

FIRST READING: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 15 The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. 16 And the Lord God commanded the man, “You may freely eat of every tree of the garden, 17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.” 3:1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?’” 2 The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, 3 but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.’ ” 4 But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not die, 5 for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” 6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was a delight to the eyes and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. 7 Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

SECOND READING: Romans 5:12-19 12 Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned 13 for sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. 14 Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who did not sin in the likeness of Adam, who is a pattern of the one who was to come. 15 But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man’s trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. 16 And the gift is not like the effect of the one man’s sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the gift following many trespasses brings justification. 17 If, because of the one man’s trespass, death reigned through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. 18 Therefore just as one man’s trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man’s act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. 19 For just as through the one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, so through the one man’s obedience the many will be made righteous.

GOSPEL: Matthew 4:1-11 1 Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. 2 He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. 3 The tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” 4 But he answered, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’ ” 5 Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, 6 saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you,’ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’ ” 7 Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’ ” 8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, 9 and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” 10 Then Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’ ” 11 Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

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.



Sunday February 22, 2026

Welcome Everyone as we celebrate 150 years!

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

Blessing our neighbourhood since 1876

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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.”

Pastor: Reverend Bart Coleman.....Cell Phone (call or text) 289-821-9025

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Council Chairperson: Bobbye Goldenberg

Vice-Chairperson: Marilyn Schultz

Church Secretary: Rona Devreese905-734-4746

Organist: Lily Jasinskas

Evangelical Lutheran Worship

Holy Communion Setting Ten - ELW Page 138

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

Confession and Forgiveness (bulletin insert)
Gathering Hymn.....ELW 331
"As the Deer Runs to the River"

Prayer of the Day

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song

First Reading Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

Psalms 32.....ELW

Second Reading..... Romans 5:12-19

Lenten Acclamation.....ELW # 176

Gospel Matthew 4:1-11

Sermon

Hymn of the Day.....ELW # 505 (tune # 504)

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

The Apostles' Creed.....ELW page 105

Prayers of Intercession

"Hear our Prayer"

Sharing the Peace

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

Offering Prayer

Special Music, Sheila Brown, soloist

Great ThanksgivingELW page 206

Sanctus "Holy, Holy".....ELW page 207

Eucharistic Prayers

The Lord's Prayer ELW page 208

O Lamb of GodELW page 208

Communion

Communion Hymns.....ELW # 803 & 811

Prayer after Communion

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

Announcements

Blessing

Sending Hymn.....ELW # 808

"Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song"

Dismissal: Go in peace. Live in hope.

"Thanks be to God"

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

Upcoming Events and Dates to Remember

Our Annual General Meeting will take place on Sunday March 22nd. Please have your reports ready one week prior so they can be compiled into our Annual Report document.

NOTICE

The Constitutional Changes are delayed while we await the proper wording for one of the Sections from Synod.

Flowers today are given to the glory of God in thanksgiving for His many blessings over 150 years. Altar flowers given by June and Lawrence Garnet in memory of parents Ida and Dick Russ and Aunt Bea Watson. Chancel arrangement given by Shirley Hornich in memory of parents Gusty and Frank Hornich.

The City of Welland's new Hospice Niagara, Walker House, Welland has been approved as our Anniversary project for 2026. Envelopes have been provided in the pews or money can be e-transferred to St. Matthew's for forwarding to the Hospice.

CONGRATULATIONS ST. MATTHEW'S!

We will be 150 years old on February 24th, 2026. It was on Feb.24,1876 that 12 German - speaking settlers organized into St. Matthew's German Evangelical Lutheran Church. The original Church building was built on our current site, 59 Griffith St., on property purchased for \$75.The Church's cornerstone was laid on May 7,1876, and the cost of the building was \$650.That building was sold for \$225 and moved to the corner of Empire and East Main Streets, and a new Church was built, its cornerstone being laid Aug.19, 1928....and, as they say,....all the rest is history!

TO GOD BE THE GLORY!

We are pleased to welcome from Welland City Council, Ward 2 Councillor and Vice Mayor, Leo Van Vliet and Our Ward 3 Councillor, Sharmila Setaram.

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church is hosting a World Day of Prayer Service on March 9, 2026 at 1:30 pm if you wish to attend.

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

Scripture Reader Linda Borland

Prayers Marilyn Schultz

Usher/Greeter Bob Hansen

Counters Bob Hansen & Carole McLeod

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

Scripture Reader Linda Borland

Prayers Bobbye Goldenberg

Usher/Greeter Norm & Carole McLeod

Counters Bob Hansen & Carole McLeod

Last week's attendance 11, last year's attendance n/a