Our Stewardship of the Means of Grace:

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Worship:	344 (29, 31	Communion : 174 (15, 159)	
Bible Class	5: 78 (6, 42,	7, 11, 12) Youth Study: 15	
Thursday	8:30 p.m.	Adult Christ-Light Bible Class, church	
Friday	4:30 p.m.	Volleyball, here	
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Adult Christ-Light Bible Study, church	
	9:00 a.m.	Worship	
	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School	
	7:00 p.m.	His Word—My Life Class, church	
Monday	7:00 a.m.	His Word—My Life Class, Crossroads Café	
	7:00 p.m.	Youth Group Bible Study, school commons	
Tuesday	2:00 p.m.	Bible Class, church basement	
	7:30 p.m.	Parent Teacher Association Meeting, school	
Wednesday	4:30 p.m.	Confirmation	
	5:30 p.m.	Bible History Class	
	8:15 p.m.	Choir	
Thursday	7:30 p.m.	Worship	
	8:30 p.m.	Adult Christ-Light Bible Class, church	
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Adult Christ-Light Bible Study, church	
•	9:00 a.m.	Worship	
	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School	
		His Word—My Life Class, church	
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Baptism and Confirmation Sunday morning Jaimie Christine McNeill will be baptized and received as a member of our congregation by adult confirmation. Please welcome Jaimie to our family of faith!

Communion is a part of worship today. Because God speaks of communing together as an expression of unity in faith we practice close communion. All WELS members are welcome to commune with us. Visitors, please speak with the pastor or an elder before communing.

The Stewardship Committee will address the congregation briefly after worship today.

Sunday School Students may go to the classroom in the church basement as the announcements begin.

His Word – My Life Class will continue its study of New Testament Gospel Words Sunday at 7:00 p.m. We will also meet Monday at Country Crossroads at 7:00 a.m. This week we look at *Substitution*..

Phone Canvas Training Meeting scheduled for this Monday evening has been moved to Tuesday, October 2 at 7:30 p.m. in the school commons. The outreach committee needs your help in conducting this phone canvas of our area. The more callers that we have the fewer calls each person will

make. Please come and join us at this training meeting and learn how you can help us as we seek to reach the unchurched in our area.

Youth Bible Study will meet in the commons Monday at 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday Bible Class will continue a study of the Formula of Concord Tuesday at 2:00 p.m. at church. This week we look at Article Two: Free Will. Join us before you pick up your school children!

PTA will meet Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in the school commons.

Adult Christ Light Class will study *God Tests Abraham's Faith*. We meet in the basement after worship on Thursday and Sunday at 8:00 a.m.

Bread of Life Ladies Aid Cookbook. Each 3-ring bound, hardcover cookbook is \$13.00 and includes a stand. They are available in the church basement or at school.

Diaper Drive Bay Area Pregnancy Counseling Center reaches mothers who may have no church by offering free diapers. We are out of sizes 4, 5, and 6 diapers. We will have a "Diaper Drive" at our church in September. There is a box in the church basement for the contributions of diapers.

Lutheran Ladies League Rally will be Sept. 26 at Immanuel, Kewaunee. Rev. Dennis Kleist will speak about Mission Partners. Vicar Aaron Strong will speak on evangelism in Las Vegas. Men and women are welcome.

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				
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, Appleton731-9798				
Living Hope Counseling Ministries (WELS counseling)				
Dr. John Johnson, Director, De Pere	338-8699			

17th Sunday after Pentecost September 20 & 23, 2007

Prayer before worship

Lord, you were put to death for my sins and raised to life for my justification. Bless me as I rejoice in your resurrection today. Amen.

Lessons are on the back cover

Service

Word and Sacrament (p. 26) This morning the 3rd section of the Service of Word and Sacrament, "Communion and Our Response" will be explained as we worship.

Personal Preparation for Holy Communion: Page 156

<u>Hymns</u> 569, 304, 311, 379, 263:3

Special Music Sunday grades 3-4 O Isn't He Wonderful (after Prayer of the Day)

Prayer of the Day

Lord, we pray that your mercy and grace may always go before and follow after us that, loving you with undivided hearts, we may be ready for every good and useful work; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

> Psalm of the Day Psalm 51a (p. 86)

Sermon: <u>1 Timothy 1:12-17</u> Thank God for abundant grace Grace shown to me Grace shown through me

17th Sunday after Pentecost: Series C

We have a patient God. We are saved because of it.

First Lesson: Exodus 32:7-14

On the basis of the unbreakable gospel promises God had made, Moses asked for the Lord's patience in dealing with Israel's idolatry. God is faithful to his Word.

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go down, because your people, whom you brought up out of Egypt, have become corrupt. They have been quick to turn away from what I commanded them and have made themselves an idol cast in the shape of a calf. They have bowed down to it and sacrificed to it and have said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of Egypt.'

"I have seen these people," the LORD said to Moses, "and they are a stiff-necked people. Now leave me alone so that my anger may burn against them and that I may destroy them. Then I will make you into a great nation."

But Moses sought the favor of the LORD his God. "O LORD," he said, "why should your anger burn against your people, whom you brought out of Egypt with great power and a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out, to kill them in the mountains and to wipe them off the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce anger; relent and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember your servants Abraham, Isaac and Israel, to whom you swore by your own self: 'I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and I will give your descendants all this land I promised them, and it will be their inheritance forever.' " Then the LORD relented and did not bring on his people the disaster he had threatened.

Psalm of the Day: <u>Psalm 51a</u> (page 86) Our prayers for forgiveness in this penitential psalm are based on the Lord's "unfailing love" and his "great compassion."

Second Lesson: <u>1 Timothy 1:12-17</u> Paul's life story was a wonderful example of God's patience with sinners through Jesus. God took "a blasphemer and a persecutor" and turned him into a proclaimer of God's mercy and "unlimited patience."

I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that he considered me faithful, appointing me to his service. Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief. The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners of whom I am the worst. But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an example for those who would believe on him and receive eternal life. Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel: Luke 15:1-10

Christ's parables of one lost sheep and one lost coin emphasize the value God places on each individual soul.

Now the tax collectors and "sinners" were all gathering around to hear him. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

Then Jesus told them this parable: "Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Does he not leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

"Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Does she not light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.' In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."



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.



Service of Word and Sacrament: An Explanation

Written by Pastor Wayne Schultz (with slight adaptations) ©1996 by Northwestern Publishing House

Part Three: The Sacrament and Our Response

Service of Word and Sacrament: An Explanation

Written by Pastor Wayne Schultz (with slight adaptations) ©1996 by Northwestern Publishing House

The Sacrament

We have arrived at the second of the twin peaks of Service of Word and Sacrament. In Holy Communion we receive Jesus' true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. With our burdens we flee to this great and joyous feast to be united with Christ and to receive his forgiving gifts of mercy and peace.

Preface

The Communion liturgy begins with the Preface. This sets the tone for what is about to occur. The responsive verses on page 33 unite us with the Church of the past and the future. This Dialogue between pastor and congregation has been used for at least 1,800 years. They are joyous words that anticipate the forthcoming reception of the means of grace. "The Lord be with you" – without him we can do nothing, least of all stand before the Lord of hosts. "Lift up your hearts" – in a glad welcome to him. "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God" – the only fitting thing to do when he comes to us with his amazing gifts.

Seasonal Sentence

The seasonal sentence follows. These sentences highlight important events and truths in the gospels. They reflect the spirit and flavor of the seasons of the church year.

Holy, Holy, Holy (Sanctus)

The words leading into "Holy, Holy, Holy," the song of the angels, remind us that we are joining all the company of heaven to praise the Lamb who was slain, who sits on the throne, and who comes to his people today in Word and Sacrament. What a splendid opportunity to join the multitude of angels and all those Christians who have died in faith in singing this song of praise to God!

This canticle is a festive part of our liturgy. God's people have never stopped singing the angel's song from Isaiah 6:3. This version of the song includes several phrases from the great Easter psalm, Psalm 118. We sing with the psalmist, "You are my God, and I will exalt you. I will give you thanks for you have become my salvation." May this awesome triumph song of saints and angels soar among us as we share in the joy of salvation!

The pastor will now lead us through the Preface and "Holy, Holy, Holy."

Words of Institution

The words of Christ in all their splendor, mystery and simplicity stand alone in Service of Word and Sacrament. These are the very words our Lord spoke when he instituted the Sacrament on the night in which he was betrayed. These words, along with the eating and drinking, are the chief things in the Sacrament. They tell us of the blessing we receive through the eating and drinking, that is, the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. They tell us that he is bodily present in, with, and under the bread and wine. All is in readiness for the feast of God's forgiveness. Come to the feast!

The Peace

Following the Words of Institution, the pastor extends the peace of Christ to God's people. He says, "The peace of the Lord be with you always." Martin Luther called these words a "public absolution of the sins of the communicants, the true voice of the gospel announcing remission of sins, and therefore the one and most worthy preparation for the Lord's table, if faith holds to these words as coming from the mouth of Christ himself."

The pastor will speak the Words of Institution and the Peace. We will respond by singing "Amen."

O Christ, Lamb of God (Agnus Dei)

In the canticle "O Christ, Lamb of God," we sing as spiritual beggars. We cry out to our Lord, the Lamb of God, to have mercy on us and deliver us from slavery to sin. The words are based on John 1:29, Isaiah 53:7, and Revelation 5:6ff. This is an intimate and penitential prayer of the Church to its head, Jesus.

We join in singing "O Christ, Lamb of God." (CW p. 35)

The Distribution

Christ is here to give himself to us in the bread and the wine of the Sacrament. Joyfully, yet reverently, we approach the altar. After the reception we return to our places and joyfully give him thanks.

During the Distribution, songs of praise and thanks are often sung. The hymns chosen for this time are not always limited to the hymns in the Communion section of the hymnal. Seasonal hymns that celebrate the salvation won by Christ are also appropriate. *Thursday – During the Distribution on Thursday we will not sing the hymns. You may wish to read through the selected hymns. Sunday – During the Distribution we will sing hymn numbers 311 and 379.*

Thanksgiving

Thank the Lord

In the Sacrament the Lord has blessed us with his greatest gifts. Now it is our privilege to thank him. The canticle "Thank the Lord" is based on several verses from Psalm 105. It encourages us to remember God's gracious promises as we go back into the world. It urges us to bear witness to our renewed life in Christ by telling everyone what he has done. It leads us from the hour of worship to the mission of our everyday lives as the light and salt of the earth. All our activities flow from hearing the Word of God and from the faithful reception of the Lord's body and blood.

We now join to sing "Thank the Lord."

Prayer

The closing prayer summarizes what God has accomplished through the liturgy of the Word. It begs for God's guidance through life to eternity. As the prayer ends, we sing a mighty "Amen."

The pastor will now lead us in the closing prayer.

Blessing

Before leaving we are called brothers and sisters in Christ. That is the unique relationship that we cherish because of Christ. As brothers and sisters in Christ we will encourage each other, pray for each other, and support each other through the highs and lows of life.

After we have sensed the awesomeness of God in worship and after we have tasted and seen that the Lord is good, we are prepared to go in peace, to live in harmony with one another, and to serve the Lord with gladness. We entered his gates with thanksgiving. We go in peace and gladness. *The pastor will extend to us the favor of the Lord in the words of the Aaronic Blessing. In affirmation we sing a triple "Amen."*

Conclusion

The liturgy has ended. God has built us up and strengthened our faith through his Word. We return to our homes and to the world to live for Christ, to extend the good news of the gospel, and to anticipate joyously our eternity of worship in heaven.

We conclude our worship by singing verse three of hymn 263.