

Thus says the Lord GOD:
I myself will take a sprig
from the lofty top of a cedar;
I will set it out.
I will break off a tender one
from the topmost of its young twigs;
I myself will plant it
on a high and lofty mountain.
On the mountain height of Israel
I will plant it,
in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit,
and become a noble cedar.

Under it every kind of bird will live;
in the shade of its branches will nest
winged creatures of every kind.
All the trees of the field shall know
that I am the LORD.
I bring low the high tree,
I make high the low tree;
I dry up the green tree
and make the dry tree flourish.
I the LORD have spoken;
I will accomplish it.

SECOND READING. 2 Corinthians 4:5-12

So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord— for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For all of us must appear before the judgement seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil. For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

GOSPEL. Mark 4:26-34

He also said, ‘The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.’

He also said, ‘With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.’

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

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“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.

HAPPY FATHER’S DAY

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

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

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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 92:1-4, 12-15 Melody ... Hymn 883

It is a good thing to give thanks to the Lord, and to sing praises to your name, O Most High;

How good it is to thank the Lord,

to proclaim your constant love every morning and your faithfulness every night season,

How good to tell the wondrous word.

with the music of stringed instruments and with melody on the harp.

God's works abound on ev'ry hand;

Your mighty deeds make me glad, O Lord; because of what you have done, I sing for joy.

Like sturdy palms his people stand.

The righteous will flourish like palm trees; they will grow like cedars of Lebanon. They are planted in the house of the Lord, and flourish in the courts of our God. They shall still bear fruit in old age, ever green and strong,

**God's works abound on ev'ry hand;
Like sturdy palms his people stand.**

to show that the Lord is upright, a rock, in whom there is no fault.

**How good it is to thank the Lord,
How good to tell the wondrous word!**

Dates to Remember	
June 19	Ladies’ Lunch - 11:30 am for lunch at the Fireside Restaurant, 153 Southworth Street North, Welland
Council Meeting Minutes and Pastor’s Report are available in the Church office	

Holy Communion Setting 10 – Page 203	
GATHERING	
Words of Welcome and Introduction	
Welcoming Song	744 v 2 sung twice
Confession and Forgiveness... Page 94	
Gathering Hymn	524 What is this Place
Prayer of the Day	

WORD	
First Reading	Ezekiel 17:22-24
Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15.....	Printed in bulletin
Second Reading	2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17
Gospel Acclamation	205
“Glory to you, O Lord”	
Gospel	Mark 4:26-34
“Praise to you, O Christ.”	

Sermon	
Hymn of the Day	554 Lord Your Hands
Prayers	
Peace	(non-contact gestures)
Offering Song	679 For the Fruit of All Creation

MEAL	
Great Thanksgiving	Page 206
Holy, Holy, Holy	Page 207
Eucharistic Prayer	
The Lord’s Prayer	Page 208
O Lamb of God	Page 208
Communion Hymns	670 & 736
Prayer After Communion	
Song After Communion 535 “Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises”	

SENDING	
Announcements	
Blessing	
Sending Song 547 “Sent forth by God’s Blessing”	
Dismissal:	
Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.	
Thanks be to God.	