



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

(Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

709 Milton Ave., Janesville, WI 53545

Church & School Phone: 752-1304

James Janke, Pastor 563-4383

Dale Beutin, Congregational Asst. 774-5177

Joel Sonntag, Principal 414-460-8305

www.stmatthewsjanesville.org

Worship for the 14th Sunday after Pentecost

August 22 & 25, 2024

Opening Hymn: Lord, 'Tis Not That I Did Choose You CW 581

- 1 Lord, 'tis not that I did choose you;
that, I know, could never be,
for this heart would still refuse you
had your grace not chosen me.
You removed the sin that stained me,
cleansing me to be your own;
for this purpose you ordained me,
that I live for you alone.
- 2 It was grace in Christ that called me,
taught my darkened heart and mind;
else the world had yet enthralled me,
to your heav'nly glories blind.
Now I worship none above you;
for your grace alone I thirst,
knowing well that, if I love you,
you, O Father, loved me first.
- 3 Praise the God of all creation,
praise the Father's boundless love.
Praise the Lamb, our expiation,
Priest and King enthroned above.
Praise the Spirit of salvation,
him by whom our spirits live.
Undivided adoration
to the great Jehovah give.

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.

Affirmation of Zion Jane Pfaffenbach's Private Baptism (9:00 a.m.)

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

Song of Praise *(tune of CW 890)*

♪ **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, whom to know is everlasting life, grant us to know your Son, Jesus, to be the way, the truth, and the life that we may boldly confess him to be the Christ and steadfastly walk in the way that leads to life eternal; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Epistle: Romans 16:16-27

¹⁶Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ greet you.

¹⁷But I urge you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and offenses contrary to the teaching that you learned, and keep away from them. ¹⁸For such people are not serving Christ our Lord but their own appetites. By smooth talk and flattery, they seduce the hearts of the unsuspecting.

¹⁹Your obedience has become known to everyone, so I am very joyful about you. But I want you to continue to be wise about what is good, and innocent about what is evil. ²⁰The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

²¹Timothy, my coworker, greets you, along with Lucius, Jason, and Sosipater, my relatives.

²²I, Tertius, who wrote down this letter, greet you in the Lord.

²³Gaius, my host and the host of the whole church, greets you. Erastus, the city treasurer, greets you, and Quartus, the brother.

²⁵Now to him who is able to strengthen you—

according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ,
according to the revelation of the mystery that was veiled in
silence for long ages past,

²⁶but now has been revealed through the prophetic Scriptures and
made known to all the Gentiles, in keeping with the command of
the eternal God, resulting in the obedience of faith—

²⁷to God, who alone is wise, be glory forever through Jesus Christ.

Amen.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Verse of the Day *(sung to tune of CW 890)*

♪ **1 Preserve your Word, O Savior,
to us this latter day,
and let your kingdom flourish;
enlarge your Church, we pray.
O keep our faith from failing,
keep hope's bright star aglow;
let nothing turn us from you
while wand'ring here below.**

Gospel: John 6:51-69

⁵¹I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone
eats this bread, he will live forever. The bread that I will give for the
life of the world is my flesh."

⁵²At that, the Jews argued among themselves, "How can this man
give us his flesh to eat?"

⁵³So Jesus said to them, "Amen, Amen, I tell you: Unless you eat the
flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life in
yourselves. ⁵⁴The one who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has
eternal life, and I will raise him up on the Last Day. ⁵⁵For my flesh is
real food, and my blood is real drink. ⁵⁶The one who eats my flesh
and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him. ⁵⁷Just as the living
Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds
on me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down
from heaven, not like your fathers ate and died. The one who eats
this bread will live forever."

⁵⁹He said these things while teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum. ⁶⁰When they heard it, many of his disciples said, "This is a hard teaching! Who can listen to it?"

⁶¹But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples were grumbling about this, asked them, "Does this cause you to stumble in your faith? ⁶²What if you would see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? ⁶³The Spirit is the one who gives life. The flesh does not help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. ⁶⁴But there are some of you who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the beginning those who would not believe and the one who would betray him. ⁶⁵He said, "This is why I told you that no one can come to me, unless it is given to him by my Father."

⁶⁶After this, many of his disciples turned back and were not walking with him anymore. ⁶⁷So Jesus asked the Twelve, "You do not want to leave too, do you?"

⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom will we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ.

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.

Hymn: Oh, Blest the House *CW 760*

1 Oh, blest the house, whate'er befall,
where Jesus Christ is all in all!
A home that is not wholly his—
how sad and poor and dark it is!

2 Oh, blest that house where faith is found
and all in hope and love abound;
they trust their God and serve him still
and do in all his holy will.

3 Oh, blest the parents who give heed
unto their children's foremost need
and weary not of care or cost.
May none to them and heav'n be lost!

4 Blest such a house, it prospers well;
in peace and joy the parents dwell,
and in their children's lives is shown
how richly God can bless his own.

Sermon: Joshua 24:14-24

¹⁴Joshua said, "Now, therefore, fear the Lord and serve him wholeheartedly and faithfully. Remove the gods that your fathers served in the region across the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. ¹⁵But if you see no benefit in serving the Lord, then choose for

yourselves today whomever you will serve—whether the gods that your fathers served beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household—we will serve the Lord!”

¹⁶The people responded by saying, “Far be it from us to forsake the Lord in order to serve other gods! ¹⁷For the Lord our God, he is the one who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, where we were slaves. He is the one who performed these great signs right before our eyes and protected us on the whole journey that we made and among all the peoples through whom we passed. ¹⁸The Lord drove out of our presence all the peoples and the Amorites who were living in the land. We too will serve the Lord, because he is our God!”

¹⁹But Joshua said to the people, “You are not able to serve the Lord, because he is a holy God. He is a jealous God. He will not forgive your rebellion and your sins. ²⁰If you forsake the Lord and you serve foreign gods, then he will turn and cause disaster for you, and he will put an end to you after he has done good for you.”

²¹But the people said to Joshua, “No! We will most certainly serve the Lord!”

²²So Joshua said to the people, “You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord for yourselves in order to serve him.”

The people said, “We are witnesses!”

²³Joshua said, “Now, therefore, remove the foreign gods that are among you, and turn your heart to the Lord, the God of Israel.”

²⁴The people said to Joshua, “We will serve the Lord our God, and we will listen to his voice.”

Joshua: “As For Me And My Household—We Will Serve The LORD”

I. Israel: So will we!

II. Joshua: No you won't?

III. Joshua: But there is a way.

Response to God's Word

CW 760

**♪ Then here will I and mine today
a solemn promise make and say:
though all the world forsake his Word,
I and my house will serve the Lord!**

Offering

Prayer of the Church

P: Gracious God and Father, we praise you for the countless blessings, which we receive from your hand: the beauties of creation and the bounties of the earth, the joy of life and the pleasure of friendship, the good of work and the gift of rest, the privilege of sharing happiness and sorrow with one another. Above all, we thank and praise you for your saving Word and for your Son's body and blood, which you give us to eat and to drink in the sacrament. Through these means of grace, you send the Holy Spirit into our hearts and unite us to Jesus and to the whole Christian Church on earth.

C: Strengthen us through this heavenly food; increase our trust in Christ and our love for one another.

P: Great God and Lord, without your continuing help we easily waver in our faith, lose courage, and grow careless in our watchfulness. The times and days are perilous. Give us strength to face the evils of each day with fresh confidence. Open our lips to speak of your grace and move us to use the gifts that you give us to share your Word of salvation with all people. Protect and prosper the family, the school, the government, and all good institutions that you have established for the benefit of society. Remember in mercy those who are sick and suffering and bring your healing to troubled homes and lives.

C: Move us to pray for those in need and to help them with deeds of kindness.

P: Now, eternal God and Father, keep us in the saving faith and so enable us to overcome all things through our Lord Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray:

**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 strengthens us by his Spirit so that we continue to serve the Lord our God. 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.

O Christ, Lamb of God

CW 169

The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: "O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; grant us your peace. A - - - men." The word "Amen" is written with a long horizontal line underneath it, indicating a long note or a sustained sound.

Distribution

Distribution Hymn: Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior *CW 659*

- 1 **Jesus Christ, our blessèd Savior,**
turned away God's wrath forever;
by his bitter grief and woe
he saved us from the evil foe.

- 2 **As his pledge of love undying,**
he, this precious food supplying,
gives his body with the bread
and with the wine the blood he shed.

- 3 Jesus here himself is sharing;
take heed how you are preparing,
for if you do not believe,
judgment instead you shall receive.
- 4 Useless would be Jesus' passion
if salvation you could fashion.
Do not come if you suppose
you need not him who died and rose.
- 5 Christ says, "Come, all you that labor,
and receive my grace and favor;
those who feel no pain or ill
need no physician's help or skill."
- 6 Then hold fast with faith unshaken
that this food is to be taken
by the souls who are distressed,
by hearts that long for peace and rest.
- 7 Praise the Father, who from heaven
unto us such food has given
and, to mend what we have done,
gave into death his only Son.
- 8 If your heart this truth professes
and your mouth your sin confesses,
surely you will be his guest
and at his banquet ever blest.

Distribution Hymn: Let Me Be Yours Forever *CW 715*

- 1 Let me be yours forever, my faithful God and Lord;
let me forsake you never nor wander from your Word.
Lord, do not let me waver but give me steadfastness,
and for such grace and favor your holy name I'll bless.
- 2 Lord Jesus, my salvation, my light, my life divine,
my only consolation, to you I all resign,
for you have dearly bought me with blood and bitter pain.
Let me, since you have sought me, eternal life obtain.

3 O gracious Holy Spirit, my comforter and guide,
grant that in Jesus' merit I always may confide,
him to the end confessing whom I have known by faith.
Give me your constant blessing and grant a Christian death.

Thanksgiving

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: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, 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: O Holy Spirit, Grant Us Grace *CW 591*

1 O Holy Spirit, grant us grace that we our Lord and Savior
in faith and fervent love embrace and truly serve him ever,
so that when death is near at hand we at his cross may firmly stand
and there find our salvation.

2 Help us that we your saving Word in faithful hearts may treasure;
let e'er that bread of life afford new grace in richest measure.
Make us to die to ev'ry sin; each day create us new within
that fruits of faith may flourish.

**3 Then when our earthly race is run, death's bitter hour impending,
may your good work in us begun continue till life's ending,
until we gladly may commend our souls into our Savior's hand
to rest in peace eternal.**

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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 learn today how we and our households may continue to serve the Lord our God as we surely intend to do.

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 – 193 (40/153)

Bible Classes – 43

Offering Last Week – \$32,898.75

To Finish the Work We Need – \$52,000.00 - \$28,114.00 = \$23,886.00

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

"I have sworn and affirmed that I will keep your righteous judgments"

Psalms 119:106.

Announcements:

1. **The flowers on the altar** have been given by Pastor and Ann Janke in celebration of their 40th wedding anniversary. God's blessings and congratulations!
2. **Affirmation of Baptism** for Zion Jane Pfaffenbach, daughter of Zach and Brittany Pfaffenbach will take place today during our 9:00 a.m. service. Zion was born on Saturday, August 17 and was baptized by Pastor Michael Jensen on Sunday, August 18. Her sponsors are Pastor Aaron and Carolyn Jensen. *He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior. Titus 3:5-6*

3. **Summer Sunday School** Join us for our summer Sunday School session where we are revisiting the Old Testament story of Joseph and his brothers. We will meet again, starting today, at 8:00am in the library during Adult Bible Class. Looking forward to seeing you there! Please contact Lisa Thoni with any questions. Thank you.
4. **Sunday Morning Bible Class** – Sunday morning Bible class will meet today at 8:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will be studying the book of Habakkuk.
5. **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.
6. **A Special Voters’ Meeting** will be held on Sunday, September 8 after the 10:30 service. The purpose of this meeting is to decide whether to repair or replace the school roof which leaks in several places. Please plan to attend. Thank you!
7. **Mr. Joel Sonntag (Principal/7th * 8th grade teacher), Mrs. Emily Fleming (5th & 6th grade teacher), and Mrs. Vicki Schewe (Kindergarten teacher/Before & After Care Director)** will be installed on Sunday, September 15 at the 8:00 a.m. service. To help welcome our new teachers we would like to have a gift card shower for them. You may place the gift cards in the boxes in the Narthex. We ask God’s blessings as they begin their ministry at St. Matthew’s Lutheran School.
8. **Save the Date for Our Fall Fun Festival/Clothing & Toy Exchange Events** being held on Sunday, September 22 from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. The Fall Festival will take place in the Mustang Café, outside, and in the school lobby while the Clothing and Toy Exchange will take place in the gym. We will have fall games, board games, cards, bags tournaments, pumpkin painting, photo booth, snacks, and fellowship! The clothing/toy exchange will take place in the gym. Join us for snacks and our Fall Festival activities then shop our display of children’s items including clothing size newborn to preteen and toys for all ages. **All items**

are free! Everyone who comes will receive a free St. Matthew's tote bag. If you have donations that you would like to make, please contact Liz Sanchez at 847-346-2066 or Priscilla Taylor at 608-436-0707. Everyone is invited to attend. Please ask your family members or friends to join us for either event or both!

9. **Ladies Evening Guild** will have their first meeting Monday, September 9th, at 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. All female members of St. Matthew's are invited and welcomed. Meetings are normally held the 1st Monday of the month. There is Bible study before the meeting. Guild sponsors many events throughout the year, Advent by Candlelight, serving at the Advent and Lenten suppers, mission journeys, clothing drives and Easter Breakfast to mention just a few. We also support Home and World missions and local programs such as Meals on Wheels, ECHO and Project 16:49. Please consider coming to guild where there is always God's work and word. Address any questions to President Linda Williams, 608-751-7178.
10. **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*
11. **St. Matthew's Lutheran School Fees Assistance Fund** – We have some families who could use financial assistance with their grade school registration fees. If you are interested in helping, please notify Mr. Sonntag. Donating should be identified **St. Matthew's Lutheran School Fees Assistance Fund** and can be put in the regular Sunday collections.
12. **Thank you to the women** who served on the altar guild for the month of August: Jan Ehlers, Peggy Burandt, Jill Proeber, and Deb Lenser. Serving for the month of September will be: .Carol Fox, Amy Scott, Meghan Stade, and Jody Hill.

Assisting with Worship

Organist:

Meredith Moeller

Ushers:

9:00 a.m. – Tom May, Ben May, Eddie May

Next Week Ushers:

9:00 a.m. – Rich Hatfield, Michael Borchardt, Ryan Borchardt, Kyle Stade

CODS:

Thursday, August 22, 2024, 6:30 p.m. – Brian Hartwig

Sunday, August 25, 2024, 9:00 a.m. – Briton Peterson

Next Week CODS:

Thursday, August 29, 2024, 6:30 p.m. – Tim Stirmel

Sunday, September 1, 2024, 9:00 a.m. – Jim Daley

Greeters

Sunday, August 25, 9:00 a.m. – Pam Beres

Next Week Greeters

Sunday, September 1, 9:00 a.m. – Gerry & Sally Wellnitz

Church Cleaning:

August 31, 2024 – Mike Lenser & Brandon Phillips families

September 7, 2024 – Tim Probst & Warren Scheibe families

This Week at St. Matthew's

Sunday

Sunday School & Bible Class 8:00 a.m.

Worship with Communion 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday

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

Thursday

Worship Service 6:30 p.m.

Friday

No School

Sunday

No Sunday School or Bible Class

Worship 9:00 a.m.

