

**The Season** Lent is a season of repentance and renewal. We see ourselves for what we are: sinners who caused the death of Christ. We also see our Savior for what he is: The Messiah who did all these things willing because he loves all!

**The Sunday** At its heart, our Lenten journey must be one of Spirit-wrought repentance. Here is the Lenten invitation: turn from sin fully confident of the Lord's deliverance. Marks of the Messiah: He Calls Us to Repentance

### Gathering Rite on the Word

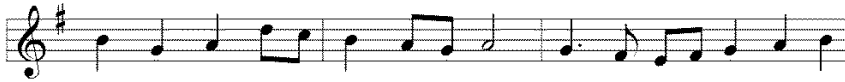
God's people long to gather together for strength from God and mutual encouragement. This alternate beginning reminds God's people of the blessings of his Word.

*Stand*

**M:** In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** Amen.

*Introduction to the hymn.*



Bless - ed Je - sus, at your Word We are gath - ered all to  
Let our hearts and souls be stirred Now to seek and love and



hear you.  
fear you, By your teach - ings, sweet and ho - ly,



Drawn from earth to love you sole - ly.

**M:** Oh, how I love your law!

**C:** I meditate on it all day long.

**M:** Your commands make me wiser than my enemies,

**C:** for they are ever with me.

**M:** I have more insight than all my teachers,

**C:** for I meditate on your statutes.

**M:** How sweet are your words to my taste,

**C:** sweeter than honey to my mouth! (Psalm 119:97-99,103)

## Morrison Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Wisconsin Evangelical  
Lutheran Synod



MORRISON  
ZION  
LUTHERAN

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.



All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight Lie in deep - est dark - ness  
Till your Spir - it breaks our night With the beams of truth un -



shroud - ed  
cloud - ed. You a - lone to God can win us;



You must work all good with - in us.

**M:** All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,

**C:** so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

*(2 Timothy 3:16,17)*

**M:** Yet so often we have despised God's Word and failed to gladly hear and learn it. For this and all our sins, we bow before God and humbly ask his 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.



Gra - cious Sav - ior, good and kind, Light from Light, from God pro -  
O - pen now our heart and mind; Help us by your Spir - it's



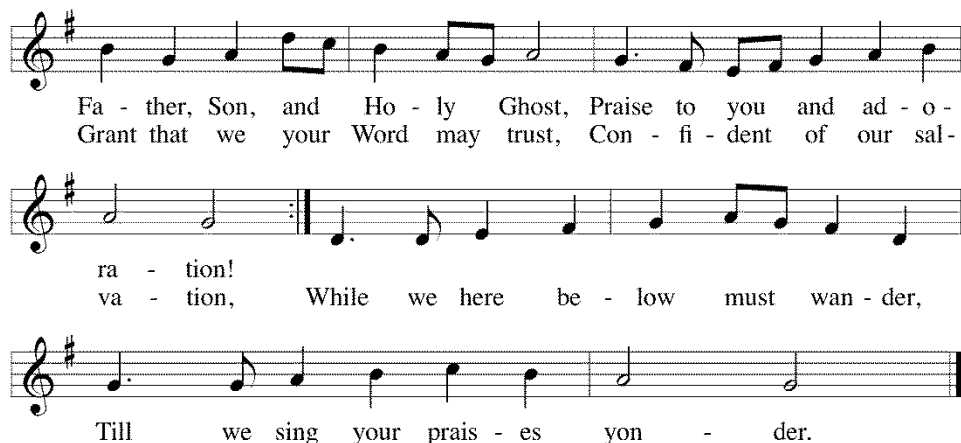
ceed - ing,  
plead - ing. Hear the cry your peo - ple rais - es;



Hear and bless our prayers and prais - es.

**M:** God gave his Word so “that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name” (*John 20:31*). The Scriptures testify about Jesus, who lived a perfect life for you, died on the cross to pay for all your sins, and rose again to assure you of your salvation. 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.



Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, Praise to you and ad - o -  
Grant that we your Word may trust, Con - fi - dent of our sal -  
ra - tion!  
va - tion, While we here be - low must wan - der,  
Till we sing your prais - es yon - der.

## Prayer of the Day

**M:** Let us pray.

Almighty God, look with favor on your humble servants and stretch out the right hand of your power to defend us against all our enemies; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen

*Be Seated*

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## THE WORD

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### First Lesson

### Numbers 16:23-40

Moses served the Lord and his people as prophet, spokesman for the Word. Korah and his followers, many of whom were Levites, claimed to know better. The demands were just too great, the expectations too high for Moses to truly be speaking for the Lord. As would be done for Elijah centuries later, the Almighty gave proof of Moses' authority as a warning to Israel. Yet in the midst of rebellion and divine judgment is the mercy of God. As the holy censors are affixed to the altar the people are reminded of the perfect High Priest's sacrifice yet to come. With the shedding of his blood, there is forgiveness.

<sup>23</sup> Then the LORD said to Moses, <sup>24</sup> "Say to the assembly, 'Move away from the tents of Korah, Dathan and Abiram.'"

<sup>25</sup> Moses got up and went to Dathan and Abiram, and the elders of Israel followed him. <sup>26</sup> He warned the assembly, "Move back from the tents of these wicked men! Do not touch anything belonging to them, or you will be swept away because of all their sins." <sup>27</sup> So they moved away from the tents of Korah, Dathan and Abiram. Dathan and Abiram had come out and were

standing with their wives, children and little ones at the entrances to their tents.

<sup>28</sup> Then Moses said, “This is how you will know that the LORD has sent me to do all these things and that it was not my idea: <sup>29</sup> If these men die a natural death and suffer the fate of all mankind, then the LORD has not sent me. <sup>30</sup> But if the LORD brings about something totally new, and the earth opens its mouth and swallows them, with everything that belongs to them, and they go down alive into the realm of the dead, then you will know that these men have treated the LORD with contempt.”

<sup>31</sup> As soon as he finished saying all this, the ground under them split apart <sup>32</sup> and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them and their households, and all those associated with Korah, together with their possessions. <sup>33</sup> They went down alive into the realm of the dead, with everything they owned; the earth closed over them, and they perished and were gone from the community. <sup>34</sup> At their cries, all the Israelites around them fled, shouting, “The earth is going to swallow us too!”

<sup>35</sup> And fire came out from the LORD and consumed the 250 men who were offering the incense.

<sup>36</sup> The LORD said to Moses, <sup>37</sup> “Tell Eleazar son of Aaron, the priest, to remove the censers from the charred remains and scatter the coals some distance away, for the censers are holy—<sup>38</sup> the censers of the men who sinned at the cost of their lives. Hammer the censers into sheets to overlay the altar, for they were presented before the LORD and have become holy. Let them be a sign to the Israelites.”

<sup>39</sup> So Eleazar the priest collected the bronze censers brought by those who had been burned to death, and he had them hammered out to overlay the altar, <sup>40</sup> as the LORD directed him through Moses. This was to remind the Israelites that no one except a descendant of Aaron should come to burn incense before the LORD, or he would become like Korah and his followers.

## Psalm of the Day

We will sing the refrain and read the verses.

## Psalm 38

### *Refrain*



Be mer - ci - ful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

O LORD, do not rebuke me in your anger\*  
or discipline me in your wrath.

For your arrows have pierced me,\*  
and your hand has come down upon me.

My guilt has overwhelmed me\*  
like a burden too heavy to bear.

### *Refrain*

All my longings lie open before you, O LORD;\*  
my sighing is not hidden from you.

I wait for you, O LORD;\*  
you will answer, O Lord my God.

Come quickly to help me,\*  
O Lord my Savior.

**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: Patricia Craig. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL, www.giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Psalm Tone: Paul Bunjes. © 1982 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## **Second Lesson**

## **1 Corinthians 10:1-13**

The Lord had delivered his people in spectacular fashion. Israel had every reason to trust whole-heartedly in his promises, relying on their rock, the Christ. Yet so many served their own bodies, even seeking the favor of other false gods. Let Israel's example serve as warning. Turn from temptation, leave sin behind, trust in the Lord's faithfulness to forgive, bear abundant fruit, and follow the Way out of this world to eternal life

**10** For I do not want you to be ignorant of the fact, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud and that they all passed through the sea. **2** They were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. **3** They all ate the same spiritual food **4** and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ. **5** Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them; their bodies were scattered in the wilderness.

**6** Now these things occurred as examples to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did. **7** Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written: "The people sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in revelry."<sup>[Ex 32:6]</sup> **8** We should not commit sexual immorality, as some of them did—and in one day twenty-three thousand of them died. **9** We should not test Christ, as some of them did—and were killed by snakes. **10** And do not grumble, as some of them did—and were killed by the destroying angel.

**11** These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the culmination of the ages has come. **12** So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! **13** No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it. (NIV)

## **Verse of the Day**

M: Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. (John 3:14,15)

*Stand*

## **Gospel**

## **Luke 13:1-9**

Traipsing along our journey in the uncertainty of self-righteous self-reliance will only lead to ruin and destruction. Christ calls each of us to closely examine our lives for the fruit of repentance. The gardener is patient and long suffering, but knows well, that a tree without fruit will be cut down. However, bending to the gardener's hand in true repentance will lead to a fruitful life here and eternal life hereafter.

13 Now there were some present at that time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices. 2 Jesus answered, “Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered this way? 3 I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish. 4 Or those eighteen who died when the tower in Siloam fell on them—do you think they were more guilty than all the others living in Jerusalem? 5 I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish.”

6 Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree growing in his vineyard, and he went to look for fruit on it but did not find any. 7 So he said to the man who took care of the vineyard, ‘For three years now I’ve been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and haven’t found any. Cut it down! Why should it use up the soil?’

8 “‘Sir,’ the man replied, ‘leave it alone for one more year, and I’ll dig around it and fertilize it. 9 If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.’” (NIV)

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be Seated*

**Hymn of the Day**

*Lord, to You I Make Confession CW 302*



1 Lord, to you I make con - fes - sion: I have  
 2 Yet, though con - science' voice ap - pall me, Fa - ther,  
 3 For your Son has suf - fered for me, Giv'n him -  
 4 Lord, on you I cast my bur - den— Sink it



sinned and gone a - stray; I have mul - ti - plied  
 I will seek your face. Though your child I dare  
 self to res - cue me, Died to save me and  
 in the depths be - low! Let me know your gra -



trans - gres - sion, Cho - sen for my - self my way.  
 not call me, Yet re - ceive me to your grace.  
 re - store me, Rec - on - ciled and set me free.  
 cious par - don; Wash me, make me white as snow.



Led by you to see my er - rors,  
 Do not for my sins for - sake me;  
 Je - sus' cross a - lone can van - quish  
 Let your Spir - it leave me nev - er:



Lord, I trem - ble at your ter - rors.  
Do not let your wrath o'er - take me.  
These dark fears and soothe this an - guish.  
Make me on - ly yours for - ev - er.

Text: Johann Franck, 1618–77, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.  
Tune: HERR, ICH HABE MISSGEHANDELT (87 87 88) Johann Crüger, 1598–1662.

## Sermon    **Marks of the Messiah: He Calls Us to Repentance**    Luke 13:1-9

*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.**

### **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.**

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: 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: Amen**

*Be Seated*

### Hymn

*How Blest Are They Who Hear* CW 325:1-2

1 How blest are they who hear God's Word And keep and  
2 God's Word a trea - sure is to me, Through sor - row's  
heed what they have heard! They dai - ly grow in  
night my sun shall be, The shield of faith in  
wis - dom. Their light shines bright - er day by day, And  
bat - tle. The Fa - ther's hand has writ - ten there My  
while they tread life's wea - ry way, They have the oil of  
ti - tle as his child and heir, "The king - dom's yours for -  
glad - ness To soothe their pain and sad - ness.  
ev - er." That prom - ise fails me nev - er.

Text: Johan N. Brun, 1745–1816; tr. Oluf H. Smeby, 1851–1929, alt.

Tune: OM HIMMERIGES RIGE (887 88 77) *Den danske Psalmebog*, Copenhagen, 1569, alt.

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