

ADVENT NECESSITIES



2007 MIDWEEK ADVENT WORSHIP

**Morrison Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod**

864-2348 www.mzluth.org

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

Gathering Rite: Lead Us to Your Light

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 Advent gathering rite does with contemporary song and responses.

LEAD US TO YOUR LIGHT

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



Lead us to your light, lead us out of dark-ness.



Lead us to your light. Come, Je - sus, come.

Lord, we await your coming to our world;
Bring us the gift of salvation. *refrain*

Lord, you are hope and healing for our world;
Come, now, and bring us your good news. *refrain*

Come, O come, O come, Emmanuel;
Come with us on earth here to dwell. *refrain*


Rouse us from sleep, wake us from our slumber;
Banish the darkness of night. *refrain*

Child of the light and love beyond all telling,
Fill our hearts with wonder and praise. *refrain*

Stand

GREETING

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



C: A - men.

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 al - so with you.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

M: The Lord Jesus comes to us and offers his grace and love. It is good for us to repent of our sins and to plead for his mercy.

Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations into the peace of God's kingdom because all have turned away from you. Lord, have mercy.

(echoing the minister)

C: Lord, have mer - cy.

M: You come in Word and Sacrament to strengthen us in holiness. Yet we fill our days and lives with busyness. We do not make time for your Word and Sacrament. Christ, have mercy.

C: Christ, have mer - cy.

M: You will come in glory with salvation for your people. Make us ready through the blood of Jesus to meet you with uplifted faces. Lord, have mercy.

C: Lord, have mer - cy.

M: May almighty God, have mercy on us, forgive our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. Amen.

C: A - men.

ABSOLUTION

M: The almighty God has been merciful to us and has sent his Son to die for all. For his sake, he forgives us our sins and calls us from darkness to his marvelous light. 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*)

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Be seated

PSALM OF THE DAY

PSALM 6 (page 66)

M: Lord God, you are merciful and tenderhearted, abounding in love and faithfulness. Turn to us in our anguish over sin and hear our cry for mercy that we may be at peace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 59:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

Surely the arm of the LORD is not too short to save,
nor his ear too dull to hear.

But your iniquities have separated
you from your God;
your sins have hidden his face from you,
so that he will not hear.

For your hands are stained with blood,
your fingers with guilt.
Your lips have spoken lies,
and your tongue mutters wicked things.

Their feet rush into sin;
they are swift to shed innocent blood.

Their thoughts are evil thoughts;
ruin and destruction mark their ways.

The way of peace they do not know;
there is no justice in their paths.

They have turned them into crooked roads;
no one who walks in them will know peace.

So justice is far from us,
and righteousness does not reach us.
We look for light, but all is darkness;
for brightness, but we walk in deep shadows.
For our offenses are many in your sight,
and our sins testify against us.
Our offenses are ever with us,
and we acknowledge our iniquities:
rebellion and treachery against the LORD,
turning our backs on our God,
fomenting oppression and revolt,
uttering lies our hearts have conceived.
So justice is driven back,
and righteousness stands at a distance;
truth has stumbled in the streets,
honesty cannot enter.
Truth is nowhere to be found,
and whoever shuns evil becomes a prey.
The LORD looked and was displeased
that there was no justice.
He saw that there was no one,
he was appalled that there was no one to intervene;
so his own arm worked salvation for him,
and his own righteousness sustained him.
He put on righteousness as his breastplate,
and the helmet of salvation on his head;
he put on the garments of vengeance
and wrapped himself in zeal as in a cloak.
According to what they have done,
so will he repay
wrath to his enemies
and retribution to his foes;
he will repay the islands their due.
From the west, men will fear the name of the LORD,
and from the rising of the sun, they will revere his glory.
For he will come like a pent-up flood
that the breath of the LORD drives along.
"The Redeemer will come to Zion,

to those in Jacob who repent of their sins,"

declares the LORD.

M: The Lord will come again in glory. The Spirit and the Church cry out: Come, Lord Jesus, come.

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

HYMN OF THE DAY *From Depths of Woe I Cry to You* Hymn 305

SERMON

MATTHEW 3:1-3

In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the Desert 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.' "

SPECIAL MUSIC *Advent Canon* Kyle and Jordan Laabs 11:00 a.m.
Hail Hosanna David's Son Male Choir. 7:30 p.m.

OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

The Angel Gabriel
Claire Ott 11:00 a.m.

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Together as one voice, let us glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, offering Him petitions, prayers, and intercession for all people according to their needs.

M: O Lord, our heavenly Father, look in love upon the Holy Christian Church. Guide all pastors as they echo John the Baptist in urging their members to live repentant lives. Keep them faithful to Your

Holy Word in the midst of so many voices urging them to diminish its importance. Bless their efforts so that those in error will turn away from their sin and turn towards You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

M: Faithful Shepherd, keep safe all members of the Holy Christian Church. Defend them from all false doctrine and protect them from all sinful influences. Mindful of their Baptism, grant that all members may bear fruit in keeping with repentance. Send Your Holy Spirit into their hearts that He may rule and direct all members according to Your will. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

M: Lord of the nations, guide all nations of the world. Defeat the plans of all those who would stir up violence and strife, destroy the weapons of those who delight in war and bloodshed, and according to Your will, end all conflicts throughout the world. Turn the hearts of the evil toward you. Protect our military personnel as You use them to defeat the plans of evil and to defend our country from danger. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

M: Heavenly Father, grant Your mercy and grace to Your people in their many and various callings. As they go about daily tasks in humility, grant that they praise You for opportunities to help their neighbors, serving them with gladness. Graciously shield them from all covetous desires, and direct them to be faithful in the various and many callings You have given them. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

M: Comfort, O Lord, all those who are in need: the poor, the depressed, the widowed, the orphaned, the sorrowful, the sick [*especially...*], and those who mourn [*especially...*]. Let their hearts not turn to despair, but fill them with joy and peace. Lift up their hearts from the cares of this world to the joys of Your forgiveness and the gift of life everlasting. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

M: We commend to You—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—all those for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

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.**

M: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who led your people Israel with a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ. May his Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for you are merciful, and you love your whole creation. We, your creatures, glorify you: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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

BLESSING

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

C: (sung) **Amen.**

Be seated

HYMN

When Sinners See Their Lost Condition Hymn 32:1, 2