

FIRST READING: Malachi 4:1-2a

<sup>1</sup> See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. <sup>2a</sup> But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

SECOND READING: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

<sup>6</sup> Now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from every brother or sister living irresponsibly and not according to the tradition that they received from us. <sup>7</sup> For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not irresponsible when we were with you, <sup>8</sup> and we did not eat anyone’s bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day so that we might not burden any of you. <sup>9</sup> This was not because we do not have that right but in order to give you an example to imitate. <sup>10</sup> For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: anyone unwilling to work should not eat. <sup>11</sup> For we hear that some of you are living irresponsibly, mere busybodies, not doing any work. <sup>12</sup> Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. <sup>13</sup> Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

GOSPEL: Luke 21:5-19

<sup>5</sup> When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, <sup>6</sup> “As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.” <sup>7</sup> They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” <sup>8</sup> And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them. <sup>9</sup> “When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” <sup>10</sup> Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; <sup>11</sup> there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven. <sup>12</sup> “But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. <sup>13</sup> This will give you an opportunity to testify. <sup>14</sup> So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance, <sup>15</sup> for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. <sup>16</sup> You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. <sup>17</sup> You will be hated by all because of my name. <sup>18</sup> But not a hair of your head will perish. <sup>19</sup> By your endurance you will gain your souls.”

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Sunday November 16, 2025

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.

*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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Council Chairperson: Bobbye Goldenberg .....  
Vice-Chairperson: Marilyn Schultz .....  
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

Upcoming Events & Dates To Remember

Please join us for our **Congregational Christmas Dinner** which will take place on Wednesday December 10 at The Blue Star Restaurant. Please RSVP to Rona in the Church office if you and a guest plan to attend, or email [stmatts@cogeco.net](mailto:stmatts@cogeco.net). You can also call 905-734-4746. We have reserved the back Banquet Room for 5:30/6:00 (booked for 2 hrs). Approximately 25-30 people.

Dinner Menu Options: **Roast turkey** dinner (dark and white meat), homemade dressing, cranberry sauce and gravy served with mashed (or your choice of fries or roasted potatoes) plus veggie of the day. **\$19.99 per plate.**  
**Ukrainian trio** choice of either 1 piece of white meat, or 2 pieces of dark meat, perogies and cabbage rolls. **\$19.99 per plate.**  
**Vegan** option to be advised.

**Dessert;**  
Choice of pie per slice \$5.75  
Pumpkin  
Coconut cream  
Chocolate cream  
Cheesecake \$6.99  
Chocolate truffle cake \$6.99  
Triple chocolate mousse \$6.99  
Peanut butter cheesecake (Gluten Free) \$7.99

On Wednesday, December 3, 2025, the Lutheran Women are hosting their **Christmas luncheon** at M.T.Bellies Family Restaurant, 871 Niagara Street in Welland at 11:30 am. All ladies are invited to join us

in celebrating the Christmas season. Bring a friend if you wish! Contact Marilyn by November 30 if you are planning to attend.

Next Church Council meeting is Thursday November 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am.

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

Last week’s attendance - 18, last year’s attendance -12

The end is near. There is no doubt about it. The warnings are dire. The tone of today’s texts is ominous. But the baptized know how to live in the meantime. The baptized are strengthened for the living of these days in word and sacrament. The baptized rally around the invitation of the apostle: “Do not be weary in doing what is right.”  
*Sundays and Seasons*



**GATHERING**  
Gathering Hymn.....**ELW # 657**  
“Rise, O Sun of Righteousness”  
Prayer of the Day

**WORD**  
First Reading ..... Malachi 4:1-2a  
Psalm 98..... **ELW**  
Second Reading.....2 Thessalonians 3:6-13  
Gospel Acclamation.....**ELW** Page 205  
“**Glory to you, O Lord**”  
Gospel ..... Luke 21:5-19  
“**Praise to you, O Christ**”  
Sermon  
Hymn of the Day.....**ELW # 241**  
“O Lord, How Shall I Meet You”  
Apostles’ Creed.....**ELW** Page 217  
Prayers of Intercession  
“**Your mercy is great**”  
Sharing the Peace  
Receiving the Offering and Offering Prayer

**MEAL**  
Great Thanksgiving .....ELW Page 206  
Sanctus “Holy, Holy” ..... ELW Page 207  
Eucharistic Prayer  
The Lord’s Prayer ..... ELW Page 208  
O Lamb of God .....ELW Page 208  
Communion Hymns .....**ELW # 723 & 626**  
Prayer after Communion

**SENDING**  
Announcements  
Blessing  
Sending Hymn.....**ELW # 632**  
“Oh God, Our Help in Ages Past”  
Dismissal: Go in peace. Live in hope.  
“**Thanks be to God**”