

The Voters set the times of worship at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. This will begin the Sunday after Labor Day, September 8. Bible Class and Sunday School will meet at 9:15 a.m. Thursday worship will continue to meet at 7:00 p.m.

Today's Light Bible This fall we will begin a two year program to read through the Bible and discuss what we read. The discussions are based on the *Today's Light Bible* from Concordia Publishing House. This Bible has the readings for each day along with an introduction to the day's reading and a devotional thought to close the reading. The discussion guides are now available for anyone to pick up in the church basement.. Bible Class discussions on Sunday evenings will be very beneficial if you can make them. But if you can't, please consider committing yourself to joining us in this program and using the available resource materials. You can still discuss the week's reading with other people after worship. We do have a limited number of used copies of the Bible available (\$10) on a first come first served basis. Sign up sheets and a copy of the Bible are in the basement.

Warren Cranberry Fest Saturday, September 28. A bus will leave the school parking lot at 6am and return at 9pm. The cost for the trip is \$38. If you have any questions please contact Sue Stanelle at 864-2504. More information is available in the church basement. The deadline to sign up is September 1

Questions/Comments about Zion? Contact:

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Appleton, Kathleen Jasman, Administrator, 731-9798

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

Pentecost 13 August 22 & 25, 2013

The way to heaven is narrow. Mere outward attachment to the family of God is not sufficient—only through faith in Christ can we enter heaven. The door is narrow and Christ commands us to make every effort to enter it, so the Church prays, “that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command.” Although the door is narrow, it is open to all, and the saints will come from all nations to behold the glory of the Lord.

Service: Divine Service II (p. 28 cws)

Hymns: 541, 413, 523, 467

Prayer of the Day: Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

First Lesson: Judges 7:1-8

Why is it so hard to remember that the good we do is not from our strength or ability, but from grace of God? If we enter the narrow door of heaven, it will not be our efforts that got us there. Yet boasting in ourselves is a common problem. The work-righteous attitude of our sinful nature seeks only to glorify self. When Gideon carried out the will of the Lord against Midian, the Lord chose only a handful to serve his purpose, so Israel couldn't boast in its own strength but only in the strength of the Lord.

Early in the morning, Jerub-Baal (that is, Gideon) and all his men camped at the spring of Harod. The camp of Midian was north of them in the valley near the hill of Moreh. ²The LORD said to Gideon, “You have too many men. I cannot deliver Midian into their hands, or Israel would boast against me, ‘My own strength has saved me.’” ³Now announce to the army, ‘Anyone who trembles with fear may turn back and leave Mount Gilead.’” So twenty-two thousand men left, while

**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.

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.

ten thousand remained.

⁴ But the LORD said to Gideon, “There are still too many men. Take them down to the water, and I will thin them out for you there. If I say, ‘This one shall go with you,’ he shall go; but if I say, ‘This one shall not go with you,’ he shall not go.”

⁵ So Gideon took the men down to the water. There the LORD told him, “Separate those who lap the water with their tongues as a dog laps from those who kneel down to drink.” ⁶ Three hundred of them drank from cupped hands, lapping like dogs. All the rest got down on their knees to drink.

⁷ The LORD said to Gideon, “With the three hundred men that lapped I will save you and give the Midianites into your hands. Let all the others go home.” ⁸ So Gideon sent the rest of the Israelites home but kept the three hundred, who took over the provisions and trumpets of the others.

Now the camp of Midian lay below him in the valley.

Psalm of the Day: Psalm 72 (p. 93)

Second Lesson: Romans 9:1-9

There is no human birthright that gives access through the narrow door. Not even being a descendant of the patriarchs would do it—only faith in Christ Jesus and the birthright given by our second birth into the true Israel of God. The Word of the Lord had gone out to the nations while Israel remained disobedient and obstinate. Even amongst such apostasy the Lord, by grace, kept a remnant of the faithful to preserve the ancestry of salvation. All believers, from all nations, will join this remnant, by grace, for eternity.

I speak the truth in Christ—I am not lying, my conscience confirms it through the Holy Spirit—² I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³ For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my people, those of my own race,⁴ the people of Israel. Theirs is the adoption to sonship; theirs the divine glory, the covenants, the receiving of the law, the temple worship and the promises. ⁵ Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of the Messiah, who is God over all, forever praised! Amen.

⁶ It is not as though God’s word had failed. For not all who are descended from Israel are Israel. ⁷ Nor because they are his descendants are they all Abraham’s children. On the contrary, “It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned.” ⁸ In other words, it is not the children by physical descent who are God’s children, but it is the children of the promise who are regarded as Abraham’s offspring. ⁹ For this was how the promise was stated: “At the appointed time I will return, and Sarah will have a son.”

Gospel: Luke 13:22-30

The narrow door to eternity is open only to the spiritual children of Abraham. The Chosen Nation of Israel thought that they had every right to enter through the door. After all, they were part of the Old Covenant. But their lack of faith in Christ and reliance on themselves left them locked out from paradise. In the new Covenant, entrance into the Kingdom of God is open only to those with faith in the Christ.

Then Jesus went through the towns and villages, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem. ²³ Someone asked him, “Lord, are only a few people going to be saved?”

He said to them, ²⁴ “Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to. ²⁵ Once the owner of the house gets up and closes the door, you will stand outside knocking and pleading, ‘Sir, open the door for us.’

“But he will answer, ‘I don’t know you or where you come from.’

²⁶ “Then you will say, ‘We ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets.’

²⁷ “But he will reply, ‘I don’t know you or where you come from. Away from me, all you evildoers!’

²⁸ “There will be weeping there, and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but you yourselves thrown out. ²⁹ People will come from east and west and north and south, and will take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God. ³⁰ Indeed there are those who are last who will be first, and first who will be last.”

Sermon:

Judges 7:1-8

The Believer Hears Jesus’ Warnings The Door To Heaven Is Narrow

Our Stewardship of the Means of Grace:

Worship: 236 (61, 175) **Bible Class:** 22

Monday	8:45 a.m.	Opening Worship, school basement
Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Worship
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study on Worship, basement
	9:00 a.m.	Worship
	10:00 a.m.	Ladies Aid Meeting

Communion is a part of worship today. Because the Bible speaks of communing together as a way of expressing oneness of faith we practice closed communion. All WELS members are welcome to commune with us.

Thank You to Rick Muchka for leading us in worship today. Pastor Ott will return from South Dakota late on Sunday.

Bible Class Next Sunday morning we will study “Why Am I Standing Again? 10 Questions About Worship.” Also, please bring any questions you might have about why we worship the way that we do. We meet at 8:00 a.m. in the church basement.

Ladies Aid Meeting We will meet Sept. 1 after 9:00 a.m. worship. Please bring ideas on when to meet in the future or share them with Mary Laabs.

The Believer Hears Jesus’ Warnings is our four week theme of worship. The remaining topics we will look at are:

The first will be last...Humble yourselves

Count the cost of discipleship

If you know of someone who could benefit from any of these topics in their walk with Jesus please invite them to join us!