

Our Stewardship of the Means of Grace:

- Choir/Band Concert Worship:** 196
- Children’s Christmas Program:** 630 (243, 387)
- Christmas Eve Candlelight:** 35
- Christmas Festival Worship:** 192
- Communion Christmas Festival:** 129

- Wednesday 7:30 p.m. New Year’s Eve Worship, Communion
- Thursday 9:00 am. New Year’s Day Worship, Communion
- Sunday 8:00 a.m. Blessings/Challenges Study, commons
- 8:00 a.m. Adult Christ-Light Bible Study, basement
- 9:00 a.m. Worship
- 10:00 a.m. Ladies Aid Meeting, church
- 6:30 p.m. His Word—My Life Bible Class

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.

Donations There is a box in the basement for donations of school supplies and small toys for the children in the orphanage in India that Kim Lemke will volunteer at early in 2009. There is also a box for monetary donations to be used for a generator at the orphanage. Today is the last day for donations. Thank you!

Tuesday Bible Study will not meet this week. Next week we will continue our study of *The Daze Before Christmas*.

New Year’s Eve Worship will be Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. Communion will be a part of worship. We will focus on the truth that time passes but God’s blessings remain a constant. Join us!

New Year’s Day Worship will be Thursday at 9:00 a.m. Communion will be a part of worship. We will also celebrate one of the minor festivals of the church year, “The Name of Jesus.” Join us!

Adult Christ-Light Bible Study will not meet this Thursday. We will meet Sunday at 8:00 a.m. in the church basement. Join us!

Blessings and Challenges Bible Study will meet next Sunday at 8:00 a.m. in the commons. Next week we will study, *Our Christian Response to Blessings and Challenges When We Recover from a Se-*

rious Illness. Join us at school.

Ladies Aid will meet next Sunday after worship.

Church Council Installation will be a part of worship next Sunday.

His Word—My Life Bible Class will not meet this Sunday evening. We will meet next Sunday and continue our study of 2 Corinthians. Join us!

Public School Bible History and Confirmation Classes will not meet this week. We will meet again on Wednesday, January 7.

Open Forum There will be an Open Forum for all members of our congregation after worship on Sunday, January 11. If you have any questions or concerns about our ministry you are invited to bring them to this meeting.

Voter’s Meeting will be after worship on Sunday, January, 18.

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: Joan Wegner

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

Christmas 1
December 28, 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

Common Service (p. 15)

Personal Preparation For Holy Communion

Page 156

Hymns

42, 41, 36, 54, 64

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, in mercy you sent your one and only Son to take upon himself our human nature. By his gracious coming deliver us from the corruption of our sin and transform us into the likeness of his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 11 (p. 106)

Sermon: Colossians 3:12-17
Cherish the Christchild’s Gifts
His peace to rule our hearts
His word to make us wise

1st Sunday after Christmas—Series B

Christ is the only Savior there is for all people.

First Lesson: Isaiah 45:20-25

"Gather together and come;
assemble, you fugitives from the nations.
Ignorant are those who carry about idols of wood,
who pray to gods that cannot save.
Declare what is to be, present it—
let them take counsel together.
Who foretold this long ago,
who declared it from the distant past?
Was it not I, the LORD?
And there is no God apart from me,
a righteous God and a Savior;
there is none but me.
"Turn to me and be saved,
all you ends of the earth;
for I am God, and there is no other.
By myself I have sworn,
my mouth has uttered in all integrity
a word that will not be revoked:
Before me every knee will bow;
by me every tongue will swear.
They will say of me, 'In the LORD alone
are righteousness and strength.'
All who have raged against him
will come to him and be put to shame.
But in the LORD all the descendants of Israel
will be found righteous and will exult.

Psalm of the Day: Psalm 111 (p. 106)

Second Lesson: Colossians 3:12-17

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you

sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Verse of the Day:

Alleluia. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts. Alleluia. (Colossians 3:15a)

Gospel: Luke 2:25-40

Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Christ. Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

"Sovereign Lord, as you have promised,
you now dismiss your servant in peace.
For my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared in the sight of all people,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel."

The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too."

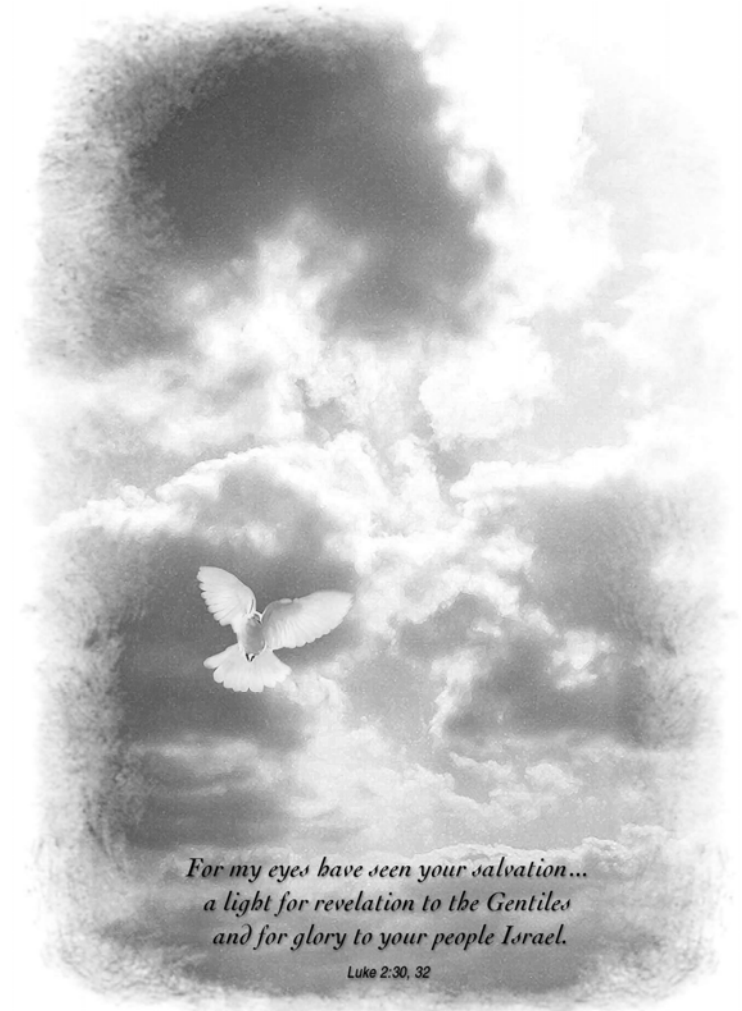
There was also a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying. Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was upon him.

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



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.