



***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 17th Sunday after Pentecost

September 12 & 15, 2024

Opening Hymn: All Praise to God Who Reigns Above CW 603

**1 All praise to God who reigns above,
the God of all creation,
the God of wonders, pow'r, and love,
the God of our salvation!**

**With healing balm my soul he fills,
the God who ev'ry sorrow stills:
To God all praise and glory!**

**2 What God's almighty pow'r has made,
in mercy he is keeping;
by morning dawn or evening shade
his eye is never sleeping.**

**Within the kingdom of his might,
all things are just and good and right:
to God all praise and glory!**

3 I cried to him in time of need:

**Lord God, O hear my calling!
For death he gave me life indeed
and kept my feet from falling.**

**For this my thanks shall endless be;
O thank him, thank our God with me:
to God all praise and glory!**

**4 The Lord will not forsake his flock,
his chosen generation;
he is their refuge and their rock,
their peace and their salvation.
As with a mother's tender hand
he leads his own, his chosen band:
to God all praise and glory!**

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.

Song of Praise *CW 603*

**♪ Then come before his presence now And banish fear and sadness;
To your Redeemer pay your vow And sing with joy and gladness:
Though great distress my soul befell, The Lord, my God, did all
things well—To God all praise and glory!**

Installation of Our New Teachers (8:00 a.m.) Service

Mrs. Vicki Schewe (Kindergarten Teacher & Before & After Care Director

Mrs. Emily Fleming (5th & 6th Grade Teacher & Athletic Director

Mr. Joel Sonntag, Principal & 7th & 8th Grade Teacher

Hymn by School Children (8:00): May the Peace of God Dwell In You

May the peace of God dwell in you, guard your heart and mind always.
May God's Spirit guide and keep you as you seek to grow in grace.
May the word of Christ dwell in you enriching all you sand and do.
On the mountain high or the valley low, may the peace of God dwell in you.

When peace like a river attendeth my way,
when sorrows like sea billows roll, whatever my lot,
Thou has taught me to say, "It is well, it is well, with my soul."

May the peace of God dwell in you, guard your heart and mind always.
May God's spirit guide and keep you as you seek to grow in grace.

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

P: Almighty God, you see that we have no power to defend ourselves. Guard and keep us both outwardly and inwardly from all adversities that may happen to the body and all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; 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: Numbers 11:16-23; 31-33

¹⁶So the Lord said to Moses, "Gather seventy men from the elders of Israel for me, men whom you know to be elders and officers for the people. Take them to the Tent of Meeting and make them stand there with you. ¹⁷I will come down and talk with you there. I will take from the Spirit that is on you and will put it on them. They will share the burden of the people with you so that you will not have to carry it by yourself.

¹⁸“Say to the people, ‘Consecrate yourselves to be ready for tomorrow. You will eat meat because you have wept and the Lord has heard you say, “Who will give us meat to eat? Yes, things were good for us in Egypt.” Therefore the Lord will give you meat, and you will eat. ¹⁹You will eat not just for one day, for two days, for five days, for ten days, not even just for twenty days, ²⁰but for a whole month, until meat comes out of your nostrils, and you begin to loathe it. This will happen because you have rejected the Lord, who is among you, and you have wept in his presence, saying, “Why did we come out of Egypt?””

²¹Moses said, “I am in the middle of a people with six hundred thousand foot soldiers, and now you say, ‘I will give them meat, and they will eat for a whole month.’ ²²If flocks and herds were slaughtered for them, would that be enough for them? If all the fish of the sea were caught for them, would that be enough for them?”

²³The Lord said to Moses, “Is the arm of the Lord too short? Now you will see whether what I have said to you will happen or not...”

³¹A wind sent out from the Lord brought quail in from the sea. The wind scattered them throughout the camp (and about a day’s journey in any direction around the camp) about three feet deep on the ground. ³²All that day, all that night, and all the next day, the people got up and gathered the quail. No one gathered fewer than sixty bushels. They spread them out around the camp. ³³But while the meat was still between their teeth, before it was chewed, the Lord’s anger burned against the people, and the Lord struck the people with a very severe plague.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Verse of the Day *tune of CW 603*

**♪ All who confess Christ’s holy name, to God give praise and glory!
Let all who know his pow’r proclaim aloud the wondrous story!
All idols under foot be trod – The Lord is God! The Lord is God!
To God all praise and glory!**

Epistle: Ephesians 3:14-21

¹⁴For this reason I kneel before the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵from whom the entire family in heaven and on earth receives its name. ¹⁶I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he would

strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner self, ¹⁷so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. Then, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸I pray that you would be able to comprehend, along with all the saints, how wide and long and high and deep his love is, ¹⁹and that you would be able to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled to all the fullness of God.

²⁰Now to him, who is able, according to the power that is at work within us, to do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, ²¹to him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen.

P: This is the Word of the 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: My God, My Father, Make Me Strong CW '93 468

**1 My God, my Father, make me strong,
When tasks of life seem hard and long,
To greet them with this triumph song:
Your will be done.**

**2 Draw from my timid eyes the veil
To show, where earthly forces fail,
Your pow'r and love must still prevail--
Your will be done.**

**3 With confident and humble mind
In service freedom I will find,
Praying through ev'ry toil assigned:
Your will be done.**

**4 What seems impossible I dare;
Yours is the call and yours the care.
Your wisdom shall the way prepare--
Your will be done.**

**5 Heav'n's music chimes the glad days in;
Hope soars beyond death, pain, and sin;
Faith shouts in triumph, Love must win--
Your will be done!**

Sermon: Mark 9:14-27

¹⁴When they returned to the other disciples, they saw a large crowd around them, and some experts in the law were arguing with them.

¹⁵As soon as all the people in the crowd saw Jesus, they were very excited and ran to greet him. ¹⁶He asked them, "What are you arguing about with them?"

¹⁷One man from the crowd answered him, "Teacher, I brought you my son, who has a spirit that makes him unable to speak. ¹⁸Wherever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams at the mouth, grinds his teeth, and becomes rigid. I asked your disciples to drive it out, but they could not."

¹⁹"O unbelieving generation," Jesus replied. "How long will I be with you? How long will I put up with you? Bring him to me."

²⁰They brought the boy to Jesus. As soon as the spirit saw him, it threw the boy into a convulsion. He fell on the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth.

²¹Jesus asked the boy's father, "How long has this been happening to him?"

"From childhood," he said. ²²"It has often thrown him into the fire and into the water to kill him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us."

²³"If you can?!" Jesus said to him. "All things are possible for the one who believes."

²⁴The child's father immediately cried out and said with tears, "I do believe. Help me with my unbelief!"

²⁵When Jesus saw that a crowd was quickly gathering, he rebuked the unclean spirit. "You mute and deaf spirit," he said, "I command you to come out of him and never enter him again!"

²⁶The spirit screamed, shook the boy violently, and came out. The boy looked so much like a corpse that many of them said, "He's dead!"

²⁷But Jesus took him by the hand, raised him up, and he stood up.

²⁸When Jesus went into a house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why were we not able to drive it out?"

²⁹He said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out, except by prayer."

"I Do Believe. Help Me With My Unbelief"

I. Help me when I forget the source of my strength

II. Help me when I doubt the size of your strength

Response to God's Word *tune of CW '93 468*

♪ **1 O Lord of heav'n and earth and sea,**

To you all praise and glory be!

How can we thank you properly who gives us all?

5 We have your Spirit ev'ry hour,

The Lord of life and love and pow'r,

He will his sev'nfold graces show'r upon us all.

Offering

Prayer of the Church

P: Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your dear Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

C: Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.

P: Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

C: Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.

P: Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

C: Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.

P: Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

C: Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.

P: Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

C: Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.

P: Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

C: Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.

P: We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

C: Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.

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: I Am Trusting You, Lord Jesus *CW 816*

**1 I am trusting you, Lord Jesus, trusting only you;
trusting you for full salvation, free and true.**

**2 I am trusting you for pardon; at your feet I bow,
for your grace and tender mercy trusting now.**

**3 I am trusting you for cleansing in the crimson flood;
trusting you to make me holy by your blood.**

**4 I am trusting you to guide me; you alone shall lead,
ev'ry day and hour supplying all my need.**

**5 I am trusting you for power; you can never fail.
Words which you yourself shall give me must prevail.**

**6 I am trusting you, Lord Jesus; never let me fall.
I am trusting you forever and for all.**

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: In You Is Gladness *CW 513*

**1 In you is gladness amid all sadness,
Jesus, sunshine of my heart.**

**By you are given the gifts of heaven,
you the true Redeemer are.**

**Our souls are waking, our bonds are breaking;
who trusts you surely has built securely
and stands forever. Alleluia!**

**Our hearts are pining to see your shining,
dying or living to you are clinging
now and forever. Alleluia!**

**2 If he is ours, we fear no powers,
not of earth or sin or death.**

**He sees and blesses in worst distresses;
he can change them with a breath.**

**Wherefore the story tell of his glory
with hearts and voices; all heav'n rejoices
in him forever. Alleluia!**

**We shout for gladness, win over sadness,
love him and praise him and still shall raise him
glad hymns forever. Alleluia!**

Our New Teachers

Victoria Schewe (Vicki) (Kindergarten Teacher & Before & After Care Director)

I was born and raised in Chandler, Arizona. After graduating from Arizona Lutheran Academy, I attended Martin Luther College where I received a degree in both elementary and secondary education. After graduation, I taught at California Lutheran High School until I married my husband, Mark who was a pastor in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

In the following years, Mark and I raised our five children while also teaching and serving at churches in Des Moines, Washington and Clovis, California, and most recently, Janesville, Wisconsin. Over the past 20+ years, I have taught and served in a variety of schools and locations. My variety of teaching experiences include, high school, elementary, early childhood/preschool, ESL, substitute teaching, piano lessons and swim and gym classes.

I consider myself blessed to be able to serve my Lord wherever my family is and I'm thankful for the opportunity to be able to teach His precious Lambs here at St. Matthews. I am looking forward to getting to know and to work with the members here at St. Matthews as well as partnering with my home congregation where my husband serves, to further the Lord's kingdom.

Emily Fleming (5th & 6th Grade Teacher/Athletic Director)

I grew up on a dairy farm in Burlington, Wisconsin and attended St. John's Lutheran Church and School. I attended Burlington High School and then received my teaching degree from Wisconsin Lutheran College. My career started at Salem Grade School in Salem, Wisconsin, where I taught seventh grade for 3 years. After that, I taught at Clinton Elementary School for 14 years. There, I taught second and third grade. While in Clinton, I went back to school to get my Master's in Literacy from Concordia University.

My husband, Scott, and I have two sons, Owen and Mason. They both attend Lakeside Lutheran High School. Both boys are involved in cross country, baseball, 4-H, and FFA. Scott works at Rock River Laboratory as a nutrient management planner. At home on our farm,

we raise pigs, goats, and crops. We root for the Brewers, Badgers and Packers.

I'm excited to join the staff here at St. Matthew's! Everyone has been welcoming and helpful!

Joel Sonntag (Principal/7th & 8th Grade Teacher)

Hello, my name is Joel Sonntag, and I have the pleasure of being the 7-8th grade teacher and principal at St. Matthew's. My wife Elizabeth and I plus our children Maria (6), Isaiah (3) and Jonah (1) moved to the area this past summer after accepting the call to serve here and have already come to really appreciate and enjoy St. Matthew's.

My wife and I graduated from MLC in spring of 2017. I was assigned to Deltona, Florida to serve as the 6-8th grade teacher and participate in the principal training program. We spent 3 years in Deltona, and then I was reassigned by MLC to serve as principal, athletic director, and 6-8th grade teacher in Stoddard, Wisconsin in summer of 2020. My family and I spent 4 years at St. Matthew's in Stoddard. I am currently in the process of finishing up my master's degree in school leadership with a principal emphasis.

I enjoy watching sports, playing golf, doing yard work, working with my wife on house projects, traveling to see family and friends, and watching movies. My favorite part of teaching is the privilege to impact students' lives with the message of God's Word. It is very humbling and rewarding to send students out into the world that are equipped to tell others about their Savior. My favorite part of being a principal is getting to help others become involved in the ministry of our school and church and use their God-given gifts.

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

May God help us in our unbelief so that we neither forget the source of our strength nor doubt the size of his strength!

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 — 237 (51/97/89) Bible Class — 52

Offering Last Week—\$11,433.61 Sunday School — 19

To Finish the Work We Need — \$52,000.00 - \$30,244.00 = \$21,756.00

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

“In you, Lord, I have taken refuge. Let me never be put to shame.

Psalm 31:1.

Announcements

1. **The flowers on the altar** have been given by Penny Pucher.
2. **Sunday Morning Bible Class** – Sunday morning Bible class will resume next Sunday, September 22 between services in the Fellowship area. We will continue studying the book of Habakkuk.
3. **Sunday School** Sunday School will resume today. Registration will be that morning and we will meet in the classrooms. Staff will be on hand to direct you to the rooms. The Sunday School staff thank you for sending your children and are looking forward to sharing God’s word with them. Please feel free to contact any of us with questions.
4. **Women’s Bible Class** The Women’s Bible Study continues to meet Wednesday mornings from 9:30-10:30 a.m. We will be following the lives of 12 of the most fascinating individuals God used to share his Word and shape his people. Through their strength and boldness, fear and reluctance, and ultimately their obedience, each was used by God to continue the story of love he has for each of us. The 12 concise accounts are drawn from the living Word of Scripture and are presented in a compelling narrative form provided by context, insights, and lessons for us today. We have just begun our study of Abraham. Please come and join us! For more information, contact Debbie Lenser at 608-728-3120.
5. **Members of St. Matthew’s** Please refrain from sitting in the back pews marked with “Reserved for families with small children” unless you have small children or have gold fish in your pocket. ☺

6. **Senior Choir** If you enjoy singing, St. Matthews's choir is looking for you! Everyone is invited to join this friendly group that loves to sing praise to their Risen Lord! Choir rehearsal starts this Wednesday, September 11 at 5:45 p.m. We would love to see you in the balcony for rehearsal or call Jack Schroeder with any questions at 608-752-0922. Now is the time to join!
7. **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!
8. **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!

9. **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!*
10. **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.
11. **Trunk or Treat Candy Donations** If you would like to participate by donating candy, please bring the candy to the church office. Thank you!
12. **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.
13. **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*
14. **The September school newsletter and calendar** are available in the church Narthex. Take one if you wish.

This Week at St. Matthew's

Christian Education Sunday

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

Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

New teacher welcome in the Fellowship Hall 9:15 a.m.

Installation of new teachers 8:00 a.m. service

Tuesday

Seedlings 8:15-9:00 a.m.

Wednesday

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

Senior Choir Begins 5:45 - 6:45 p.m.

Thursday

Worship Service 6:30 p.m.

Saturday

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

Sunday

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

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

Installation of our Sunday School teachers in the 10:30 a.m. service.

Family Fall Festival & Toy/Clothing Exchange 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Assisting with Worship

Organist:

Meredith Moeller

Ushers:

8:00 a.m. – Rich Hatfield, Michael Borchardt, Ryan Borchardt, Kyle Stade

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

Next Week Ushers:

8:00 a.m. – George Ehlers, Bob Williams, Mike Fox, Nico Caminata

10:30 a.m. – Steve Sage & David Johnson

CODS:

Thursday, September 12, 2024, 6:30 p.m. – Kyle Stade

Sunday, September 15, 2024, 8:00 a.m. – Phil Fry

Sunday, September 15, 2024 – 10:30 a.m. – Marc Augsburg

Assisting with Worship (continued)

Next Week CODS:

Thursday, September 19, 2024, 6:30 p.m. – Brian Hartwig

Sunday, September 22, 2024, 8:00 a.m. – Briton Peterson

Sunday, September 22, 2024, 10:30 a.m. – Tim Stirmel

Greeters

Sunday, September 15, 8:00 a.m. – Craig & Cathy Sonntag

Sunday, September 15, 10:30 a.m. – Steve & Lori Sage

Next Week Greeters

Sunday, September 22, 8:00 a.m. – Mike & Deb Lenser

Sunday, September 22, 10:30 a.m. – Ann Janke

Church Cleaning:

September 21, 2024 – Mark Schulz & David Schumann families

September 28, 2024 – David Newlin & Fred Shadoski families

