Dedication



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1958

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

Griffith & Kent Streets

Welland, Ontario



"Now unto HIM that is able to do
exceeding
abundantly
above
all that we ask or think
according to the power that worketh in us,
unto HIM
be glory in the church
by Christ Jesus
Throughout all ages, world without end.
Amen."

Ephesians 3:20, 21.

THE SERVICE OF REDEDICATION

10:30 a.m.

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

424 GOD HIMSELF IS PRESENT

1. God Himself is present:
Let us now adore Him,
And with awe appear before Him.
God is in His temple –
All within keep silence,
Prostrate lie with deepest reverence.
Him alone
God we own,
Him, our God and Saviour;
Praise His Name forever.

2. God Himself is present:
Hear the harps resounding!
See the crowds the throne surrounding!
"Holy, Holy, Holy,"
Hear the hymn ascending,
Angels, saints, their voices blending!
Bow Thine ear
To us here:
Hear, O Christ, the praises
That Thy Church now raises.

3. O Thou Fount of blessing,
Purify my spirit;
Trusting only in Thy merit.
Like the holy angels
Who behold Thy glory,
May I ceaselessly adore Thee.
Let Thy will
Ever still
Rule Thy Church terrestrial,
As the hosts celestial.

Pastor: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

Congregation: Amen.

Pastor: Our help is in the Name of the Lord.

Congregation: Who made heaven and earth.

Pastor: I was glad when they said unto me: Let us go into the house of the Lord.

Congregation: Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem.

Pastor: The Lord preserve our going in and coming out:

Congregation: From this time forth, even for evermore.

Pastor: Peace be to this house.

Congregation: And to all that enter therein.

Pastor: Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord; or who shall stand in His holy place?

Congregation: He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart, who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.

Pastor: Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

Congregation: Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, He is the King of glory.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THE HYMN 142

1. Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire
And lighten with celestial
Thou the anointing Spirit art
Who dost Thy sevenfold gifts impart.

2. Thy blessed unction from above
Is comfort, life, and fire of love.
Enable with perpetual light
The dullness of our blinded sight.

3. Anoint our heart and cheer our face
With the abundance of Thy grace.
Keep far our foes; give peace at home;
Where Thou art Guide, no ill can come.

4. Teach us to know the Father, Son,
And Thee, of Both, to be but One;
That through the ages all along
Thy praise may be our endless song!

THE PRAYER

Look graciously, we beseech Thee, Almighty God, on this Thy holy place which we have adorned anew to the glory of Thy holy Name; and be pleased to bless and accept it of our hands.

Blest and dedicate be this House, its Altar, and all its new adornment, to the Glory and Honor of Almighty God and to the service of His holy Church: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Lord, I have loved the habitation of thy house: and the place where Thine honor dwelleth.

Hallowed also be these memorials: loving gifts to God's honor, to the beautifying of His Sanctuary, and to the cherished memory of His children.

The memory of the just is blessed.

The Blessing of Almighty God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, descend and rest upon this Holy Place and abide with us all now and evermore.

Congregation: Amen.

THE INTROIT

Unto Thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul: O my God, I trust in Thee;

Let me not be ashamed: let not mine enemies triumph over me;

Yea, let none that wait on Thee: be ashamed.

Show me Thy ways, O Lord: teach me Thy paths.

THE COLLECT

Stir up, we beseech Thee, Thy power, O Lord, and come: that by Thy protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins, and saved by Thy mighty deliverance; Who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever One God, world without end.

Cong. Amen.

THE EPISTLE—Romans 13: 11-14

THE SENTENCE FOR ADVENT

Hallelujah! Remember, O Lord, Thy tender mercies: for they have been ever of old. Hallelujah!

THE CHOIR ANTHEM

THE GOSPEL ANNOUNCED—Matthew 21: 1-9

Cong.: Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

THE READING OF THE GOSPEL

Cong.: Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

THE APOSTLE'S CREED

Hymn 286 (Praise to the Lord

1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear,
Now to his temple draw near;
Praise Him in glad adoration.

2. Praise to the Lord! Who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth;
Hast thou not seen
How thy desires e'er have been
Granted in what He ordaineth?

3. Praise to the Lord! Who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.
Ponder anew
What the Almighty can do,
If with His love He befriend thee!

4. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the Amen
Sound from His people again;
Gladly for aye we adore Him.

THE SERMON

THE OFFERTORY

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free Spirit. Amen.

THE OFFERING—For the Building Fund and Dedication Expenses

THE GENERAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE BENEDICTION

THE RECESSIONAL HYMN

Hymn 243 (Great is the Lord, our God)

1. Great is the Lord our God,
And let His praise be great;
He makes His churches His abode,
His most delightful seat.

2. These temples of His grace,
How beautiful they stand!
The honors of our native place,
And bulwarks of our land.

3. In Zion God is known
A refuge in distress;
How bright has His salvation shone
Through all her palaces!

4. Oft have our fathers told,
Our eyes have often seen,
How well our God secures the fold,
Where His own sheep have been.

5. In every new distress
We'll to His house repair,
We'll think upon His wondrous grace,
And seek deliverance there.

The Liturgist — The Rev. Richard Tubbe

The Preacher — The Rev. A. G. Jacobi, President of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Canada.

The Organist — Mr. Walter Thornton

The Choir Director — Mr. Walter Thornton

The flowers which grace our altar this Sunday, are to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Katharine Kitchen from Sisters Carie, Margaret brother George and niece Dorothy.

THE SERVICE OF DEDICATION

For

THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CENTRE

4:00 p.m.

ORGAN PRELUDE

THE HYMN 129

1. Beautiful Saviour!
King of Creation!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love Thee,
Truly I'd serve Thee,
Light of my soul, my Joy, my Crown.

2. Fair are the meadows,
Fair are the woodlands.
Robed in flowers of blooming spring:
Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer:
He makes our sorrowing spirit sing.

3. Fair is the sunshine,
Fair is the moonlight,
Bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer,
Than all the angels in the sky.

4. Beautiful Saviour!
Lord of the nations!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor,
Praise adoration,
Now and for evermore be Thine!

Pastor: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

Congregation: Amen.

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

Congregation: Who made heaven and earth.

Pastor: I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord.

Congregation: Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem.

Pastor: Peace be within thy walls.

Congregation: For my brethren and companions' sakes I will now say, Peace be within thee.

Pastor: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

Congregation: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Psalm 119: 1-16

Pastor: Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the Lord.

Congregation: Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart.

Pastor: They also do no iniquity: they walk in his ways.

Congregation: Thou hast commanded us to keep thy precepts diligently.

Pastor: O that my ways were directed to keep thy statutes

Congregation: Then shall I not be ashamed, when I have respect unto all thy commandments.

Pastor: I will praise thee with uprightness of heart, when I shall have learned thy righteous judgments.

Congregation: I will keep thy statutes: O forsake me not utterly

Pastor: Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.

Congregation: With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments.

Pastor: Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

Congregation: Blessed art thou, O Lord: teach me thy statutes.

Pastor: With my lips have I declared all the judgments of thy mouth.

Congregation: I have rejoiced in the way of thy testimonies, as much as in all riches.

Pastor: I will meditate in thy precepts, and have respect unto thy ways.

Congregation: I will delight myself in thy statutes: I will not forget thy word.

THE SCRIPTURE LESSONS: Deuteronomy 6: 4-9
2 Timothy 2: 1-15

After each Lesson shall be sung the Response.

O Lord, have mercy upon us.

R. Thanks be to God.

THE CHOIR ANTHEM

THE PRAYER

Look graciously, we beseech Thee, Almighty God, on this House which we have reared to Thy glory and for the use of this Congregation; and be pleased to bless and accept it of our hands. Amen.

Blest and dedicate be this Church House, In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Here may Thy children meet in glad devotion to Thee; here may Thy Way be taught and Thy Kingdom established; here may Thy Name be hallowed and Thy glory praised; and here may life in its fullness be nourished and guided, and the social bonds of fellowship in the Lord Jesus built up in mutual love and service. Amen.

THE HYMN 214

1. O Thou Whose feet have climbed life's hill,
   And trod the path of youth,
   Our Saviour and our Brother still,
   Now lead us into truth.

2. The call is Thine; be Thou the Way,
   And give us men, to guide;
   Let wisdom broaden with the day,
   Let human faith abide.

3. Who learn of Thee the truth shall find,
   Who follow, gain the goal;
   With reverence crown the earnest mind,
   And speak within the soul.

4. Awake the purpose high which strives,
   And, falling, stands again;
   Conform the will of eager lives
   To quit themselves like men.

5. Thy life the bond of fellowship,
   Thy love the law that rules,
   Thy Name, proclaimed by every lip,
   The Master of our schools.

THE SERMON

THE OFFERING---for the Building Fund and Dedication Expenses

THE CHOIR ANTHEM

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE BENEDICTION

THE HYMN 283

1. Now thank we all our God
With heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things hath done,
In Whom His world rejoices;
Who, from our mother's arms,
Hath blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love,
And still is ours to-day.

2. O may this bounteous God
Through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts
And blessed peace to cheer us;
And keep us in His grace,
And guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills,
In this world and the next.

3. All praise and thanks to God
The Father now be given,
The Son, and Him Who reigns
With Them in highest heaven:
The One Eternal God
Whom earth and heaven adore;
For thus it was, is now,
And shall be evermore.

Guided tours of the Christian Education Centre will begin immediately after this service. Please congregate in the church basement.

At 6:00 p.m. a Fellowship Banquet Supper will be served. Everyone is invited to remain for it. Costs will be covered by a free-will offering.

OUR YESTERDAY AND TODAY

St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Congregation was formed on February 24, 1876. This group of people lost no time in erecting a house of worship. On May 7, 1876 the cornerstone for the church was laid. The building was completed that year at a contract price or $650. It is interesting to note that at that time there were about 20 charter members.

Pastors during this period of its early history were:

The Rev. Mr. Ebinger .....1876 - 1878

The Rev. Mr. Meier .....1878 - 1880

The Rev. Mr. Chamberlain .....1880 - 1881

The Rev. T. Snyder .....1881 - 1885

The Rev. J. Badke .....1886 - 1888

The Rev. T. Snyder .....1888 - 1913

The Rev. M. J. Bieber.....1915

The Rev. W. H. Knauff .....1915 - 1919

The Rev. J. F. Berman .....1920 - 1923

The Rev. W. A. Schmidt .....1923 - 1925

The Rev. S. W. Gartung .....1926 - 1936

During the pastorate of Pastor Gartung the plans for our present church were drawn up. On August 19, 1928 the cornerstone was laid and the church dedicated on December 2, 1928. It was also at this time that the congregation began to grow. The confirmed membership in 1926 was 47. It continued to grow with successive pastors who were:

The Rev. S. Cooper .....1937 - 1942

The Rev. F. C. Mueller.....1942 - 1945

The Rev. C. R. Cronmiller .....1945 - 1953

The Rev. R. Tubbe .....1954 -

The initial planning for a new building to serve the needs of our Sunday School and organizations began in 1951 at which time a special committee was set up to investigate the needs and possibilities. This committee submitted a plan in 1952, after which a succession of plans were presented to the congregation. All of this planning bore fruit in May 26th, 1957 when the present plans were accepted by the congregation. Ground was broken on April 20, 1958, and the actual construction began, and is now completed. The approximate cost of building is $75,000.

The new building is of block and steel construction with stucco finish on the outside. The inside walls are of block and plaster finish. A completely new chancel has been added to the church. It provides much more room than the former one. We now have provision for a true chancel choir. The organ chamber has also been redesigned and enlarged. A church office has been provided off the chancel and a sacristy for the pastor next to the office. A spacious church parlour has been added to serve as a meeting place for organizations and committees of the church. A new kitchen has been added to service the physical hunger of our people. A large Fellowship Hall is also located on the ground floor to serve as an assembly room for congregational fellowship events and as a sports and recreation center. A working sacristy has also been provided for the use of the Altar Guild.

The basement provides a worship center for the Beginner and Primary departments of the Sunday School and nine individual classrooms. A large room has been set aside for use as a nursery. There is also a room containing the new hot water boiler and the rest of the heating equipment. New heating facilities have been installed throughout the entire building and new lighting fixtures have been installed in the church.

