

FIRST READING. Acts 1:6-14

So when they had come together, they asked him, ‘Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?’ He replied, ‘It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.’ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.’

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

SECOND READING. 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice in so far as you are sharing Christ’s sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters throughout the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

GOSPEL. John 17:1-11

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, ‘Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

‘I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.



Seventh Sunday Of Easter

Sunday, May 21, 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.


Order of Worship

This morning’s Order of Worship is the located in the *Hymnal Supplement*, and the hymns are located in the *Hymnal Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW).

Dates to Remember

May 28 Church Council meeting after the service  
June 11 Outdoor worship service and picnic, (more details coming soon!)

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



## St. Matthew’s Evangelical Lutheran Church

555 Fifth Street • Welland, Ontario • L3B 4G6 • 905-734-4746  
email: [stmatts@cogeco.net](mailto:stmatts@cogeco.net) • website: [stmatthewswelland.com](http://stmatthewswelland.com)

Pastor: Reverend Bart Coleman ....Cell Phone (call or text) 289-821-9025  
Home Phone .....289-820-7713  
Email .....bartsterc@gmail.com

Council Chairperson: Jenn Rusk  
Vice-Chairperson: Dianne Yungblut  
Church Secretary: Jennifer Allcorn .....905-734-4746  
Organist: Lily Jasinskas

Thanksgiving for Baptism

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, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life. Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring.

In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for waters that wash us clean, quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures. Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you. Empower our witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.

Satisfy the world's need through this living water. Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment. Where despair prevails, grant hope. Where chaos reigns, bring peace. We ask this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit reigns forever. Amen.

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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 68:1-10, 32-35 - Tune: 842 Oh, Worship the King (Hanover)

Oh, worship the King, | All glorious above.

Leader: God rises up and scatters his enemies. Those who hate him run away in defeat. Like wind-blown smoke and melted wax, the wicked perish in God's presence.

Oh, gratefully sing | His pow'r and his love.

But the righteous are glad and rejoice in his presence; they are jubilant and shout for joy.

Our shield and defender, | The Ancient of Days.

Prepare a way for him who rides on the clouds. His name is the Lord--be glad in his presence.

Pavilioned in splendor, | And girded with praise.

From his sacred home, God cares for orphans and widows; he provides for the lonely, and sets the prisoners free.

Your bountiful care, | What tongue can recite?

O God, when you led your people across the desert, the earth shook, and the sky poured down rain.

It breathes in the air, | It shines in the light.

O God of Sinai, God of Israel, you caused abundant rain to fall on your thirsty land.

It streams from the hills | And descends to the plain.

Your people made their home there; in your goodness you provided for the poor.

And sweetly distills | In the dew and the rain.

Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth!

Oh, tell of his might; | Oh, sing of his grace.

Praise the one who rides across the ancient skies; listen as he speaks with a mighty voice.

His robe is the light, | His canopy space.

How awesome is God! His power is in the skies, but he dwells as well among his people.

His mercies, how tender, | How firm to the end.

The God of Israel gives power and strength to his people.

Our maker, defender, | Redeemer, and friend.

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Thanksgiving for Baptism .....Printed

Gathering Song ...ELW 392 Alleluia! Sing To Jesus

Greeting .....Page 2 Kyrie .....Page 3 Now the Feast .....Page 4 Salutation .....Page 7 Prayer of the Day

WORD

First Reading .....Acts 1:6-14 Psalm 68:1-10, 33-35.printed in bulletin Second Reading 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11 Gospel Acclamation ..... Page 8

“Glory to you, O Lord.” Gospel .....John 17:1-11 “Praise to you, O Christ.”

Sermon Hymn of the Day ELW 463 Lord, Who the Night You Were Betrayed

Nicene Creed .....Page 10 Prayers of Intercession Prayer Response “Your mercy is great.” Peace

MEAL

Offertory Prayer .....Page 13 Great Thanksgiving.....Page 14 Holy .....Page 15 Eucharistic Prayer

Acclamations 2 and 3 .....Page 16-17 Through Christ, With Christ .....Page 17 The Lord’s Prayer .....Page 18 Communion

Lamb of God .....Page 18-19 Communion Hymns ..... ELW 838, 664 Thanks Be To You .....Page 20 Post-Communion Prayer

SENDING

Blessing Sending Song ...ELW 389 Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing

Dismissal: Go in peace. Serve the Risen One. Thanks be to God.