

Festival of Friendship

**Rejoice
in the
Lord**



Philippians 4:4
'23 -'24

September 14 & 17, 2023
Morrison Zion Lutheran Church



**MORRISON
ZION
LUTHERAN**

Wisconsin Evangelical
Lutheran Synod

Our mission is to
Glorify God
as we

Gather
around the Gospel
to 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.

If your children
need to leave worship,
please take them to
the basement. A TV
broadcasts the service
in the basement.

Today we gather
together in the
presence of God. He is
present among us in a
special way through
his Word and
Sacrament. We
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.

Festival of Friendship

September 14 & 17, 2023

Have you ever thought much about the word, "friend"? In simple, practical terms a friend is someone who cares about you and expresses that care in word and deed. Jesus is the ultimate example. The Bible observes that there is no greater expression of caring that to lay down one's life for a friend. Jesus laid down his life for the world; friends and enemies. Jesus is an eternally faithful friend who gives us peace today and forever.

Hymn

God Loved the World So that He Gave CW 391



1 God loved the world so that he gave His on - ly
2 Christ is the sol - id rock of faith, Who was made
3 God would not have the sin - ner die— His Son with
4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son For - gives the



Son the lost to save That all who would in
flesh and suf - fered death. All who con - fide in
sav - ing grace is nigh. His Spir - it in the
sins that you have done. You're ius - ti - fied by



him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
Word does teach How we the bless - ed goal may reach.
Je - sus' blood; Bap - tized, you are a child of God.

Text: *Heiliges Lippen . . . Gesangbuch*, Stettin, c. 1778; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
Tune: ST. CRISPIN (LM) George J. Elvey, 1816–93.

Stand

M: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Jesus Sinners Does Receive Hymn 304:1,5



1 Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive; Oh, may all this
5 I, a sin - ner, come to you With a pen - i -



say - ing pon - der Who in sin's de - lu - sions live
tent con - fes - sion. Sav - ior, show me mer - cy, too;



And from God and heav - en wan - der. Here is hope
Grant for all my sins re - mis - sion. Let these words



for all who grieve— Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.
my soul re - ceive— Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

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

Jesus Sinners Does Receive Hymn 304:6,7

6. Oh, how blest is it to know, Were as scarlet my transgression,
It shall be as white as snow By your blood and bitter passion,
For these words I do believe—Jesus sinners does receive.

7. Jesus sinners does receive. Even I have been forgiven.
And when I this earth must leave, I shall find an open heaven.
Dying, still to him I cleave—Jesus sinners does receive.

Prayer of the Day

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Let us pray.

Lord, we thank you for the gift of friendship. You bless us with friends in this life who give us joy and lift us up in difficult time. Today we are especially thankful for friendship with you. There is no more faithful friend than you, Jesus. You know us intimately, including all of our sins, and yet you loved us so much to die for us and be our savior. Thank you, for your eternal love and friendship.

C: **Amen**

Be Seated

Junior Choir

Where Charity and Love Prevail CW²¹ 727

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| 1 | Where charity and love prevail,
there God is ever found;
brought here together by Christ's love,
by love are we thus bound. | 4 | Let strife among us be unknown,
let all contention cease;
be God's the glory that we seek,
be ours his holy peace. |
| 2 | With grateful joy and holy fear
God's charity we learn;
let us with heart and mind and soul
now love God in return. | 5 | Let us recall that in our midst
dwells Christ, his only Son;
as members of his body joined,
we are in him made one. |
| 3 | Forgive we now each other's faults
as we our faults confess;
and let us love each other well
in Christian holiness. | 6 | For love excludes no race or clan
that names the Savior's name;
his family embraces all
whose Father is the same. |

Text: tr. Omer E. Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.; Latin, c. 9th cent.

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THE WORD

First Lesson

Proverbs 17 (selected verses)

God's Word is filled with wisdom. The book of Proverbs is unique in speaking what is common and wise. The words of Proverbs aren't promises or prophecy but wisdom to help us understand the truths of life.

¹⁵ Acquitting the guilty and condemning the innocent—
the Lord detests them both.

¹⁷ A friend loves at all times,
and a brother is born for a time of adversity.

¹⁹ Whoever loves a quarrel loves sin;
whoever builds a high gate invites destruction.

²⁰ One whose heart is corrupt does not prosper;
one whose tongue is perverse falls into trouble.

²¹ To have a fool for a child brings grief;
there is no joy for the parent of a godless fool.

²² A cheerful heart is good medicine,
but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.

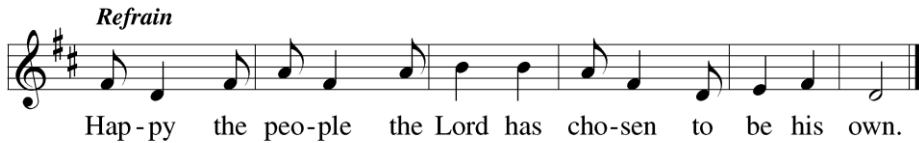
²³ The wicked accept bribes in secret
to pervert the course of justice.

²⁴ A discerning person keeps wisdom in view,
but a fool's eyes wander to the ends of the earth.

²⁵ A foolish son brings grief to his father
and bitterness to the mother who bore him.

²⁷ The one who has knowledge uses words with restraint,
and whoever has understanding is even-tempered.

²⁸ Even fools are thought wise if they keep silent,
and discerning if they hold their tongues. (NIV)



How good and pleasant it is*
 when brothers live together in unity!
 For there the LORD bestows his blessing,*
 even life forevermore.

Refrain

Praise the LORD, all you servants of the LORD*
 who minister in the house of the LORD.
 Lift up your hands in the sanctuary*
 and praise the LORD.
 May the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth,*
 bless you from Zion.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

Refrain Tune: Columba Kelly. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL, www.giamusic.com. All rights reserved.
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Second Lesson

Philippians 4:4-9

Life has its ups and downs. But with Christ as our guide, hope, and source of forgiveness we can rejoice no matter what circumstances we may face. Especially when we don't understand what we are facing or why we are facing it, God is with us and gives us His peace. These verses serve as the theme for Morrison Zion in 2023-2024.

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! ⁵ Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. ⁹ Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you. (NIV)

Verse of the Day

Junior Choir

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. (Philippians 4:4)

Stand

Gospel

Matthew 9:35-38

Jesus is the greatest friend we can have. He looked at the world around him and had compassion on them. He looks at us all and knows we need help. He is the Great Shepherd who cares for us all. In turn he asks us to care for and love those around us.

³⁵ Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. ³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. ³⁸ Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." (NIV)

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

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

Hymn of the Day:

When Peace Like a River Hymn 760

1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my
2 My sin— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous
3 And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be

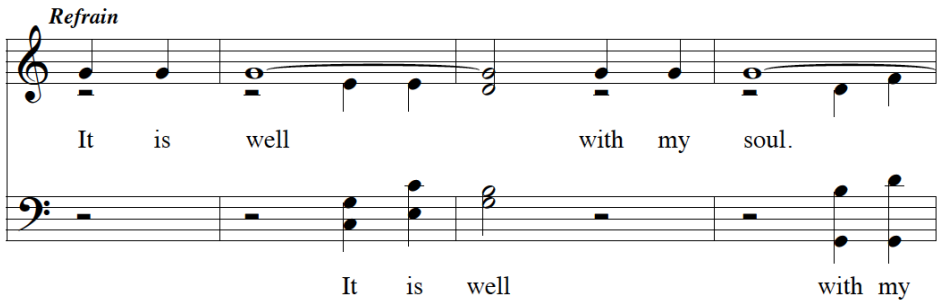
way, When sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll— What -
thought— My sin, not in part, but the whole, Is
sight, The clouds be rolled back as a scroll; The

ev - er my lot, thou hast taught me to
nailed to the cross, and I bear it no
trump shall re - sound, and the Lord shall de -



say, It is well, it is well with my soul.
 more: Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
 scend; E - ven so, it is well with my soul.

Refrain



It is well with my soul.
 It is well with my



It is well, it is well with my soul.
 soul.

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–1888, alt.
 Tune, Setting: Philip P. Bliss, 1838–1876

VILLE DU HAVRE
 11 8 11 9 and Refrain

Sermon

Philippians 4:4-9

Please sign the friendship register located in your pew.

Offering

Guests please don't feel a necessity to give an offering today. *"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver"* (2 Corinthians 9:7).

Stand

Responsive Prayer for Festival of Friendship

M: Dear Savior, we are so thankful for the life you have given us. Each day we awake to the light of day, food on our tables, clothes in our closets, and love from family and friends.

C: Lord, have mercy on us for your holy name's sake. Help us to always appreciate these blessings. Cause us to live our lives to the fullest by dedicating our time on earth to showing love to you and to others.

M: In the same way that we need friends in life, help each of us see our need for God and most of all our savior, Jesus.

C: We have not been perfect friends. Help us see our need for the perfect love and friendship of Jesus.

M: The Bible is your Word. It shows us our sins and our need for a savior.

C: Help us to learn and hear your Word, from friends, at church, and at home.

M: We realize that having friends and relatives, and the love and joy that comes from them is a great blessing from you. Help us love those close to us because you loved us. Therefore, we ask you:

C: Turn our cruel words into kind words; lead us to support each other, rather than tear each other down. Instead of holding grudges help us to forgive each other. Help us to love and not to hate.

M: In a world that is divided at almost every level and in every way, help us to show love not just to friends and relatives, but to show love on those we don't have much in common with and those who might hate us.

C: Knowing Jesus has loved and forgiven me, let me show love and forgiveness to all.

M: You have created us all, a world filled with different cultures, languages, and ways. We know you love the whole world and sent your son to die for the whole world. You truly are our best friend. You taught us that we can pray to God, your Father as he is our Father.

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.

M: Almighty God, grant to your Church the Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes from above. Let nothing hinder your Word from being freely proclaimed to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that we may serve you in steadfast faith and confess your name as long as we live, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Benediction

M: 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: Amen.

Be Seated

Closing Hymn

What A Friend We Have in Jesus CW 411



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, All our sins and
2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble
3 Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, Cum - bered with a



griefs to bear! What a priv - i - lege to car - ry
an - y - where? We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged—
load of care? Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge—



Ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer! Oh, what peace we of - ten
Take it to the Lord in prayer. Can we find a friend so
Take it to the Lord in prayer. Do your friends de - spise, for -



for - feit, Oh, what need - less pain we bear, All be -
faith - ful Who will all our sor - rows share? Je - sus
sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer. In his



cause we do not car - ry Ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!
knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness— Take it to the Lord in prayer.
arms he'll take and shield you; You will find a sol - ace there.

Text: Joseph M. Scriven, 1820–86, alt.

Tune: CONVERSE (87 87 D) Charles C. Converse, 1832–1918.

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