Remember Your Love

*The opening hymns and songs of Christian worship mean to "gather" individual Christians into a worshipping assembly. What the traditional service does with hymns, canticles, and opening liturgy, this Lenten gathering rite does with contemporary song and responses.*

### ENTRANCE SONG

*The choir introduces the refrain. The congregation repeats the refrain and sings it again as indicated.*



Re - mem-ber your love and your faith-ful-ness, O Lord.



Re - mem-ber your peo-ple and have mer-cy on us, Lord.

The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom should I fear?

The Lord is my life and my refuge, when I call God hears. **Refrain**

If you dwelt, O Lord, upon our sinfulness, then who could stand?

But with you there is mercy and forgiveness and a guiding hand. **Refrain**

O Lord, hear the sound of my call and answer me.

My heart cries out for your presence; it is you I seek. **Refrain**

STAND

### INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.** *(spoken)*

### CONFESSION - LORD, HAVE MERCY - ABSOLUTION

M: As we prepare to celebrate the mystery of Christ's love, let us confess our sin and ask the Lord for pardon and strength:

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is**

**good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

*The choir sings the verse. The congregation repeats the last phrase as printed below.*

1. Lord Jesus, you came to heal all blindness: Lord, have mercy.
2. Christ Jesus, you see what we cannot see: Christ, have mercy.
3. Lord Jesus, you bring light to the world: Lord, have mercy.



- |                           |                               |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Lord, have mer - cy.   | <b>Lord, have mer - cy.</b>   |
| 2. Christ, have mer - cy. | <b>Christ, have mer - cy.</b> |
| 3. Lord, have mer - cy.   | <b>Lord, have mer - cy.</b>   |

**M:** God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** **Amen.** *(spoken)*

*All sing the refrain once more.*



Re - mem-ber your love and your faith-ful-ness, O Lord.



Re - mem-ber your peo-ple and have mer-cy on us, Lord.

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## **Prayer of the Day**

**M:** Let us pray.

Almighty God, we confess that we deserve to be punished for our evil deeds. But we ask you graciously to cleanse us from all sin and to comfort us with your salvation; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** (sung) **Amen.**

*BE SEATED*

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## **THE WORD**

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**First Lesson:**

**Isaiah 12:1-6**

## Psalm of the Day:

## Psalm 32

*refrain:* Re-mem-ber your mer-cy, O Lord;  
re-mem-ber your mer-cy and love.

Blessed is he whose transgressions are for'given,\*  
whose sins are 'covered.  
When I kept silent, your hand was heavy up'on me;\*  
my strength was sapped as in the heat of 'summer.  
Then I acknowledged my 'sin to you\*  
and did not cover up my in'iquity.  
I said, "I will confess my transgressions 'to the Lord,"\*  
and you forgave the guilt 'of my sin.

### *refrain*

You are my 'hiding place;\*  
you will protect me from 'trouble.  
Many are the woes of the 'wicked,\*  
but the Lord's unfailing love surrounds those who 'trust in him.

**Glory be to the Father and 'to the Son\*  
and to the Holy 'Spirit,  
as it was in the be'ginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. 'Amen.**

### *refrain*

## Second Lesson

## 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

**Verse of the Day** For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

*STAND*

## Gospel:

## Luke 15:1-3,11-32

*After the Gospel, the congregation sings:*

**C: Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*BE SEATED*

## Hymn of the Day

## ***“Jesus Sinners Does Receive”***

Jesus sinners does receive; Oh, may all this saying ponder  
Who in sin's delusions live And from God and heaven wander.  
Here is hope for all who grieve Jesus sinners does receive.

We deserve but grief and shame, Yet his words, rich grace revealing,  
Pardon, peace, and life proclaim; Here their ills have perfect healing  
Who with humble hearts believe Jesus sinners does receive.

Sheep that from the fold did stray Are not by the Lord forsaken;  
Weary souls who lost their way Are by Christ, the shepherd, taken  
In his arms that they may live Jesus sinners does receive.

Come, O sinners, one and all, Come, accept his invitation.  
Come, obey his gracious call; Come and take his free salvation!  
Firmly in these words believe Jesus sinners does receive.

I, a sinner, come to you With a penitent confession.  
Savior, show me mercy, too; Grant for all my sins remission.  
Let these words my soul relieve Jesus sinners does receive.

Oh, how blest is it to know, Were as scarlet my transgression,  
It shall be as white as snow By your blood and bitter passion,  
For these words I do believe Jesus sinners does receive.

Jesus sinners does receive. Even I have been forgiven.  
And when I this earth must leave, I shall find an open heaven.  
Dying, still to him I cleave Jesus sinners does receive.

**Sermon:**

**A Father's Amazing Love**

Luke 15:1-3,11-32

For a son who thought who knew better  
For a son who thought he did better

*STAND*

**Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth,  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was  
buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He  
ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From  
there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the  
forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*BE SEATED*

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**THANKSGIVING**

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**Offering**

Musical Offering

*"In My Life, Lord"* Cassie Wegner

**Offering Prayer**

*"We Thank You Lord"* Grades 1-2

*STAND*

## Prayer of the Church

### Lord's Prayer

**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.**

*BE SEATED*

### Sermon Hymn

***"Today Your Mercy Calls Us"***

Today your mercy calls us To wash away our sin.  
However great our trespass, Whatever we have been,  
However long from mercy Our hearts have turned away,  
Your precious blood can wash us And make us clean today.

Today your gate is open, And all who enter in  
Shall find a Father's welcome And pardon for their sin.  
The past shall be forgotten, A present joy be giv'n,  
A future grace be promised: A glorious crown in heav'n.

Today our Father calls us; His Holy Spirit waits.  
His blessed angels gather Around the heav'nly gates.  
No question will be asked us How often we have come;  
Although we oft have wandered, It is our Father's home.

O all-embracing Mercy, O ever-open Door,  
What should we do without you When heart and eye run o'er?  
When all things seem against us, To drive us to despair,  
We know one gate is open, One ear will hear our prayer.

*STAND*

**M:** O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** (sung) **Amen.**

### Benediction

**M:** Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.  
Serve the Lord with gladness.  
The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

**C:** (sung) **Amen. Amen. Amen.**

*BE SEATED*

## **Closing Hymn**

**“By Grace I’m Saved”**

By grace to timid hearts that tremble, In tribulation's furnace tried --  
By grace, despite all fear and trouble, The Father's heart is open wide.  
Where could I help and strength secure If grace were not my anchor sure?

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## **Groundbreaking Service**

*Those wishing to attend the groundbreaking will assemble on the sidewalk and parking lot.*

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ, we are here to ask God’s blessings as we set apart this ground for the building an addition to our school.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

**C: The Maker of heaven and earth.**

M: Unless the Lord builds the house,

**C: Its builders labor in vain.**

M: Praise to you, O Lord our God, King of the universe. Heaven and earth are full of your glory; hallowed by your name in all the world! In loving-kindness you have gathered us around your pure Word and sacraments and have kept us in faith in Jesus. By grace you have formed us as your congregation and have given us every spiritual blessing in Christ. With thanksgiving we come before you in worship and praise for your goodness as we break ground for this new addition. May it serve the cause of your gospel in this congregation and in our community and glorify your name in this place, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

*The chairman of the building committee steps forward and gives a spade to the minister. The minister, breaking the ground says:*

M: With faith in Jesus, we break this ground in name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

*The chairman of the building committee introduces the members of the building committee and representatives of IEI and they turn over a piece of ground.*

M: Let us pray:

Almighty and eternal God, you are the source of all knowledge. Your Spirit brings the gift of salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. We ask that you bless the construction of the school which we will build on this plot of ground. Look kindly on all who give themselves to this work, and keep them safe. Complete the building according to your will, and cause all who will teach and learn in this school to grow in grace and in the knowledge of your dear Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: Amen.**

**Closing Hymn**

*“Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow”*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

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**Our Stewardship of the Means of Grace:**

**Worship:** 289

**Communion:** 200

**Lent:** 257 (188, 69)

**Bible Study:** 77 (3, 47, 4, 5, 9, 9)

**Youth Study:** 15

Sunday 10:20 a.m. Grades 1-2 Play in the gym  
4:00 p.m. Walter Beyer Funeral  
Monday 7:00 p.m. Youth Group Bible Study, school  
Tuesday 2:00 p.m. Bible Study, church basement  
6:30 p.m. Outreach Committee  
Wednesday 11:00 a.m. Lenten Worship, gym  
12:00 p.m. Lenten Soup Supper, gym  
4:30 p.m. Confirmation Class  
5:30 p.m. Bible History Class  
6:30 p.m. Lenten Soup Supper, gym  
6:30 p.m. Band  
7:30 p.m. Lenten Worship, gym  
8:30 p.m. Choir  
Thursday 6:00 p.m. Moving Items to the church/church cleaning  
8:30 p.m. Adult Christ Light Bible Study, 6-8 grade room  
Friday 9:30 a.m. Church Cleaning  
Saturday 9:00 a.m. Bread For Life Women's Bible Study  
Sunday 8:00 a.m. Adult Christ Light Bible Study, 6-8 grade room  
9:00 a.m. Worship with communion, at church (Examination Sunday)  
10:00 a.m. Sunday School, church  
5:30 p.m. New Life in Christ Class, church basement  
6:30 p.m. His-Word My Life Class, church basement

**It Has Pleased** our heavenly Father to call the soul of Mr. Walter Beyer to his eternal home. Walter went to heaven early Thursday morning. Visitation will be 1:00-4:00 p.m. in the church. The funeral service is scheduled for 4:00 p.m. in the church. Please remember all who mourn in prayer.

**Grades 1-2 Play** will begin as soon as possible after the groundbreaking. Join us in the gym!

**Refreshments** this morning are provided by IEI Construction. Thank You!

**No Sunday School** this morning.

**No New Life in Christ Class or His Word-My Life Class** (Sunday and Monday) this week.

**Tuesday Bible Study** will meet at 2:00 p.m. in the church basement. We will continue our study, *The Service Zone*. Please join us.

**Adult Christ Light Bible Study** Next week we will study “*Parable of the Wedding Banquet*.” We meet Thursday at 8:30 p.m. and Sunday at 8:00 a.m. in Mr. Muchka’s room.

**Church Cleaning** Next Sunday we will worship in church. Your help in getting things ready is greatly appreciated. We will begin moving things back to church Thursday at 6:00 p.m. There will be lists posted around church listing what needs to be done. Supplies will be provided. Join us on Thursday or Friday after 9:30 a.m. whenever you are able and help us get the church clean and ready for worship! Thank you for your service to the Lord and his people.

**Examination** of this year’s confirmands will be next Sunday. Use your catechism in your personal devotions this week and prepare yourself to review the basic doctrines of the Bible along with this year’s confirmation class!

**Soup Supper** The last soup supper (March 28) will be served by Thrivent Financial members. Donations will be used for the operating deficit and will be matched by Thrivent up to \$600. If you would like to help cook or serve the meal please speak with Sarah Ihlenfeldt or Paula Griepentrog.

**Easter For Kids** will be on Saturday, March 31. This VBS style event is open to children ages 3 through those in 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Holly Eichhorst will be the Easter for Kids Coordinator. There will be a worker meeting on Monday March 26 at 6:30 p.m. in the school. There are sign up sheets for students, workers, and donations on the table. We also need paper grocery bags. If you have some, please speak with Holly.

**Ladies Aid** next meeting will be after Maundy Thursday worship at 12:15 p.m., church basement.

**Questions/Comments** about our congregation may be directed to:

Pastor Randy Ott	864-2348
Principal Brian Humann	864-2349
President Dennis Griepentrog	864-2539
Board of Elders: Melvin Zeamer	864-2536
Board of Education: Jack Van Iten	864-7399

**School Faculty:** Brenda Kuchenbecker, Katie Muchka, Joan Wegner, Brian Humann, Rick Muchka

**Today’s Organist:** Jackie Zeamer

**Website:** [www.mzluth.org](http://www.mzluth.org)

**Synod Website:** [www.wels.net](http://www.wels.net)

**Custodian:** Beverly Leiterman 864-2355

**Church and School Secretary:** Nancy Pantzlaff 864-7334

**Wisconsin Lutheran Child and Family Service** (WELS counseling)  
Kathleen Jasman, Administrator, Appleton 731-9798

**Living Hope Counseling Ministries** (WELS counseling)  
Dr. John Johnson, Director, De Pere 338-8699