



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

(Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod)
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*Worship for the 14th Sunday after Trinity
September 15 & 18, 2022*

Opening Hymn: #511 "O Lord, Our God, Your Gracious Hand"

**1 O Lord, our God, your gracious hand
Has crowned our lives with blessing;
Your goodness has enriched our land
With gifts for our possessing.
Our homes, our food, And ev'ry good
For earthly work and living,
Abundant wealth And life and health
Your faithful love is giving.**

**2 For ev'ry earthly grace and gift
We thank you, dearest Father.
Now teach us, Lord; our thoughts uplift
That heav'nly fruit we gather.
Our fathers knew And kept in view
True wisdom's worth and pleasure;
They prized as jewels Their Christian schools
And left a lasting treasure.**

**3 We thank you, Lord, and sing your praise
For blessings you have given;
Be with us still in future days
To guide our youth to heaven.
Lord, grant that we May clearly see
The worth of Christian training
That youth may grow Your love to know,
Eternal riches gaining.**

4 Your Word alone, great God of pow'r,
Can feed our soul and spirit.
Christ's love gives strength for ev'ry hour
Without our deeds or merit.
Grant schools that teach And men who preach
True Christian education.
Let youth grow strong By Word and song
In ev'ry land and nation.

Invocation

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

Confession of Sins

P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children.

C: **But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment.**

P: Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin and take away my guilt.**

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

Baptism of Jeremiah Robert Brandl (8:00 a.m.)

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

Song of Praise

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are

they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -
 ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -
 ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -
 ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.
 Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

P: Let us pray.

P: O merciful Father in heaven, your hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature. Make us always thankful for your loving providence and keep us always mindful that a day of accounting is coming that we may be faithful managers of all your good gifts. Teach us to use worldly wealth wisely to make friends for ourselves here who will welcome us into heaven when our worldly wealth is gone; 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: Malachi 3:6-18

⁶Certainly I, the LORD, do not change. That is why you, sons of Jacob, have not come to an end. ⁷Since the days of your fathers, you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the LORD of Armies.

You say, "In what way should we return?"

⁸Will a man rob God? You are robbing me!

You say, "How have we robbed you?"

In regard to the tithe and the special offering. ⁹You are being cursed since all of you, the whole nation, are robbing me. ¹⁰Bring the

complete tithes to the storehouse so that there may be food in my house. Just test me in this, says the LORD of Armies. See whether I do not open for you the windows of heaven and pour down blessing on you, until there is more than enough. ¹¹I will restrain the devouring swarm so that it will not destroy your produce from your soil. Your vine in the field will not be without fruit, says the LORD of Armies. ¹²All the nations will call you blessed, because you will be a delightful land, says the LORD of Armies.

¹³Your words against me are harsh, says the LORD.

You ask, "How have we spoken against you?" ¹⁴You say, "Serving God is pointless. What have we gained by carefully keeping his requirements and by walking around like mourners before the LORD of Armies? ¹⁵Now we will call the arrogant blessed. Even evildoers are built up. They even test God and get away with it."

¹⁶Then those who fear the LORD spoke with each other. The LORD gave them his attention and listened. A book of remembrance was written in front of him for those who fear the LORD and have regard for his name.

¹⁷They will be mine, says the LORD of Armies, on the day I make them my treasured possession. I will spare them just as a man spares his son who serves him. ¹⁸Then you will again see the distinction between a righteous person and a wicked person, between one who serves God and one who does not serve him.

Hymn: (by students of St. Matthew's Lutheran School) "Children of the God Who Made Us" (*In the 10:30 service, after the children have sung, they will depart.*)

Epistle: II Corinthians 9:6-15

⁶This is what I mean: The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly. The one who sows generously will also reap generously. ⁷Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver.

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

He scattered; he gave to the poor.
His righteousness remains forever.

¹⁰ And he who provides seed to the sower and bread for food will provide and multiply your seed for sowing, and will increase the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹ You will be made rich in every way so that you may be generous in every way, which produces thanksgiving to God through us.

¹² To be sure, the administration of this service is not only making up for what is lacking among the saints, but it is also overflowing in many prayers of thanksgiving to God. ¹³ By proving yourselves in this service, many people are glorifying God, as they see the obedience shown in your confession of the gospel of Christ, and the generosity shown in your sharing with them and all people. ¹⁴ At the same time as they pray for you, they also express their longing for you, because of the extraordinary measure of God's grace given to you. ¹⁵ Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

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: #486 "Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us"

1 Lord of glory, you have bought us With your lifeblood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones That tremendous sacrifice,
And with that have freely given Blessings countless as the sand
To th' unthankful and the evil With your own unsparing hand.

2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you Gladly, freely, of your own.
With the sunshine of your goodness Melt our thankless hearts of stone
Till our cold and selfish natures, Warmed by you, at length believe
That more happy and more blessed 'Tis to give than to receive.

3 Wondrous honor you have given To our humblest charity
In your own mysterious sentence, "You have done it unto me."
Can it be, O gracious Master, That you need what we can do,
Saying by your poor and needy, "Give as I have giv'n to you"?

4 Yes, the sorrow and the suff'rings Which on ev'ry hand we view
Channels are for gifts and off'rings Due by solemn right to you,
Right of which we may not rob you, Debt we may not choose but pay
Lest that face of love and pity Turn from us another day.

Sermon: Luke 16:1-9

Jesus also said to his disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager who was accused of wasting his possessions. ²The rich man called him in and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give an account of your management, because you can no longer be manager.'

³"The manager said to himself, 'What will I do, since my master is taking away the management position from me? I am not strong enough to dig. I am ashamed to beg. ⁴I know what I will do, so that when I am removed from my position as manager, people will receive me into their houses.'

⁵"He called each one of his master's debtors to him. He asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' ⁶He said, 'Six hundred gallons of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and write three hundred.'⁷Then he said to another, 'How much do you owe?' And he said, 'Six hundred bushels of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and write four hundred and eighty.'

⁸“The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly. For the children of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the children of the light are. ⁹I tell you, make friends for yourselves with unrighteous mammon so that when it runs out, they will welcome you into the eternal dwellings.

Learn From The Worldly To Use Worldly Wealth Wisely

I. Use it as managers who one day will give account

II. Use it to make friends for the day you give account

Our Response to God’s Word

**5 Lord of glory, you have bought us With your lifeblood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones That tremendous sacrifice.
Give us faith to trust you boldly, Hope, to stay our souls on you;
But, oh, best of all your graces, With your love our love renew.**

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

Prayer of the Church

P: Lord God, heavenly Father, you are Fountain of all true wisdom and the Source of every good and perfect gift. In your mercy you have established among us many institutions of Christian learning—our Lutheran elementary school and preschool, our Sunday school, our Bible classes, our area Lutheran high school and preparatory schools, our Christian colleges and seminary. Bestow your blessing on all who teach and all who learn at these places and bless all who support these institutions with their prayers and offerings.

C: May the LORD be gracious to us and make his face shine upon us.

P: Grant that parents, pastors, teachers, and all your people may continue to recognize the value of Christian education at every age. Open our eyes to see that through the Gospel which is taught in these places, the Holy Spirit is at work to prepare for himself people who know your name and trust in the redemption worked by your Son through his suffering and death. Make us in these latter days truly grateful for these precious gifts. To the end that we do not lose these blessings through indifference and neglect, grant us willing hearts and ready hands to support and maintain Christian education.

C: May the favor of the Lord our God rest upon us; establish the work of our hands for us—yes, establish the work of our hands.

P: Give wisdom and understanding, kindness and patience to all who give instruction to your sheep and lambs. Teach them so that they are equipped to teach others. Grant that your people, young and old, may receive the instruction given them with humble hearts and willing minds. Grant that they may all be trained in the way in which they should go, and keep them from ever departing from it.

C: Show me your ways, O LORD, teach me your paths; guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior.

P: Pour out your blessing on parents and teachers in the new school year just begun, and permit them to see the fruits of their labors that they may do their work with joy. Impress on all of us a deep sense of our responsibility toward your little ones, so that we may work without ceasing while it is day. Have mercy on us, O Lord, and with your grace and power fulfill what we are unable to do.

C: Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, O God, till I declare your power to the next generation, your might to all who are to come.

P: Hear us for the sake of him who said, "Feed my lambs, and feed my sheep!" And hear us as we also pray the prayer 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.**

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: "O God, Your Hand the Heavens Made" (tune of CW, #338)

**1 O God, your hand the heavens made And all that they contain;
The world appeared at your command, And in it now you reign.
The restless sea, the land, the sky Your handiwork declare;
The touch of your creative pow'r Is present ev'rywhere.**

**2 To us are given gifts divine; All talents you have sent.
Inspire us now to use them well Your kingdom to extend.
We hold each gift a trust from you Nor claim it as our own;
We gratefully acknowledge, Lord, All things are yours alone.**

**3 Deliver us from selfish aims; True stewards we would be.
Endow us with a deep desire To live unselfishly.
A full accounting we must give And see you face to face;
Let us approach your throne with joy, Supported by your grace.**

Closing 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: #510 “I Pray You, Dear Lord Jesus”

**1 I pray you, dear Lord Jesus, My heart to keep and train
That I your holy temple From youth to age remain.
Oh, turn my thoughts forever From worldly wisdom’s lore;
If I but learn to know you, I shall not want for more.**

* * * * *

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

May the Lord lead us to use worldly wealth wisely so that when it’s gone the friends we’ve made with it will welcome us into heaven.

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— 261 (68/193) Bible Class— 64
Offering Last Week—\$10,471.00 Sunday School—23

(Meeting our 2022 Ministry Plan requires weekly offerings of \$14,078.00.)

“If your wealth grows, do not set your heart on it”

Psalm 62:10.

Announcements:

1. **The flowers on the altar** have been given by Kevin and Kelsey Paasch in celebration of their 14th wedding anniversary on September 20th. *“May the Lord bless you from Zion, so that you see the prosperity of Jerusalem, all the days of your life, and you see your children’s children.” Psalm 128:5,6*
2. **Baptism** Jeremiah Robert Brandl will be baptized during the 8:00 a.m. service today. Jeremiah is the son of Jacob and Tiffany Brandl. Jeremiah was born on August 25, 2022. Serving as sponsors for Jeremiah are Brooke Bobendrier and Colin Brandl. *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. **Bible Class** Bible class today will begin at 9:15 a.m. We will continue a study of the Book of Ecclesiastes. Bible class meets in the fellowship area downstairs. Please join us as we “Book Through the Bible.”
4. **Woman’s Bible Class** – The Women’s Bible Study (Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m.) have started the new book “More Prepared to Answer” by Mark Paustian. Each lesson stands alone so feel free to join at any time. Hope to see you there! *Debbie Lenser.*
5. **Scholastic Book Fair is coming to St. Matthews! Our book fair will be held September 26 – October 2.** The congregation is invited to stop in the school lobby & Mustang Café that week and browse in between services and after the 10:30 service on Sunday, October 2. You can also shop before and after school during the week. **Books make wonderful gifts!**
6. **Special Chapels:** On September 29, Pastor Ethan Chartrand will do chapel for us and talk about the purpose of the school. We need to continue to encourage our sons and daughters to consider being a pastor or teacher. The LPS choir will be with us on Sunday, October 16 for both services. On October 6, Pastor Dan Sims will be with us to talk about the purpose of Christian Aid and Relief, which is our 1st quarter mission offering in our school. You are invited to attend our chapel services which are held Thursday morning at 8:05 a.m.

7. **Pictorial Directory Update** This coming Tuesday, September 20th, is the last day that a photographer will be here to take pictures for our new pictorial. There are only 3 time slots available, so if you would still like to be included in the pictorial you must sign-up now. Remember the pictorial will not be a success with-out you. If you have any questions, please call Dale Beutin at 608-774-5177. *Thank-you, the Pictorial committee*
8. **Cottage Meetings** – Members recently received a letter regarding our upcoming Cottage Meetings being held on September 26, 27, and 28. For those members who were to meet in the Mustang Café, they will now meet in the church. If you are unable to attend the night that was assigned to you, please call the church office 608-752-1304 and request a different evening.
9. **Building & Grounds Meeting:** There will be a Building and Grounds meeting on Monday, September 19 at 6:30 p.m. in the library.
10. **Service Opportunity** Service Opportunity for Church Cleaners: Includes cleaning the sanctuary, loft, bathroom and hallways. Cleaning supplies and vacuum cleaners are provided. Will clean once or twice per year and will be partnered with another individual or family. Contact Brandon Phillips, call or text 608-931-6463.
11. **The Choir from Luther Preparatory School** will be worshipping with us on Sunday, October 16, in both services. A breakfast for the choir will be provided in the fellowship hall. Volunteers are needed to prepare for this event. Please contact Mr. Proeber for further information.
12. **Hot Lunch Volunteers Needed!** According to our students, St. Matthew's serves the very best hot lunch ever. Over the years we have had many willing volunteers to help make this possible. We are looking for volunteers to help serve and clean up after lunch on Wednesdays, especially Thursdays, and Fridays, from 10:30-1:00. Our volunteers become the most popular people in school and in exchange for your help, you will receive many thanks, smiles, high fives, and hugs! If you are interested, please contact Mr. Proeber or Jill Newlin.

13. **LWMS Fall Rally** please save the date for the LWMS fall rally which will be held at St. John's, Jefferson, on Saturday, October 22 from 9:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. (lunch served at this time) All ladies from our congregation are welcome and encouraged to attend this exciting mission awareness opportunity! Our guest speak will be Mr. Sean Young, WELS Sr. Director of Mission Operations. He will be presenting our synod's initiative, "100 Mission in 10 Years." Please sign up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board by October 6. The ladies at St. John's would like to have a count of the number staying for church, so please indicate that on the sign-up, as well. Registration and a light breakfast begin at 8:00 a.m. Please consider joining us to learn more about the WELS initiative in opening up these missions!
14. **LWMS Mission Offerings** to coincide with the LWMS fall rally, we will be collecting mission offerings to send in to the circuit. Our circuit offerings will be going toward Asia Projects (World Mission project (and Children's Ministry Outreach (Home Mission project). These mission projects are generally not included in the synod mission budget, so your support is greatly appreciated! Please give your offering to Ann Janke by October 2, so they can be sent to the circuit treasurer in a timely manner for disbursement with the rest of the circuit churches' offerings.
15. **LWMS (Lutheran Women's Missionary Society) 2023 Prayer Calendar** is available for purchase. "Music in Ministry" is the theme. It includes *monthly mission articles *monthly Bible passage*Missionary contact information*prayer requests. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. Cost is \$10.00, checks made out to Evening Guild, or cash. Please give payment to Bev Boughton, Mary Howard, Linda Williams or Debbie Lenser. Orders and money due by October 16th.
16. **Save the Date for Our Fall Fun Festival/New Member Welcome** being held on Sunday, October 9 from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. in the Mustang Café, gym, and outdoors for Fall Fun Festival. We will have fall games, board games, cards, bags tournaments, pumpkin painting, photo booth, snacks, and fellowship! All ages are welcome to attend. Hope to see you there!

17. **Trunk or Treat** – Mark your calendar for Friday night, October 21st 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.
18. **Trunk or Treat Candy Donations** If you would like to participate by donating candy, please bring the candy to the church office.

Assisting with Worship

Organist:

Meredith Moeller

Ushers:

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

10:30 a.m. – Tim Stirmel, Connor Stirmel, Austin Schultz

Next Week Ushers:

8:00 a.m. – Gerald Wellnitz, Richard Stout, Nathan Stout, Evan Burnside

10:30 a.m. – Tim Stirmel, Connor Stirmel, Austin Schultz

CODS:

6:30 p.m. – Doug McIlvain

8:00 a.m. – Brandon Phillips

10:30 – Trevor Sanchez

Next Week CODS:

6:30 p.m. – Tim Stirmel

8:00 a.m. – Briton Peterson

10:30 – Marc Augsburg

Church Cleaning:

September 24, 2022 – Kevin Foster & Brian Hartwig families

October 1, 2022 – Jim Heiman & Scott Hendee families

This Week at St. Matthew's

Christian Education Sunday

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

SS/Bible Class 9:15 a.m.

Monday

Building & Grounds

Meeting 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday

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

Confirmation Class

5:00-6:30 p.m.

Sr. Choir 5:45 – 6:45 p.m.

Thursday

Worship 6:30 p.m.

Sunday

Worship with Lord's Supper

8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

SS/Bible Class 9:15 a.m.



100 MISSIONS IN 10 YEARS

WELS HOME MISSIONS 2023-2033

A WELS Home Missions initiative to plant
100 new home mission churches and enhance
75 existing ministries from 2023-2033.

wels.net/100in10



LWMS Fall Rally

Saturday, October 22

St. John's Lutheran Church
Jefferson, WI

8am - Registration and light breakfast

9am - Program begins

12:30pm - Lunch

Speaker:

Mr. Sean Young

Sr. Director of Missions Operations

RSVP: Ann Janke 608-563-4383