

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

**Worship:** 311                      **Midweek Advent:** 197 (128, 69)  
**Bible Study:** 73 (4, 17, 41, 7, 4)

Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School, church basement
	10:00 a.m.	Band, school
	10:00 a.m.	Stewardship Committee
	1:00 p.m.	Men’s Bible Study, commons
	6:30 p.m.	His Word My Life Bible Study, church
Monday	7:00 a.m.	His Word My Life Bible Study, church
	6:30 p.m.	Christmas for Kids Workers meeting, school
	7:00 p.m.	Youth Group Bible Study, commons
Tuesday	10:00 a.m.	Naomi Circle, church
	2:00 p.m.	Bible Study, church
	2:00 p.m.	Pray and Play Bible Study, school
	6:30 p.m.	Bread of Life Women’s Bible Study
Wednesday	11:00 a.m.	Midweek Advent Worship
	12:00 p.m.	Soup Supper
	4:45 p.m.	Confirmation Class (5 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> grade)
	4:45 p.m.	Bible History Class (3 <sup>rd</sup> -4 <sup>th</sup> grade)
	5:30 p.m.	Bible History Class (1 <sup>st</sup> -2 <sup>nd</sup> grade)
	6:30 p.m.	Soup Supper
	7:30 p.m.	Midweek Advent Worship
	8:30 p.m.	Choir
Thursday	8:30 p.m.	Adult Christ-Light Bible Study, basement
Friday	9:00 a.m.	Mom’s Day Out, school
	7:30 p.m.	Band
	8:00 p.m.	Choir
Saturday	9:00 a.m.	Christmas for Kids
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Adult Christ-Light Bible Study, basement
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Band Choir Concert
	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School, church basement

**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/ELS members are welcome to commune with us. Visitors, please speak with the pastor or an elder before communing.

**Sunday school** this week will learn the story of the Three Wise Men. Anyone 3-5 years old is encouraged to come. The children have a great time singing, reading stories and making crafts!

**Christmas For Kids** If you plan to help at Christmas for Kids next Saturday, please join us for a workers meeting Monday at 6:30 p.m. at school. Christmas for Kids is next Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. All 3 year olds through 6<sup>th</sup> graders are invited. Bring a friend to meet Jesus!

**Pray and Play Bible Study** will meet this Tuesday at 2:00 p.m.

**Naomi Circle** will meet Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. at church.

**Bread of Life Women’s Bible Study** will meet Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at school. After our study we will make cookies that will be used at Christmas for Kids on Saturday. Please join us!

**The Daze Before Christmas** is the topic of our Tuesday Bible Study. This is a video study from the Fifth Pew From the Front series. We meet Tuesdays at 2:00 p.m. in the church basement.

**Advent Midweek Worship** will be Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Join us as we focus on how the Spirit Comes To Us Daily Through Word and Sacrament. Soup suppers will follow the morning service and begin an hour before the evening service. Please join us and bring a friend!

**Soup Supper** Thrivent members are serving this week’s soup supper. Please sign up on the sheets in the basement.

**Adult Christ-Light Bible Study** meets in the church basement Thursdays at 8:30 p.m. and Sunday at 8:00 a.m. Join us!

**Mom’s Day Out** We will have a cookie and craft day this Friday morning, from 9-11 in the commons. We will make cookies and crafts together. Each child will be able to take home a dozen cookies and a craft. The charge for each child is \$3 to cover the cost of supplies. Please RSVP by Monday to Amanda Humann 864-7751 or humannbj@mzluth.org.

**Band/Choir Concert** will be a part of worship next Sunday. The theme of our worship will be *The Greatest Gift of All*. Please bring finger food to serve in the basement after worship.

**Blessings and Challenges Bible Study** will not meet next Sunday.

**His Word My Life Bible Study** will not meet next Sunday.

**Thrivent Matching Funds** The last day to give a gift that will be matched by Thrivent for 2008 is Dec. 21. Contact Mr. Humann with any questions.

**Christmas cards** are available in the church basement by the mailboxes.

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

Pastor Randy Ott	ottrr@mzluth.org	864-2348
Principal Brian Humann		864-2349
President Jade Witt		983-2829
Board of Elders: Stephen Gifford		864-2336
Board of Education: Jeff Leick		864-3439

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

**Today’s Organist:** Brenda Kuchenbecker

**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

**Advent 3**  
December 14, 2008



**Prayer before worship**

*Lord, come to me and strengthen my faith as I prepare to celebrate your coming in time so that I am ready for your Second Coming. Amen*

**Lessons are on the back cover**

**Service**

Gathering Rite Baptism (cws p.8)  
Word and Sacrament(p. 40)

**Hymns**

14, 19, 22, 23, 86

**Prayer of the Day**

Hear our prayers, Lord Jesus Christ, and come with the good news of your mighty deliverance. Drive the darkness from our hearts and fill us with your light; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Psalm of the Day**

Psalm 71 (p. 92 CWS)

**Special Music**

*Zion, at Your Shining Gate*  
(grades 3-4) after prayer of the day

Musical offering: Nathan Jaschob

**Sermon: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24**

**The True Holiday Spirit**

Comes from the Spirit’s fire  
Shows itself in action and attitude

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent—Series B

*God uses us to prepare others for Christ's return by sharing the message with them in words and actions.*

#### First Lesson: Malachi 4:1-6

"Surely the day is coming; it will burn like a furnace. All the arrogant and every evildoer will be stubble, and that day that is coming will set them on fire," says the LORD Almighty. "Not a root or a branch will be left to them. But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings. And you will go out and leap like calves released from the stall. Then you will trample down the wicked; they will be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day when I do these things," says the LORD Almighty.

"Remember the law of my servant Moses, the decrees and laws I gave him at Horeb for all Israel.

"See, I will send you the prophet Elijah before that great and dreadful day of the LORD comes. He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers; or else I will come and strike the land with a curse."

#### Psalm of the Day: Psalms 71 (p. 92)

#### Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Do not put out the Spirit's fire; do not treat prophecies with contempt. Test everything. Hold on to the good. Avoid every kind of evil.

May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it.

#### Gospel: John 1:6-8,19-28

There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

Now this was John's testimony when the Jews of Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him who he was. He did not fail to confess, but confessed freely, "I am not the Christ."

They asked him, "Then who are you? Are you Elijah?"

He said, "I am not."

"Are you the Prophet?"

He answered, "No."

Finally they said, "Who are you? Give us an answer to take back to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?"

John replied in the words of Isaiah the prophet, "I am the voice of one calling in the desert, 'Make straight the way for the Lord.'"

Now some Pharisees who had been sent questioned him, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?"

"I baptize with water," John replied, "but among you stands one you do not know. He is the one who comes after me, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie."

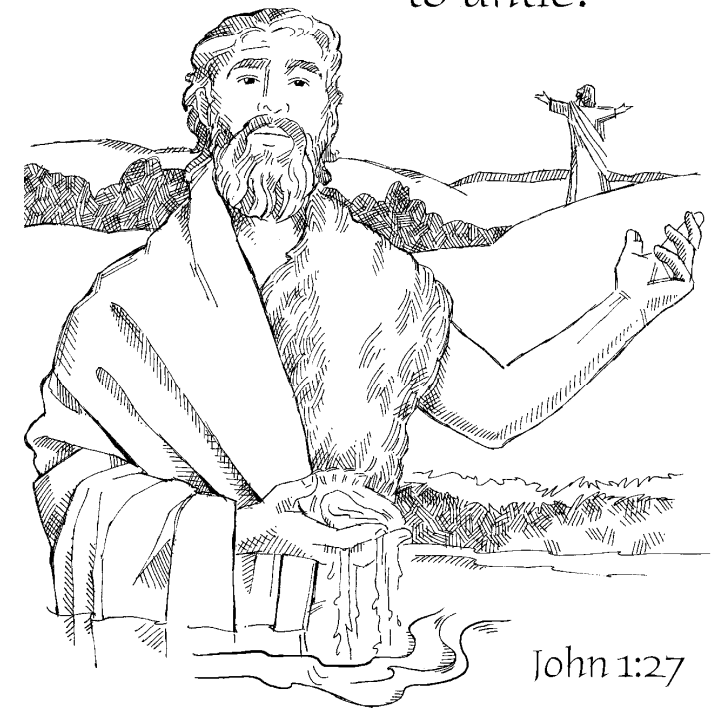
This all happened at Bethany on the other side of the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

### Morrison Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

*Our mission is to honor God as we help people Grow in the Gospel and Go with the Gospel*

He is the one who  
comes after me,  
the thongs of whose sandals  
I am not worthy  
to untie.



John 1:27

**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.