



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

(Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

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Worship for the 7th Sunday after Pentecost

July 7, 2024

Opening Hymn: "Christ, by Heavenly Hosts Adored" (CW '93, 617)

**1 Christ, by heav'nly hosts adored,
Gracious, mighty, sov'reign Lord,
God of nations, King of kings,
Head of all created things,
By the Church with joy confessed,
God o'er all, forever blest—
Pleading, at your throne we stand:
Save your people, bless our land.**

**2 On our fields of grass and grain
Send, O Lord, the kindly rain;
O'er our wide and goodly land
Crown the labors of each hand.
Let your kind protection be
O'er our commerce on the sea.
Open, Lord, your bounteous hand;
Bless your people, bless our land.**

**3 Give us rulers who will be
Known for love and honesty;
Let the pow'rs that you ordained
Be in righteousness maintained.
In the people's hearts increase
Love of piety and peace.
Thus united, we shall stand
One wide, free, and happy land.**

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 380)*

**All: (sing) Lord Jesus Christ, our Savior King,
To you our highest praise we sing
For blessings to the Church, your bride,
With whom you ever more abide.**

**Your Scriptures lead us to rejoice,
For there we hear our Father's voice.
His gracious promises proclaim
Forgiveness in your holy name.**

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, eternal and righteous God, you revealed your divine Word to teach us what we should do and what we should avoid. Strengthen and lead us by your Holy Spirit that we serve you in new obedience here until we come to complete holiness before you in that life to come; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Old Testament: Ezekiel 2:1-3:4

He said to me, "Son of man, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you." ²The Spirit entered into me as he spoke to me and brought me up to my feet. Then I heard him speaking to me.

³He said to me, "Son of man, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to disloyal nations, who have been disloyal to me. They and their fathers have rebelled against me to this very day. ⁴These children of mine are brazen-faced and hard-hearted. I am sending you to them, and you are to tell them that this is what the LORD God says. ⁵Then, whether they listen or do not listen—for they are a rebellious house—then they will know that a prophet has been among them. ⁶But you, son of man, do not be afraid of them, and do not be afraid of their words. Even though briars and thorns surround you and you are living with scorpions, do not be afraid of their words, and do not be intimidated by the look on their faces, for they are a rebellious house. ⁷You are to speak my words to them whether they listen or they do not, for they are rebellious. ⁸But you, son of man, listen to what I am telling you. Do not be rebellious like that rebellious house. Open your mouth and eat what I am giving you."

⁹Then I looked, and I saw a hand stretched out toward me, and in it there was a rolled-up scroll. ¹⁰He unrolled it in front of me, and there was writing on both sides. Written on it was: Laments, Groaning, and Woe.

^{3:1}Then he said to me, "Son of man, eat what you have received. Eat this scroll, and then go, speak to the house of Israel." ²I opened my mouth, and he fed me the scroll.

³Then he said to me, "Son of man, feed your stomach and fill your belly with this scroll that I am giving you." I ate, and in my mouth it was sweet like honey.

⁴He then said to me, "Son of man, go now to the house of Israel and speak my words to them."

P: This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Verse of the Day (*sung to tune of CW 380*)

**All: (sing) Lord Jesus Christ, with us abide,
For round us falls the eventide,
Nor let your Word, that heav'nly light,
For us be ever veiled in night.**

**O grant that in your holy Word
We here may live and die, dear Lord;
And when our journey's ending here,
Receive us into glory there.**

Gospel: John 15:18-16:4

¹⁸"If the world hates you, you know that it hated me first. ¹⁹If you were of the world, the world would love its own. However, because you are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of it, for that very reason the world hates you. ²⁰Remember the saying I told you: 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will persecute you too. If they held on to my word, they will hold on to yours as well. ²¹But they will do all these things to you on account of my name, because they do not know the one who sent me. ²²If I had not come and spoken to them, they would have no sin. But now they have no excuse for their sin. ²³The one who hates me also hates my Father. ²⁴If I had not done the works among them that no one else did, they would not be guilty of sin. But now they have seen and

hated both me and my Father. ²⁵This was to fulfill the word which is written in their Law: 'They hated me for no reason.'

²⁶"When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father—the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father—he will testify about me. ²⁷And you also are going to testify, because you have been with me from the beginning."

^{16:1}"I have told you these things so that you will not fall away. ²They will put you out of the synagogues. In fact, a time is coming when anyone who murders you will think he is offering a service to God. ³They will do these things because they have not known the Father or me. ⁴But I have told you these things so that when their time comes, you may remember that I told them to you. I did not tell you these things from the beginning, because I was with you.

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

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: Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus CW 872

**1 Stand up, stand up for Jesus, ye soldiers of the cross;
lift high his royal banner, it must not suffer loss.
From vict'ry unto vict'ry his army shall he lead
till ev'ry foe is vanquished and Christ is Lord indeed.**

- 2 Stand up, stand up for Jesus, the trumpet call obey;
forth to the mighty conflict in this his glorious day.
Ye that are brave, now serve him against unnumbered foes;
let courage rise with danger and strength to strength oppose.**
- 3 Stand up, stand up for Jesus, stand in his strength alone;
the arm of flesh will fail you, ye dare not trust your own.
Put on the gospel armor, each piece put on with prayer;
where duty calls or danger, be never wanting there.**

Sermon: 2 Timothy 2:1-13

You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.
²Entrust the things you heard from me, in the presence of many
witnesses, to faithful men who will also be able to teach others.

³Share hardships as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. ⁴No one
serving as a soldier gets entangled in the affairs of everyday life. If he
does, he will not please the one who enlisted him. ⁵Also, if someone
competes as an athlete, he does not receive a crown unless he
competes according to the rules. ⁶The hardworking farmer should
receive a share of the crops first. ⁷Think about what I am saying,
because the Lord will give you understanding in everything.

⁸Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, a descendant of
David, in accordance with my gospel, ⁹for which I am suffering, even
to the point of being chained like a criminal. But the word of God is
not chained. ¹⁰For this reason I endure all things for the sake of the
elect, so that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus,
along with eternal glory. ¹¹This saying is trustworthy:

Indeed, if we have died with him, we will also live with him;

¹²If we endure, we will also reign with him;

If we deny him, he will also deny us;

¹³If we are faithless, he remains faithful,
because he cannot deny himself.

Serve As Good Soldiers Of Christ Jesus

I. Serve with tenacity

II. With certainty

III. And fidelity

Response to God's Word

All: (sing) 4 Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
the strife will not be long;
this day the noise of battle,
the next, the victor's song.
To him that overcometh
a crown of life shall be;
he with the King of glory
shall reign eternally.

Offering (Jim & Lynn Langkamp "The Lord's My Shepherd)

Prayer of the Church for the Nation

P: Almighty God, we acknowledge with thanks that all we have and enjoy is a gift from your gracious hand. We come before you today in heartfelt appreciation for our nation and its people.

C: We thank you for enabling us to worship you in freedom and to serve you without fear.

P: You have enriched us with the bounties of farm and factory, the beauty of forest and mountain, and the marvels of medicine and science.

C: For all these blessings, we praise and glorify you.

P: Look with favor upon our nation and preserve our cherished liberties. Enable our leaders to govern with wisdom, honesty, courage, and justice. Protect those who serve in the armed forces and those who maintain peace and safety in our communities.

C: Give us willingness to obey our nation's laws and to work for the common good.

P: Make our financial institutions secure and our economy strong. Bless our fields that they may produce abundant harvests. Guard us from calamities of nature and accident and deliver our land from the ravages of disease and epidemic.

C: Teach us not to worry but to cast all our cares on you.

P: Strengthen the homes of our nation. By your Spirit lead husbands and wives to love each other, parents to nurture their children, young adults to assume responsibility, and children to show respect.

C: Unless the LORD builds the house, its builders labor in vain.

P: To you, O Lord, we bring our thanks and our requests.

C: Hear these prayers for Jesus' sake, and hear us as we pray the prayer he taught us:

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: Am I A Soldier of the Cross *tune of CW 543*

1 Am I a soldier of the Cross,
A foll'wer of the Lamb,
And shall I fear to own His cause
Or blush to speak His name?

2 Must I be carried to the skies
On flow'ry beds of ease
While others fought to win the prize,
And sailed thro' bloody seas?

3 Are there no foes for me to face?
Must I not stem the flood?
Is this vain world a friend to grace
To help me on to God?

4 Sure I must fight, if I would reign;
Increase my courage, Lord!
I'll bear the toil, endure the pain,
Supported by Thy Word.

5 Thy saints, in all this glorious war
Shall conquer though they die;
They see the triumph from afar
With faith's discerning eye.

6 When that illustrious Day shall rise,
And all Thine armies shine
In robes of victory through the skies,
The glory shall be Thine.

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: #619 “God Bless Our Native Land”

1 God bless our native land! Firm may she ever stand

Through storm and night! When the wild tempests rave,

Ruler of wind and wave,

Do thou our country save By thy great might.

2 For her our prayers shall rise To God above the skies;

On him we wait. Thou who art ever nigh,

Guarding with watchful eye,

To thee aloud we cry, God save the state!

* * * * *

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

Let us serve as good soldiers of our Lord Jesus Christ by being ready for trouble, mindful of the Gospel and aware that God is faithful.

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— 205 (52/153) Women’s Bible Class – 16

Offering Last Week—\$10,708.71

To Finish the Work We Need – \$52,000.00 - \$9,095.00 = \$42,905.00

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

*“Praise be to the LORD my Rock, who trains my hands for war,
my fingers for battle” Psalm 144:1.*

Announcements:

1. **The flowers on the altar** have been given by Rod and Carol Hirsch in celebration of their 55th wedding anniversary. God's blessings and congratulations!
2. **Funeral** Robert (Bob) Karsten was called to his eternal home on Monday, June 24, 2024. A funeral service took place for Bob on Friday, July 5 at 2:00 p.m. We extend our deepest sympathy to his loved ones. May God comfort those who mourn with his precious promises in Christ Jesus.
3. **Finish the Work Challenge** A generous member of St. Matthew's has offered to make the final payment on our mortgage when the members of St. Matthew's bring the balance down to \$50,000.00. At the moment the remaining balance on the mortgage totals \$102,000.00. That means that when the members of St. Matthew's can raise \$52,000.00 **we will truly finish the work!** *Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Hebrews 10:23, 24*
4. **A Free Will Offering** will be taken for the next three weeks to help assist the members of our congregation that were affected by the tornado that came through Janesville in June. *This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. 2 Corinthians 9:12*
5. **The parking lot will be closed** on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday (July 8, 9, and 10) to be resealed and striped. If you need to get into church, you will have to park on Walker Street and then walk in by the main entrance avoiding the parking lot.
6. **Meals On Wheels** – St. Matthew's will deliver "Meals on Wheels" July 8th thru July 12th. We have three routes with two people needed per route (one person to drive, one person to deliver the meal). Meals are picked up at Mercy Hospital at 11:00 a.m. There is a sign-up sheet on the lower bulletin board. If you have any questions, please contact Sally Wellnitz (608-752-2037). Thank you!
7. **Sunday Morning Bible Class** – Sunday morning Bible class will not meet again until Sunday, August 4th.

8. **Summer Sunday School** We will resume on August 4th with classes continuing on the 11th, 18th, and 25th. We will start at 8am and meet in the library. Please contact Lisa Thoni with any questions. Thank you.
9. **Summer Bible Camp July 16, 17, and 18** Space Station Salvation is our theme for this year. We'll learn about Jesus, our Savior, and meet new friends. We'll also do fun activities, sing great songs, make crafts, play games, eat snacks, and more!

We need our children of all ages to invite their friends, relatives, and neighbors to learn about their Savior, Jesus. Registration forms are located in the back of church.

We also need teens and adults to help with games, refreshments, crafts, and Bible stories. Even if you can spare only an hour, we can use your help. Sign up at the back of church, call Cathy Sonntag (608-289-4528), Kyle Style (608-921-0733), or **say YES if someone asks you to use your talents to serve the Lord and others.**

10. **Snacks for Summer Bible Camp** Food donations are needed for our Summer Bible Camp program. If you can help in this area, please sign up on the bulletin board in the lower hallway. Food donations need to be at church by Monday, July 15. Thank you!
11. **Women's Bible Class** The Women's Bible Study will continue to meet through the summer. We are starting a series of 12 booklets from NPH featuring 12 different people from the Bible. We are calling our series "Beyond Sunday School Lessons." Our first book features Noah. Please feel free to join us, even if you can only come during the summer months. If you have any questions, please contact Deb Lenser at 608-728-3120.

Assisting with Worship

Organist:

Jim Langkamp

Ushers:

9:00 a.m. – George Ehlers, Bob Williams, Mike Fox, Nico Caminata

Assisting with Worship (continued)

Next Week Ushers:

9:00 a.m. – Steve Sage & David Johnson

CODS:

Sunday, July 7, 2024, 9:00 a.m. – Kyle Stade

Next Week CODS:

Thursday, July 11, 2024, 6:30 p.m. – Phil Fry

Sunday, July 14, 2024, 9:00 a.m. – Marc Augsburg

Greeters

Sunday, July 7, 9:00 a.m. – John & Joanne May

Next Week Greeters:

Sunday, July 14, 9:00 a.m. – George & Jan Ehlers

Church Cleaning:

July 13, 2024 – Craig Groninger & Brian Hartwig families

July 20, 2024 – Mike Fox & Phil Fry families

This Week at St. Matthew's

Sunday

No Bible Class or Sunday School

Worship Service 9:00 a.m.

Tuesday

Fellowship/Outreach 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday

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

Council Meeting 6:30 p.m.

Thursday

Worship with Communion 6:30

Saturday

Men's Bible Study with Peace Lutheran at the Citrus Café 8:00 a.m.

Sunday

No Bible Class or Sunday School

Worship with Communion 9:00 a.m.

