

## Morrison Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

*Our mission is to **Glorify 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 after Christmas December 26, 2010

**God cares for his sons. He cared for his son, the nation of Israel—though they were rebellious. He cared for his Son, Jesus—though Herod raged against him. He even cares for his newly adopted sons—though we do not deserve it. God cared for us by sending his Son to deliver us from the corruption of sin and transform us into sons just like Jesus (Prayer of the Day). That work of Christ gives us peace (Verse of the Day) that only sons can have.**

**Service:** Common Service (p.15)

**Hymns:** 42, 42, 36, 56, 63, 64

**Personal Preparation for Communion** (p. 156)

**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.

**First Lesson:** Hosea 11:1-7

“When Israel was a child, I loved him,  
and out of Egypt I called my son.  
But the more I called Israel,  
the further they went from me.  
They sacrificed to the Baals  
and they burned incense to images.  
It was I who taught Ephraim to walk,

taking them by the arms;  
but they did not realize  
it was I who healed them.  
I led them with cords of human kindness,  
with ties of love;  
I lifted the yoke from their neck  
and bent down to feed them.  
“Will they not return to Egypt  
and will not Assyria rule over them  
because they refuse to repent?  
Swords will flash in their cities,  
will destroy the bars of their gates  
and put an end to their plans.  
My people are determined to turn from me.  
Even if they call to the Most High,  
he will by no means exalt them.

**Psalm of the Day:** Psalm 2 (page 65)

**Second Lesson:** Galatians 4:4-7

But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, “*Abba, Father.*” So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir.

**Verse of the Day:** Alleluia. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts. Alleluia. (Cl 3:15a)

**Gospel:** Matthew 2:13-15,19-23

When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. “Get up,” he said,

“take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.”

So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: “Out of Egypt I called my son

After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to take the child’s life are dead.”

So he got up, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. Having been warned in a dream, he withdrew to the district of Galilee, and he went and lived in a town called Nazareth. So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets: “He will be called a Nazarene.”

Sermon: **God Loves His Sons**

Therefore he disciplines them

Therefore he warns them

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

**Worship:** 394

**Youth Study:** 13

Friday 7:30 p.m. New Year’s Eve Worship,  
communion  
Saturday 9:00 a.m. New Year’s Day Worship,  
communion  
Sunday 9:00 a.m. Worship

**Communion** is a part of worship today. Because the Bible speaks of communing together as an expression of faith we practice closed communion. All WELS members are welcome to commune with us. Visitors, please speak to the pastor before communing.

**New Year’s Eve Worship** will be this Friday at 7:30 p.m. Communion will be a part of worship.

We will focus on the passing of time and the certainty of God’s promises.

**New Year’s Day Worship** will be this Saturday at 9:00 a.m. Communion will be a part of worship. We will focus on the Minor Festival: The Name of Jesus.

**Book Study** On Sunday, January 16 at 7:00 p.m. we will begin our next book, Handling the Word of Truth. This book takes a summarizes and applies to modern life the writing of C.F.W. Walther, The Proper Distinction Between Law and Gospel. The book is written for the person in the pew to understand these important truths. In congregational life many want to use the law to motivate instead of the gospel. This book will help us understand the danger in going down this path. The cost of the book will be \$10. A sign up sheet for the book is in the basement.

**Thank You** Pastor Ott and his family offers their heartfelt thanks to everyone for your cards, gifts, and prayers this Christmas. These are wonderful displays of the love of Christ that is in your heart. Thank you!

Questions/Comments about Zion? Contact:

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