

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:10-13 ¹⁰ For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹ so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. ¹² For you shall go out in joy and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. ¹³ Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle, and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:1-11 ¹ Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God’s law—indeed, it cannot, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

GOSPEL: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 ¹ That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ² Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³ And he told them many things in parables, saying: “Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵ Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶ But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷ Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸ Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹ If you have ears, hear!” ¹⁸ “Hear, then, the parable of the sower. ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹ yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²² As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³ But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”



Sunday July 12, 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.

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

57 Griffith Street • Welland, Ontario • L3B 4G6 • 905-734-4746

email: stmatts@cogeco.net • website: stmatthewswelland.com



“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 Devreese905-734-4746
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

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 Linda Borland
Prayers Linda Borland
Usher/Greeter Bob Hansen
Counters Bob Hansen & Carole McLeod

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

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

Attendance Sunday July 5 - 14 , one year ago 24.

Psalm 65 – Tune: 870 We Praise You, O God (Kremser)

Reader: Praise is due to you, O God; and to you shall vows be performed.

**We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.**

Happy are those whom you choose, whom you bring to live in your sanctuary.
We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house.

**We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;
We bless your holy name; glad praises we sing.**

By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance, O God of our salvation. You are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.

**We worship you, God of our fathers; we bless you;
Through trial and tempest our Guide you have been.**

You calm the roaring of the seas and the noise of the waves; you calm the uproar of the peoples. The whole world stands in awe of the great things you have done.

**When perils o’ertake us, you will not forsake us,
And with your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.**

You send abundant rain on the plowed fields and soak them with water; you soften the soil with showers and cause the young plants to grow. You crown the year with your bounty.

**With voices united our praises we offer
And gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.**

When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us, you forgive our transgressions. We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house.

**With you, Lord, beside us, your strong arm will guide us.
To you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!**



GATHERING

Gathering Hymn.....**ELW # 524**
“ **What Is This Place** ”
Prayer of the Day

WORD

First Reading.....Isaiah 55:10-13
Psalm (printed in Bulletin).....65
Second Reading.....Romans 8:1-11
Gospel Acclamation.....page 151
Gospel.....Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23
Response “**Praise to you, O Christ**”
Sermon
Hymn of the Day.....**ELW # 508**
“**As Rain from the Clouds**”
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 # 512 & 734**
Prayer after Communion

SENDING

Announcements
Blessing
Sending Hymn.....**ELW # 547**
“**Send Forth by God’s Blessing**”
Dismissal: Go in peace, Live in hope.
“**Thanks be to God**”