

12th Sunday After Pentecost

August 19, 2007

Morrison Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

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



*Therefore keep
watch, because you
do not know the day
or the hour.*

Matthew 25:13

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 basement near the double stairs.

Today we gather together in the very presence of God. He is present among us in a special way through his Word and Sacrament. 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.

The Christian Life is a constant looking ahead

Holy Baptism

Hymn:

“Our Children Jesus Calls”

1. Our children Jesus calls
To his most dear embrace.
He holds them in his mighty arms
Through their baptismal grace.
2. "Let them approach," he cries,
"Nor scorn their humble claim.
The heirs of heav'n are such as these;
For such as these I came."
3. With joy we bring them, Lord,
Devoting them to you,
And pray, "As you show love to us,
So love our children, too."

Text, Tune, Setting: public domain.

REMAIN SEATED

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

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Our Savior Jesus Christ commanded baptism when he said: “Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” All of us are born into this world with a deep need for baptism. From our parents we inherit a sinful nature; we are without true fear of God and true faith in God and are condemned to eternal death. But Jesus took away our sin by giving his life on the cross. At our baptism he clothes us with the robe of his righteousness and gives us a new life. Our sinful nature need not control us any longer. We recall what baptism means for our daily lives as we speak these words:

C: Baptism means that the sinful nature in us should be drowned by daily sorrow and repentance, and that all its evil deeds and desires be put to death. It also means that a new person should daily arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

M: As baptized children of God we confess our sins:

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.

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.

The Rite of Baptism continues at the font.

M: In obedience to the command of our Lord and trusting in his promise, you have brought this child to be baptized. Jesus told us, “Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.” It is in baptism that God grants the new life of forgiveness, joy and peace to little children. By the power of God’s Word, this gracious water of life washes away sin, delivers from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe.

Receive the sign of the cross from the head to the heart to mark you as a redeemed child of Christ.

The minister applies water to the person presented for baptism as he says:

Elizabeth Victoria Blauert, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

The almighty God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—has forgiven all your sins. By your baptism, you are born again and made a dear child of your Father in heaven. May God strengthen you to live in your baptismal grace all the days of your life. Peace be with you.

STAND

EXHORTATION

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ:

Our Lord commands that we teach his precious truths to all who are baptized. Christian love therefore urges all of us, especially parents and sponsors, to assist in whatever manner possible so that Elizabeth may remain a child of God until death. If you are willing to carry out this responsibility, then answer: Yes, as God gives me strength.

C: Yes, as God gives me strength.

M: Let us pray:

Merciful Father in heaven, we thank you for the blessing of baptism by which you offer and grant the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. Help us to regard our baptism as the robe of righteousness we are to wear all the days of our life. Look with special favor on Elizabeth and grant her a rich measure of your Spirit that she may grow in faith and godly living. Make us willing to carry out our responsibilities to those who have been baptized, so that all of us may finally come to the blessed joys of heaven, through Jesus our Lord.

C: Amen.

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

Oh, Taste And See (sung)

**C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed are they who take refuge in him.
Your Word, O Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens.
Your faithfulness continues forever.
Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed are they who take refuge in him.**

Prayer of the Day

M: The Lord be with you.

C: (sung) And also with you.

M: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of 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

THE WORD

First Lesson:

Genesis 15:1-6

Hoping beyond hope, Abraham believed the Lord's promise of a son and the Lord "credited it to him as righteousness."

After this, the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision:

"Do not be afraid, Abram.

I am your shield,
your very great reward. "

But Abram said, "O Sovereign LORD, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir."

Then the word of the LORD came to him: "This man will not be your heir, but a son coming from your own body will be your heir." He took him outside and said, "Look up at the heavens and count the stars—if indeed you can count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be."

Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

Psalm of the Day:

Psalm 33

Refrain The earth is full of the good-ness of God,
the good-ness of our God.

Sing joyfully to the Lord, you 'righteous;*
it is fitting for the upright to 'praise him.

For the Word of the Lord is 'right and true;*
he is faithful in 'all he does.

By the word of the Lord were the 'heavens made,*
their starry host by the breath 'of his mouth.

For he spoke, and it 'came to be;*
he commanded, and 'it stood firm.

Refrain

The Lord foils the plans of the 'nations;*
he thwarts the purposes of the 'peoples.

But the plans of the Lord stand firm for'ever,*
the purposes of his heart through all gener'ations.

The Lord loves righteousness and 'justice;*
the earth is full of his un'failing love.

**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

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Second Lesson

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Faith grasps that which we do not see. True faith will raise our sights to life eternal and heaven as our true home.

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for.

By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

By faith Abraham, even though he was past age—and Sarah herself was barren—was enabled to become a father because he considered him faithful who had made the promise. And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore.

All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance. And they admitted that they were aliens and strangers on earth. People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

Verse of the Day (sung)

C: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

These words are written they we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

STAND

Gospel:

Luke 12:32-40

Our Savior tells us “do not be afraid” for the kingdom of heaven is ours. We set our hearts on this promise as we prepare and patiently wait for our Lord’s return.

"Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will not be exhausted, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

"Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning, like men waiting for their master to return from a wedding banquet, so that when he comes and knocks they can immediately open the door for him. It will be good for those servants whose master finds them watching when he comes. I tell you the truth, he will dress himself to serve, will have them recline at the table and will come and wait on them. It will be good for those servants whose master finds them ready, even if he comes in the second or third watch of the night. But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him."

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

BE SEATED

Hymn of the Day:

“Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray”

1. Rise, my soul, to watch and pray; From your sleep awaken!
Be not by the evil day Unawares o'ertaken.
For the foe, Well we know,
Is a harvest reaping While the saints are sleeping.

2. Watch! Let not the wicked world With its lies defeat you
Lest with bold deceptions hurled It betray and cheat you.
Watch and see Lest there be
Faithless friends to charm you Who but seek to harm you.
3. Watch against yourself, my soul, Lest with grace you trifle;
Let not self your thoughts control Nor God's mercy stifle.
Pride and sin Lurk within,
All your hopes to shatter; Heed not when they flatter.
4. But while watching also pray To the Lord unceasing.
God protects you day by day, Strength and faith increasing,
So that still Mind and will
Shall unite to serve him And forever love him.

Text, Tune, Setting: public domain.

Sermon:

Have No Fear, Little Flock

Luke 12:32-40

Know where your treasure is
Be watchful at all times

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

Offering

STAND

Prayer of the Church

M: Let us pray to the God of all knowledge and wisdom that the Church may be renewed and strengthened for her mission.

Silent prayer.

M: O Lord, you have revealed your good and gracious will to your people on earth. Forgive us for pursuing that knowledge that serves only our selfish desires and for using what we have learned to exploit and hurt others. Cleanse our guilty hearts of the apathy we feel for searching out the deeper truths of your Word.

C: Holy Spirit, hear our prayer that we may put self aside and rejoice in the truth that builds up.

M: Heavenly Father, send the Spirit of Jesus into our hearts so that like the Bereans of old we eagerly learn of you. As the deer pants for streams of water, may we be instilled with a longing to explore the mysteries of your grace.

C: Holy Spirit, increase in us the knowledge of your truth.

M: As you sent your Son among us as the Word made flesh, so bless the efforts of schools, colleges, and seminaries to train those who proclaim your presence among us in Word and sacrament.

C: Holy Spirit, instill in us a desire to teach others the wisdom of your ways.

M: God of light, give to the Church renewed wisdom and fresh understanding that the message of your salvation may shine ever brighter in this dark age.

C: Holy Spirit, kindle in us the fire of your love so that others may see our good deeds and praise our Father in heaven.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Holy Spirit, renew the face of the earth so that at the name of Jesus every knee may bow.

C: May your peace, which transcends all understanding, guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Amen.

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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:

“Have No Fear, Little Flock”

1. Have no fear, little flock; Have no fear, little flock,
For the Father has chosen To give you the kingdom;
Have no fear, little flock!
2. Have good cheer, little flock; Have good cheer, little flock,
For the Father will keep you In his love forever;
Have good cheer, little flock!
3. Praise the Lord high above; Praise the Lord high above,
For he stoops down to heal you, Uplift and restore you;
Praise the Lord high above!
4. Thankful hearts raise to God; Thankful hearts raise to God,
For he stays close beside you, In all things works with you;
Thankful hearts raise to God!

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STAND

M: Almighty God, grant to your Church the Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes from above. Let nothing hinder your Word from being freely proclaimed to the joy and edifying of Christ’s holy people, so that we may serve you in steadfast faith and confess your name as long as we live, 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: 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

Hymn:

“Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name”

1. Savior, again to thy dear name we raise
With one accord our parting hymn of praise.
Once more we bless thee ere our worship cease,
Then, lowly bending, wait thy word of peace.

2. Grant us thy peace upon our homeward way;
With thee began, with thee shall end the day.
Guard thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
That in this house have called upon thy name.
3. Grant us thy peace, Lord, through the coming night;
Turn thou for us its darkness into light.
From harm and danger keep thy people free,
For dark and light are both alike to thee.
4. Grant us thy peace throughout our earthly life,
Our balm in sorrow and our stay in strife.
Then, when thy voice shall bid our conflict cease,
Call us, O Lord, to thine eternal peace.

Text, Tune, Setting: public domain.

Dedication of the School Addition

The congregation and minister will proceed to the school addition. We will gather in front of the new main entrance to the school. When the congregation has assembled at the entrance the minister says:

M: Let these doors be opened in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: The children of the school invite you to join them in singing the hymn, “*God’s Word Is Our Great Heritage.*”

God's Word is our great heritage
And shall be ours forever;
To spread its light from age to age
Shall be our chief endeavor.
Through life it guides our way;
In death it is our stay.
Lord, grant, while worlds endure,
We keep its teachings pure
Throughout all generations.

Text, Tune, Setting: public domain.

M: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. Let this building be a place of nourishment in the Word of God, that all who come here, both children and adults, may grow in the knowledge and wisdom of the only true saving God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

M: Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, you give wisdom and from your mouth come knowledge and understanding. You have made it possible for us to erect this building for your praise and

glory. We give to you what is your own, that it may be consecrated to your mane. Come, Lord, take possession of this place, that it may be a workshop of your Spirit so that being instructed in your Word, we may be wise for salvation, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

M: We, the members of Morrison Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, set apart and dedicate this school addition to the glory and honor of God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

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!

Text, Tune, Setting: public domain.

Our Stewardship of the Means of Grace:

Worship: 274 (54, 220) **Bible Study:** 153 (8, 31, 85, 12, 15, 2)

Sunday	10:00 a.m. School Registration, school office
	10:30 a.m. Dedication Dinner, gym
	6:30 a.m. NT Overview Bible Class, church basement
Monday	7:00 a.m. His Word – My Life Class, Crossroads Café
	11:30 a.m. Charitable Giving Workshop, school office
	5:00 p.m. School Registration, school commons
Tuesday	4:00 p.m. New Life in Christ Class, church basement
	6:30 p.m. Outreach Committee Meeting, church
	8:15 p.m. Stewardship Committee Meeting, church
Thursday	7:00 p.m. 19-Minute Bible Study, church basement
	7:30 p.m. Worship with Communion
Sunday	8:30 a.m. 19-Minute Bible Study, church basement
	9:00 a.m. Worship with Communion

Baptism On Sunday Elizabeth Victoria Blauert will be baptized. Elizabeth is the daughter of David and Connie Blauert. She was born on July 17, 2007. Please remember this new child of God and her family in your prayers!

Dedication of the School Addition will be this Sunday at the end of the service. After worship everyone is invited to join us for a meal in the school gymnasium. Please feel free to look around the addition and existing school!

Overview of the New Testament “From Promise to Glory” is the name of the 8 lesson overview.

This class will give the whole family the opportunity to dig into God’s Word and look at the big picture of the New Testament. In the last lesson we look at *The Later Years of Paul, Peter, and John*. Join us on Sunday at 6:30 p.m. in the church basement.

Adult Christ Light Class will meet Monday at 7:00 a.m. at Crossroads Café. This week we will look at the meaning of the 6th and 7th Petitions of the Lord’s Prayer as we study *Jesus Heals the Blind and Mute*. Join us!

School Registration will take place on Sunday, 10:00-11:00 a.m. and Monday, 5:00-7:00 p.m. All school families are asked to register at one of those times. If you cannot make one of those days or times please call the school office.

Charitable Giving and Tax Laws If you are 70 and a half or older, and receive a distribution from an IRA, there is an expiring tax law that may benefit you. Join us for a special presentation on Monday, August 20 at 11:30 a.m. in the new commons area of the school and learn more. Lunch will be provided. If you plan to attend, please speak to Pastor Ott.

Outreach Committee will meet Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in the church basement.

Stewardship Committee will meet Tuesday at 8:15 p.m. in the church basement.

19-Minute Bible Study These classes meet a half hour before worship Thursday and Sunday. Next week we will dig into “Eternal Life” as part of our study of the 3rd Article. Join us and keep discussing God’s Word with fellow Christians through the summer! This will be our last 19-Minute Bible Study of the summer.

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: 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)
Kathleen Jasman, Administrator, Appleton 731-9798

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