

2nd Sunday after Christmas

January 5, 2014

The Incarnation reveals the unseen God to the eyes of the faithful. The light of Christ illuminates hearts and eyes once darkened by sin (Prayer of the Day), and the whole world sees the salvation of our unseen God made visible in our flesh-and-blood Savior.

Service of the Word
(page 38 and following in CW)

The Service of the Word makes room for the full scope of preaching and teaching God's Word in sermons and hymns. It was designed for use when there is no communion

Opening Hymn:

Hymn 43

STAND

After the opening hymn the congregation and minister exchange words of blessing to each other, using the words of the Apostolic greeting.

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.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

The Confession of Sins and Absolution (pronouncement of forgiveness) in this service emphasizes the scriptural themes of original and actual sin, and Jesus' perfect life and innocent death to remove the guilt of sin.

**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.

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

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 unfailing 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.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

Oh, Taste and See (sung)

This Song of Praise is based on two Psalms. The refrain comes from Psalm 37:8. The verse comes from Psalm 119:89. The focus and message of this song of praise is especially fitting in a service that focuses on teaching and preaching the full scope of God's Word.

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed are they who take refuge in him.

**Your Word, O Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens.
Your faithfulness continues forever.**

Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed are they who take refuge in him.

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have filled us with the new light of the Word who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all that we do; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: (sung) **Amen.**

BE SEATED

THE WORD

First Lesson:

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

The Messiah promises that the righteousness and glory of the unseen God will be made known to all nations. Then God speaks (62:1ff.) and shows the surprising way he will reveal his glory and righteousness: they will be seen in his people. No longer will they be called Desolate and Deserted. God speaks and makes our righteousness shine like the dawn, our salvation like a blazing torch. As a king's crown shows his power, so the righteousness of his people makes known the glory of the unseen God.

¹⁰ I delight greatly in the LORD;
my soul rejoices in my God.

For he has clothed me with garments of salvation
and arrayed me in a robe of his righteousness,
as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹ For as the soil makes the sprout come up
and a garden causes seeds to grow,
so the Sovereign LORD will make righteousness
and praise spring up before all nations.

62 For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
for Jerusalem's sake I will not remain quiet,
till her vindication shines out like the dawn,
her salvation like a blazing torch.

² The nations will see your vindication,
and all kings your glory;
you will be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will bestow.

³You will be a crown of splendor in the LORD's hand,
a royal diadem in the hand of your God. (New International Version)

Psalm of the Day:

Psalm 148 (p. 121 of CW)

Second Lesson

Ephesians 1:3-6,15-18

Paul prays that the Ephesians might know God better. There is only one way for us to better see and know the unseen God: the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, must tell us. The way to know God better is to see exactly what he has done for us (vv. 3-6) and what he will yet do for us (vv. 13-14). The wisdom that comes from the revelation of the Gospel enlightens the eyes of believing hearts (cf. 2 Corinthians 4:6) and lets them see and know the hope to which they have been called. This hope is certain because God's people already have the deposit (v. 14), and the promise was made by their adoptive Father (v. 5).

³Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. ⁴For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love ⁵he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will— ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.

¹⁵For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, ¹⁶I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. ¹⁸I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, (NIV)

Verse of the Day (sung)

C: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

These words are written they we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

STAND

Gospel:

John 1:14-18

John 1:14 occurs in the Gospel for Christmas Day and for Christmas 2. Please note each Sunday's distinctly different emphasis. The point of Christmas Day is that God became flesh. The emphasis on Christmas 2 is that the Incarnation reveals the unseen God to us. The sin-darkened eyes of mankind cannot see God in his glory; he must remain hidden in unapproachable light. God, however, wanted us to know him—to see him—and so God chose to reveal himself by hiding himself in flesh and blood. This is the great mystery of the Incarnation: Jesus Christ—himself God the one and Only,—came to make the unapproachable God known to us; he came to make the unseen God seen.

¹⁴The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

¹⁵(John testified concerning him. He cried out, saying, “This is the one I spoke about when I said, ‘He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.’”) ¹⁶Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already

given. ¹⁷For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and

is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.(NIV)

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: (sung) **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

BE SEATED

Hymn of the Day:

Hymn 34

The original text of this hymn, “In dulci jubilo, nun singet und sei froh,” is a multi-language hymn, that is, partly Latin, partly German. The true multilingual character of “In dulci jubilo” was attested to on September 14, 1745, at the Moravian mission in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, where the mission diary records that it was sung simultaneously in 13 languages.

Sermon

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

**Promises Kept:
He Has Clothed Us With Salvation**

STAND

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

BE SEATED

Offering *During the offering, please sign the friendship register in your pew. Thank you!*

STAND

Installation of the 2014 Church Council (8:00 a.m.)

Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

BE SEATED

Hymn:

Hymn 33

STAND

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people.
Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: (sung) Amen.

Benediction

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: (sung) Amen. Amen. Amen.

Closing Hymn:

Hymn 50

Today' Light Bible Readings

Week 19

January 6—11

Monday	Joshua 8-9
Tuesday	Joshua 10
Wednesday	Joshua 11-12
Thursday	Joshua 13-15
Friday	Joshua 16-27
Saturday	Joshua 18-19

Questions/Comments about Zion? Contact:

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News From Zion



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Announcements

Installation of the 2014 Church Council will take place after the offering in the 8:00 a.m. service today. The members of this year's council are: Charles Edinger (Chairman), Tim Schmidt (secretary), Randy Loppnow (Treasurer), Kurt Heling (Financial Secretary), Howard Schultz, Charles Lemke, Ron Beyer (elders), Jeff Krueger, Bill Doyan, David Blauert (school board). Thank you to Erv Zeamer Jr., John Ihlenfeldt, and Jim Laabs for their past three years of service on the church council!

Adult Christ Light will meet today at 9:15 a.m. in the church. Join us!

Original Math Forget "new" math; "original" math is life changing! God, the first Mathematician and Creator of all things, uses numbers to demonstrate his design for creation and redemption through the work of Jesus on the cross. Join us as we explore the symbolism and patterns of the numbers God uses to convey the truth of his love in these topics:

- 5 & 10: Keys to God's Word (today)
- 7 & 12: Numbers in Revelation (next Sunday)
- 40 & 8: A Generation of Mercy and the New Creation.

We meet Sundays at 9:15 in the commons. Join us and bring the family!

Today's Light Bible Discussion will meet tonight at 7:00 p.m.. The January reading guides are available in the basement and by the double doors at the back of church.

Sermon CD Ministry Meeting will be Monday at 6:00 p.m. in the church basement.

Epiphany Worship: This year our Epiphany worship will focus on *Paranormal Activity* and *The Savior's Sermon*. The first 3 weeks and last week of Epiphany we will look at Paranormal Activity. Paranormal is defined as "impossible to explain scientifically: unable to be explained or understood in terms of scientific knowledge." During Epiphany Jesus reveals what science could never explain: He is true God and our Savior. The themes are:

Jan. 12 *Paranormal Activity: Jesus appears as the Christ*

Jan. 19 *Paranormal Activity: Jesus appears*

as the lamb of God

Jan. 26 *Paranormal Activity: Jesus appears as Light in darkness*

Feb. 2 *The Savior's Sermon: Trust in God's strength!*

Feb. 9 *The Savior's Sermon: Let your light shine!*

Feb. 16 *The Savior's Sermon: Live a holy life!*

Feb. 23 *The Savior's Sermon: Love your enemies*

March 2 *Paranormal Activity: Jesus appears in his full glory*

Tuesday Bible Study meets at 2:00 p.m. in the church basement. This week we begin a study of *Cleansed and Fed: The Sacramental Life*. This study is based on the essay by Pastor Jon Zabell at the 2011 Synod convention. Copies of the paper and the study are in the church basement. Pick one up and read it and work through the study even if you can't join us!

Books On the table across from the mailboxes you will find a table filled with excellent Christian reading material. Pastor Ott cleaned out a portion of his library. You are welcome to help yourself to any of the books. If you would like to give a free will donation there is a box on the table. Your entire gift will be applied to our congregation's line of credit. Pick up a last minute gift that shares Jesus! Some books are brand new. Some are not.

Thank You Pastor Ott and his family thank you for your cards and gifts this Christmas. Your expressions of love are a wonderful reflection of the love of Christ that lives in your hearts! Thank you!

Reminder Please update your phone numbers and address if you have moved by emailing church@mzluth.org or put the information into Nancy Pantzlaff's mailbox. Thanks!

Heads of committees Please email your year-end report to church@mzluth.org or put it in Nancy Pantzlaff's mailbox by Jan. 5. Thanks!

Volume 2, Issue 1

Jan. 5, 2014

Christmas 2

Our Mission
is to
Glorify
God
as we
Gather
around the
Gospel
so that we
Grow
in the Gospel
and
Go
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Weekly Calendar

Sunday	9:15 a.m.	Numbers in Scripture, commons
	9:15 a.m.	Adult Christ Light
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
	7:00 p.m.	Today's Light Bible Discussion
Monday	6:00 p.m.	Sermon CD Ministry Meeting, church
Tuesday	6:30 p.m.	School Board
	7:00 p.m.	Worship Committee
Wednesday	5:00 p.m.	Confirmation, grades 6-8
	5:30 p.m.	Bible History, grades 1-5
Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Worship, communion
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Worship, communion
	9:15 a.m.	Numbers in Scripture, commons
	9:15 a.m.	Adult Christ Light, church
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Worship, communion
	7:00 p.m.	Today's Light Bible Discussion

Today's Light Bible Reading

Week 19—January 6-11

Monday	Joshua 8-9
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Our Stewardship of the Means of Grace

Worship	265	(124, 141)
Communion:	192	(98, 94)
New Year's Eve	104	Communion: 83
New Year's Day :	68	Communion: 44

Worship Etiquette

From the "Introduction" to Lutheran Worship: "The rhythm of our worship is from God to us, and then from us back to God. He gives his gifts, and together we receive and extol them. We build one another up as we speak to one another in psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. Our Lord gives us his Body to eat and his Blood to drink. Finally his blessing moves us out into our calling, where his gifts have their fruition." (Page 6).

Sometimes we do things which do not assist the worship of our brothers and sisters in Christ. Sometimes we distract others, usually totally unintentionally. Nevertheless it is a distraction. Since we do forget, we need to be reminded from time to time.

Remember that law of physics that for every action, there is an opposite like reaction. Translated into worship etiquette terms, everything you do (or do not do) affects some other person. The one question to ask in every single situation is this: How does my action affect another person's worship? Am I aiding or distracting? Or to put it another way, what if every single person were doing what I am doing right now?

The following suggestions are offered in a spirit of love, with the

intention of making our worship fit for our King.

Ten Commandments of Worship Etiquette

- 1 Give your best to God who has given you all that you have.
- 2 Because we are a communion of saints in Christ Jesus, talk to your neighbor before and after worship in the parking lot, on the porch, in the Fellowship Hall, in the narthex, in the atrium. But reserve the nave for a place to talk to God.
- 3 Take care of your bodily needs (restroom, drink of water, etc.) prior to worship. Frequent ins and outs are very distracting.
- 4 Plan to arrive on time. If, however, you are late, you should not enter during the words of welcome and/or introduction, during the Confession of Sins and Absolution, or during a Scripture reading. Enter at a "transition" time and as quietly as possible.
- 5 Keep your eyes and ears open to visitors, who are not familiar with the liturgy, and help them. Once you too were a stranger to the liturgy and someone helped you find your place.
- 6 Sing the hymns, listen to the reading of God's Word, and the proclamation of that Word by the pastor.

Join in praying the prayers, and participate in the celebration of the Sacrament of the Altar, your food along the way.

- 7 Take note of "who's who in the pew" with you, especially the people whom you do not know. Give them a smile during worship and a greeting afterwards.
 8. Jesus said, "Let the little children come unto me ... for of such is the kingdom of God." We want children in worship, for positive patterns are established at a very young age. Remember that the attention span of young children is short. If they become restless, let them rest outside the worship area..
 9. Help us keep God's house neat and in good order. Therefore, leave the worship space in a uniform, pleasing appearance following worship.
 10. Go in peace and serve the Lord.
- Reprinted from Worship Plus: a resource for worship leaders and musicians, Winter 1997. Used by permission.*

Glorify

Gather

Grow

Go

