

FIRST READING. Deuteronomy 30:15-20

See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

SECOND READING. Philemon 1-21

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,
To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow-soldier, and to the church in your house:
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith towards the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for ever, no longer as a slave but as more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

GOSPEL. Luke 14:25-33

Now large crowds were travelling with him; and he turned and said to them, ‘Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, “This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.” Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

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.



The Cost Of Discipleship

Sunday, September 4, 2022

“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. Our Lord’s Supper is being celebrated today. Everyone is welcome to receive this Holy Sacrament.

COVID-19

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.

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

St. Matthew’s Evangelical Lutheran Church



57 Griffith Street • Welland, Ontario •
email: stmatts@cogeco.net • web-stmatthewswelland.com
Pastor: Reverend Bart ColemanCell Phone (call or text) 289-821-9025
Home Phone289-820-7713
Emailbartsterc@gmail.com
Council Chairperson: Jennifer Rusk
Vice-Chairperson: Bob Hansen
Church Secretary: Jennifer Allcorn905-734-4746
Organist: Lily Jasinskas

Confession and Forgiveness

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, whose steadfast love endures forever. Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God, we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way. Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table. When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side. Set us again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors. Amen.

Hear the good news! God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are free to love as God loves. Amen.

From Sundays & Seasons, © 2021 Augsburg Fortress.

Psalm 1 - Tune: 302 As with Gladness Men of Old (Dix)

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.

Blest are those--most happy they--
Who the Law of God obey.

Reader: Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of the scoffers.

In God's Word is their delight;
They pursue it day and night.

They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, and their leaves do not wither.

Blest are they! The Lord will bless
All their efforts with success.

The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away. Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

Let God's Law be our delight,
To pursue it day and night.

For the Lord knows the way of the righteous.

Let us strive, both night and day,
God's good precepts to obey.

But the way of the wicked is doomed.

Let us pray the Lord to bless
All our efforts with success.

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

Dates to Remember

September 25 Church Council meeting after the service



All types of food donations are welcome at Open Arms Mission.
Donation focus for September: Granola Bars

Evangelical Lutheran Worship
Holy Communion Setting 10 - Page 203
Prelude and Announcements

GATHERING

Confession and ForgivenessPrinted
Gathering Song660 Lift High the Cross
GreetingPage 203
Prayer of the Day

WORD

First ReadingDeuteronomy 30:15-20
Psalm 1Printed in bulletin
Second ReadingPhilemon 1-21
Gospel AcclamationPage 205
 “Glory to you, O Lord.”
GospelLuke 14:25-33
 “Praise to you, O Christ.”

Sermon
Hymn of the Day808 Lord Jesus,
 You Shall Be My Song

Prayers of Intercession
Prayer Response “hear our prayer.”
Peace (non-contact gestures)

MEAL

Offertory Prayer
Great Thanksgiving.....Page 206
Holy, Holy, HolyPage 207
Eucharistic Prayer
The Lord’s PrayerPage 208
Communion
“Lamb of God...”Page 208
Communion Hymns798, 757
Post-Communion Prayer

SENDING

Blessing
Sending Song802 Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

Dismissal:

Go in peace. Love your neighbour.
Response: Thanks be to God.