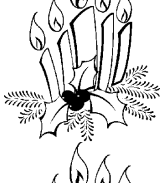


Morrison Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Readiness To Receive

Choir and Band Concert



Preservice Music

Christmas Spectacular
Trilogy of Carols
Cantique de Noel

Christmas Chorale and March
O Come to the Manger
Joyful and Triumphant

Band

Gathering Rite

Light a Candle in the Night

The Choir sings verse 4 of Light a Candle in the Night



1. Light a can - dle in the night. Pre - pare the way for the
2. Light a can - dle in the night. Pre - pare the way for the
3. Light a can - dle in the night. Pre - pare the way for the
4. Light a can - dle in the night. Pre - pare the way for the



ho - ly Light: God with us, Em - man - u - el, e -
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ter - nal hope with — us to dwell. Child of hope, come
Prince of Peace with — us to dwell. Child of peace, come
end - ing love with — us to dwell. Child of love, come
fount of joy with — us to dwell. Child of joy, come



in Your glo - ry, heav - en's gift, the won - drous sto - ry!
in Your glo - ry, heav - en's gift, the won - drous sto - ry!
in Your glo - ry, heav - en's gift, the won - drous sto - ry!
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Mes - si - ah King shall come to earth. Pre -



pare your heart for His ho - ly birth.



Stand

M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.



C: And also with you.

M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.



C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your un-failing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt..



M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will..



C: Amen.

M: Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Take away the burden of our sins and make us ready for the celebration of your birth, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: Amen.



The Lighting of the Advent Candle

M: We light four Advent candles remembering Jesus, the Son of God and Son of Mary. He came to share our humanity.



C: We remember Jesus whose name means Savior. He came to save the world from their sins.

M: We hear his call to give him a place in our hearts.



C: We light four Advent candles as a sign of our joy and hope.

M: Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.



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

Four Advent candles are lit.

The Congregation sings verse 4 of Light a Candle in the Night

Readiness To Receive



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Be Seated

THE WORD

*What's the best way to prepare for his coming? It's not with frantic doing. It's not with a focus on what we have done or promise to do. It's not with how we will pay back what he comes to bring. The best preparation for Christmas is a **Readiness to Receive.***

First Lesson:

2 Samuel 7:8-16

Both the coming in grace and the coming in judgment are prefigured in the promise to David. In the gospel lesson their fulfillment is about to be made perfect. The Son of God and





Mary's Son will create a home for God's people. The Son of God and Mary's Son will be punished for their sins. The Son of God and Mary's Son will remain forever to shield and shelter and save those whom God brings into his eternal house and kingdom. What's left for us to do? Nothing but to welcome and receive him!



"Now then, tell my servant David, 'This is what the LORD Almighty says: I took you from the pasture and from following the flock to be ruler over my people Israel. I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before you. Now I will make your name great, like the names of the greatest men of the earth. And I will provide a place for my people Israel and will plant them so that they can have a home of their own and no longer be disturbed. Wicked people will not oppress them anymore, as they did at the beginning and have done ever since the time I appointed leaders over my people Israel. I will also give you rest from all your enemies.



"The LORD declares to you that the LORD himself will establish a house for you: When your days are over and you rest with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, who will come from your own body, and I will establish his kingdom. He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I will punish him with the rod of men, with floggings inflicted by men. But my love will never be taken away from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you. Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever."



Psalm of the Day:

Psalm 89 (p. 98 CW)



Second Lesson

Romans 16:25-27



In the midst of all the hustle and bustle of these last moments before Christmas, find time to be quiet, to be alone, to shed tears of joy and gladness: He, the sum of all that God has to say to us, is about to descend once more to the lowly manger of our hearts! Be ready to receive him with joyful praise!



Now to him who is able to establish you by my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery hidden for long ages past, but now revealed and made known through the prophetic writings by the command of the eternal God, so that all nations might believe and obey him—to the only wise God be glory forever through Jesus Christ! Amen.



When Emmanuel Has Come

Choir

Piano: Michelle Hintz Flute: Stephanie Beyer



All the world is waiting for a savior.
All the world is waiting for a king.
Soon we will behold what the prophets have foretold.
Soon we will receive the gift He brings.



All the world is waiting for Messiah.
All the world is waiting for God's Son.
Soon He will appear for the time is drawing near.
Soon we all will greet the Promised One.
There will be joy, joy, joy when Emmanuel has come.



Heaven will rejoice and praise His name.
There will be joy, joy, joy when Emmanuel has come.
And the world will never be the same.



All the world is waiting for an answer.
All the world is waiting for a light.
Soon it will be dawn and the darkness will be gone.
Soon a king will come to make things right.



There will be joy, joy, joy when Emmanuel has come.
Heaven will rejoice and praise His name.
There will be joy, joy, joy when Emmanuel has come.
And the world will never be the same.
We will never be the same.



God So Loved The World

Choir

God so loved the world, that He have His only begotten Son,
That whoso believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world,
but that the world thro' Him might be saved.



Hymn of the Day:

Oh, Come, Oh, Come Emmanuel (CW 23)

Stand



Gospel:

Luke 1:26-38

Luther notes that the Virgin Mother of God received the message of the Incarnation with a simple, Yes! She did nothing but receive. The Greek word for word that is used in vs. 38 is not the usual word that we expect, the word logos. It's rymma. The two words can be synonyms. But the latter sometimes connotes a sound, the full meaning of which is not entirely grasped or understood, as distinguished from logos which conveys a message with a clear meaning. That's how receptive she was: She did not pretend to grasp all that the angel said or its full implication. All she knew was that the message came from God, and that whatever he was about to give—even his only begotten Son!—she was ready to receive. We humbly prepare our hearts to receive Jesus through repentance and rejoicing that a Savior has taken all our sins away!



In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."



Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end."



"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"



The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month. For nothing is impossible with God."

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.



Be Seated



O Hear The Angel Voices

Choir

The snow lay on the ground, the star shone bright,
When Christ our Lord was born on Christmas night.
Venite adoremus Dominum; venite adoremus Dominum.



See, amid the winter's snow, born for us on earth below;
See, the tender Lamb appears, promised from eternal years.

Hail, thou ever blessed morn!
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!

Sing through all Jerusalem, Christ is born in Bethlehem.
Venite adoremus Dominum! Venite adoremus Dominum!



In the little village of Bethlehem, there lay a child one day;
And the sky was bright with a holy light o'er the place where Jesus lay.
Alleluia! O how the angels sang. Alleluia! How it rang!

And the sky was bright with a holy light,
'Twas the birthday of a King.



O holy night! The stars are brightly shining;
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth.

Long lay the world in sin and error pining till He appeared, and the soul felt its worth.

A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices,

For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!

Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!

O night divine! O night, when Christ was born!

O night divine! O night when Christ was born!

O holy night.



Were You There On That Christmas Night?

Choir

Piano: Rachael Niemi

Were you there, were you there on that Christmas night

When the world was filled with a holy light?

Were you there to behold, when the wonder foretold came to earth?



Did you see, did you see how they hailed Him King

With the gifts so rare that they chose to bring?

Did you see how they bowed as they praised Him aloud at His birth?



Did you hear how the choirs of angels sang

At the glory of the sight?

Did you hear how the bells of Heaven rang



All through the night?
Did you know, did you know it was God's own Son,
The salvation of the world begun?
Did you know it was love, that was sent from above to the earth?



And The Angels Sang

Choir and Band

In Bethlehem town one silent night,
A baby was born under a star so bright,
No room could be found to lay his head,
So a manger in a stable was his bed.



And the angels sang Gloria, Gloria, Gloria, Glory to God.
They sang Gloria, Gloria, Gloria. They sang glory to God!



Wisemen came from far away,
They had traveled many days,
Gold and myrrh and frankincense,
Gifts for a King!



And the angels sang Gloria, Gloria, Gloria, Glory to God.
They sang Gloria, Gloria, Gloria. They sang glory to God!

Offering



Musical Offering

Christmas Angels

Band

Stand



Prayer of the Church

Advent (CW page 123)

The Lord's Prayer

Be Seated



May The Peace Of God Be With Us

Choir

As we leave this quiet place, the light of Christ will guide us.
As we share His truth and grace, our Lord will walk beside us.
May the peace of God be with us as we live and serve in faith.
May the love of Christ within us show in all we do and say. Amen.



Closing Hymn:

Rise, Arise (CW 30)



Postlude

Angels We Have Heard on High

Band

Our Stewardship of the Means of Grace:

Worship: 303 **Advent:** 187 (136, 51) **Communion:** 190 **Bible Study:** 45(26, 19) **Youth Study:** 15

Monday	7:00 p.m.	Youth Group
Wednesday	5:00 p.m.	Confirmation
	5:00 p.m.	Bible History class
	5:00 p.m.	Confirmation class
	7:30 p.m.	Band at church
	8:00 p.m.	Choir at church
Friday	9:00 a.m.	Children's Christmas Program

Readiness To Receive

Saturday 7:00 p.m. Children's Christmas Program
 11:00 p.m. Christmas Candlelight Worship
 Sunday 9:00 p.m. Festival of the Nativity of our Lord Worship, communion

Welcome Guests and Visitors! May the Lord bless you and all of us as we worship this morning. Everyone is invited to the basement for refreshments after worship.

Thank You to the members of the choir and the band for serving the Lord and his people with your talents this morning! Thank you to all our accompanists who served this morning. Thanks to our choir and band director, Brenda Kuchenbecker, for your service to the Lord. Thank you one and all!

Poinsettias There is a sign up sheet on the table in the basement for poinsettias. Please sign up today!

Ladies Aid Cookbook Today is the last day to submit recipes. Please give your recipe to a committee member.

Church Mailboxes and Offering Envelopes Please empty your mailbox or deliver the mail to someone else. We will update the mailbox slots and insert new offering envelopes after today's service. Your mailbox might move. Please place your envelopes in a safe place until January 1, 2012.

Groups, committee's, organizations, please submit your year end reports highlighting what you group did during 2011 by January 3. You can email them to pantzna@mzluth.org.

NEW Zoo Day January 14 for 2-5 year olds. Please invite 2-5 year olds to join us. If you would like info on ways to help please contact Mr. Humann.

The Book Study will not meet again until January 8. Our first class will put into practice what we learned in the book, *Bible Basics*. Read the book of Titus in the New Testament. Look at who wrote the book, who they were writing to, what they were writing about. Then read the book and bring to class the insights you gleaned for your life and any questions you may have about the things you read. We will discuss it together like we have been discussing the books we have read. The next book we will discuss is *One God—Two Covenants?*. This book is from the Bible Discovery series from NPH, the same series that published *Bible Basics*. The cost of the book is \$15. There is a sign up sheet with more information in the church basement.

MLHS Christmas Concert Dec 23 4:30 & 7:30pm. Join the MLHS family to celebrate the birth of our Savior! This annual concert at the Manitowoc Capitol Civic Centre provides a tremendous opportunity, in a beautiful facility, to focus our hearts on Christ. Admission is free, so please consider bringing a friend, neighbor, or co-worker to experience this musical celebration featuring all of MLHS' musical groups.

International Student Opportunity! , MLHS is in need of two Christian homes to each host a male Chinese sophomore student arriving in mid-January for the second semester. This is an opportunity to learn about another culture without the commitment of a full academic year. MLHS host families receive a stipend for housing, meals, etc.; students arrive with their own insurance. MLHS provides support to host families regarding cultural adjustment, academics, social activities, etc. Please consider accepting Leo or Eric into your family to share the message of the Christ Child. Questions Contact Jen Pingel, International Student Coordinator at jpingel@mlhslancers.org or 664-1489.

Questions/Comments about Zion? Contact:

Pastor Randy Ott	864-2348; 362-7118; otrr@mzluth.org
Principal Brian Humann	864-2349
President Erv Zeamer	660-1161
Elders: Junior Pantzlaff	864-7563
School Board: Eric Cappelle	864-2954

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

Website: www.mzluth.org **Synod :** www.wels.net

Custodian: Beverly Leiterman 864-2355

Church/School Secretary: Nancy Pantzlaff 864-7334

Wisconsin Lutheran Child and Family Service (WELS counseling)
 Appleton, Kathleen Jasman, Administrator, 731-9798

Living Hope Counseling Ministries De Pere (WELS counseling)
 Dr. John Johnson, Director, 338-8699