

## ***St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church & School***

(Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

709 Milton Ave., Janesville, WI 53545

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[www.stmatthewsjanesville.org](http://www.stmatthewsjanesville.org)

*Worship for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany*

*January 25 & 28, 2024*

**Opening Hymn: Speak, O Lord** CW 633

- 1** **Speak, O Lord, as we come to you**  
**to receive the food of your holy Word;**  
**take your truth, plant it deep in us,**  
**shape and fashion us in your likeness,**  
**that the light of Christ might be seen today**  
**in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.**  
**Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us**  
**all your purposes for your glory.**
  
- 2** **Teach us, Lord, full obedience,**  
**holy reverence, true humility;**  
**test our thoughts and our attitudes**  
**in the radiance of your purity.**  
**Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see**  
**your majestic love and authority.**  
**Words of pow'r that can never fail,**  
**let their truth prevail over unbelief.**
  
- 3** **Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds,**  
**help us grasp the heights of your plans for us,**  
**truths unchanged from the dawn of time,**  
**that will echo down through eternity.**  
**And by grace we'll stand on your promises,**  
**and by faith we'll walk as you walk with us.**  
**Speak, O Lord, till your Church is built,**  
**and the earth is filled with your glory.**

## Invocation

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## Confession of Sins

P: If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**C: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just  
and will forgive us our sins  
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

P: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father,**

**I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you  
in my thoughts, words, and actions.**

**I have not loved you with my whole heart;**

**I have not loved others as I should.**

**I deserve your punishment both now and forever.**

**But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins**

**with his innocent suffering and death.**

**Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

P: Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

## Song of Praise *(sung to tune of CW 460)*



1 Glo - ry be to God in heav - en, peace to those he  
2 On - ly Son of God the Fa - ther, Lamb who takes our

loves so well. On the earth let all his peo - ple speak his  
sin a - way, now with him in tri - umph seat - ed— for your

grace, his won - ders tell: Lord, we praise you for your glo - ry,  
mer - cy, Lord, we pray: Je - sus Christ, most high and ho - ly,  
might - y Fa - ther, heav - en's King; hear our joy - ful  
Sav - ior, you are God a - lone in the glo - ry  
ad - o - ra - tion and ac - cept the thanks we bring.  
of the Fa - ther with the Spir - it, Three in One!

### Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray.

### Prayer of the Day

P: Almighty God, you sent your Son to proclaim your kingdom and teach with authority. Anoint us with the power of your Spirit that we too may bring good news to the afflicted, bind up the brokenhearted, and proclaim liberty to the captive; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### Junior Choir (8:00 a.m.) "Bring It Home"

All your grief, all your sorrow, bring it home. Every fear for tomorrow, bring it home. Every tear, every pain, every blemish, every stain, every sin that has you chained, bring it home.

When your spirit is aching, bring it home. And your poor heart is breaking, bring it home. In the midst of despair, when there's trouble everywhere, take it to your God in prayer, bring it home.

(Refrain) Bring it home to the Father, bring it home. Lay it down in the arms of love. Every wound, every care, every burden that you bear; bring it home to the Father, bring it home.

When the darkness surrounds you, bring it home. And your weakness confounds you, bring it home. In your day of distress, in your night of loneliness, when the hurt is measureless, bring it home. *(Refrain)*

And at the end of your days, safe through his mysterious ways, you can lift your hand in praise, you'll be home.

**Epistle: Hebrews 3:1-6**

Therefore, holy brothers, who share in the heavenly calling, focus your attention on Jesus, the apostle and high priest whom we confess. <sup>2</sup>He was faithful to the one who appointed him, as also Moses was faithful in God's whole house. <sup>3</sup>In fact, Jesus is worthy of greater glory than Moses, in the same way that the builder of a house has more honor than the house. <sup>4</sup>For every house is built by someone, and God is the one who built everything.

<sup>5</sup>Moses was faithful as a servant within God's whole house by testifying to the things that would be spoken. <sup>6</sup>But Christ is faithful as a Son over God's house. We are his house, if we hold on firmly to our confidence and the hope about which we boast until the end.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Verse of the Day**      *(sung to tune of CW 460)*

♪ **Faith and truth and life bestowing  
open now the Scriptures, Lord,  
seed to life eternal sowing,  
scattered on the wind abroad.  
So in Scripture, song, and story,  
Savior, may your voice be heard.  
Till our eyes behold your glory  
give us ears to hear your Word.**

**Gospel: Mark 1:21-28**

<sup>21</sup>Then they went into Capernaum. On the next Sabbath day, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. <sup>22</sup>They were amazed at his teaching, because he was teaching them as one who has authority and not as the experts in the law. <sup>23</sup>Just then there was a man with an unclean spirit in their synagogue. It cried out, <sup>24</sup>“What do we have to

do with you, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are-the Holy One of God!"

<sup>25</sup>Jesus rebuked the spirit, saying, "Be quiet! Come out of him!"

<sup>26</sup>The unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions, and after crying out with a loud voice, it came out of him. <sup>27</sup>Everyone was so amazed that they began to discuss this with each other. They said, "What is this? A new teaching with authority! He even commands the unclean spirits, and they obey him!" <sup>28</sup>News about him spread quickly through all the region of Galilee.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise be to you, O Christ.**

**Hymn: God Has Spoken by His Prophets** CW 639

- 1 **God has spoken by his prophets,  
spoken his unchanging Word,  
each from age to age proclaiming  
God, the one, the righteous Lord.  
In the world's despair and turmoil  
one firm anchor holds us fast:  
God is King, his throne eternal,  
God the first and God the last.**
- 2 **God has spoken by Christ Jesus,  
Christ, the everlasting Son,  
brightness of the Father's glory,  
with the Father ever one;  
spoken by the Word incarnate,  
God from God, before time was;  
Light from Light, to earth descending,  
he reveals our God to us.**
- 3 **God is speaking by his Spirit,  
speaking to our hearts again,  
in the ageless Word declaring  
his own message, now as then.  
Thro' the rise and fall of nations  
one sure faith is standing fast:  
God abides, his Word unchanging,  
God the first and God the last.**

## **Sermon: Deuteronomy 18:15-20**

<sup>15</sup>The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brother Israelites. Listen to him.

<sup>16</sup>That is exactly what you asked from the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly. You said, "Do not let me hear the voice of the LORD my God anymore, and do not let me see this great fire again, or I will die."

<sup>17</sup>Then the LORD said to me, "They have done well by saying what they said. <sup>18</sup>I will raise up a prophet for them from among their brothers, like you, and I will put my words in his mouth, and he will speak to them everything that I command him. <sup>19</sup>Anyone who will not listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name, I myself will call him to account. <sup>20</sup>Any prophet who presumes to speak something in my name that I have not commanded him to speak or who speaks something in the name of other gods-that prophet shall die."

*God Wants To Speak To You; It's A Matter Of Life And Death*

*I. He has raised up for you a prophet like Moses*

*II. He tells you to listen to this prophet*

## **Nicene Creed**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic**

**Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

### **Offering**

#### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

P: Blessed are you,

**C: O Lord of heaven and earth.**

P: We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ,

**C: and we remember the great acts of love through which he has redeemed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.**

P: By his incarnation,

**C: he became one with us.**

P: By his perfect life,

**C: he fulfilled your holy will.**

P: By his innocent death,

**C: he robbed death of its sting.**

P: By his rising from the grave,

**C: he broke the power of the grave and opened heaven.**

P: Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word,

**C: we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts.**

P: Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood,

**C: and preserve us in the true faith**

P: until we feast with him and all his people in glory everlasting.

**C: Amen.**

### **Lord's Prayer**

**C: Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

### **The Sacrament**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them up to the Lord**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

**C: It is good and right so to do.**

P: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lived among us as a human being and revealed his glory as your only Son, full of grace and truth. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

### Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na, ho -  
san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he,  
bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

### Words of Institution

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."



P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

**Lamb of God** *Tune of CW 320*

1 O Lamb of God, once lift - ed high up - on a  
2 O Lamb of God, your sac - ri - fice has can - celled  
cross to bleed and die, in per - fect love you  
sin, has paid its price; your per - fect love will  
took our place— be - stow on us your sav - ing grace.  
nev - er cease— have mer - cy, Lord, and grant us peace.

**Distribution**

**Distribution Hymn: Draw Near and Take** *CW 661*

1 Draw near and take the body of the Lord,  
and drink the holy blood for you outpoured.  
Saved by his body and his holy blood,  
with souls refreshed we give our thanks to God.

2 Christ our Redeemer, God's eternal Son,  
has by his cross and blood the vict'ry won.  
He gave his life for greatest and for least,  
himself the off'ring and himself the priest.

3 Let us approach with faithful hearts sincere  
and take the pledges of salvation here.  
Christ, who in this life all the saints defends,  
gives all believers life that never ends.

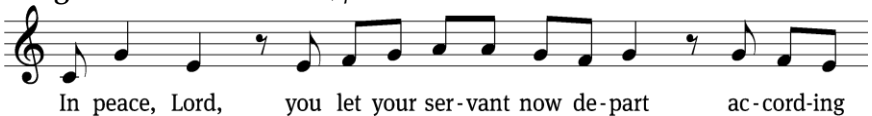
4 With heav'nly bread he makes the hungry whole,  
gives living waters to the thirsting soul.  
Lord of the nations, to whom all must bow,  
in this great feast of love be with us now.

Distribution Hymn: Lord Jesus Christ, Our Savior-King CW 899

- 1 Lord Jesus Christ, our Savior-King,  
to you our highest praise we sing  
for blessings to the Church, your bride,  
with whom you evermore abide.
- 2 Your Scriptures lead us to rejoice,  
for there we hear our Father's voice.  
His gracious promises proclaim  
forgiveness in your holy name.
- 3 Your Spirit's call to faith we heard  
in water's washing with the Word.  
Lord, keep us in baptismal grace  
and make our hearts your dwelling place.
- 4 With simple food of bread and wine  
you feed us with a feast divine.  
Your blood and body we partake—  
our sins forgiven for your sake.
- 5 As stewards of these means of grace  
you send out preachers in your place  
your wondrous mercy to proclaim  
and glorify your saving name.
- 6 Lord, give us ministers who live  
according to the grace you give.  
To Scripture may they faithful be,  
and so preserve this ministry.
- 7 And then, at last, Lord, hear our prayer:  
gather your blood-bought children there  
where saints and angels sing your praise,  
and we with them, through endless days!

Thanksgiving

Song of Simeon CW '93, p.61



In peace, Lord, you let your ser-vant now de-part ac-cord-ing

to your word. For my eyes have seen your sal - va - tion, which  
 you have pre - pared for ev - 'ry peo - ple,  
 a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the  
 glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

P: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

**C: And his mercy endures forever.**

P: Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

**C: we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

P: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### **Benediction**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

**C: Amen**

### **Closing Hymn: Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear** CW 632

**1 Lord, open now my heart to hear,  
 and through your Word to me draw near.**

**Let me your Word e'er pure retain;  
 let me your child and heir remain.**

**2 Your Word inspires my heart within;  
 your Word grants healing from my sin.  
 Your Word has pow'r to guide and bless;  
 your Word brings peace and happiness.**

**3 To God the Father, God the Son,  
and God the Spirit, Three in One,  
shall glory, praise, and honor be  
now and throughout eternity.**

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**Communion Registration** Communicant members of St. Matthew’s are reminded to register for Holy Communion on the “Care Card” found in the pews. If you are visiting St. Matthew’s today, we request that you please speak with the Pastor before communing. Questions and answers which will assist you in preparing for partaking of the Lord’s Supper are found beginning on page 295 in the hymnal.

**Members, Visitors & Guests—Welcome to St. Matthew’s!**

Let us listen as our Lord speaks to us in his Word because it truly is a matter of life and death!

If you are visiting our service, please sign a “care card” in the church pew or our guest book and come back to visit again soon.

Attendance Last Sunday—192 (41/151)                      Open Forum – 60

Offering Last Week—\$13,511.54                      Women’s Bible Class – 15

Finish the Work—**\$85,237.75**                      Sunday School – 12

*(Meeting our 2024 Ministry Plan requires weekly offerings of \$14,735.00.)*

*“I turn my heart to do your statutes, forever, right to the end”*

*Psalm 119:112*

**Announcements:**

1. **Sunday Morning Bible Class** – We have begun a study of the Minor Prophets in Bible Class. We are currently studying the book of the prophet Joel. Bible class meets at 9:15 a.m. in the Fellowship area downstairs. You are invited to join us.
2. **During the month of January**, Bible class participants will have the opportunity to donate to a building project for Cross of Christ Lutheran Church in Las Cruces, New Mexico. Mrs. Pfaffenbach’s brother, Pastor Nathanael Jensen, is the pastor at this congregation and they are in the process of trying to acquire land to build a new church. Money raised will be sent to this congregation to help with the expense of purchasing land. Anyone wishing for more information, please contact Sally Wellnitz.

3. **A Call Meeting** was held on Sunday, January 21 after the 10:30 service. Mr. Joel Sonntag was called to be our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade teacher and principal. Mrs. Emily Fleming was called to be our 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher and Athletic Director. Please keep these people in your prayers as they deliberate their calls to St. Matthews.
4. **Evening Guild** – February 12<sup>th</sup> the Evening Guild would like to invite the ladies of the congregation to join them for a Valentine get-together at Mac’s Pizza Shack on Milton Avenue at 6:00 p.m. It is an evening where ladies invite and treat their husband, a friend or guest or just come and enjoy. There is a signup sheet on the lower bulletin board if you are able to attend. If you have any questions, you may contact Carol Hirsch (608-756-0160 or Sally Wellnitz (608-752-2037).
5. **Women’s Bible Class** Women’s Bible Class is held Wednesday mornings at 9:30 a.m. We are currently working on our handouts regarding Pastor Mark Paustian’s books “Prepared to Answer” and “More Prepared to Answer”. We hope to have the lessons ready to print in 2024. When we aren’t doing these lessons we are using a Women’s Bible Study Book from NPH called “In God’s Orchard- Cultivating the Fruit of a Spirit-Filled Life. If you have any questions, please contact Deb Lenser at 608-728-3120.
6. **Wednesday Evening Confirmation Class** Wednesday evening confirmation class will meet at 5:00 p.m.
7. **Finish the Work** Perhaps you have noticed that we are running regular updates for the special “Finish the Work” debt retirement/reduction offering. **To date offerings given to this special effort total over \$85,000.00!! We have received 64 special offering envelopes.** For this we thank our gracious God and his generous people here at St. Matthews. If you would still like to participate in the offering, special “Finish the Work” envelopes are still available on the counter in the narthex. Thank you again to all for your prayers and support.
8. **Thank you to the women** who served on the altar guild for the month of January: Resa Truppe, Karen Schulz, and Hazel Connors. Serving for the month of February will be: Heidi Christianson and Kayla Cordall-Gonzales.

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## Assisting with Worship

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### Organists:

Thursday 6:30 – Kathi Hendee  
Sunday, 8 & 10:30 – Meredith Moeller

### Ushers:

8:00 a.m. – Rich Hatfield, Michael Borchardt, Ryan Borchardt, Kyle Stade  
10:30 a.m. – Tim Stirmel, Connor Stirmel

### Next Week Ushers:

8:00 a.m. – George Ehlers, Bob Williams, Mike Fox, Nico Caminata  
10:30 a.m. – Fred Shadoski, Russ Scott

### CODS:

Thursday, January 25, 6:30 p.m. – Marc Augsburg  
Sunday, January 28, 8:00 a.m. – Trevor Sanchez  
Sunday, January 28, 10:30 a.m. – George Ehlers

### Next Week CODS:

Thursday, February 1, 6:30 p.m. – Tim Stirmel  
Sunday, February 4, 8:00 a.m. – Kyle Stade  
Sunday, February 4, 10:30 a.m. – Jim Daley

### Greeters

Sunday, January 28, 8:00 a.m. – Craig & Cathy Sonntag  
Sunday, January 28, 10:30 a.m. – Mary Kowal

### Next Week Greeters:

Sunday, February 4, 8:00 a.m. – John & Joanne May  
Sunday, February 4, 10:30 a.m. – Shari Deegan

### Church Cleaning:

February 3, 2024 – Mike Fox & Phil Fry families  
February 10, 2024 – Craig Groninger & Brian Hartwig families

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## This Week at St. Matthew's

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### **Sunday**

Worship with Communion 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School & Bible Class 9:15 a.m.

### **Monday**

Education Committee Meeting 6:30 p.m.

**Wednesday**

Women's Bible Study 9:30 a.m.

Public School Confirmation 5:00 p.m.

Sr. Choir 5:45 p.m.

**Thursday**

Worship 6:30 p.m.

No Preschool

School dismissed at 11:30 a.m.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

**Friday**

No School – Parent/Teacher Conferences

Sprouts 9:00-10:00 a.m.

**Saturday**

LLHS Visual Arts Fair

**Sunday**

Worship 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School & Bible Class 9:15 a.m.