

August 6, 2023

(A)  
FIRST READING. Isaiah 55:1-5

Time after Pentecost – Lectionary 18

Ho, everyone who thirsts,  
    come to the waters;  
and you that have no money,  
    come, buy and eat!  
Come, buy wine and milk  
    without money and without price.  
Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,  
    and your labour for that which does not satisfy?  
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,  
    and delight yourselves in rich food.  
Incline your ear, and come to me;  
    listen, so that you may live.  
I will make with you an everlasting covenant,  
    my steadfast, sure love for David.  
See, I made him a witness to the peoples,  
    a leader and commander for the peoples.  
See, you shall call nations that you do not know,  
    and nations that do not know you shall run to you,  
because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,  
    for he has glorified you.

**SECOND READING. Romans 9:1-5**

I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit— I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen.

**GOSPEL. Matthew 14:13-21**

Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, ‘This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.’ Jesus said to them, ‘They need not go away; you give them something to eat.’ They replied, ‘We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.’ And he said, ‘Bring them here to me.’ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

From the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible Copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.



Sunday, August 6, 2023

“In response to God’s love, St. Matthew’s is a faith community welcoming all to grow in faith, to worship Christ and to reach out to everyone.”

**Welcome!**

We hope our worship will be a blessing to you. Although mask mandates are now lifted in most Ontario indoor settings, our Bishop encourages “all congregations to continue using masks for the time being.” For now, we strongly recommend wearing a mask.

**Heat Alert**

Please do not feel obligated to stand during the service if you are uncomfortable in the hot weather. Please keep well hydrated and wear cool, comfortable clothing throughout the summer months.

If you missed last week’s sermon, it is available on our website.

**St. Matthew’s Evangelical Lutheran Church**



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Confession and Forgiveness

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*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, +one God,  
who greets us in this and every season,  
whose word never fails,  
whose promise is sure. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

Merciful God,  
**we confess that we have sinned.**  
**We have hurt our community.**  
**We have squandered your blessings.**  
**We have hoarded your bounty.**  
**In the name of Jesus,**  
**forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Righteous God,  
**we confess that we have sinned.**  
**We have failed to be honest.**  
**We have lacked the courage to speak.**  
**We have spoken falsely.**  
**In the name of Jesus,**  
**forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst.  
God offers boundless grace when we fail.  
Claim the gift of God's mercy:  
you are freed and forgiven  
in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Offering Prayer (read in unison)

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God of field and forest, sea and sky,  
you are the giver of all good things.  
Sustain us with these gifts of your creation,  
and multiply your graciousness in us,  
that the world may be fed with your love,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.  
*The lines of the Psalm printed in bold font are sung in unison to the tune of a familiar hymn. The lines in plain font are read by the leader.*

Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21–

Tune: 380 Hallelujah! Jesus Lives! (Fred til Bod)

*Reader:* The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

**I will praise you, God my King; | Ev'ry day my thanks I'll raise.**  
The Lord is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made. He helps those who are in trouble; he lifts up those who have fallen.

**Let the whole world join to sing | Songs of your exalted praise.**  
All living things look to you, and you give them food when they need it. You give them enough and satisfy the needs of all.

**Let all creatures, great and small, | Praise the Lord, who cares for all!**  
The Lord is righteous in all he does, and merciful in all his acts.

**I will praise you, God my King; | Ev'ry day my thanks I'll raise.**  
He is near to those who call to him, who call to him sincerely. He supplies the needs of those who honor him; he hears their cries and saves them.

**Let the whole world join to sing | Songs of your exalted praise.**  
He protects everyone who loves him, but he will destroy the wicked. I will always praise the Lord.

**Let all creatures, great and small, | Praise the Lord, who cares for all!**

*Sing Psalms!* By Arden W. Mead. © Copyright 1999/2005 by Creative Communications for the Parish

Dates to Remember

August 13      6:30 p.m. – Outdoor Sunday Evening Worship  
August 27      2:00 p.m. – Golf at Freedom Oaks, dinner at 5:00 p.m.

August 27 – Golf Tournament at Freedom Oaks Golf Course, Dunnville;  
Tee-off 2:00 p.m., Dinner 5:00 p.m.

Golf and Perch or Golf and Dinner: \$55.00 (includes 9 holes, cart and dinner)  
Dinner only (Perch or Steak): \$25.00.  
Youth golf free! Burger or Chicken Fingers: \$10.00; Perch or Steak: \$25.00  
Tickets available until August 20 from Jenn R., Sylvia or Sinikka.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship

Holy Communion Setting 10 – Page 203

Prelude and Announcements

**GATHERING**

Confession and Forgiveness .....Printed  
Gathering Song .....461 All Who Hunger,  
Gather Gladly

Greeting .....Page 203  
Prayer of the Day

WORD

First Reading .....Isaiah 55:1-5  
Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21 .....Printed in bulletin  
Second Reading .....Romans 9:1-5  
Gospel Acclamation .....Page 205

“Glory to you, O Lord.”  
Gospel .....Matthew 14:13-21  
“Praise to you, O Christ.”

Sermon  
Hymn of the Day .....515 Break Now the  
Bread of Life

Prayers of Intercession  
Prayer Response .....“**Your mercy is great.**”  
Peace (non-contact gestures)

MEAL

Offering Prayer .....Printed  
Great Thanksgiving.....Page 206  
Holy, Holy, Holy .....Page 207  
Eucharistic Prayer  
The Lord’s Prayer .....Page 208  
Communion  
“Lamb of God...” .....Page 208  
Communion Hymns .....491, 484  
Prayer after communion

SENDING

Blessing  
Sending Song .....535 Hallelujah! We Sing  
Your Praises

Dismissal: Go in peace. Share the harvest.  
**Response: Thanks be to God.**