

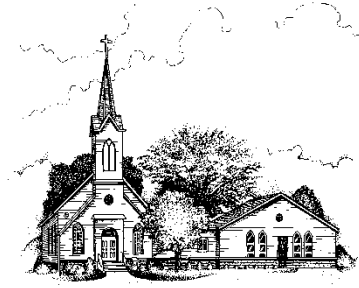


**SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

**JANUARY 12 / 15, 2023**

## Zion Ev. Lutheran Church

6430 Hwy. D Allenton, Wisconsin 53002  
Members of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)  
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*“Empowered by God’s Word, Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School educates, encourages, and equips God’s people for life and for eternity.”*

This is the mission statement of Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School. Zion is one of 27 WELS / ELS churches which supports and is served by KMLHS. Today we are reminded of and thank God for that connection.

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### Opening Hymn

### Blest Be the Tie that Binds #730

- 1 Blest be the tie that binds  
our hearts in Christian love;  
the fellowship of kindred minds  
is like to that above.
- 2 Before our Father’s throne  
we pour our ardent prayers;  
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,  
our comforts and our cares.
- 3 We share our mutual woes,  
our mutual burdens bear,  
and often for each other flows  
the sympathizing tear.
- 4 When here our pathways part,  
we suffer bitter pain;  
yet, one in Christ and one in heart,  
we hope to meet again.
- 5 From sorrow, toil, and pain,  
and sin we shall be free  
and perfect love and friendship reign  
through all eternity.

## Invocation

We begin our service in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit who unite us through faith built on the solid foundation of His Word.

**Amen.**

## Opening Dialogue

My people, hear my teaching; listen to the word of my mouth. I will open my mouth with a parable;

**I will utter hidden things, things from of old – things we have heard and known, things our ancestors told us.**

We will not hide them from their descendants.

**We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power and the wonders he has done.**

He decreed statutes for Jacob and established the law in Israel, which he commanded our ancestors to teach their children,

**So, the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children.**

Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget his deeds, but would keep his commands.

**They would not be like their ancestors – a stubborn and rebellious generation, whose hearts were not loyal to God, whose spirits were not faithful to him.**

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine on us –

**So that your ways may be known on earth, your salvation among all nations.**

## Shepherd of Tender Youth

#756:1 & 5

♪ Shepherd of tender youth, guiding in love and truth  
through devious ways, Christ, our triumphant King,

we come your name to sing and here our children bring  
to join your praise.

5 So now and till we die sound we your praises high  
and joyful sing: infants and all the throng  
who to your Church belong, unite to swell the song  
to Christ, our King!

## **Prayer**

Dear Savior, through prayer we are able to share our inmost thoughts, concerns, asks, thankfulness and praises. Draw us as Christians together under the banner of your holy truths that are only found in holy Scripture. Allow us to experience your free and full forgiveness and the nourishment that supports our spiritual lives of faithfulness to you. Make us bold and courageous to preach and teach your holy Word with our lives, words and actions.

**Amen.**

## **Confession**

Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

**Lord of life I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.**

**For faithless worrying and selfish pride,**

**For sins of habit and sins of choice,**

**For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,**

**You should cast me away from your presence forever.**

**O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant; I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

*Growing Together in the Wisdom of the Lord*

*Wisdom's invitation – true wisdom is found in the Word of God. Folly also invites those passing by in to experience worldly priorities. Wisdom's seven pillars signifies the completeness of spiritual wisdom. Wisdom's invitation is very public and not concealed. Wisdom even sends out servants to invite others in. Wisdom wants ears that hear and hearts that eat and drink in the invitation of God's Word.*

Wisdom has built her house;

she has set up its seven pillars.

<sup>2</sup> She has prepared her meat and mixed her wine;  
she has also set her table.

<sup>3</sup> She has sent out her servants, and she calls  
from the highest point of the city,

<sup>4</sup> “Let all who are simple come to my house!”

To those who have no sense she says,

<sup>5</sup> “Come, eat my food  
and drink the wine I have mixed.

<sup>6</sup> Leave your simple ways and you will live;  
walk in the way of insight.”

<sup>7</sup> Whoever corrects a mocker invites insults;  
whoever rebukes the wicked incurs abuse.

<sup>8</sup> Do not rebuke mockers or they will hate you;  
rebuke the wise and they will love you.

<sup>9</sup> Instruct the wise and they will be wiser still;  
teach the righteous and they will add to their learning.

<sup>10</sup> The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom,  
and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

Psalm of the Day

Your Word, O LORD, Is a Lamp - 78C

*Refrain*

Your Word, O LORD, is a lamp for my feet  
and a light un - to my path.

*Tone*

My people, hear my / teaching;

listen to the words / of my mouth.

I will utter hidden things, things / from of old—

things our ancestors have / told us.

We will not hide them from their de- / scendants;

we will tell the next gener- / ation

the praiseworthy deeds / of the Lord,

his power, and the wonders / he has done. ***Refrain***

He decreed statutes for / Jacob

and established the law in / Israel,

which he commanded our / ancestors

to teach their / children,

so the next generation would know them, even the children yet / to be born,

and they in turn would tell their / children.

Then they would put their / trust in God

and would not forget his deeds but would keep / his commands.

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**

**II Peter 3:14-18**

*Be on Guard to Retain the Wisdom God Has Shared*

*Despite persecution the Word of the Lord grew in all areas of Asia Minor. The difficulties of understanding Paul's words are either because of a lack of understanding or a denial of how scripture applies to our lives.*

<sup>14</sup>So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him. <sup>15</sup>Bear in mind that our Lord's patience means salvation, just as our dear brother Paul also wrote you with the wisdom that God gave him. <sup>16</sup>He writes the same way in all his letters, speaking in them of these matters. His letters contain some things that are hard to understand, which ignorant and unstable people distort, as they do the other Scriptures, to their own destruction.

<sup>17</sup>Therefore, dear friends, since you have been forewarned, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of the lawless and fall from your secure position. <sup>18</sup>But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.

## **Responsive Verse**

**Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray #873:3**

♪ Watch! Let not the wicked world  
with its lies defeat you  
lest with bold deceptions hurled  
it betray and cheat you.

Watch and see lest there be  
faithless friends to charm you who but seek to harm you.

## Gospel

John 15:5-11

### *Growing Together in Unity of Purpose and Resolve*

<sup>5</sup>“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples. <sup>9</sup>“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. <sup>11</sup>I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

## Hymn of the Day

**We Have a Gospel to Proclaim #741**

*hymnal only*

## Sermon

John 15:5-11

### *“Let Us Grow Together”*

## Statement of Faith

**We All Believe in One True God #940**

♪ We all believe in one true God,  
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
ever-present help in need,  
praised by all the heav’nly host,  
by whose mighty pow’r alone  
all is made and wrought and done.

2 We all believe in Jesus Christ,  
Son of God and Mary’s Son,



who descended from his throne  
and for us salvation won,  
by whose cross and death are we  
rescued from all misery.

3 We all confess the Holy Ghost,  
who from both fore'er proceeds,  
who upholds and comforts us  
in all trials, fears, and needs.

Blessèd, holy Trinity,  
praise to you eternally!

### **Prayer of the Church**

Let us pray to the God of all wisdom who calls and gathers the church together to be united under the flag of the Gospel.

O Lord. you have called the Holy Spirit to ignite our faith as a small ember into a brightly burning flame that confesses Christ as Lord of the church and our hearts.

**Holy Spirit hear our prayer that we might put “self” aside and rejoice in the truth that builds us up and your church that encompasses us.**

Dear Father in heaven allow the passion of reading your word, learning your word and digesting your word to consume our lives while here on earth.

**Help us to express your Word so that it resonates into the deepest part of the hearts of those listening.**

Allow the hidden meanings, the unfathomable truths of love and your perfect justice to be interpreted by faith for the eternal benefit of the recipient.

**Use the tools of the Spirit to equip, and educate the students at Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School for life and for eternity.**

Educate us all in using the power of Holy Scripture to reach out far and wide to share your message of love and salvation.

**Embolden us to trust in your guidance as you have thoroughly equipped your saints for your Gospel ministry. Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

## **Offering**

## **Closing Hymn**

**We All Are One in Mission CW93 #566:2**

♪ We all are called to service, to witness in God's name.  
Our ministries are different; our purpose is the same:  
To touch the lives of others with God's surprising grace,  
So every folk and nation may feel God's warm embrace.

## **Blessing**

Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.  
**To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.**

### **Hymn 730**

Text: John Fawcett, 1740–1817 Text: Public domain

### **Hymn 756**

Text: tr. Henry M. Dexter, 1821–1890, alt.; attr. Clement of Alexandria, c. 170–c. 220

Text: Public domain

### **Hymn 873**

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; Johann B. Freystein, 1671–1718, abr.

Text: Public domain

### **Psalm 78**

Tune: Mark Haas Setting: Mark Haas

Music: © 2014 Mark Haas. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712031

### **Hymn 940**

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619–1684

Text: Public domain

### **Hymn 566**

*Empowered by God's Word, Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School educates, encourages, and equips God's people for life and for eternity.*

KML is governed and operated by the Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School Federation, Inc., a federation of congregations which are affiliated with either the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod or the Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

The primary concern of the KML Federation is to provide a Christ-centered secondary education which prepares young adults for service to their Savior. God's Word clearly states that parent(s) are to ***"train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it."*** (*Proverbs 22:6, NIV*) Through the Apostle Paul, God tells us to bring up our children ***"in the training and instruction of the Lord."*** (*Ephesians 6:4*)

Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School is a tool by which parents can carry out God's will. Education at KML rests wholly and solely upon the Word of God in the Bible. Such education prepares a student not only for his life here on earth, but it also prepares him for his life in eternity. All courses of instruction and school discipline are permeated with a Christian spirit. The curriculum of KML is designed to prepare our youth to become dedicated Christian adults. An academic program is available to those students who wish to continue their education in any secular school or college, as well as those who wish to prepare for full-time work in the church as pastors or teachers. KML also offers a general high school program for those students who do not intend to continue formal education after their high school years.



## **This Week at Zion**

<b>Today:</b>	7:30 / 9:45 a.m.	Worship – KML Sunday
	8:30 / 8:45 a.m.	Sunday School / Adult Bible study
	3:00 p.m.	Pastor Jon Bare Commissioning Service
<b>Mon-Wed:</b>		Leadership Conference - Chicago
<b>Tue:</b>	6:30 p.m.	Ladies' Aid meeting
<b>Wed:</b>	6:00 p.m.	Catechism instructions
<b>Thu:</b>	7:00 p.m.	Worship
<b>Sun:</b>	7:30 / 9:45 a.m.	Worship
	8:30 / 8:45 a.m.	Sunday School / Adult Bible study

**Baptism** Allen Norman Schulz, son of Corey and Ashley Schulz, will be baptized in the late service today (01-15). He was born on December 9<sup>th</sup>. Allen's uncle, Pastor Aaron Schulz, will have the privilege of performing the baptism. May God keep Allen in his baptismal grace all his life.

**KML Sunday** We thank Pastor Randy Hughes from KML for being with us and serving as our guest preacher today. Pastor Hughes serves as an instructor and campus pastor at KML. If you have any questions for him re. KML after the service, don't hesitate to ask.

**In Our Prayers** Sandy Eichsteadt, back at Hope Rehab in Lomira after a heart attack; Snig Grunewald, back at New Perspectives in West Bend after a brief stay in the hospital.

**Annual Meeting** Zion's Annual meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. Regular ministry reports, financial reports, elections for Council, and a general update will be given for the past year 2022. We will have two spots to replace on the Council again this year...the financial secretary and the endowment / stewardship positions. Please consider using your time and talents to serve.

**Thank you** to Bea Pamperin who served as our organist today (Sunday).

**Thank you** to the dedicated group of members who stayed last Sunday to undecorate our church and pack everything away til next year.

**Commissioning Service** Pastor Jon Bare will be commissioned as the new president of Asia Lutheran Seminary at a special service this afternoon, January 15<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. The service will be held at Christ Alone Lutheran Church, Thiensville. You are cordially invited to join others in prayer for Pastor Bare, his wife Kim and their children as they move to Hong Kong for his new Call.

**Envelopes & Contribution Statements** Both are available for you to pick up: the envelopes on the table in the entryway and the contribution envelopes in your church mailboxes. If you have questions please contact our financial secretary, Gene Salzman, at 262-323-1990.

**Bible Class / Sunday School** Sunday School is back at it at 8:30 a.m. every Sunday in the church proper to begin. Bible class meets at 9:45 a.m. every Sunday in the fellowship hall. We'll take a brief break today from our "10 Lies About God" series so Pastor Hughes can give an overview / update from Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School.

**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.

**WELS Connection** The year 2022 brought new opportunities for WELS congregation and the synod at large. January's WELS Connection video looks back at the work of WELS Missions, Ministerial Education, and Congregational Services in 2022 and highlights what's coming in 2023.

**WELS Youth Night** - St. Peter's, Fond du Lac invites all youth from 8<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade to experience an inspiring afternoon of games, special music, God's Word, small group discussions and fun with fellow teens on Sunday, January 29 from 1:00 till 3:30 p.m. They're calling the night "A Night of "Godpliments"". See the flyer on the counters (St. Paul's) at the back of the sanctuary or (St. Peter's)

in the upper hallway for more information. You can use the following link to register for the event: <https://forms.gle/cp4Vcw4q2vCdFrAi8>.

**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.