

FIRST READING. Acts 9:36-43

³⁶ Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷ At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸ Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, “Please come to us without delay.” ³⁹ So Peter got up and went with them, and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰ Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, “Tabitha, get up.” Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹ He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴² This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³ Meanwhile, he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

SECOND READING. Revelation 7:9-17

⁹ After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ They cried out in a loud voice, saying, “Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!” ¹¹ And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² singing, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.” ¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” ¹⁴ I said to him, “Sir, you are the one who knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.” ¹⁵ For this reason they are before the throne of God and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. ¹⁶ They will hunger no more and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat, ¹⁷ for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

GOSPEL. John 10:22-30

²² At that time the Festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³ and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴ So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.” ²⁵ Jesus answered, “I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name testify to me, ²⁶ but you do not believe because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷ My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ My Father, in regard to what he has given me, is greater than all, and no one can snatch them out of the Father’s hand. ³⁰ The Father and I are one.”

Fourth Sunday of Easter



Sunday May 11, 2025

Welcome & Happy Mother’s Day!

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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THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

In the name of + the One who was, who is, and who is to come.
Amen.

Baptized into Christ’s death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness,
and empower us to be witnesses in your name.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of
your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of
our own making.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that open the hearts of believers
and give a voice in the night to those in captivity;
waters that set your people on a new path,
rejoicing in the Spirit’s power.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One,
that our every day is shaped by these waters
that give us our very lives in you.
We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.
Amen.

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

What’s your favourite hymn? In the coming weeks we’d like to know what
your favourite hymn is and, also, if you have a story to share about what
the hymn means to you. Thereafter, we would like to incorporate that
hymn, and the story, into our worship services this spring and summer.

Upcoming Events & Dates To Remember

Next Executive Committee of the Church Council will meet on Thursday
May 15 @ 10:00 am.
Next Church Council will meet on Thursday May 22 @ 10:00 am.

Pickleball continues every Tuesday and Friday at 9:30 am until 11:30 am
except Friday May 16.

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

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

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

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

Attendance Sunday May 4 - 15 people, attendance 1 year ago - 20

Evangelical Lutheran Worship

GATHERING

Thanksgiving for Baptism (in the worship guide)
Gathering Hymn..... ELW # 361
“The Day of Resurrection”
Apostolic Greeting
Kyrie..... HS Page 3
Hymn of Praise “Now the Feast” HS page 4
Prayer of the Day

WORD

First Reading.....Acts 9:36-43
Psalm 23..... ELW
Second ReadingRevelation 7:9-17
Gospel Verse.....HS Page 8
“Glory to you O Lord”
GospelJohn 10:22-30
“Praise to you, O Christ”

Sermon
Hymn of the Day..... ELW # 789
“Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us”
Nicene Creed..... HS Page 10
Prayers of Intercession
Sharing the Peace

MEAL

Great Thanksgiving (sung).....HS Page 14
Sanctus “Holy, Holy”.....HS Page 15
Eucharistic Prayers & Acclamations.. HS Page 16
The Lord’s Prayer
“Lamb of God”HS Page 18
Communion Hymns.....ELW # 869 & 860
Blessing after Communion
Song after Communion.....HS Page 20
“Thanks be to you”
Prayer after Communion

SENDING

Announcements
Blessing
Sending Hymn.....ELW # 427
“For All Your Saints, O Lord ”
Dismissal: Go in peace. Live in hope.
“Thanks be to God”