

## Our Stewardship of the Means of Grace:

**Worship:** 333 (48, 285) **Bible Study:** 73 (7, 3, 49, 8, 6) **Youth Study:** 9

Sunday	10:00 a.m. Sunday School 7:00 p.m. New Life in Christ Class, church basement
Monday	7:00 a.m. His Word-My Life Class, church basement 8:00 a.m. Pastor Conference registration 9:00 a.m. Pastor Conference Worship with Communion 3:45 p.m. B Volleyball at home 6:00 p.m. Choir 7:00 p.m. Youth Group Bible Class, school
Tuesday	2:00 p.m. Bible Study, church basement 7:30 p.m. PTA, school
Wednesday	4:45 p.m. Confirmation Class 5:30 p.m. Bible History Class 8:00 p.m. Choir, school
Thursday	7:30 p.m. Worship 8:30 p.m. Adult Christ-Light Study, church basement
Saturday	1:00 p.m. Volleyball at Kiel
Sunday	8:00 a.m. Adult Christ-Light Study, church basement 8:00 a.m. Angels/Demons Study, school commons 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Sunday School 7:00 p.m. New Life in Christ Class, 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** will meet in the basement after church Sunday.

**New Life In Christ Adult Information Class** It's not too late to join us!

We meet Sundays at 7:00 p.m. in the church basement.

**His Word-My Life** class will continue the study, *The Kingdom of God*.

Class will meet in the church basement at 7:00 a.m. on Monday.

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

**Tuesday Bible class** is studying *Luther's Large Catechism*. Join us at 2:00 p.m.

**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 vision becomes a barrier. 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.

**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

## 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost September 24 & 27, 2009

### Prayer before worship

*Lord, all too often I focus on my actions as though they lead you to love me. Help me today to see that you loved me when I was spiritually dead. Lead me to greater joy in living in love for you.. Amen*

**Lessons are on the back cover**

### Service

Common Service (p. 15)

### Personal Preparation For Holy Communion

Page 156

### Hymns

347, 453, 376, 431, 465:2

### Prayer of the Day

*Lord, we pray that your mercy and grace may always go before and follow after us that, loving you with undivided hearts, we may be ready for every good and useful work; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

### Special Music (Sunday)

*Lord, I Stretch My Hands To You*  
(choir, after Prayer of the Day)

### Psalm of the Day

Psalm 116 (p. 107)

### Verse of the Day

Alleluia. 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. Alleluia.

### Sermon: Mark 8:27-35 Who Do You Say Jesus Is?

In your words  
In your actions

## 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost—Series B

*Just how deeply should the Word of God penetrate heart and life? Jesus himself is the model in whose footsteps we follow, stumbling though that following be.*

### First Lesson: [Jeremiah 38:1-13](#)

*Jeremiah warned the people of the coming judgment of God. How disgraceful that for the sake of God's love and faithfulness, the faithful and loving servant receives abuse and persecution! Notice that the most severe persecution and abuse comes from those who should know better, and the only help comes from an outsider, a foreigner.*

Shephatiah son of Mattan, Gedaliah son of Pashhur, Jehucal son of Shelemiah, and Pashhur son of Malkijah heard what Jeremiah was telling all the people when he said, "This is what the LORD says: 'Whoever stays in this city will die by the sword, famine or plague, but whoever goes over to the Babylonians will live. He will escape with his life; he will live.' And this is what the LORD says: 'This city will certainly be handed over to the army of the king of Babylon, who will capture it.'"

Then the officials said to the king, "This man should be put to death. He is discouraging the soldiers who are left in this city, as well as all the people, by the things he is saying to them. This man is not seeking the good of these people but their ruin."

"He is in your hands," King Zedekiah answered. "The king can do nothing to oppose you."

So they took Jeremiah and put him into the cistern of Malkijah, the king's son, which was in the courtyard of the guard. They lowered Jeremiah by ropes into the cistern; it had no water in it, only mud, and Jeremiah sank down into the mud.

But Ebed-Melech, a Cushite, an official in the royal palace, heard that they had put Jeremiah into the cistern. While the king was sitting in the Benjamin Gate, Ebed-Melech went out of the palace and said to him, "My lord the king, these men have acted wickedly in all they have done to Jeremiah the prophet. They have thrown him into a cistern, where he will starve to death when there is no longer any bread in the city."

Then the king commanded Ebed-Melech the Cushite, "Take thirty men from here with you and lift Jeremiah the prophet out of the cistern before he dies."

So Ebed-Melech took the men with him and went to a room under the treasury in the palace. He took some old rags and worn-out clothes from there and let them down with ropes to Jeremiah in the cistern. Ebed-Melech the Cushite said to Jeremiah, "Put these old rags and worn-out clothes under your arms to pad the ropes." Jeremiah did so, and they pulled him up with the ropes and lifted him out of the cistern. And Jeremiah remained in the courtyard of the guard.

### Second Lesson: [1 Peter 4:12-19](#)

*The cross by definition is anything that we suffer as a consequence of our relationship with Christ. It is not the suffering that is ours in consequence of our*

*own sins. But the soul that struggles with temptations, suffers in the struggle. His conscience suffers when he wants the forbidden as well as when he actually falls. Yes, it is indeed hard even for the righteous to be saved! Even in triumph over temptation there is temptation, the temptation to be self righteous. Therefore, in every day and every way we have but this consolation, that our righteousness can only be the gift of the Crucified, and that God will not despise us in our struggle to follow under his cross.*

Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler. However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name. For it is time for judgment to begin with the family of God; and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the gospel of God? And,

"If it is hard for the righteous to be saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?"

So then, those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good.

### Gospel: [Mark 8:27-35](#)

*Those who confess that Jesus is the Christ must let this truth penetrate: Christ came to suffer, Christ came to die; he did it in perfect obedience to his Father; he did it in perfect love for us and for our salvation. His obedience and love were not cheap. Ours should not be either. We are not saved to sin all the more. Notice that our cross bearing is a necessary consequence of believing, but it is not a cause of salvation... As Peter well understood, the cross is always painful.*

Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, "Who do people say I am?"

They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets."

"But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"

Peter answered, "You are the Christ."

Jesus warned them not to tell anyone about him.

He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

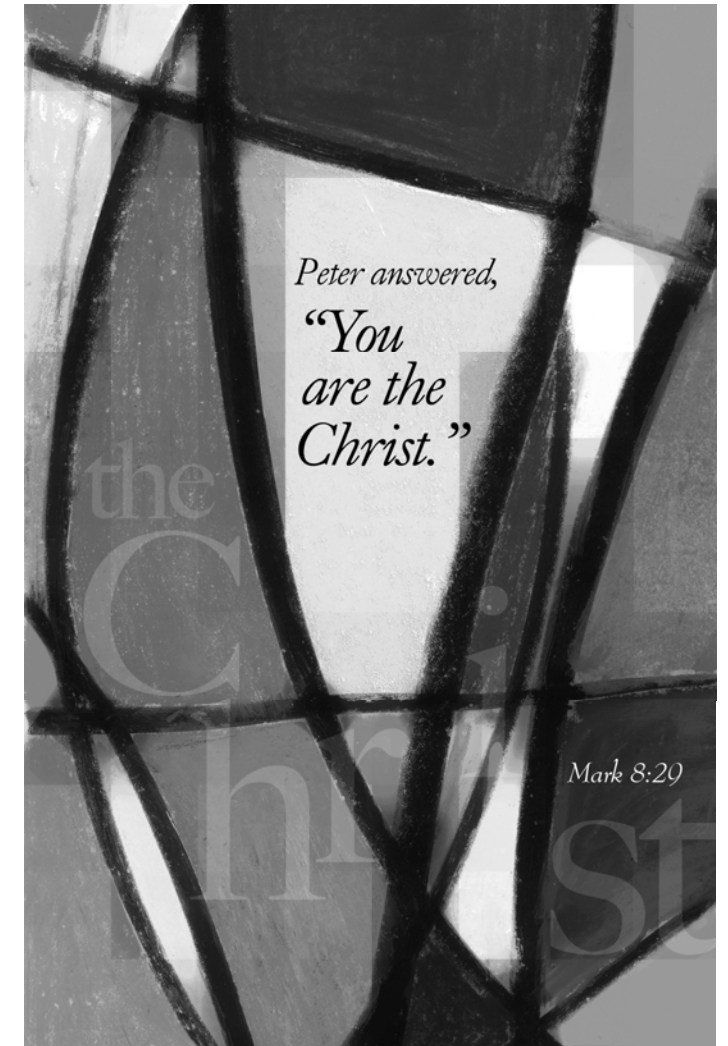
But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. "Get behind me, Satan!" he said. "You do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men."

Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it.

## 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.