

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.

1st Sunday of Advent: Series C Supplement Lectionary Nov. 29, 2009

The judgment is coming, but there will be deliverance for God's people.

Hymns: 2, 26, 9:3,5

Prayer before worship: *Lord, keep me focused on the things that have eternal importance. Amen.*

Gathering Rite

Music chosen for the seasons of the church year has the capacity to set the tone for a particular celebration. This year during the Sundays of Advent we will use the Advent Gathering Song as our Gathering Rite to set a tone of expectant preparation for Christ's coming. The Advent Gathering Song is written in the spirit of Taizé, with a refrain sung continuously by the congregation as the choir sings superimposed verses.

ADVENT GATHERING SONG

Gently
mp

James J. Chepponis

Come, come Emmanuel.

Come, Emmanuel.

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Choir: Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.

Cong: **Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.**

Cong: **Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.**

Choir: God fulfills the promise, so

Cong: **Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.**

Choir: For a shoot from David will

Cong: Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.

Choir: Overflowing with love, we

Cong: Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.

Choir: May God strengthen our hearts, and

Cong: Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.

Choir: For the Son of Man will

Cong: Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.

Choir: Oh be watchful, pray always, and

Cong: Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.

The music continues softly as we speak the invocation, confession, absolution and prayer of the day.

Stand

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

C: Amen.

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 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.

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

As the music grows louder the congregation again sings the refrain continuously as the choir sings the superimposed verses.

Cong: Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.

Choir: Lord, have mercy upon us and

Cong: Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.

Choir: Christ, have mercy upon us and

Cong: Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.

Choir: Lord, have mercy upon us and

Cong: Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.

The Lighting of the Advent Candle

M: We light one Advent candle, remembering Jesus who is coming again. He will come to gather his people from everywhere, both the living and the dead.

C: **We remember Jesus who will come at the end of time. None of us knows what day that will be.**

M: We hear his call to watch.

C: **We light one Advent candle as a sign of our watchfulness and waiting.**

M: Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

C: **Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blessed.**

One Advent candle is lit.

Be Seated

Choir Anthem: *Come, Lord Jesus*

Monday Choir

The service continues on page 40 in Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal.

First Lesson: Genesis 19:15-17, 23-29

In the midst of God's spectacular judgment on the wicked peoples of Sodom and Gomorrah, Lot and his daughters experience the Lord's gracious deliverance from destruction. Let us not hesitate to leave behind the things of this world for the promise of eternal deliverance. Let us not look back on what might have been, but ahead to the promised salvation of the Christ.

With the coming of dawn, the angels urged Lot, saying, "Hurry! Take your wife and your two daughters who are here, or you will be swept away when the city is punished."

When he hesitated, the men grasped his hand and the hands of his wife and of his two daughters and led them safely out of the city, for the LORD was merciful to them. As soon as they had brought them out, one of them said, "Flee for your lives! Don't look back, and don't stop anywhere in the plain! Flee to the mountains or you will be swept away!"

By the time Lot reached Zoar, the sun had risen over the land. Then the LORD rained down burning sulfur on Sodom and Gomorrah—from the LORD out of the heavens. Thus he overthrew those cities and the entire plain, including all those living in the cities—and also the vegetation in the land. But Lot's wife looked back, and she became a pillar of salt.

Early the next morning Abraham got up and returned to the place where he had stood before the LORD. He looked down toward Sodom and Gomorrah, toward all the land of the plain, and he saw dense smoke rising from the land, like smoke from a furnace.

So when God destroyed the cities of the plain, he remembered Abraham, and he brought Lot out of the catastrophe that overthrew the cities where Lot had lived.

Psalm of the Day: Psalm 25 (page 74)

Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

The Apostle Paul met the righteous branch of David face to face; he saw the promise of "the Lord Our Righteousness" fulfilled. Therefore he exhorts the Thessalonians and all believers - those who know the Christ's deliverance from sin - to continue living lives of faith and hope in the promise that the Lord Jesus will come again to bring us to eternal life.

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you. May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

Gospel: Luke 21:25-36

Jesus has proclaimed to us that he will come again to judge the world. While it is not for us to know "the day or hour," our Savior would not leave us ignorant of the coming judgment. Eschatological signage abounds for those looking through eyes of faith. Yet, even as we anticipate his coming again to be our judge, we need not cower in fear, for with him comes the deliverance promised of old.

"There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. Men will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the

heavenly bodies will be shaken. At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

He told them this parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees. When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near.

"I tell you the truth, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

"Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with dissipation, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you unexpectedly like a trap. For it will come upon all those who live on the face of the whole earth. Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man."

Our Stewardship of the Means of Grace:

Worship: 308 (55, 253) **Communion:** 135 (33, 102)
Bible Study: 83 (5, 40, 18, 8, 12) **Youth Study:** 15

Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Breaking Down Barriers Pot Luck Dinner, gym
	10:20 a.m.	Financial Peace University Video Preview, school
	7:00 p.m.	New Life in Christ Class, church basement
Monday	7:00 a.m.	His Word-My Life Class, church basement
	6:00 p.m.	Choir
	6:45 p.m.	Youth Group Bible Class, school (choir rehearsal)
Tuesday	2:00 p.m.	Bible Class, church
	7:00 p.m.	Financial Peace University, commons
Wednesday	4:45 p.m.	Confirmation Class
	5:30 p.m.	Bible History Class
	7:30 p.m.	Thanksgiving Worship
Thursday	9:00 p.m.	Thanksgiving Worship
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Adult Christ-Light Study, church basement
	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study, school commons
	9:00 a.m.	Worship
	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Church Band, school
	7:00 p.m.	New Life in Christ Class, church basement

Outreach Committee is looking for your help! We are putting together several Christmas cookie tins to give to unchurched families in our area, similar to the Easter basket project we did in the Spring. The tins will be filled with baked goodies, an invitation to worship at Zion and attend Christmas for Kids, and

most importantly, the true Christmas message of our newborn King and Savior. If you would like to supply cookies/bars, metal or plastic tins, or donate funds toward the purchase of these items, look for a sign-up sheet in the basement. Also, if you have a friend or neighbor you would like to receive a cookie tin, please talk to Gretchen Jaschob.

Advent Midweek Worship begins this Wednesday. We will worship at 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. The theme of our worship this year is “My Soul in Stillness Waits” based on hymn 703 in the Supplement. As we go through a season that challenges stress levels what a wonderful opportunity our God gives us to pause and be refreshed in quiet contemplation of his grace!

Advent Soup Suppers There will be a soup supper served after the 11:00 a.m. midweek service and an hour before the 7:30 p.m. service on Wednesdays. If you would like to make soup, bars, help set up, or help serve, please sign up on the sheet in the basement or talk to Paula Ott.

Youth Group Free Babysitting Night Looking for a night out? Need to get some holiday shopping done? The Youth Group is once again having a Free Babysitting Night on Saturday, December 12, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. Children ages 3+ are welcome to join us for games, snacks, and movies. Sign up sheets are available in the church basement and the school commons.

Breaking Down Barriers Last week 76 commitment cards were returned. This included \$18,930 in initial gifts. The amount committed to the appeal so far is \$77,769. We thank God that he has moved his people to respond with gifts given in love to support the ministry of our congregation. These gifts will be used first to pay off the loan that was taken to build the addition on the school. When that is paid off the gifts will be used to reduce our line of credit loan at the bank. If you would still like to return your commitment card you may do so any week in worship by placing it in the offering plate during worship.

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: Lloyd Lemke		864-7740
Board of Education: Jeremy Zirbel		864-2584

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

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