

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:1-5 ¹ Hear, everyone who thirsts; come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread and your earnings for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. ³ Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. ⁴ See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. ⁵ Now you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

SECOND READING: Romans 9:1-5 ¹ I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit—²I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own brothers and sisters, my own flesh and blood. ⁴ They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; ⁵ to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Christ, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

GOSPEL: Matthew 14:13-21 ¹³ Now when Jesus heard [about the beheading of John the Baptist,] he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴ When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵ When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” ¹⁶ Jesus said to them, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” ¹⁷ They replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” ¹⁸ And he said, “Bring them here to me.” ¹⁹ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰ And all ate and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.



Sunday August 2, 2026

Welcome Everyone !

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.

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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Council Chairperson: Bobbye Goldenberg
Vice-Chairperson: Marilyn Schultz
Second Vice-Chairperson: Bob Hansen
Church Secretary: Rona Devreese905-734-4746
Organist: Lily Jasinskis

Weekly Calendar:

Please note, pickleball sessions are cancelled for approximately two weeks while the Fellowship Hall floor is being refinished.

Monday: Pastor’s day off

Tuesday: Pastor in Port Colborne

Wednesday: Rose City Quilters 9:30 am to 3:30 pm
Pastor in Welland

Thursday: Pastor in Welland

Friday: Pastor in Port Colborne

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.

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

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

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

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

Attendance Sunday July 26 - 21 , one year ago 12.
If you missed last week’s sermon, it is available on our website.

A very happy birthday to Beryl Bowen who turns 90, WOW Best wishes for a happy, healthy birthday Beryl.

The congregation extends our sincere and deepest condolences to the families Rominger and Ort on the passing of Les Ort on Sunday July 26th. Our prayers are extended to family and friends.

Upcoming Events

The next Church Council meeting will take place on Thursday August 27th @ 10:00 am.

Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21– Tune: 380 Hallelujah! Jesus Lives! (Fred til Bod)
Reader: The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

**I will praise you, God my King;
Ev’ry day my thanks I’ll raise.**

The Lord is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made. He helps those who are in trouble; he lifts up those who have fallen.

**Let the whole world join to sing
Songs of your exalted praise.**

All living things look to you, and you give them food when they need it. You give them enough and satisfy the needs of all.

**Let all creatures, great and small,
Praise the Lord, who cares for all!**

The Lord is righteous in all he does, and merciful in all his acts.

**I will praise you, God my King;
Ev’ry day my thanks I’ll raise.**

He is near to those who call to him, who call to him sincerely. He supplies the needs of those who honor him; he hears their cries and saves them.

**Let the whole world join to sing
Songs of your exalted praise.**

He protects everyone who loves him, but he will destroy the wicked. I will always praise the Lord.

**Let all creatures, great and small,
Praise the Lord, who cares for all!**

Evangelical Lutheran Worship
Holy Communion Setting 4 – Page 147

GATHERING
Gathering Hymn.....**ELW # 461**
“All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly”
Prayer of the Day

WORD
First Reading.....Isaiah 55:1-5
Psalm (printed in Bulletin).....145
Second Reading..... Romans 9:1-5
Gospel Acclamation.....page 151
Gospel.....Matthew 14:13-21
Response **“Praise to you, O Christ”**
Sermon
Hymn of the Day.....**ELW # 515**
“Break Now the Bread of Life”
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** page154
Lamb of God.....**ELW** page 154
Communion
Communion Hymns **ELW # 486 & 479**
Prayer after Communion

SENDING
Announcements
Blessing
Sending Hymn.....**ELW # 674**
“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”
Dismissal: Go in peace, Live in hope.
“Thanks be to God”