

First Reading: Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18 ¹ The Lord spoke to Moses, saying: ² “Speak to all the congregation of the Israelites and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy. ¹⁵ “You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor. ¹⁶ You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not stand idly by when the blood of your neighbor is at stake: I am the Lord. ¹⁷ “You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbor, or you will incur guilt yourself. ¹⁸ You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.”

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 ¹ You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, ² but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. ³ For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, ⁴ but, just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals but to please God, who tests our hearts. ⁵ As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed, ⁶ nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, ⁷ though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. ⁸ So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

Gospel: Matthew 22:34-46 ³⁴ When the Pharisees heard that [Jesus] had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵ and one of them, an expert in the law, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶ “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” ³⁷ He said to him, “ ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ ³⁸ This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.” ⁴¹ Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: ⁴² “What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” ⁴³ He said to them, “How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, ⁴⁴ ‘The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet” ’? ⁴⁵ “If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?” ⁴⁶ No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.



Reformation Sunday October 25, 2026
Welcome Everyone !

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.

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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Our Mission Statement:

“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
Email.....pastorbartcoleman@gmail.com
Council Chairperson: Bobbye Goldenberg
Vice-Chairperson: Marilyn Schultz
Second Vice-Chairperson: Bob Hansen
Church Secretary: Rona Devreese 905-734-4746
Organist: Lily Jasinskas

Weekly Calendar:

Monday: Pastor’s day off

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

Wednesday: 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

As We Celebrate Holy Communion Together:

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 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

Attendance Sunday October 18 - 14, one year ago 14.
Upcoming Events:

A congregational meeting has been called for today, **Sunday, October the 25th** (after the Service) to approve the inspection of our building by the Fire Department and the Health Department to approve its suitability for use by a Montessori daycare.

The **Welland City-Wide Food Drive** is taking place on **Saturday, November 7, 2026!** This long-standing community tradition plays a vital role in stocking the shelves of three local food banks, including Open Arms Mission, The Hope Centre, and The Salvation Army.

Psalm 1 – Tune: 302 *As with Gladness Men of Old*

**Blest are those--most happy they--
Who the Law of God obey.**

Reader: Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of the scoffers.

**In God's Word is their delight;
They pursue it day and night.**

They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, and their leaves do not wither.

**Blest are they! The Lord will bless
All their efforts with success.**

The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away. Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

**Let God's Law be our delight,
To pursue it day and night.**

For the Lord knows the way of the righteous.

**Let us strive, both night and day,
God's good precepts to obey.**

But the way of the wicked is doomed.

Let us pray the Lord to bless

All our efforts with success.
Evangelical Lutheran Worship
Holy Communion Setting 4 - Page 147

GATHERING

Thanksgiving for Baptism ELW Pg **97**
Gathering Hymn.....ELW # **504**
“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”
Greeting
Hymn of Praise..... ELW Page **149**
“This is the Feast of Victory”
Prayer of the Day

WORD

First Reading...Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18
Psalm (printed in Bulletin).....1
Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
Gospel Acclamation...ELW page **151**
“Glory to you, O Lord”
Gospel.....Matthew 22:34-46
“Praise to you, O Christ”

Sermon
Hymn of the Day.....ELW # **513**
“Listen, God Is Calling”
Apostles’ Creed.....ELW Page **105**
Prayers of the Church
Sharing the Peace

MEAL

Offering Prayer
Great Thanksgiving....ELW page **152**
Sanctus **”Holy, Holy”**..ELW page **153**
Eucharistic Prayer
Lord’s Prayer.....ELW page **154**
Lamb of God.....ELW page **154**
Communion
Communion Hymns**591 & 652**
Prayer after Communion

SENDING

Announcements & Blessing
Sending Hymn.....ELW # **729**

“The Church of Christ, in Every Age”

Dismissal: Go in peace.

Serve the Lord.

“Thanks be to God”