

FIRST READING: Exodus 32:7-14

⁷ The Lord said to Moses, “Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; ⁸ they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, ‘These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!’ ” ⁹ The Lord said to Moses, “I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. ¹⁰ Now let me alone so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, and of you I will make a great nation.” ¹¹ But Moses implored the Lord his God and said, “O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹² Why should the Egyptians say, ‘It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth’? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. ¹³ Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, ‘I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.’ ” ¹⁴ And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

¹² I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, ¹³ even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴ and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶ But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷ To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-10

¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.” ³ So he told them this parable: ⁴ “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵ And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. ⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.’ ⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. ⁸ “Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹ And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ ¹⁰ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

14th Sunday After Pentecost



Sunday September 14, 2025

Welcome Everyone!

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.

You are invited to come forward via the centre aisle and form a single line across from the steps leading to the altar area. Once you have communed and the pastor has spoken the communion blessing, you may place your used wine glass into the bowl on the stand near the side aisle. Then you may return to your seat via the side aisle.

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

St. Matthew’s Evangelical Lutheran Church

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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.”

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Vice-Chairperson: Marilyn Schultz
Church Secretary: Rona Devreese905-734-4746
Organist: Lily Jasinskas

Weekly Calendar:

- Monday:** Pastor’s day off
- Tuesday:** Pickleball 9:30 am to 11:30 am
Pastor in Port Colborne
- Wednesday:** Pickleball 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm
Rose City Quilters 9:30 am to 3:30 pm
Pastor in Welland
- Thursday:** Pastor in Welland
- Friday:** Pickleball 9:30 am to 11:30 am
Pastor in Port Colborne
- Saturday:** Pickleball 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

The grumbling of the religious leaders in today’s gospel is actually our holy hope: This Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. That our God seeks and saves the lost is not only a holy hope, it is our only hope. As the writer of 1 Timothy reminds us, “The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.” Thanks be to God. *From Sundays and Seasons.*



Attendance Sunday this year 14 – attendance last year 24

I have been a member of St. Matthew’s for 28 years and have grown along with my family here. I was married in the church as was my oldest daughter. I have held many positions of leadership at St. Matthew’s from Sunday school to choir and council. It was these leadership positions that led me to want to obtain my Master of Divinity. I will miss being in the church on a regular basis, but this call is too much to avoid. I thank my friends and family here at St Matthew’s for the unwavering support I have received over the years and humbly ask for your continued prayers as I go through school. This is not goodbye. I will be back to visit. That is a promise. With much love and appreciation, **Jenn**

This lovely message is from Sylvia Tollar: “So good to hear from you. I have been involved with many senior activities, church choir etc. Our church did a talent show and showcased many talents. There will be a senior abuse awareness program that will be showcased in February and March which I am involved with. Had a summer concert series that I attended. Very busy and I like it. Say hi to everyone and let them know that I am surviving in my new life. There is a choir of 11 and children programs and even on the hottest day we have about 30/30 attendees in the church that I am a member of. Bible studies will commence in September. Hope you are well and please keep in touch.”

Upcoming Events & Dates To Remember

Next Church Council meeting will be September 18th.

Our Lutheran Women will meet on Wednesday September 17th @ 2:00 pm at the home of Marilyn Schultz

Worship leaders, ushers and counters for this week’s service:

Scripture Reader Linda Borland
Prayers Marilyn Schultz
Usher/Greeter Norm & Carole McLeod
Counters Carole McLeod & Bob Hansen

Worship leaders, ushers and counters for next week’s service:

Scripture Reader Marilyn Schultz
Prayers Bobbye Bobbye Goldenberg
Usher/Greeter Bob Hansen
Counters Bob Hansen & Carole McLeod

Evangelical Lutheran Worship
Holy Communion Setting Ten – Page 203

GATHERING

Gathering Hymn.....**ELW # 807**
“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”
Prayer of the Day

WORD

First Reading Exodus 32:7-14
Psalm 51:1-10 **ELW**
Second Reading1 Timothy 1:12-17
Gospel Acclamation.....**ELW** Page 205
“**Glory to you, O Lord**”
Gospel Luke 15:1-10
“**Praise to you, O Christ**”

Sermon
Hymn of the Day.....**ELW # 608**
“Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling”
Prayers of Intercession
Sharing the Peace
Receiving the Offering and Offering Prayer

MEAL

Great ThanksgivingELW Page 206
Sanctus “Holy, Holy”..... ELW Page 207
Eucharistic Prayer
The Lord’s Prayer ELW Page 208
O Lamb of GodELW Page 208
Communion Hymns**ELW # 185 & 675**
Prayer after Communion

SENDING

Announcements
Blessing
Sending Hymn.....**ELW # 544**
“Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing”

Dismissal: Go in peace. Live in hope.
“**Thanks be to God**”