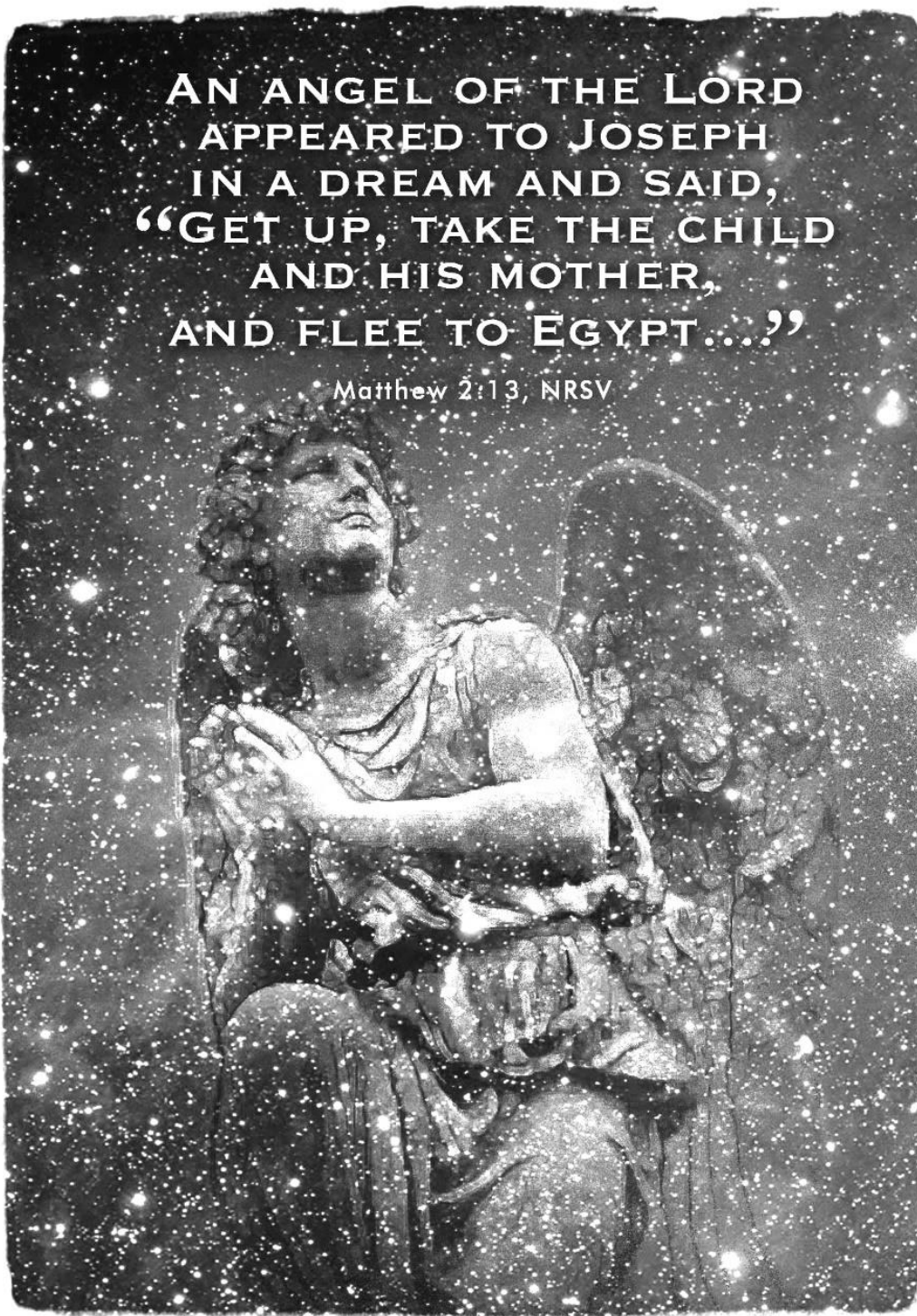


AN ANGEL OF THE LORD
APPEARED TO JOSEPH
IN A DREAM AND SAID,
“GET UP, TAKE THE CHILD
AND HIS MOTHER,
AND FLEE TO EGYPT...”

Matthew 2:13, NRSV



FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

January 1, 2023

Zion Ev. Lutheran Church

6430 Hwy. D

Allenton, Wisconsin 53002

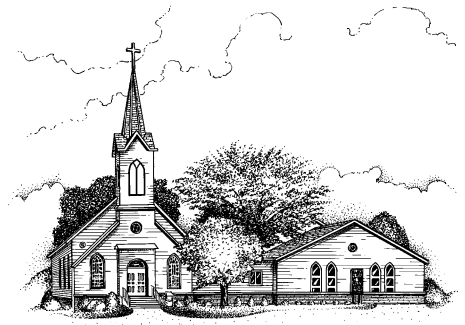
Members of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

Steven D. Bode, pastor

6438 Hwy. D Allenton, WI

Church Office: 262-629-5914 / website: www.zionallenton.org

Pastor cell phone: 262-483-0407 / e-mail: revsdb@aol.com



Welcome to God's House

At the birth of Christ, the angels announced good news and great joy meant for all people, but not everyone saw it that way: Herod reacted to the birth of Jesus with fear, opposition, and violence. The murderous intent of Herod, however, could not rob the world of the peace God intended to bring through his Son. God was working behind the scenes to make sure the devil would not ruin his plan of salvation.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Opening Hymn

O Little Town of Bethlehem #333

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary, and, gathered all above
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King and peace to all the earth.

How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel.

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Confession

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. 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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.

Christ, have mercy.

For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care.

Amen.

Song of Praise

Let Us All with Gladsome Voice #332

Let us all with gladsome voice praise the God of heaven,
who, to bid our hearts rejoice, his own Son has given.

To this vale of tears he comes, here to serve in sadness,
that with him in heav'n's fair homes we may reign in gladness.

We are rich, for he was poor; is not this a wonder?
Therefore praise God evermore here on earth and yonder.

Christ, our Lord and Savior dear, bless us and be near us.
Grant us now a glad new year. Amen, Jesus, hear us.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, the martyred innocents of Bethlehem showed forth your praise

not by speaking but by dying. Put to death in us all that is in conflict with your will that our lives may bear witness to the faith we profess with our lips; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading

Isaiah 63:7-9

⁷I will tell of the kindnesses of the Lord,
the deeds for which he is to be praised,
according to all the Lord has done for us—
yes, the many good things
he has done for Israel,
according to his compassion and many kindnesses.

⁸He said, “Surely they are my people,
children who will be true to me”;
and so he became their Savior.

⁹In all their distress he too was distressed,
and the angel of his presence saved them.
In his love and mercy he redeemed them;
he lifted them up and carried them
all the days of old.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

Great Are the Works of the LORD – Psalm 2D

Refrain



Great are the works of the LORD. Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le -
lu - ia! Great are the works of the LORD.

Tone



Why do the nations / conspire
and the peoples / plot in vain?

The kings of the earth rise up and the rulers band together a- / gainst the Lord
and against his A- / noointed. **Refrain**

The One enthroned in / heaven laughs;
the Lord / scoffs at them.

He rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, / saying,
“I have installed my King on Zion, my holy / mountain.” **Refrain**

I will proclaim the / Lord’s decree:

He said to me, “You are my Son; today I have become your / Father.”
Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. **Refrain**

Second Reading

Galatians 4:4-7

⁴ But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. ⁶ Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, “Abba, Father.” ⁷ So you are no longer a slave, but God’s child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

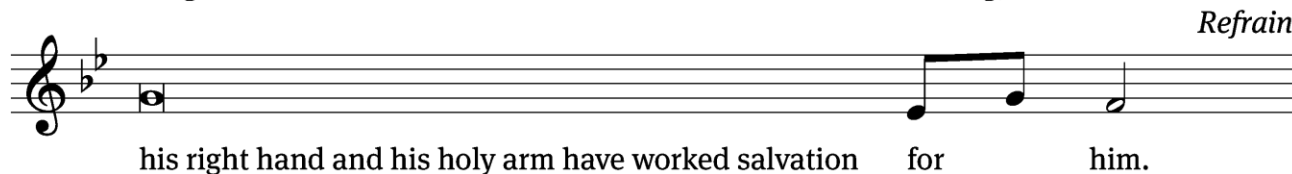
Gospel Acclamation



Refrain



Tone



Gospel

Matthew 2:13-23

¹³ When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. “Get up,” he said, “take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.”

¹⁴ So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, ¹⁵ where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

¹⁶ When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi. ¹⁷ Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled:

¹⁸ “A voice is heard in Ramah,
weeping and great mourning,
Rachel weeping for her children
and refusing to be comforted,
because they are no more.”

¹⁹ After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt ²⁰ and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to take the child’s life are dead.”

²¹ So he got up, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. Having been warned in a dream, he withdrew to the district of Galilee, ²³ and he went and lived in a town called Nazareth. So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets, that he would be called a Nazarene.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn

Let All Together Praise Our God #355

Let all together praise our God
before his highest throne;
today he opens heav’n again
and gives us his own Son, and gives us his own Son.

He leaves his heav’nly Father’s throne,
is born an infant small,

and in a manger, poor and lone,
lies in a humble stall, lies in a humble stall.

He veils in flesh his pow'r divine
a servant's form to take,
in want and lowliness must pine
who heav'n and earth did make, who heav'n and earth did make.

He undertakes a great exchange,
puts on our human frame,
and in return gives us his realm,
his glory, and his name, his glory, and his name.

He serves that I a lord may be—
a great exchange indeed!
Could Jesus' love do more for me
to help me in my need, to help me in my need?

For us he opens wide the door
of paradise today.
The angel guards the gate no more;
to God our thanks we pay, to God our thanks we pay.

Sermon

Matthew 2:13-23

Please stand

The 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 on 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

Prayer of the Church

God our Savior, you fulfilled your promises to our forefathers by humbling yourself to be born of the Virgin Mary for us and for our salvation.

Move your whole Church on earth to resound in praise for the gift of forgiveness you delivered to us.

God our Savior, grant that the light of your forgiveness may shine forth to all those living in darkness. By the power of the Holy Spirit, change the hearts of all those lost in unbelief.

Lead people to repentance that they may cling to you, the one who came to break sin's dreadful curse.

God our Savior, at just the right time you became flesh to redeem those who are born under the law. Because of your redemption, we are now adopted children of your Father.

Comfort those struggling with troubles and afflictions, and assure them of your abiding presence.

God our Savior, you were placed into an earthly family and were taught by your parents as you grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

Fill us and all our children with a fervor to be in your house. Instill in us a desire to listen, understand, and grow in grace and our knowledge of you.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow

God our Savior, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray.

Having been brought to faith by your word of truth, we trust in your promise to hear and answer our prayers. Amen.

The Sacrament

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whose wonderful and mysterious birth you have opened our eyes to the glory of your grace and renewed in our hearts the fervor of your love.

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

#167

♪ **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of heavenly hosts:**

heav'n and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he, blessed is he,

blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you

sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God

CW #169

♪ **O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace. Amen.

Distribution Hymn

Help Us, O Lord, for Now We Enter #70

Help us, O Lord, for now we enter upon another year today.

In you our hopes and thoughts now center; renew our courage for the way.
New life, new strength, new happiness we ask of you—oh, hear and bless.

May ev'ry plan and undertaking begin this year, O Lord, with you;
When I am sleeping or am waking, help me, dear Lord, your will to do.
In you alone, my God, I live; you only can my sins forgive.

And may this year to me be holy; your grace so fill my ev'ry thought
That all my life be pure and lowly and truthful, as a Christian's ought.
So make me while I'm living here your faithful servant through the year.

Jesus, be with me and direct me; Jesus, my plans and hopes inspire;
Jesus, from tempting thoughts protect me; Jesus, be all my heart's desire;
Jesus, be in my thoughts all day and never let me fall away.

And grant, Lord, when the year is over, that it for me in peace may close.
In all things care for me and cover my head in time of fear and woes.
So may I, when my life is done, appear with joy before your throne.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift.
We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our

love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

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.

Amen.

Closing Hymn

Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising #362

Come, your hearts and voices raising, Christ the Lord with gladness praising;
loudly sing his love amazing, worthy folk of Christendom.

Christ, from heav'n to us descending and in love our race befriending,
in our need his help extending, saved us from the wily foe.

Jacob's Star in all its splendor beams with comfort sweet and tender,
forcing Satan to surrender, breaking all the pow'rs of hell.

Gracious Child, in mercy hear us, from your lowly manger cheer us,
gently lead us and be near us till we join th' angelic choir.



This Week at Zion

Today:	9:00 a.m.	New Year's Day Worship with Holy Communion
Mon:	6:00 p.m.	Sunday School Teacher meeting
Wed:	6:00 p.m.	Catechism Instructions
Thu:	7:00 p.m.	Worship
Sun:	7:30 / 9:45 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion
	8:30 / 8:40 a.m.	Sunday School & Bible class
	10:45 a.m.	Undecorating Day at church

In Our Prayers The family of Grant Peterson (nephew of Jim Rodell & Julie Etta), who was tragically killed in an auto accident Wednesday night as he was returning home from a ski trip. May the Lord comfort his family and all who mourn with the promise kept of a newborn Savior who lived, died, and rose again to give Jared and everyone who believes in him the gift of heaven.

Holy Communion We believe that the Lord comes to us visibly and tangibly in the Lord's Supper or Holy Communion. Participation in this Sacrament is a statement of agreement in this teaching and also our unity in the faith (1 Corinthians 10:17). For these reasons, if you are not yet a member of Zion or a sister congregation of the WELS or ELS, we respectfully ask you to refrain from receiving the Lord's Supper until we have had an opportunity to explain this wonderful gift in more detail.

Our normal Sunday schedule resumes next Sunday after taking today off from Sunday School and Bible study. Catechism class is back at it this Wednesday, January 4th.

Thank you to Anna Bode who served as our accompanist Thursday night and this morning.

Thank you to the crew who took down the stage and chairs in the fellowship hall earlier this week.

Christmas Undecorating Next Sunday after the late service we plan to undecorate the church and take down the trees. Your help would be appreciated.

Envelopes Envelope boxes for 2023 are available on the table in the entryway. If you have questions, find a mistake, or can't find your box, please contact our financial secretary, Gene Salzman, at 262-323-1990.

Please pick up a copy of the January *Forward in Christ*, the church newsletter and the church calendar, all available on the cabinets in the entryway. The cover article from the *Forward* focuses on Pastor Aaron Strong, a former son of this congregation, who was taken home to heaven in a sudden accident back in October.

Pans and Percussion Concert On Saturday, January 14, at 6:30 PM, enjoy a pans and percussion concert featuring the ensembles of Wisconsin Lutheran and Kettle Moraine Lutheran High Schools. The concert will be held in KML's PAC auditorium and also livestreamed at kmlhs.org/stream.

Praise Concert & Sing Along Come join the KML Echoes, KML Chapel Band, and [Unworthy](#) for a free praise concert and sing along on Wednesday, January 25, at 6:30 PM in the KML PAC auditorium. This is a free concert - no tickets needed! Warm your hearts with the joy of the Gospel as we sing praises to our Savior together! There will be a free will offering at the event to support the Echoes for their band/choir trip to Memphis and Nashville.