### Easter 7

# May 12, 2013

The Season of Easter draws to a close with a look at Jesus' High Priestly prayer. Now as then, our risen and ascended Lord Jesus prays for Spiritinspired unity between the Father and his church. With much anticipation, we look for the coming of the Holy Spirit, confidently living a new life of faith in our ascended Lord.

Preservice: Paige Zirbel, Chimes (Sunday)

Service: Word and Sacrament (p. 26) Hymn 265 will replace O Lord, Our Lord

Hymns: 169, 359, 155, 539, 494, 170

# Preparation for Communion: Page 156

**Prayer of the Day:** Almighty God, your Son our Savior was taken up in glory and intercedes for us at your right hand. Through your living and abiding Word, give us hearts to know him and faith to follow where he has gone; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Anthem: With My Voice (4K&5K, Sunday)

**First Lesson:** <u>Acts 16:6-10</u> How richly the Lord blessed the proclamation of his Gospel in the provinces of Asia Minor. Yet, in keeping with divine will, Paul is directed by the Spirit of Jesus to take the Word of Life to the continent of Europe. With Spirit-inspired zeal Paul and companions immediately prepare to depart, eager to take the Good News to Macedonia. This is the very advancement of the Gospel for which Jesus prays in the Gospel.

Paul and his companions traveled throughout the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been kept by the Holy Spirit from preaching the word in the province of Asia.



Welcome! We thank God that you have joined us at worship today.

Restrooms are located in the basement. Hearing loop headphones and Large Print Hymnals are available from an usher.

Today we gather together in the 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 our worship. When they came to the border of Mysia, they tried to enter Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to. So they passed by Mysia and went down to Troas. During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

### Psalm of the Day: Psalm 14 (p. 40 CWS)

### Second Lesson: Romans 15:14-20

Paul glories "in Christ Jesus in his service to God." Such has been his privilege: to carry out the priestly duty of proclaiming the Word of the Lord to the founding generations of the early Christian Church. This, the answer to Jesus' High Priestly prayer, continues from generation to generation. Through "signs and miracles, through the power of the Spirit," salvation has come to the Gentiles, sanctifying us into offerings "acceptable to God."

I myself am convinced, my brothers and sisters, that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with knowledge and competent to instruct one another. Yet I have written you quite boldly on some points to remind you of them again, because of the grace God gave me to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles. He gave me the priestly duty of proclaiming the gospel of God, so that the Gentiles might become an offering acceptable to God, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

Therefore I glory in Christ Jesus in my service to God. I will not venture to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me in leading the Gentiles to obey God by what I have said and done—by the power of signs and wonders, through the power of the Spirit of God. So from Jerusalem all the way around to Illyricum, I have fully proclaimed the gospel of Christ. It has always been my ambition to preach the gospel where Christ was not known, so that I would not be building on someone else's foundation.

#### Gospel: John 17:20-26

Our High priest has ascended his throne to sit at the right hand of the Father and intercede for his Church. In his High Priestly Prayer Jesus prays for the future Church, for us. In everything, our High Priest prays that we might enjoy the same relationship that Father and Son have enjoyed from eternity. The redemptive work complete, the connection through water and the Word established, our High Priest seeks for us unity, knowledge and eternal glory.

"My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. "Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world. "Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them."

Sermon:

Jesus Prays For The Church That it may be united That it may reflect his glory John 17:20-26

Musical Offering: Chimes (Sunday)

Our Stewardship of the Means of Grace:

Worship: 271 (22, 249) Bible Class: 53 (22, 20. 11) Youth Study:20

| Sunday    | 10:00 a.m. | Sunday School                        |
|-----------|------------|--------------------------------------|
|           | 7:00 p.m.  | Book Study, chapter 10               |
| Monday    | 7:00 p.m.  | Youth Group Bible Class              |
| Tuesday   | 7:00 p.m.  | Church Council                       |
|           | 7:00 p.m.  | Worship Committee                    |
| Wednesday | 7:00 p.m.  | Priority in Ministry Meeting, school |
| Thursday  | 7:00 p.m.  | Pentecost Festival Worship           |
| Sunday    | 9:00 a.m.  | Pentecost Festival Worship           |
|           | 10:00 a.m. | Sunday School                        |
|           | 10:00 a.m. | Priority in Ministry Meeting, church |
|           |            | School Picnic                        |

**Communion** is a part of worship today. Because God speaks of communing together as an expression of unity in faith we practice close communion. WELS members are welcome to commune with us. Visitors, please speak to Pastor Ott before communing.

Book Study will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday and discuss chapter 10.

**End Times** Bible Class will not meet next Sunday. On May 26 we will meet at 8:00 a.m. in the commons. We will look at "The of Judgment." Join us and bring the family!

Adult Christ Light will not meet again until Fall. Thank you to Dennis Griepentrog for leading this bible Class!

MLHS Church Year In Song Concert Join us for this special concert on Sunday, May 12 at 7:00 p.m. as the seniors present their final sacred concert at First German Lutheran Church. The MLHS Concert Choir and Lancer Singers will present songs from their concerts and MLHS Sundays. A narration between the anthems will highlight the theme and serve as a bridge to connect the seasons of the church year.

- **Pentecost Geraniums** If you would like to provide geraniums for our Pentecost worship please sign upon the sheet in the basement. The cost is \$3. Today is the deadline to sign up.
- **Priority In Ministry Meetings** If you did not attend any of the Priority in Ministry Meetings in April please join us for 45 minutes on Wednesday, May 15 at 7:00 p.m. or Sunday, May 19 after worship. Over 160 people did share their thoughts on the Gospel ministry of our congregation. Thank you to everyone who took the time. Please join us at one of the final two meetings if you did not join us in April. These meetings are open to all communicant embers of our congregation.
- You Are Cordially Invited to join the members of St. John-St. James Lutheran, Reedsville, in celebrating the ministry of Norman Pantzlaff. Mr. Pantzlaff is retiring after serving 43 years as a teacher at St. John-St. James. The celebration will be Sunday, May 26 in the 10:00 a.m. service. A dinner will be served at 11:45 in the school basement. If you plan to attend the meal please contact the church (920-754-4568 or sjjchurch@yahoo.com) by Sunday, May 19.
- **St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran Church** will hold a dedication celebration for its new addition on Sunday, June 2 during the 9:00 a.m. service. Our guest preacher that day will be Pastor Paul Schleis. A catered dinner will follow at 11:00 a.m. Tickets for the dinner will be on sale beginning May 12. Any questions can be directed to the office at 755-4555.

| Questions/Comments about Zion? Contact:  |                             |  |  |
|--|-----------------------------|--|--|
| Pastor Randy Ott home: 864-2348; mobile: 362-7118; ottrr@mzluth.org                        |                             |  |  |
| Principal Brian Humann   | 864-2349, school@mzluth.org |  |  |
| President Erv Zeamer   | 660-1161                    |  |  |
| Elders: John Ihlenfeldt  | 864-2822                    |  |  |
| School Board: Jim Laabs  | 864-2458                    |  |  |
| School Faculty: Joan Wegner, Brenda Kuchenbecker, Brian Humann, Tim Pingel,<br>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                    |  |  |