

FIRST READING. Isaiah 25:1-9

O LORD, you are my God;
I will exalt you, I will praise your name;
for you have done wonderful things,
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.
For you have made the city a heap,
the fortified city a ruin;
the palace of aliens is a city no more,
it will never be rebuilt.
Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.
For you have been a refuge to the poor,
a refuge to the needy in their distress,
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.
When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,
the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place,
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear.
And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;
he will swallow up death for ever.
Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.
It will be said on that day,
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

SECOND READING. Philippians 4:1-9

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

GOSPEL. Matthew 22:1-14

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, “Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.” But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, maltreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, “The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.” Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

‘But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, “Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?” And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, “Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” For many are called, but few are chosen.’

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Sunday, October 15, 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. Our Lord’s Supper is being celebrated today. Everyone is welcome to receive this Holy Sacrament.

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



St. Matthew’s Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Organist: Lily Jasinkas

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

Blessed be God,
the one who forms us,
+ Jesus who bears the cross,
the Spirit who makes our joy complete. **Amen.**

Let us bow before God in humility,
confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Steadfast and faithful God,
**you have revealed the ways of justice,
yet we fail to follow you.
We are overwhelmed
by the world's violence and suffering.
We are afraid to risk what we have
for the sake of others.
For the harm we have caused,
known and unknown, forgive us.
For the unjust demands we place on others
and your creation, forgive us.
For the ways we turn away
from you and our neighbor, forgive us.
Lead us back to you
and set us on the right path;
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

Beloved in Christ,
God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.
God's compassion is beyond compare.
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.
In + Christ, you are already and always forgiven. **Amen.**

God of power, God of plenty,
all things belong to you.
We bring your gifts to the table,
that all might be fed.
Form us into the body of your Beloved,
Jesus Christ, our Savior. **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.*

God, my shepherd, shall provide | **Ev'rything I want or need.**
He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside still
waters; he restores my soul.

Oh, good shepherd, be my guide; | **I shall follow where you lead.**
He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Where my shepherd welcomes me, | **There is true security.**
Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are
with me; your rod and your staff--they comfort me.

God, my shepherd, shall provide | **Ev'rything I want or need.**
You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you
anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Oh, good shepherd, be my guide; | **I shall follow where you
lead.**
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I
shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Dates to Remember

Tues/Fri 9:30 a.m. - Pickleball; contact Margaret for info:
289-820-9059
October 29 Reformation Sunday
November 5 All Saints Sunday
November 5 Daylight Savings Time ends, turn clocks back one hour

ST. MATTHEW’S CHURCH DIRECTORY

A new church directory is being published later this fall. This is not a
membership list, and we invite everyone to participate.
Only those who give permission, either from last year’s membership
survey or by contacting the church office, will be included in the
printed directory.
If you did not complete the survey, please let Jennifer know if you
would like your name, address, phone number or email address
included.

GATHERING

Confession and Forgiveness.....printed
Gathering Song462 Now We Join
in Celebration

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Prayer of the Day

WORD

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Second ReadingPhilippians 4:1-9
Gospel AcclamationPage 151
“Glory to you, O Lord.”
GospelMatthew 22:1-14
“Praise to you, O Christ.”

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

MEAL

Offering Prayerprinted
Great Thanksgiving.....Page 152
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“Lamb of God”Page 154
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SENDING

Blessing
Sending Song 547 Sent Forth by
God’s Blessing

Dismissal: Go in peace. God is at work
in you.
Response: Thanks be to God.