

FIRST READING. Isaiah 43:16-21 ¹⁶Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters,¹⁷ who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down; they cannot rise; they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: ¹⁸Do not remember the former things or consider the things of old. ¹⁹I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth; do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. ²⁰The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches, for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, ²¹the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

SECOND READING. Philippians 3:4b-14 ^{4b}If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. ¹²Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. ¹³Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL. John 12:1-8 ¹Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ²There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him. ³Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus’s feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵“Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?” ⁶(He said this not because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷Jesus said, “Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.”

Fifth Sunday in Lent



Sunday April 6, 2025

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.

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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Emailpastorbartcoleman@gmail.com
Council Chairperson: Bobbye Goldenberg
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: Rose City Quilters 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm (first of the month)
Pastor in Welland

Thursday: Pastor in Welland

Friday: Pickleball 9:30 am to 11:30 am
Pastor in Port Colborne

Upcoming Events & Dates To Remember

Pickleball continues every Tuesday and Friday at 9:30 am until 11:30 am. Please come and join this fun activity or email Margaret at margaret@kleinsmith.ca if you have any questions.

Church Sustainability Report Discussion: Thursday, April 10th at 10:00 am.

Next Council Meeting: Thursday, April 17th at 10:00 am.

Holy Week:

April 13 Palm Sunday - Sunday of the Passion
April 17 Maundy Thursday (First Lutheran 7:00 pm)
April 18 Good Friday (St. Matthew's **10:00 am**)

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

Scripture Reader Marilyn Schultz
Prayers Jenn Rusk
Usher/Greeter Carole & Norm McLeod
Counters Bob Hansen & Jenn Rusk

Worship leaders, ushers and counters for April 13 service:

Scripture Reader Linda Borland
Prayers Bobbye Goldenberg
Usher/Greeter Bob Hansen
Counters Jenn Rusk & Carole McLeod

Attendance March 30 – 14 people

Evangelical Lutheran Worship

GATHERING

A chime will sound to call us together and to prepare our hearts and minds for worship

Lenten DialogueELW Page 310
Hymn..... **ELW # 522**
As We Gather at Your Table
Prayer of the Day

WORD

First Reading.....Isaiah 43:16-21
Psalm **126**..... **ELW # 329**
As the Sun with Longer Journey Second ReadingPhilippians
3:4b-14
Gospel Acclamation.....ELW Page 189
Let Your Steadfast Love Come to Us
Gospel.....John 12:1-8
Sermon
Hymn of the Day..... **ELW # 334**
Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery..... **verses 1 - 3, + Lent 5, *last line of**
verse for Lent 5 is repeated
Prayers of the Church
 “Receive our prayer.”
Sharing the Peace

MEAL

Great Thanksgiving.....ELW Page 206
Holy, Holy, HolyELW Page 207
Eucharistic Prayers
The Lord's Prayer
"Lamb of God"ELW Page 208
Sharing the Meal..... (printed in bulletin)
Communion Hymns **ELW # 466 & 340**

SENDING

Announcements
Blessing
Sending Hymn.....ELW # 583
Take My Life, That I May Be
Dismissal: Go in peace. Live in hope.
“Thanks be to God”