



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

(Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

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www.stmatthewsjanesville.org

Worship for the 20th Sunday after Pentecost

October 3 & 6, 2024

Opening Hymn: "Oh, Love, How Deep" (sung to tune of CW 573)

1 Oh, love, how deep, how broad, how high,

Beyond all thought and fantasy,

That God, the Son of God, should take

Our mortal form for mortals' sake!

2 He sent no angel to our race,

Of higher or of lower place,

But wore the robe of human frame,

And to this world himself he came.

3 For us baptized, for us he bore

His holy fast and hungered sore;

For us temptation sharp he knew,

For us the tempter overthrew.

4 For us he prayed, for us he taught;

For us his daily works he wrought,

By words and signs and actions thus

Still seeking not himself but us.

5 For us, by wickedness betrayed,

For us, in crown of thorns arrayed,

He bore the shameful cross and death;

For us he gave his dying breath.

6 For us he rose from death again,

For us he went on high to reign;

For us he sent his Spirit here

To guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.

Invocation

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

C: Amen.

Confession of Sins

P: Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

C: Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

P: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: Almighty and merciful Father,

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

We have done those things that we should not have done,

and we have not done those things that we should have done.

Have mercy on us, Lord!

Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,

according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

P: God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus lived as our substitute and obeyed the law of God perfectly for us, paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

C: Amen.

Glory Be to God

tune of CW 855

♪ 1 To God on high be glory and peace to all the earth,

for God has shown his favor in Jesus' holy birth!

Almighty God and Father, our humble thanks we bring;

we worship you, we bless you, Lord God, our heav'nly King.

2 O Lamb of God exalted, you take all sin away;

extend to us your mercy and hear us as we pray.

With God the Holy Spirit, at God the Father's throne,

you reign, O Christ, forever, for you are Lord alone!

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

P: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we commend to your care all the homes where your people live. Fill them with faith, virtue, knowledge, moderation, patience, and godliness. Bind together in enduring affection those who have become one in marriage. Let children and parents have full respect and affection for one another; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Preschool & Kindergarten Sing (10:30 a.m.) "I Will Sing of the Mercies" and "God Made, God Sent, God Gives"

I Will Sing of the Mercies

I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever.

I will sing. I will sing.

I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever.

I will sing of the mercies of the Lord.

With my mouth will I make known your faithfulness,
your faithfulness.

With my mouth will I make known your faithfulness
to all generations.

God Made, God Sent, God Gives

God made the flowers and the birds and tress

God made our lips, and arms, and knees.

God sent us Jesus His only Son,

So that our lives will be eternally won.

*Refrain: Jesus Savior wash away, all that has been wrong today.
Make me ever more like you, good and gentle, kind and true.*

His love wherever we may go.

We pray to God the Father, and the Son

And to the Holy Spirit, three in one. (*Refrain*)

Old Testament: Genesis 2:18-24

¹⁸The Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is a suitable partner for him." ¹⁹Out of the soil, the Lord God had formed every wild animal and every bird of the sky, and he brought them to the man to see what he would call them. Whatever the man called every living creature, that became its name. ²⁰The man gave names to all the livestock, and to the birds of the sky, and to every wild animal, but for Adam no helper was found who was a suitable partner for him. ²¹The Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep. As the man slept, the Lord God took a rib and closed up the flesh where it had been. ²²The Lord God built a woman from the rib that he had taken from the man and brought her to the man.

²³The man said,

Now this one is bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh.

She will be called "woman,"
because she was taken out of man.

²⁴For this reason a man will leave his father and his mother
and will remain united with his wife,
and they will become one flesh.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Verse of the Day *tune of CW 855*

♪ **The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
she is his new creation by water and the Word.
From heav'n he came and sought her to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.**

Gospel: Mark 10:2-12

²Some Pharisees came to test him and asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?"

³He replied, "What did Moses command you?"

⁴They said, "Moses permitted a man to write a certificate of divorce and send her away."

⁵But Jesus told them, "He wrote this command for you because of your hard hearts. ⁶But from the beginning of creation, God made

them male and female. ⁷For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, ⁸and the two will become one flesh. So they are no longer two but one flesh. ⁹Therefore, what God has joined together, let no one separate.”

¹⁰In the house his disciples asked him about this again. ¹¹He said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her. ¹²If she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.

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: Gracious Savior, Grant Your Blessing *tune of CW 878*

**1 Gracious Savior, grant your blessing
to all husbands and all wives,
that in peace they live together
in your love throughout their lives.
Christ, defend them from the tempter
and from all that would destroy
love's foundation you've established
and its pathways paved with joy.**

**2 Lord, if you are not the builder,
then the house is built in vain,
for a home without your presence
shall without true love remain.
Yet when you within a marriage
come and dwell with grace divine,
there you fill the empty vessels,
changing water into wine.**

**4 Let our love in marriage picture
how you dearly loved your bride:
when you gave yourself to cleanse her,
when for her you bled and died.
Jesus, you have made her holy,
pure and fair her radiant train;
to yourself, your Church presenting,
without wrinkle, spot, or stain.**

Sermon: Ephesians 5:22-33

²²Wives, submit to your own husbands as to the Lord. ²³For the husband is the head of the wife, just as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he himself is the Savior. ²⁴Moreover, as the church submits to Christ, so also wives are to submit to their husbands in everything.

²⁵Husbands, love your wives, in the same way as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her ²⁶to make her holy, by cleansing her with the washing of water in connection with the Word. ²⁷He did this so that he could present her to himself as a glorious church, having no stain or wrinkle or any such thing, but so that she would be holy and blameless. ²⁸In the same way, husbands have an obligation to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹To be sure, no one has ever hated his own body, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, ³⁰because we are members of his body, of his flesh and of his bones. ³¹“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will be one flesh.” ³²This is a great mystery, but I am talking about Christ and the church. ³³In any case, each one of you also is to love his wife as himself, and each wife is to respect her husband.

Solve The Mystery Of Marriage
I. Christ gives us a pattern to follow
II. Christ gives us the power to follow

Response to God's Word *tune of CW 878*

5 Father, you created Adam,
crafted Eve, and made them one;
Jesus, from their sin you saved us,
as God's true incarnate Son;
Holy Spirit, you forgive us;
from our sins we are released.
Bring us, Lord, at last to heaven,
to the endless wedding feast.

Offering

Prayer of the Church

P: O Lord, our God, you are wise and powerful, good and gracious. Your mercies are new every morning. Each day you open your hand and provide for the needs of your children on earth.

C: We praise you for every grace and blessing.

P: Strengthen your Church in all the world. Let your comforting message of salvation in Christ Jesus be proclaimed to troubled souls everywhere.

C: Use our ministries and offerings to extend your healing and your hope.

P: We bring you our requests for the various structures of our society. Bless our national, state, and local governments.

C: Grant us civil servants who are worthy of honor and respect.

P: Grant prosperity to our businesses and industries. Give employers a sense of fairness toward their workers, and employees a feeling of joy and pride in their workmanship.

C: Help us find satisfaction in all work well done.

P: Invigorate the schools of our land. Give success to every effort that helps students read, think, and communicate in ways that will promote an informed and responsible citizenry. Arouse curious minds to discover the wonders of your created order.

C: Give us teachers and students who pursue excellence.

P: Strengthen the families of our country. Give fathers and mothers a renewed commitment to be good parents. Give children and young people the wisdom to regard their parents as your representatives.

C: Lead us to love one another as you have loved us.

P: These prayers we bring in Jesus' name, and in his name, we pray as he taught us...

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.

Hymn: Hear Us Now, Our God and Father *tune of CW 767*

1 Hear us now, our God and Father;

Send your Spirit from above

On each Christian man and woman

All who make their vows of love.

Bind their hearts in true devotion

Endless as the seashore's sands,

Boundless as the deepest ocean,

Blessed and sealed by your own hands.

2 Give them joy to lighten sorrow;

Give them hope to brighten life.

Go with them to face the morrow;

Stay with them in ev'ry strife.

As your Word has promised, ever

Fill them with your strength and grace

So that each may serve the other

Till they see you face to face.

Prayer

P: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, 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: May We Your Precepts, Lord, Fulfill CW 697

1 May we your precepts, Lord, fulfill

and do on earth our Father's will as angels do above;

still walk in Christ, the living way,

with all your children, and obey the law of Christian love.

2 So may we join your name to bless,

your grace adore, your pow'r confess, to flee from sin and strife.

One is our calling, one our name,

the end of all our hopes the same: a glorious crown of life.

3 Spirit of life, of love, and peace,

unite our hearts, our joy increase, your gracious help supply.

To each of us the blessing give

in Christian fellowship to live, in joyful hope to die.

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

Let us solve the mystery of marriage by following the pattern of Christ and his Church with the power we find in Christ's love!

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— 243 (39,146,58)

Bible Class – 59

Offering Last Week—\$9,491.05

Sunday School – 19

To Finish the Work We Need – \$52,000.00 - \$31,784.00 = \$20,216.00

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

*"Show me your ways, O LORD, teach me your paths;
guide me in your truth and teach me."*

Ps 25:4

Announcements:

1. **The flowers on the altar** have been given by Lisa Thoni in memory of her parents 60th wedding anniversary which would have been on October 10.
2. **Sunday Morning Bible Class** – Sunday morning Bible class will meet today between services in the Fellowship area. We will continue studying the book of Habakkuk.
3. **Sunday School** Sunday School will meet in the library for opening devotion. The children may be picked up in their classrooms at 10:15 am.
4. **Scholastic Book Fair is here!** Our book fair will be open **today** in-between services and after second service. Come browse our selection and make someone's day by buying them a book!
Books make wonderful gifts!
5. **Evening Guild** will have their next meeting October 7th, 6:30 p.m., in the fellowship hall. We are targeting donations to ECHO, please bring item(s) of your choice, food or personal items. See you then.
6. **The Evening Guild** will sponsor a Fall clothing drive for Twice Is Nice on Oct. 25th & Oct. 26th. If you have Fall or Winter clothes in good condition that you no longer want or need, shoes, boots, purses, house hold items, etc. they may be brought to the school lobby on Friday, Oct. 25th, and until noon on Saturday, Oct. 26th. We will take all articles to "Twice is Nice" in Jefferson. If you have any questions, please call Shari Scheibe at 757-9467 or Sally Wellnitz at 752-2037.
7. **Church Council Elections** November is the month of the church year where there will be a voter's meeting to elect three members of the Church Council to a three-year term. This year, the positions up for election will be that of President, Secretary, and the Chairman of the Education Committee. You may be asked by one of the outgoing councilmen if you will consider being a candidate, but if you have not been contacted and wish to run for one of these positions, are at least 21 years old, and have been a member of a WELS/ELS church for at least one year, please contact Karl Kroening, Council Vice President.

8. **Ice Cream Buckets** The hot lunch program is in need of empty ice cream buckets. If you have some that you would like to get rid of, please drop them off in the church office. Thank you!
9. **Christ Through Us: A Pictorial History of the Wisconsin Synod, 1850–2025** Filled with captivating images and fascinating stories, *Christ Through Us* is a thoughtful gift for WELS historians or people interested in our synod's history. It's also an incredible visual aid for Lutheran elementary and high school teachers! This limited edition book can be preordered **until October 15, 2024 for guaranteed availability. Sign up on the bulletin board in the lower hallway.** Hardcover, approximately 260 full-color pages. Cost will be \$27.00 with shipping and can be paid when picking up the book in early summer 2025.
10. **The Women's Bible Study** will be meeting at the dahlia garden and home of Sherie Karow, the sister of Debbie Lenser at **9:30 a.m. Wednesday, October 9**. The topic for the day will be, "Is Heaven for Real?" There will be a message from Pastor Philip Moldenhauer of Our Redeemer, Madison related to this topic. Please feel free to join us and take home some beautiful flowers like the ones on the altar and in the narthex last week. If you can't make the class, you could still pick flowers at 10:40. The address is: 6201 Breezy Dr., Milton, Wisconsin.
11. **LWMS Fall Rally**—Our next rally is scheduled for **Saturday, October 19** at St. Peter's Lutheran School in Helenville, WI. The schedule for the ½ day rally includes registration and a light breakfast from 8-9 am; a devotion, mission presentation and business meeting with a lunch following. Mr. Gary Evans, the field director for the Central Africa Medical Mission (CAMM) will be the guest speaker. He will give us information on how CAMM provides Christ-centered health care in Africa. Consider attending the rally to learn more about this mission opportunity as well as its challenges! We will need to RSVP a head count to the ladies at St. Peter's, so please either sign up on the sheet provided in the narthex or call Ann Janke (608) 563-4383 by **Thursday, October 3**. *If you are in need of childcare while at the rally, St. Peter's is offering that service during the rally...just let Ann know so she can reserve you a spot!

12. **LWMS Mission Offerings**—Mission_offerings can be given to Ann Janke at church or mailed to her. Checks should be made payable to St. Matthew’s Evening Guild. They need to be given to our Rock River circuit treasurer by October 4, so please have your mission offering to Ann by Thursday, October 3rd, as well. The offerings collected from our Rock River Circuit will be designated for 100 Missions in 10 Years (Home Mission) and Native American Missions (World Mission). *Please continue to pray for the spread of the Gospel through our WELS missionaries and mission opportunities!*
13. **Trunk or Treat** – Mark your calendar for Friday night, October 18th from 5:30-6:30 p.m. for a Trunk or Treat at St. Matthews in the parking lot. 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. Hope to see you all there! Any questions, please contact Ashley Phillips.
14. **Trunk or Treat Candy Donations** If you would like to participate by donating candy, please bring the candy to the church office. Thank you!

Assisting with Worship

Organist:

Kathi Hendee

Ushers:

8:00 a.m. – Doug McIlvain, Dane McIlvain, Jeff Burandt, Nathan Wagner
10:30 a.m. – Fred Shadoski, Russ Scott

Next Week Ushers:

8:00 a.m. – Mark Schulz, Mike Lenser, Kevin Paasch
10:30 a.m. – Jim Langkamp, Grant Langkamp

CODS:

Thursday, October 3, 2024, 6:30 p.m. – Karl Kroening
Sunday, October 6, 2024, 8:00 a.m. – Kyle Stade
Sunday, October 6, 2024, 10:30 a.m. – Phil Fry

Next Week CODS:

Thursday, October 10, 2024, 6:30 p.m. – Marc Augsburger
Sunday, October 13, 2024, 8:00 a.m. – Brian Hartwig
Sunday, October 13, 2024, 10:30 a.m. – Briton Peterson

Greeters

Sunday, October 6, 8:00 a.m. – Jan & George Ehlers
Sunday, October 6, 10:30 a.m. – Art & Linda Hilker

Next Week Greeters

Sunday, October 13, 8:00 a.m. – Bev Boughton
Sunday, October 13, 10:30 a.m. – John & Joanne May

Church Cleaning:

October 5, 2024 – Craig Sonntag & Tim Stirmel families
October 12, 2024 – Richard Stout & Kathy Tanko families

This Week at St. Matthew's

Sunday

Worship 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School/Bible Class 9:15 a.m.
Book Fair after services.

Monday

Education Committee Meeting 6:00 p.m.
Evening Guild 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday

Fellowship/Outreach Meeting 6:30 p.m.
Elder's Meeting 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday

Women's Bible Study 9:30 a.m. (See announcement #10)
Senior Choir 5:45 - 6:45 p.m.
Council Meeting 6:30 p.m.

Thursday

Worship with Communion 6:30 p.m.

Saturday

Men's Bible Study at Citrus Café 8:00 a.m.

Sunday

Worship with Communion 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School/Bible Class 9:15 a.m.

Christian Aid & Relief Responds to Hurricane Helene

From Pastor Dan Sims, Director WELS Christian Aid & Relief

Hurricane Helene roared ashore on the evening of Sept. 26 bringing a huge swath of destruction in her path from the Big Bend region of Florida all the way to southern Appalachia. The death toll from this terrible storm stands at 120 and is rising. Millions are still without power or water.

WELS Christian Aid and Relief has been in contact with district leaders and pastors in the impacted areas to ascertain needs. I am pleased to report that none of our churches experienced major damage and none of our members lost their lives. However, many experienced extensive damages to their properties. Some even lost their homes entirely. Many of our brothers and sisters are in need.

I am working with our pastors to provide immediate financial assistance to those who need it. In addition, our assessment team will soon visit congregations in North Carolina, Georgia, and Tennessee to assess needs before potential deployments to the region.

Many of you have reached out to ask how you can help. Currently, the best way to help is to give a donation through our disaster relief fund. You can do that by visiting wels.net/CARgift. You can also send a check to the following address:

WELS Christian Aid and Relief
N16W23377 Stone Ridge Drive
Waukesha, WI 53188-1108

Thank you for your compassion, support, and generosity.

Update from South Atlantic District President Rev. Charles Westra

Thanks to all of you for your prayers for our brothers and sisters affected by Helene. Our prayers continue for the many affected.

At this point, we still have no reports of loss of life among our WELS congregations. Many of our congregations celebrated “Michael and all angels” last Sunday. We give thanks to our God for his protection among us.

Pastor Paul Zell in Hendersonville, N.C., shared that communication has been very difficult because cell service is spotty at best. He has spoken to most of his members, and all are safe, but there are many in the greater Asheville, N.C., area that are still missing. Widespread flooding and mudslides were a severe threat. Many members suffered significant damage to homes and property. WELS Christian Aid and Relief representatives will be in Asheville on Saturday to do assessment and begin the coordination of assistance.

Pastor Jonathan Neumann in Martinez, Ga., told me this morning that they are on day five without power. A shortage of drinking water is also a problem for many. Extensive cleanup is needed on the church property. Many members have suffered significant damage to homes and property. WELS Christian Aid and Relief will be on site there early next week.

Pastor David Priebe shared that six families at Bay Pines, Fla., have been displaced from their homes on the barrier islands due to the storm surge. Most of the damage was confined to the narrow strip of Pinellas County along the beach. Three families from Living Savior in Valrico, Fla., also suffered significant damage to their homes. Pastor Priebe also reported that two families from Peace in Trinity, Fla., lost all the contents of their homes.

**If you would like to donate to the Hurricane Helene
Disaster Relief Fund, please use a Christian Aid & Relief
envelope from the back counter in the Narthex, add your offering
number to the envelope and place your donation in the wooden
box in the Narthex.**

*Share with the Lord's people who are in need.
Practice hospitality. Romans 12:13*

Encouraging Opening Enrollment Numbers at WELS Synodical School

Fall classes have begun at the four synodical schools. The opening enrollments at the schools are encouraging.

The best news comes from [Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary](#), Mequon, Wis., which opened with a total enrollment of 154, compared to 134 last year. First-year student enrollment is 49, a significant increase from last year's total of 37.

The enrollment at [Martin Luther College](#), New Ulm, Minn., showed only a slight decrease in total enrollment. This year's enrollment is 614 compared to 620 last year. But the 2024–25 freshman class of 174 is significantly larger than last year's class of 150, an encouraging sign for a growing enrollment in the coming years.

[Luther Preparatory School](#), Watertown, Wis., began the school year with 415, a small increase compared to last year's opening enrollment of 412. The size of the freshman class increased from last year's 102 to 112 this year. For the first time in some time, the boys in the freshman class outnumber the girls (63 boys and 49 girls). This is significant because that high number of boys is likely to translate into more candidates for the pastoral ministry.

Finally, enrollment at [Michigan Lutheran Seminary](#), Saginaw, Mich., is at 190, down only slightly from 192 in 2023. This year's freshman enrollment is 49, the same as last year.

These numbers are evidence of God's blessings on our recruitment efforts—efforts not only undertaken by the four synodical schools but also by pastors, teachers, parents, and grandparents in our congregations. Given the significant shortage of both pastors and teachers, our commitment to encourage young people to prepare for the public ministry needs to continue and increase in the years to come. Continue to ask God to send workers into his harvest field. He will hear and answer those prayers.

Serving with you in Christ,
WELS President Mark Schroeder