November 22, 2026 **(A)** **Christ the King Sunday**

First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 [11] Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep and will sort them out. [12] As shepherds sort out their flocks when they are among scattered sheep, so I will sort out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. [13] I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and bring them into their own land, and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. [14] I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. [15] I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. [16] I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strays, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice. [20] Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. [21] Because you pushed with flank and shoulder and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, [22] I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged, and I will judge between sheep and sheep. [23] I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them; he shall feed them and be their shepherd. [24] And I the Lord will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I the Lord have spoken.

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23 [15] I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason [16] I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, [17] that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, [18] so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, [19] and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. [20] God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, [21] far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. [22] And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, [23] which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46 [Jesus said to the disciples:] [31] "When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. [32] All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, [33] and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. [34] Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, [35] for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, [36] I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' [37] Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? [38] And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? [39] And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' [40] And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.' [41] Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels, [42] for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, [43] I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' [44] Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?' [45] Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' [46] And these will go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life."

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Christ the King Sunday



Sunday November 22, 2026

Welcome Everyone!

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.

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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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 away
Wednesday: Pickleball 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm
Rose City Quilters 9:30 am to 3:30 pm
Pastor away
Thursday: Pastor away
Friday: Pickleball 9:30 am to 11:30 am (luncheon to follow)
Pastor away
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 Marilyn Schultz
Usher/Greeter Norm & Carole McLeod
Counters Bob Hansen & Carole McLeod

Attendance: Sunday November 15 - 14, one year ago 17.

Upcoming Events:
Please join us for our annual Congregational Christmas Dinner taking place on Wednesday December 9th at the Rex in Welland at 6:00 pm. There are several choices for dinner, and family style tossed salad is being served for $28.00 plus tax and tip.
RSVP to Rona by December 2nd by phone 905 734 4746 or stmatts@cogeco.net.

Flowers on the Altar today are given by Marilyn Schultz and family, to the glory of God and in loving memory of husband, father and grandfather, Clifford Schultz who passed away 10 years ago today.

The Altar Guild is looking for donations to help beautify our Church sanctuary with flowers and plants for the Christmas season. To make a donation, place in a separate envelope, marked "Altar Guild". Of course, make sure you put your name there too so you will get credit for your donation. Any questions may be directed to Ruth Kiers, Beryl Bowen or Marilyn Schultz. Thank you!

Psalm 100 – Tune: ELW # 858 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.
Praise to the Lord, The Almighty, the King of creation!

Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with glad singing.
O my soul, praise him, For he is your health and salvation.

Acknowledge that the Lord is God.
Sheep of his hand, Safe in his pasture we stand.

He created us, and we belong to him.
Join now in glad adoration!

Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise.
Praise to the Lord,
Who will prosper your work and defend you.

Give thanks to him, and bless his name.
Surely his goodness, And mercy shall daily attend you.

The Lord is good; his love is eternal, and his faithfulness lasts forever.

Ponder anew what the Almighty can do
If with his love he befriend you.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship
Service of the Word ELW P 210

GATHERING
Thanksgiving for Baptism ELW P **97**
Gathering Hymn……ELW **# 634**
"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!"
Greeting
Kyrie……..……ELW Page **213**
Hymn of Praise……ELW #870 v1
Prayer of the Day

WORD
First Reading…Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
Psalm 100……...(in Bulletin)
Second Reading...Ephesians 1:15-23
Gospel Acclamation…ELW Page **216**
"Glory to you, O Lord."
Gospel…….....Matthew 25:31-46
"Praise to you, O Christ."
Sermon
Hymn of the Day……...ELW **# 431**
"O Christ, What Can It Mean for Us"
Creed……..…ELW Page **217**
Prayers of the Church
Sharing the Peace

THANKSGIVING
Offering
Thanksgiving for the Word ELW P **220**
Lord's Prayer…….ELW Page **221**

SENDING
Announcements
Blessing ……ELW Page **221**
Sending Hymn……..…ELW **# 679**
"For the Fruit of All Creation"
Dismissal: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
"Thanks be to God."