November 8, 2026 **(A)** **Twenty Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**

First Reading: Amos 5:18-24 **18** **Woe to you who desire the day of the Lord! Why do you want the day of the Lord? It is darkness, not light, 19 as if someone fled from a lion and was met by a bear or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall and was bitten by a snake. 20 Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? 21 I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. 22 Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them, and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon. 23 Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. 24 But let justice roll down like water and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.**

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 **13** **We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14 For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. 15 For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. 16 For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. 18 Therefore encourage one another with these words.**

Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13 [Jesus said to the disciples:] 1 "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. 2 Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. 3 When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, 4 but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. 5 As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. 6 But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' 7 Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. 8 The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' 9 But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' 10 And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. 11 Later the other young women came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' 12 But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' 13 Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

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24th Sunday after Pentecost



Sunday November 8, 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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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 Bobbye Goldenberg
Prayers Linda Borland
Usher/Greeter Norm & Carole McLeod
Counters Bob Hansen & Carole McLeod

Attendance Sunday November 1 - 17, one year ago 18.

Upcoming Events:

The next Church Council meeting will take place on Thursday November 19th at 10:00 am.

Act of Remembrance – As we remember in silence before God those who have made the ultimate sacrifice, let us commend their souls anew to God's eternal mercy and compassion, and let us pray that God would grant us grace to serve faithfully until our life's end, to the honour and glory of God's Holy Name.

Psalm 70
ELW # 597 My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

Make haste, O God, deliver me!
Do not delay my help to be!

Let those who seek my life be ashamed and dismayed. Turn back those who gloat over my troubles and say, "We told you so!"

May all whom you have saved rejoice
And praise the Lord with thankful voice.

But I am poor and needy, O God my Savior. I need you now!

Do not delay my help to be!
Make haste, O God, deliver me!

Evangelical Lutheran Worship
Holy Communion Setting 4 - Page 147

GATHERING
Gathering Hymn……ELW # **438**
"My Lord, What a Morning"
Greeting
Prayer of the Day
WORD
First Reading……Amos 5:18-24
Psalm (printed in Bulletin)……70
Second Reading……. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Gospel Acclamation…ELW page **151**
"Glory to you, O Lord"
Gospel……..……Matthew 25:1-13
"Praise to you, O Christ"
Sermon
Hymn of the Day……....ELW # **244**
***"*Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"**
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 ……**785** & **488**
Prayer after Communion
SENDING
Announcements
Blessing
Sending Hymn……ELW # **638**
"Blessed Assurance"
O Canada
Dismissal: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
"Thanks be to God"