

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

**Worship:** 244 (10, 234)

**Bible Study:** 61 (3, 33, 7, 9, 9)      **Youth Study:** 15

Sunday 10:00 a.m. Sunday School  
 10:10 p.m. Church Band, school basement  
 1:00 p.m. Men’s Bible Study, 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  
 7:00 p.m. Elders  
 7:30 p.m. Church Council

Wednesday 4:30 p.m. Confirmation Class  
 5:30 p.m. Bible History Class  
 6:30 p.m. Band at Parkview, Wayside  
 8:00 p.m. Choir

Thursday 11:00 a.m. Advent Midweek Worship  
 12:00 p.m. Soup Supper, church basement  
 6:30 p.m. Soup Supper, church basement  
 7:30 p.m. Advent Midweek Worship  
 8:30 p.m. Adult Christ-Light Bible Study, church

Sunday 8:00 a.m. Adult Christ-Light Bible Study, church  
 9:00 a.m. Worship  
 10:00 a.m. Sunday School  
 10:10 p.m. Church Band, school basement  
 7:00 p.m. His Word—My Life Class, church

**Communion** is a part of worship today. Because God speaks of communing together as an expression of unity in faith we practice *close communion*. Guests and visitors, please speak with the pastor before communing.

**Adult Men** You're invited to a new bible study/fellowship that will start on December 9 at 1:00 p.m. in the school commons and gym. The focus topic for the initial 1/2-hour bible studies will be “Men’s Leadership Toolkit.” After the study there will be an opportunity to play basketball (attention weekend athletes over 35 who need the practice), cards, or watch the Packers game. Get a group together or come alone and join the fun!

**Coffee and goodies** after church today will be hosted by Thrivent members. A donation basket will be set out. All donations, including matching funds from Thrivent, will be put toward the church's debt.

**His Word—My Life** will continue our study of Ecclesiastes, *Nowhere Man*, this week. Join us as we compare life with God to life under the sun. We meet Sunday at 7:00 p.m. at church and Monday at 7:00 a.m. at the Café.

**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 Twelve: *Other Churches*. Join us before you pick up your school children!

**Advent Necessities** is the theme of our special midweek advent worship. This week we will see how *Repentance* is a necessity of Advent. We invite all of you to join us and bring a friend to worship the Lord. We will worship on Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Soup and Sandwich meals will be served at noon and at 6:30 p.m. If you would like to help make soup, make bars, or help serve the meal, please speak with Paula Ott (864-2348). Thanks for your help!

**Adult Christ Light Class** will study *Quail and Manna*. We meet in the basement after worship on Thursday and Sunday at 8:00 a.m.

**Christmas for Kids** will be December 22, 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. In order to make this day a success we need help! We are still looking for classroom teachers, classroom helpers, a craft leader, craft helpers, and kitchen helpers. If you are able to help, please sign up today in the church basement. We especially need people willing to teach.

**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:** Brenda Kuchenbecker

**Website:** www.mzluth.org

**Synod Website:** www.wels.net

**Custodian:** Beverly Leiterman 864-2355

**Church and School Secretary:** Nancy Pantzloff 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

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent Series A**

December 9, 2007



**Prayer before worship**

*Lord, you came in time to save me. Bless me as you come to me today in Word and Sacrament. Amen.*

**Lessons are on the back cover**

Service

Word and Sacrament (p. 26)

Personal Preparation for Holy Communion:

Page 156

Hymns

GR, 16, 20, 312, 326

Prayer of the Day

*Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming give us strength in our conflicts and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

Musical Offering

As A Deer Kara Schultz

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 130 (p. 114)

Sermon: Matthew 3:1-12

**Listen To The Way Preparer**

An unusual man  
An unusual message

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent: Series A

*John teaches us that repentance makes us ready for Christ's Advent.*

### First Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse;  
from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.  
The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him—  
the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,  
the Spirit of counsel and of power,  
the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD -  
and he will delight in the fear of the LORD.  
He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes,  
or decide by what he hears with his ears;  
but with righteousness he will judge the needy,  
with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth.  
He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth;  
with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.  
Righteousness will be his belt  
and faithfulness the sash around his waist.  
The wolf will live with the lamb,  
the leopard will lie down with the goat,  
the calf and the lion and the yearling together;  
and a little child will lead them.  
The cow will feed with the bear,  
their young will lie down together,  
and the lion will eat straw like the ox.  
The infant will play near the hole of the cobra,  
and the young child put his hand into the viper's nest.  
They will neither harm nor destroy  
on all my holy mountain,  
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD  
as the waters cover the sea.  
In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the  
peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his place of rest will  
be glorious.

**Psalm of the Day:** Psalm 130 (page 114)

### Second Lesson: Romans 15:4-13

For everything that was written in the past was written to  
teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of  
the Scriptures we might have hope.

May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give  
you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Je-  
sus, so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God  
and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in or-  
der to bring praise to God. For I tell you that Christ has become  
a servant of the Jews on behalf of God's truth, to confirm the  
promises made to the patriarchs so that the Gentiles may glorify  
God for his mercy, as it is written:

"Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles;  
I will sing hymns to your name."

Again, it says,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people." And again,  
"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,  
and sing praises to him, all you peoples."

And again, Isaiah says,

"The Root of Jesse will spring up,  
one who will arise to rule over the nations;  
the Gentiles will hope in him."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you  
trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power  
of the Holy Spirit.

### Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the De-  
sert of Judea and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is  
near." This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah:  
"A voice of one calling in the desert,

'Prepare the way for the Lord,  
make straight paths for him.' "

John's clothes were made of camel's hair, and he had a  
leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild  
honey. People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and  
the whole region of the Jordan. Confessing their sins, they were  
baptized by him in the Jordan River.

But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees  
coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: "You brood  
of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Pro-  
duce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not think you can  
say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' I tell you  
that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham.  
The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does  
not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

"I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me will  
come one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not  
fit to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with  
fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his  
threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up  
the chaff with unquenchable fire."

## Morrison Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

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

*One who is more powerful  
than I is coming after me;  
I am not worthy to  
carry his  
sandals.  
He will  
baptize you  
with the  
Holy Spirit  
and fire.*



*Matthew 3:11*

**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 base-  
ment 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.