

June 21, 2026

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Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

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Welcome and Happy Father's Day!

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 20:7-13 ⁷ O Lord, you have enticed me, and I was enticed; you have overpowered me, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all day long; everyone mocks me. ⁸ For whenever I speak, I must cry out; I must shout, "Violence and destruction!" For the word of the Lord has become for me a reproach and derision all day long. ⁹ If I say, "I will not mention him or speak any more in his name," then within me there is something like a burning fire shut up in my bones; I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. ¹⁰ For I hear many whispering: "Terror is all around! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!" All my close friends are watching for me to stumble. "Perhaps he can be enticed, and we can prevail against him and take our revenge on him." ¹¹ But the Lord is with me like a terrifying warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble, and they will not prevail. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten. ¹² O Lord of hosts, you test the righteous; you see the heart and the mind; let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause. ¹³ Sing to the Lord; praise the Lord! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hands of evildoers.

SECOND READING: Romans 6:1b-11 ^{1b} Should we continue in sin in order that grace may increase? ² By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ³ Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life. ⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, so we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸ But if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ The death he died, he died to sin once for all, but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL: Matthew 10:24-39 [Jesus said to the twelve:] ²⁴ "A disciple is not above the teacher nor a slave above the master; ²⁵ it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household! ²⁶ "So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷ What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸ Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, fear the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰ And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹ So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows. ³² "Everyone, therefore, who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven, ³³ but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. ³⁴ "Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace but a sword. ³⁵ For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law, ³⁶ and one's foes will be members of one's own household. ³⁷ "Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me, ³⁸ and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹ Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it."

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.

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."

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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

We live and serve on land that for thousands of years, Indigenous peoples have walked. We live on the traditional territory of several Indigenous peoples, including the Neutrals, the Mississauga, the Anishnaabe and the Haudenosaunee. We acknowledge their continuing stewardship of this land and we also honour the heritage and gifts of the Métis people.

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

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

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

See you at the Heartland Service.

THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA
CELEBRATES 40 YEARS. The Church invites congregations to tangible acts of love and service to celebrate. We are offering a “looney, tooney or fiver” pottery and craft sale with ALL proceeds directed to Hospice Niagara Walker House.

Upcoming Events & Dates to Remember:

A friendly reminder that June 28 worship service and barbeque is at 11:00 am at Heartland Forest in Niagara Falls.

Happy Father’s Day to all the wonderful granddads, dads, step dads and pet dads.



Evangelical Lutheran Worship

GATHERING

A brief word about the theme today
Gathering Hymn.....**ELW # 876**
“**Let the Whole Creation Cry**”
Prayer of the Day

WORD

First Reading.....Jeremiah 20:7-13
Psalm.....69:7-10 (11-15) 16-18
Second Reading.....Romans 6:1b-11
Gospel Verse Hymn..... **# 513**
“**Listen, God Is Calling**”
Gospel.....Matthew 10:24-39
Response “**Praise to you, O Christ**”
Sermon
Hymn of the Day.....**ELW # 798**
“**You Will Come and Follow Me**”
Prayers of Intercession
Sharing the Peace

MEAL

Great Thanksgiving....**ELW** page 152
Sanctus “Holy, Holy”...**ELW** page 153
Eucharistic Prayer
The Lord’s Prayer.....**ELW** page 154
Lamb of God.....**ELW** page 154
Communion
Communion Hymns **ELW #732 & 449**
Canticle after Communion **ELW...# 674**
“**Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ**”

SENDING

Announcements
Blessing
Sending Hymn.....**ELW # 769**
“**If You But Trust in God to Guide You**”
Dismissal: Go in peace, Live in hope. “**Thanks be to God**”