

# 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*



# BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS

**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.

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

C: **Amen.**

M: The Lord, the God of Israel says to his people:

C: **“Be strong, do not fear!”**

(sung) Today your gate is open, And all who enter it  
Shall find a Father’s welcome And pardon for their sin.  
The past shall be forgotten, A present joy be giv’n,  
A future grace be promised: A glorious crown in heav’n.

### **Opening Responses 2 Corinthians 5:18-20**

M: God gave us the ministry of reconciliation:

C: **that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them.**

M: And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors,

C: **as though God were making his appeal through us.**

M: We implore you on Christ's behalf:

C: **Be reconciled to God.**

### **Confession and Absolution**

M: O God, our Father, holy and righteous, we humbly confess all our sins. We have failed to represent you to a dying world as your ambassadors.

C: **We have remained silent when you have given us opportunities to speak.**

M: We have spoken in pride, anger, and arrogance when we should have been silent.

C: **In our thoughts, our words, and our actions we have served ourselves and not you.**

M: We are sorry for our actions, Lord, and come to you for forgiveness.

C: **We are sorry for our sins—for those we confess in our hearts before you, and for those known only to you.**

M: We are truly sorry for what we have done and for what we have left undone.

C: **Have mercy on us, for Jesus’ sake.**

M: In mercy, Jesus came to die for you. “God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God (2 Corinthians 5:21). In Jesus’ name, and at his command, I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. You are forgiven!

C: **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

M: The Lord, the God of Israel says to his people:

C: **“Be strong, do not fear!”**

(sung) I hear the Savior calling! The gospel comes to me.  
My eyes once closed in blindness Are opened now to see  
That I myself was helpless To live eternally,  
But, dying, Christ did save me, And now he calls for me!

M: The Lord, the God of Israel says to his people:

**C: “Be strong, do not fear!”**

(sung) I hear the Savior calling! He leads a soul to me,  
A soul in bitter anguish, One needing to be free.  
The gift I have to offer Is Christ, my Lord's decree  
That all have been forgiven -- My Savior calls for me!

M: The Lord, the God of Israel says to his people:

**C: “Be strong, do not fear!”**

(sung) I hear the Savior calling! He gives this charge to me:  
To serve the best I'm able, Whate'er the call may be.  
Thus hand in hand with others Who share the gospel key  
We spread the gospel tidings -- My Savior calls for me!

M: The Lord, the God of Israel says to his people:

**C: “Be strong, do not fear!”**

(sung) I hear the Savior calling! His call has urgency!  
Each moment souls are dying; Soon comes eternity.  
And so, my precious Savior, This is my humble plea:  
Prepare me for my mission For you are calling me!

### **Prayer of the Day**

M: Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen**

### **The Word**

#### **First Lesson**

**Isaiah 35:4-7a**

*God assures his people that he will save and protect them. God's urging, "Be strong, do not fear" speaks to us today also as we seek to share his salvation with others.*

Say to those with fearful hearts,

"Be strong, do not fear;  
your God will come,  
he will come with vengeance;  
with divine retribution  
he will come to save you."

Then will the eyes of the blind be opened  
 and the ears of the deaf unstopped.  
 Then will the lame leap like a deer,  
 and the mute tongue shout for joy.  
 Water will gush forth in the wilderness  
 and streams in the desert.  
 The burning sand will become a pool,  
 the thirsty ground bubbling springs.

**Second Lesson**

**Acts 3:1-10**

*Peter and John offered the crippled man a gift from God—healing. We may not offer the same gift, we are privileged to offer a better gift—full and free salvation through Jesus.*

One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the time of prayer—at three in the afternoon. Now a man crippled from birth was being carried to the temple gate called Beautiful, where he was put every day to beg from those going into the temple courts. When he saw Peter and John about to enter, he asked them for money. Peter looked straight at him, as did John. Then Peter said, "Look at us!" So the man gave them his attention, expecting to get something from them.

Then Peter said, "Silver or gold I do not have, but what I have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk." Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man's feet and ankles became strong. He jumped to his feet and began to walk. Then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping, and praising God. When all the people saw him walking and praising God, they recognized him as the same man who used to sit begging at the temple gate called Beautiful, and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

**Hymn of the Day: CW 235**

*Praise The Almighty; My Soul, Adore Him*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>1. Praise the Almighty; my soul, adore him!<br/>       Yes, I will laud him until death.<br/>       With songs and anthems I'll come before him<br/>       As long as he allows me breath.<br/>       From him my life and all things came;<br/>       Bless, O my soul, his holy name.<br/>       Alleluia! Alleluia!</p> | <p>3. Trust not in princes, they are but mortal;<br/>       Earthborn they are and soon decay.<br/>       Vain are their counsels at life's last portal<br/>       When the dark grave will claim its prey.<br/>       Since, then, no one can help afford,<br/>       Trust only Christ, our God and Lord.<br/>       Alleluia! Alleluia!</p> |
| <p>2. Penitent sinners, for mercy crying,<br/>       Pardon and peace from him obtain;<br/>       Ever the wants of the poor supplying,<br/>       Their faithful God he will remain.<br/>       He helps his children in distress,<br/>       The widows and the fatherless.<br/>       Alleluia! Alleluia!</p>              | <p>4. Praise, all you people, the name so holy<br/>       Of him who does such wondrous things!<br/>       All that has being, to praise him solely,<br/>       With happy heart its Amen sings!<br/>       Children of God, with angel host<br/>       Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!<br/>       Alleluia! Alleluia!</p>                 |

*\*Text: c 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission of CPH. Tune and Setting: public domain.*

**Sermon: Jesus Opens Ears and Mouths**

**Mark 7:31-37**

*Jesus does all the things we cannot. When he chooses, he heals. Because he loves, he has accomplished our salvation. In our gospel the people could not stop talking about what he had accomplished even though they were told to be quiet. We have been commanded to speak of his salvation. Do we choose to remain quiet?*

Then Jesus left the vicinity of Tyre and went through Sidon, down to the Sea of Galilee and into the region of the Decapolis. There some people brought to him a man who was deaf and could hardly talk, and they begged him to place his hand on the man.

After he took him aside, away from the crowd, Jesus put his fingers into the man's ears. Then he spit and touched the man's tongue. He looked up to heaven and with a deep sigh said to him, "Ephphatha!" (which means, "Be opened!"). At this, the man's ears were opened, his tongue was loosened and he began to speak plainly.

Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone. But the more he did so, the more they kept talking about it. People were overwhelmed with amazement. "He has done everything well," they said. "He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

## Hymn 564

## *There Is A Balm In Gilead*

Refrain: There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole;  
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.

1. Sometimes I feel discouraged and think my work's in vain,  
But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.  
There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole;  
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.
2. If you cannot preach like Peter, If you cannot pray like Paul,  
You can tell the love of Jesus And say he died for all.  
There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole;  
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.

*Text, Tune, Setting: public domain.*

## Offering

### Prayer of the Church

M: Dear Father in heaven, with your gift of a Savior you restored hope for our fallen world and brought glory to your name. We thank you for the good news that you have reconciled the world to yourself through your Son.

**C: Be with us as you give us opportunities to proclaim your glorious name of salvation in Jesus Christ our Savior.**

M: O Jesus, Lamb of God, we praise you for offering yourself as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of all. On the cross you declared the sacrifice for sins completed. At the open tomb, you assured the world that sinners are reconciled to God.

**C: Be with us as you have promised, so that we may be bold and confident witnesses to our family members and friends.**

M: Holy Spirit, blessed Counselor, use your Word of Truth and power to break down the barriers to our witness, including fallen mankind's natural hatred for God and Satan's wicked work among us.

**C: Empower us by your gospel, and encourage us to be faithful, fervent witnesses to the people among whom we live and work.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer.*

M: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, send us by the power of your Word into the mission fields beyond the walls of our church. Give us hearing ears and seeing eyes that seize the opportunities you set before us to be your witnesses.

**C: Guide us, strengthen us, and bless us as we declare Christ to our world. Amen.**

© 1999 Northwestern Publishing House. Reprinted by permission.

## Hymn 565

## *There Still Is Room*

1. There still is room! His house is not yet filled;  
Not all the guests are there.  
Oh, bring them in! Their hunger shall be stilled  
With bread, yes, bread to spare.  
Go, call them from the lanes and byways,  
From winding roads and crowded highways.  
There still is room! There still is room!
2. There still is time! The Master's voice still rings,  
And all his heralds plead:  
"Oh, hide beneath the shelter of his wings  
Against the time of need."  
The gracious call is still extended;  
The day of grace is not yet ended.  
There still is time! There still is time!
3. Now is the time! How fast the moments fly!  
How soon each hour is gone!  
You virgins, hear and heed the midnight cry;  
Look for the break of dawn.  
The Bridegroom comes; prepare to greet him.  
Rise! Trim your lamps! Go out to meet him!  
Now is the time! Now is the time!

\*Text: c 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission of CPH. Tune and Setting: public domain.

M: Go out into the world in peace; be doers of the Word and not hearers only; have courage; hold to what is good; return no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the

suffering; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. The Almighty God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit bless you, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**Closing Hymn: 576:5-6**

*Spread, Oh, Spread The Mighty Word*

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 5. Up! The rip'ning fields you see,<br>Mighty shall the harvest be,<br>But the reapers still are few;<br>Great the work they have to do. | 6. Lord of harvest, grant anew,<br>Joy and strength to work for you,<br>Till the gath'ring nations all<br>See your light and heed your call. |
|--|--|

*Text, Tune, Setting: public domain.*

---

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

<b>Worship:</b> 358 (53, 305)	<b>Communion:</b> 192 (34, 168)
<b>Bible Study:</b> 94 (2, 23, 37, 9, 6, 10, 7)	<b>Youth Study:</b> 12

Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Refreshments in shelter after worship
	7:00 p.m.	New Life in Christ Class, church basement 10:00 a.m.Sunday School
Monday	7:00 a.m.	His Word-My Life Class, church basement
	4:00 p.m.	Grades 1-4 soccer at home
	6:00 p.m.	Choir, school basement
	7:00 p.m.	Youth Group Bible Class, school
Wednesday	4:00 p.m.	Grades 5-8 soccer at home
	4:45 p.m.	Confirmation Class
	5:30 p.m.	Bible History Class
	8:00 p.m.	Choir, school
Thursday	10:00 a.m.	Naomi Circle, church basement
	7:30 p.m.	Worship with communion
	8:30 p.m.	Adult Christ-Light Bible Study, church basement
Friday	5:00 p.m.	A Volleyball at Sturgeon Bay
Saturday		Soccer Tournament at New Holstein
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Commons Bible Study
	8:00 a.m.	Adult Christ-Light Bible Study, church basement
	9:00 a.m.	Worship with communion
	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	7:00 p.m.	New Life in Christ Class

**Refreshments** will be served in the shelter after worship on Sunday. Stay and enjoy muffins, juice, milk, and coffee.

**Sunday School** will not meet this Sunday. Next week we will study Adam and Eve. Join us!

**New Life In Christ Adult Information Class** meets Sundays at 7:00 p.m. in the church basement.

Please join us for this 20 lesson course. If this time does not work for you and you would like to go through it to join the congregation please see Pastor Ott to schedule a class.

**His Word-My Life** class is studying *The Kingdom of God* Mondays at 7:00 a.m. at church.

**Youth Group Bible Study** meets Monday at 7:00 p.m.

**Tuesday Bible class** will not meet this week.

**Commons Bible Study** meets Sundays at 8:00 a.m. We are studying *Angels and Demons*..

**Adult Christ Light** will meet Thursday after worship and Sundays at 8:00 a.m. in the church basement.

**Breaking Down The Barriers** is the theme of our one-year Capital Appeal. God has broken down the barrier of sin through the life and death of Jesus. The blessings of this broken barrier become ours through the gospel. Yet, as we serve God, barriers spring up. There are financial barriers. At times our own lack of focus and vision become barriers. This appeal will seek to focus on how God's love in Christ helps us to overcome the barriers of our own creation. The outdoor service will kick off the appeal. The financial goal for the appeal is \$148,000 for debt reduction. \$1,000 for each year that Morrison Zion Lutheran has existed as a congregation.

**Breaking Down The Barriers Booklet** To help us raise our eyes above the barriers of day to day activity we plan to create a booklet of what our members imagine our ministry could look like with God's blessings. Please write 200-400 words or so on what you think the gospel ministry of our congregation could look like with God's blessing. Dream big! Think about new ministries or programs that could be undertaken. Think about staff, reaching out to the community, the state, or even the world. If you are willing to accept this challenge to dream big, then write up your ministry dreams for our congregation and put it on Pastor Ott's desk at church or email it to him at [ottr@mzluth.org](mailto:ottr@mzluth.org) by Sept. 27.

**Sign Up Sheets** Zion will host two conferences this fall. The Pastor conference (about 30 people) is Monday, September 28. The Pastor/Teacher conference (about 100) will be Monday, October 5. There is no school this day. We ask all members to help out by checking the food and drink donation sign-up sheets in the basement. Workers are also needed. If you have any questions, please contact the Ladies Aid President, Diane Dobberpuhl.

**Sign Up sheets** for volleyball and basketball concessions are in the church basement.

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

Pastor Randy Ott	<a href="mailto:ottr@mzluth.org">ottr@mzluth.org</a>	864-2348
Principal Brian Humann		864-2349
President Jade Witt		983-2829
Board of Elders: Lloyd Lemke		864-7740
Board of Education: Jeremy Zirbel		864-2584

**School Faculty:** Brenda Kuchenbecker, Joan Wegner, Brian Humann, Rick Muchka, Tim Pingel

**Today's Organist:** Brenda Kuchenbecker

**Website:** [www.mzluth.org](http://www.mzluth.org)      **Synod Website:** [www.wels.net](http://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