

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

(Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

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Church & School Phone: 752-1304

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www.stmatthewsjanesville.org

Worship for the 20th Sunday after Trinity

October 13 & 17, 2021

Hymn: #395 "Seek Where You May to Find a Way"

1 Seek where you may To find a way

That leads to your salvation.

My heart is stilled, On Christ I build—

He is the one foundation.

His Word is sure; His works endure.

He will overthrow My ev'ry foe;

Through Him I more than conquer.

2 Seek whom you may To be your stay,

None can redeem his brother.

All helpers failed; This man prevailed,

The God-man and none other,

The Servant-Lord Our life restored.

We're justified For He has died,

The guiltless for the guilty.

3 Seek Him alone Who did atone,

Who did your souls deliver.

O seek Him first, All you who thirst

For grace that fails you never.

In ev'ry need Seek Him indeed;

To ev'ry heart He will impart

His blessings without measure.

Invocation

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

C: Amen.

Confession of Sins

P: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.

For faithless worrying and selfish pride,

For sins of habit and sins of choice,

For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,

You should cast me away from your presence forever.

O Lord, I am sorry for my sins.

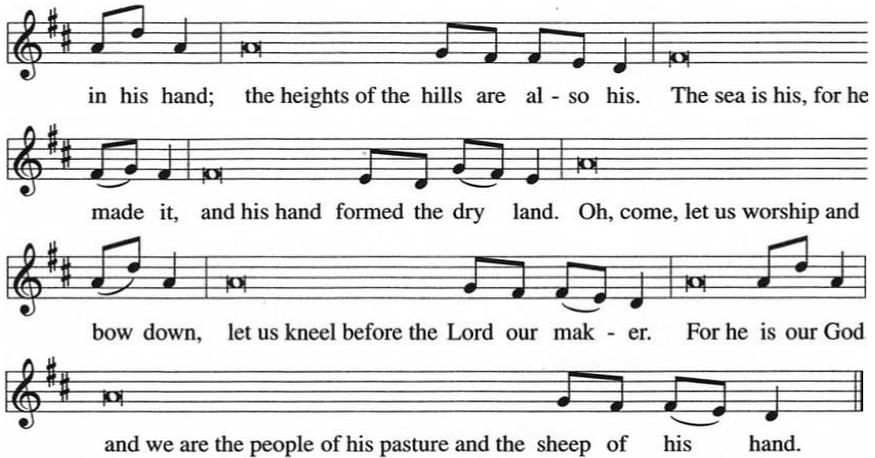
Forgive me for Jesus' sake.

P: Christ has died. Christ has risen from the dead. Christ will come again in glory. In his great mercy, "God made us alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the written code that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross." 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: Our gracious God calls us to seek him and live: let us worship him.

C: Oh, come, let us sing to the Lord, let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion. Let us come into his presence with thanks - giv - ing, let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise. For the Lord is a great God and a great king a-bove all gods. The deep places of the earth are



in his hand; the heights of the hills are al - so his. The sea is his, for he
made it, and his hand formed the dry land. Oh, come, let us worship and
bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our mak - er. For he is our God
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

Prayer of the Day

P: Lord Jesus Christ, whose grace always precedes and follows us, help us to forsake all trust in earthly gain and to find in you our heavenly treasure; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Prism 10:30 Service: "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

Epistle: Romans 3:9-22

⁹What then? Are we any better off? No, not at all! In fact, we have already made the charge that all (both Jews and Greeks) are under sin. ¹⁰Just as it is written:

There is no one who is righteous, not even one.

¹¹There is no one who understands.

There is no one who searches for God.

¹²They all turned away; together they became useless.

There is no one who does what is good; there is not even one.

¹³Their throat is an open grave.

They kept deceiving with their tongues.

The poison of asps is on their lips.

¹⁴Their mouth is filled with cursing and bitterness.

¹⁵Their feet are quick to shed blood.

¹⁶They leave a trail of destruction and suffering wherever they go.

¹⁷The way of peace they did not know.

¹⁸There is no fear of God in front of their eyes.

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says is addressed to those who are under the law, so that every mouth will be silenced and the whole world will be subject to God's judgment. ²⁰For this reason, no one will be declared righteous in his sight by works of the law, for through the law we become aware of sin.

²¹But now, completely apart from the law, a righteousness from God has been made known. The Law and the Prophets testify to it.

²²This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all and over all who believe.

Verse of the Day

**All: (sing) 4 My heart's delight, My crown most bright,
Jesus, you are forever.
Not wealth or pride Or aught beside
Our bond of love shall sever.
You are my Lord; Your precious Word
Shall be my guide Whate'er betide.
Oh, teach me, Lord, to trust you!**

Gospel: Mark 10:17-27

¹⁷As Jesus was setting out on a journey, ¹⁷one man ran up to him and knelt in front of him. He asked, "Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

¹⁸Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good except one—God. ¹⁹You know the commandments. 'You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not give false testimony. You shall not defraud. Honor your father and mother.'"

²⁰The man replied, "Teacher, I have kept all these since I was a child."

²¹Jesus looked at him, loved him, and said to him, "One thing you lack. Go, sell whatever you have, and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."

²²When he heard this, he looked sad and went away grieving, because he had great wealth. ²³Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!"

²⁴The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus told them again, "Children, how hard it is for those who trust in their riches to

enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."

²⁶They were even more astonished and said to one another, "Who then can be saved?"

²⁷Jesus looked at them and said, "For people, it is impossible, but not for God, because all things are possible for God."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Apostles' Creed

**All: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.**

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Hymn: #401 "Your Works, Not Mine, O Christ"

1 Your works, not mine, O Christ, Speak gladness to this heart.

They tell me all is done; They bid my fear depart.

Refrain:

To whom but you, who can alone For sin atone, Lord, shall I flee?

2 Your blood, not mine, O Christ, Can heal my sinful soul;

Your wounds, not mine, contain The balm that makes me whole.

[Refrain]

**3 Your cross, not mine, O Christ, Has borne the dreadful load
Of sins that none could bear But the incarnate God. [Refrain]**

**4 Your death, not mine, O Christ, Has paid the ransom due;
Ten thousand deaths like mine Would have been all too few. [Refrain]**

Sermon: Amos 5:6-7; 10-15

⁶Seek the LORD and live,

or he will rush upon the house of Joseph like fire.

The fire will consume,

and no one will extinguish it for Bethel.

⁷There are some who turn justice into wormwood,

who throw righteousness to the ground...

¹⁰There are those who hate an arbitrator in the city gate.

They despise anyone who speaks honestly.

¹¹That is why you trample on the poor,

and you collect taxes on their grain.

You have built houses of cut stones,

but you will not live in them.

You have planted choice vineyards,

but you will not drink their wine.

¹²For I know that your rebellious deeds are many,

and your sins are numerous,

you who are enemies of a righteous man,

you who take bribes.

They thrust away needy people in the city gate.

¹³That is why a prudent man will be silent in that time,
because it is an evil time.

¹⁴Seek good and not evil, so that you may live,
and then it will be like this for you:

The LORD, the God of Armies, will be with you, as you claim.

¹⁵Hate evil and love good.

Establish justice in the city gate.

Perhaps the LORD, the God of Armies,

will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

Hear Amos; The Prophet Still Calls To Us

I. "Seek the LORD and live; your sins are numerous"

II. "Seek good and not evil; the LORD will be with you"

Our Response to God's Word

5 Your righteousness, O Christ, Alone can cover me;

No other righteousness Can set a sinner free.

To whom but you, who can alone For sin atone, Lord, shall I flee?

Offering (Offerings may be placed into the basket in the narthex)

Prayer of the Church

P: Lord of our lives, by sending your Son to live and die as our perfect substitute, you provided forgiveness and salvation for a world of sinners. We praise you for your boundless saving love. We thank you for reaching out to each of us personally through your holy Word, in the water of Baptism, and in your Supper with your true body and blood which we receive with the bread and wine. You have set us apart as people who belong to you, people whose purpose in life is to receive your love and live to your glory.

C: You, O Lord, have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling, that I may walk before the LORD in the land of the living.

P: Gracious Father, remind us that you have called us to live for you and not for ourselves or according to the standards of the world around us. Help us devote our time, our talents, our energy, and all that you have placed into our hands to those things that will be of value for eternity. Help us to love you and others and to use all you have given us to your glory, instead of loving things and trying to use you and others for our own selfish interests.

C: Turn from evil and do good; then you will always live securely. For the LORD loves the just and will not forsake his faithful ones.

P: Bless all who are suffering or in need. Be with the lonely and the grief-stricken. Move us to use the unique gifts you have given each of us to bring comfort and help to those who need it. Bless the government and the Church and help us be blessings to both.

C: Blessed is he who has regard for the weak; the LORD delivers him in times of trouble.

P: Crush the selfishness that comes to us naturally and fill us with joyful generosity. Grant that the gifts we bring to you may show that we are just as diligent and just as interested in carrying out your business as we are in carrying out our own. Lord Jesus, as we offer

our gifts into your service, we ask you to accept them — not because they are so valuable or precious, but because they are tokens of our love for you. Use them in your work of saving souls for eternal life.
C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Hymn: #398 "Lord, We Confess Our Numerous Faults"

**1 Lord, we confess our num'rous faults, How great our guilt has been,
How vain and foolish all our thoughts, How deeply stained with sin.**

**2 But oh, my soul, forever praise, Forever love, his name
Who turns your feet from dang'rous ways Of folly, sin, and shame.**

**3 'Tis not by works of righteousness Which our own hands have done,
But we are saved by God's free grace Abounding through his Son.**

**4 'Tis from the mercy of our God That all our hopes begin;
'Tis by the water and the blood Our souls are saved from sin.**

**5 'Tis through the purchase of his death Who hung upon the tree
The Spirit is sent down to breathe On such dry bones as we.**

**6 Raised from the dead, we live anew; And, justified by grace,
We shall appear in glory, too, And see our Father's face.**

Prayer

P: Almighty God, grant to your Church the Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes from above. Let nothing hinder your Word from being freely proclaimed to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that we may serve you in steadfast faith and confess your name as long as we live, through 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: #471 "Renew Me, O Eternal Light"

**1 Renew me, O eternal Light,
And let my heart and soul be bright,
Illumined with the light of grace
That issues from your holy face.**

**2 Destroy in me the lust of sin;
From all impureness make me clean.
Oh, grant me pow'r and strength, my God,
To strive against my flesh and blood.**

**3 Create in me a new heart, Lord,
That gladly I obey your Word.
Oh, let your will be my desire
And with new life my soul inspire.**

**4 Grant that I only you may love
And seek those things which are above
Till I behold you face to face,
O Light eternal, through your grace.**

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

May the Spirit of God open our ears to hear and hearts to respond
as the prophet Amos still call on us to seek the Lord and live!

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 Week— 197 (68/129)

Bible Class – 50

Offering Last Week—\$13,508.41

Sunday School – 16

Parking Lot – \$7,702.60

(Meeting our 2021 Ministry Plan requires weekly offerings of \$13,600.00.)

"I have sought your favor with all my heart.

Be gracious to me according to your sayings."

Psalms 119:58

Announcements

1. **Thank You** Our sincere thanks to Pastor Ken Arndt for being with us today to bring us the good news from God's word. We are happy that Pastor Arndt and his wife Pat are members of St. Matthews and we appreciate Pastor Arndt's willingness to come in and proclaim God's word to strengthen and encourage us in our Christian faith.
2. **Flowers on the altar** are given by Jack and Diane Schroeder in celebration of 49 years of marriage. God's blessings and congratulations!
3. **Bible Class** Sunday morning Bible class will be held between services from 9:15 – 10:15 a.m. We will continue looking at the books of 1 & 2 Kings. Bible class meets in the fellowship area downstairs. Please join us as we "Book Through the Bible."
4. **Woman's Bible Class** – The Women's Bible Study is beginning a new series of lessons based on the book "Prepared to Answer" by Mark Paustian. The second lesson is entitled "Do You Believe In Miracles?". Each lesson stands alone so feel free to join at any time. Hope to see you there! *Debbie Lenser*
5. **On October 24, at the 10:30 a.m.** service we will thank God for the blessings of His servants Mrs. Cathy Sonntag (25 years of service in the church ministry.) and Mr. Kevin Proeber (40 years of service in the church ministry.) Junior Choir will sing at the second service that Sunday. A catered luncheon will follow in the Fellowship Hall. There is a sign-up sheet in the church narthex if you are planning to attend. **Please sign-up so we have an accurate count of those coming that day.** A special gift box will also be placed in the narthex for cards of thankfulness and appreciation.
6. **LLHS Capital Fund Appeal** – St. Matthew's found out that Lakeside paid off their remaining mortgage balance in early January of this year. As a result of this, St. Matthew's members voted in the summer to cease the Built on Grace LLHS Capital Fund appeal. The reason being that the source of these funds were going to pay off the mortgage for Lakeside. Starting in October, if any funds come in for the LLHS Capital Fund appeal

they will be moved to our general fund. If members are looking to send funds to Lakeside, they can continue to give their offering locally through St. Matthew's general fund which send monthly donations to Lakeside or you can send funds directly to Lakeside. If you have any questions, please contact Briton Peterson.

7. **The Evening Guild will meet Monday, November 1st at 6:30 p.m.** in the fellowship hall. We will be making the gift for our shut-in Christmas bags. Please plan on attending as many hands make light work and it is always so wonderful to see all of you!!!
8. **Evening Guild Fall Clothing Drive** The Evening Guild will be having their Fall clothing drive on October 15th and 16th. If you have Fall or Winter clothes in good condition that you no longer want or need, or shoes, boots, purses, etc., they may be brought to the school lobby on Friday, October 15th, and until noon on Saturday, October 16th. We will take all articles to "Twice is Nice" in Jefferson. If you have any questions, please call Betty Olson at 754-7416, Shari Scheibe at 757-9467, or Sally Wellnitz at 752-2037.
9. **Trunk or Treat News** – We are already up to 15 trunks for our event and we would love to have more trunks. We are looking for people to participate by decorating the trunk of their car in an appropriate theme and handing out prepackaged treats! If you are interested, please sign up in the Narthex. If you would like to invite a friend, there are invitations in the Narthex. **If you would like to participate by donating candy, please bring the candy to the church office.** We look forward to seeing you on Friday, October 22 from 6:00-7:30 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact Ashley Phillips.
10. **College and Military** We would like the names and addresses of our young people who are attending college or are serving in the military. There are cards on the lower bulletin board to complete and return to the office or an Evening Guild member. Thank you parents for helping us keep track of our young people!
11. **Christmas for Kids Is Back!** Christmas for Kids will be held on **Saturday, December 4 from 8:45-11:45 a.m.** Please consider volunteering for this special event. More information to come.

12. **Church Council** The following action was taken at the church council meeting on Wednesday, October 13:

* An open meeting to which all members of St. Matthew's are invited has been scheduled for Sunday, November 7, between services in the fellowship area downstairs. The purpose of the meeting is to present information regarding the status of our almost finished parking lot project, plans for internet and tech upgrades within our facility; discuss the current financial condition of our congregation; and look ahead to our ministry plan for next year.

* The council decided to move the communion services that would ordinarily have been held the last week of this month, to the first week of November. The reason for the move is that we are blessed to have special music planned for our Reformation services at the end of the month...including music by our orchestra, senior choir and Sunday School. This will mean using space in the front of the church for chairs and music stands and would make communion distribution difficult.

* The council voted to cancel Bible class next Sunday, October 24, due to the special catered lunch that will be served in conjunction with the anniversary celebrations that will be held on the 24th. Bible class will resume on Sunday, October 31, between services. In place of Bible class, all members are invited to attend an hour of fellowship and refreshments in the Mustang Cafe and gymnasium.

* The fellowship/evangelism committee asked that a reminder be added to the bulletin to encourage anyone interested in attending the catered lunch next Sunday to sign up on the bulletin board by the church entrance.

* The council gave its approval for meals to be served prior to our midweek Advent services in December. The council gave approval for an Advent by Candlelight event to be held once again this year.

* The council highlighted several important meetings that are coming up: 1) the open meeting scheduled for Sunday, November 7, between services; 2) the November council meeting scheduled for Wednesday, November 10, at 6:30 p.m.; and 3) the election and ministry plan adoption meeting of the voters'

assembly that will be held after the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday, November 14.

* The treasurer’s report indicated that our gracious God continues to bless the efforts of his flock here at St. Matthew’s through the first nine months of 2021. Here is a break-down of our offerings by area through the end of September:

	<u>Needed</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Difference</u>
General Fund/Debt	\$454,600.00	\$420,700.00	-\$33,900.00
WELS	\$40,800.00	\$40,800.00	0
Lakeside LHS	<u>\$34,800.00</u>	<u>\$34,800.00</u>	<u>0</u>
	\$530,200.00	\$496,300.00	-\$33,900.00

* As you view the numbers above you will notice that our offerings continue to run short of what is needed to meet the requirements of our ministry plan for our operation here at home...in fact, the shortfall has continued to increase over the course of the year. Fortunately, we still have a couple of months left in the calendar year to close the gap between what is needed to meet our ministry plan and what has been given to it. Let us each consider the rich spiritual and material blessings the Lord has given us and then respond to God’s grace accordingly. As the Apostle Paul writes: *“Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Corinthians 9:7).*

* In spite of the ongoing shortfall, we would be remiss to overlook the rich blessing of our God on our finances here at St. Matthew’s. Through the end of August, the offerings we have returned to our Savior are running \$17,000.00 or 3.5% ahead of last year at the same point (\$496,300.00 this year/\$479,300.00 last year). For this generous support of our Lord’s work, we thank the members of St. Matthew’s and our gracious God, who by his boundless love in Christ has moved the hearts and hands of his people to be so generous in their support of his work here in our own church and school, at Lakeside Lutheran High School and in missions around the world!

* Finally, please note that the Lord continues to bless our efforts to reduce our congregation's total indebtedness. We now owe \$319,000.00 on the loan that was taken out to build our school building; one year ago, that number was \$347,000.00.

"God is able to make all grace overflow to you, so that in all things, at all times, having all you need, you will overflow in every good work"
II Corinthians 9:8.

Assisting with Worship

Organist:

Kathi Hendee

Ushers:

8:00 a.m. – Doug McIlvain, Dane McIlvain, Jeff Burandt

10:30 a.m. – Tom May, Ben May, Eddie May

Next Week Ushers:

8:00 a.m. – Mark Schulz, Mike Lenser, Kevin Paasch

10:30 a.m. – Steve Sage, David Johnson, Mike Hay, Jason Carlson

CODS:

Thursday 6:30 p.m. – Doug McIlvain

Sunday, 8:00 a.m. – Tom Timmermann

Sunday, 10:30 a.m. – Brandon Phillips

Next Week CODS:

Thursday 6:30 p.m. – George Ehlers

Sunday, 8:00 a.m. – Brian Becker

Sunday, 10:30 a.m. – Steve Sage

Church Cleaning:

October 16, 2021 – Mark Butzow & Tara Chapman families

October 23, 201 – Jeff Christianson & Jim Daley families

St. Matthew's Bible Classes

Sunday Bible Class 9:15 a.m.

"Book Through the Bible: 1 & 2 Kings"

Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

"Saul Is Made King"

Wednesday Morning Women's Bible Class 9:30 a.m.

Prepared to Answer – "Do You Believe In Miracles?"

Sunday Bible Class 9:15 a.m.

"Book Through the Bible: 1 & 2 Kings "

Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

"David & Goliath"

This Week at St. Matthew's

Sunday

Worship 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.

Confirmation Class

4:45-6:15 p.m.

Senior Choir 5:45 – 6:45 p.m.

Thursday

Worship 6:30 p.m.

Friday

Trunk or Treat 6:00-7:30 p.m.

in the church parking lot.

Saturday

Set Up for Anniversary

Celebration 9:00 a.m.

Sunday

Worship 8:00 a.m.

Fellowship 9:15 a.m. in Mustang

Café & Gym

Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

Anniversary Service 10:30 a.m.

Anniversary Meal following the

10:30 service.

Extended SCRIP Program Opportunity

St. Matthews has the opportunity to participate in a broader Scrip Program. SCRIP is the general name given to gift certificates and gift cards issued by local and national businesses. SCRIP can be thought of as substitute money and many be used in place of cash, checks, or credit cards at various businesses. At the time the SCRIP order is

placed, St. Matthews receives a rebate ranging from 2% - 20% depending on the business. This rebate will be used to support special projects, which are not in the budget. SCRIP certificates can be purchased in various amounts. It's a great way to allow your money to benefit St. Matthews by purchasing items you were already planning to buy from a store you already shop at! Starting Sunday October 10th through November 2nd, these certificates/gift cards will be available to order. Payment must accompany your order and can be cash or check. Please make checks payable to St. Matthews. The ordered and prepaid gift certificates/cards should be available for pick up by Sunday, November 14th. (Just in time for Christmas shopping and gift giving.)

The complete order form list of over 100 participating businesses is attached to this letter. Completed orders (payable to St. Matthews) can be handed in to Cathy Sonntag between church services Sundays or to Lori Sage when she is in the office. You may also place orders in the mail slot in the office. Please contact Cathy Sonntag 754-3994 or csontag@charter.net with any questions regarding this optional program.

If you are interested in participating in the Extended Scrip program, order forms can be found in the back of the church on a table or in the school lobby.