The Fourth Sunday of Easter May 8, 2022

8:30 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary 10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

Updated Covid-19 Protocols: For those who need to remain vigilant because of age, underlying health

issues, vaccination status, or close contact with vulnerable populations, we recommend attending worship at 8:30 a.m., when we will remain masked for the duration of the service. Masks are optional at 10:30 a.m. Remember that singing remains an increased risk, and masks are available in the narthex for anyone who feels more comfortable taking that precaution for themselves or on behalf of others.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. C **Amen.**



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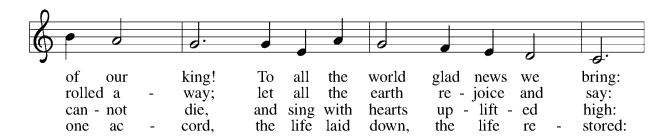
ris

Lord,

and

sing to - day

with





Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872–1955, alt.

Music: GELOBT SEI GOTT, Melchior Vulpius, 1570–1615

Text © 1958, ren. 1986 *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

GREETING

Your name

bless.

we

0

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C And also with you.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Glory Be to God in Heaven



- Glory be to God in heav-en, peace, good-win to an the carti
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for ev er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho-ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth: Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove; Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise. on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand. Je-sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa-ther's splen-dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise. Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand. For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray ... O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C Amen.**

FIRST READING: Acts 11:1-18

¹Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. 2So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" ⁴Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, 5"I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. ⁶As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' 8But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' 10 This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹²The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. ¹³He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' 15And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' ¹⁷If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" ¹⁸When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

L The word of the Lord. C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 148 (To be read responsively.)

- ¹Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise God in the heights.
- ²Praise the LORD, all you angels; sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.
- ³Praise the LORD, sun and moon; sing praise, all you shining stars.
- ⁴Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.
- ⁵Let them praise the name of the LORD, who commanded, and they were created,
- ⁶who made them stand fast forever and ever, giving them a law that shall not pass away.
- ⁷Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps;
- 8fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing God's will;
- ⁹mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;
- ¹⁰wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds;
- ¹¹sovereigns of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;
- ¹²young men and maidens, old and young together.
- ¹³Let them praise the name of the LORD, whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.
- ¹⁴The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: Revelation 21:1-6

- ¹I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; ⁴he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."
- ⁵And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." ⁶Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

L The word of the Lord. C Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*Gospel: John 13:31-35

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

P The Gospel of the Lord. **C Praise to you, O Christ.**

HOMILY Pastor Traci



Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872–1958 Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol Text from *Oxford Book of Carols*, © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved.

*CREED

P Let us confess our faith through the words of the Nicene Creed.

C 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 truly 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic 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.

*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- P Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.
- P Loving God, lead us to follow your Spirit, rather than our own prejudices or desires, as the church cares for one another. Open us to perceive your gifts in those we least expect. God, in your mercy, **C hear our prayer.**
- P Inspire us to praise you through the beauty and majesty of the natural world around us. Urge us toward more deliberate care of the world you have made. God, in your mercy, **C hear our prayer.**
- P Humble the rulers of nations before your splendor. Direct them to the people who need their attention most, and turn them from the temptation to hoard wealth or power. God, in your mercy, **C hear our prayer.**
- P Hasten to dwell among those who are in pain or distress. As Christ enters our deepest suffering, remain with those experiencing despair and great need. God, in your mercy, **C hear our prayer.**
- P Place holy love at the center of all our relationships and communities. By your love heal us, convict us, and renew us. Bring an end to racism in our churches and communities. Let everyone know your goodness by the love we show one another. God, in your mercy, **C hear our prayer.**
- P Give us a place in the diverse company of your beloved saints. Teach us the value of each person's identity, and bless us with a shared identity as your children, kindred of Christ. God, in your mercy, **C hear our prayer.**
- P In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. C Amen.

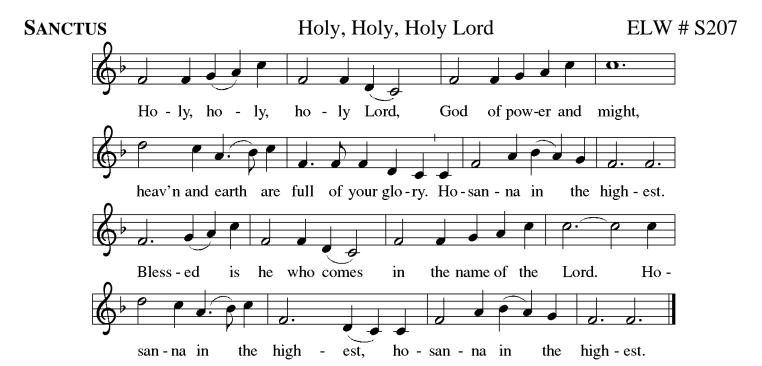
GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P The Lord be with you. C And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts. **C We lift them to the Lord.**
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **C Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

- P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:
- C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.



INVITATION

P The risen Christ dwells with us here. All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, come.

BLESSING

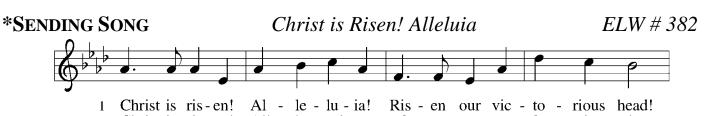
P May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P *Let us pray*... We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name. **C Amen.**

BENEDICTION

P God, the Author of life, Christ, the living Cornerstone, and the life-giving Spirit of adoption, + bless you now and forever. **C Amen.**



- 2 Christ is ris-en! All the sad-ness of our Lent-en fast is o'er;
- 3 Christ is ris-en! All the sor-row that last eve-ning round him lay
- 4 Christ is ris-en! Hence-forth nev-er death or hell shall us en thrall.



Sing his prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead! through the o - pen gates of glad-ness he re-turns to life once more; now has found a glo-rious mor-row in the ris - ing of to - day. We are Christ's, in him for - ev - er we have tri-umphed o - ver all.



Grate-ful - ly our hearts a - dore him as his light once more ap - pears; death and hell be - fore him bend-ing see him rise, the vic - tor now, See the grave its first-fruits giv - ing, spring-ing up from ho - ly ground; All the doubt-ing and de - jec - tion of our trem-bling hearts have ceased;



bow - ing down in joy be-fore him, ris - ing up from griefs and tears. an - gels on his steps at - tend-ing, glo - ry round his wound-ed brow. Christ was dead, but now is liv - ing; he was lost, but he is found. hail the day of res - ur - rec - tion! Let us rise and keep the feast.



Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!



Sing his praises! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811-1875, alt.

Music: MORGENLIED, Frederick C. Maker, 1844-1927

Dismissal

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
- P Go in peace. Tell what God has done.
- C Thanks be to God.

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Please be advised that worship services are recorded and/or live-streamed on social media.

Today's Altar Flowers are placed to the Glory of God in celebration of Jacob's graduation from Thiel College by his parents, Shawn and Laura Orczeck and in memory of Ida Ruth Nelson and Walter and Grace Ruth by Mary Nelson.

Church Messenger

The May 2022 *Messenger* is now available at the St. Matthew **Website** (stmatthewlc.com), and on your recent **Email** message from St. Matthew by using the link listed in the body of the message. A paper copy of the *Messenger* is available in the news rack in the church Narthex. By calling the church office at (814-793-2413), you can request a paper copy to be sent by mail to your home. Do not hesitate to call the church office if you need help in securing a copy of the *Messenger*. Your readership, and articles are always appreciated.

2022 Annual Auxiliary Appeal: The Auxiliary Appeal helps those that can't afford some of the personal necessities of living in Assisted Living. Last year, ALSM provided more than \$2 million dollars to fund those they serve with limited funds. Auxiliary Appeal brochures are located at the Usher's Station near the bulletins. If you have any questions, Ruth Marshall is your Auxiliary Appeal Chairlady.

Serving God and Us

Our Ministers - the People of St. Matthew

Our Pastor - Rev. Traci Marriott

Our Pianist – Dr. Adam Smith

Our Organist – Mary Nelson

Our Missionary Family – On Eagle's Wings, Elizabeth Hendrickson

Our Administrative Assistant – Lori Tremmel

Our Assistant Administrative Assistant – Laura Orczeck

Our Sexton – Phil Claar

Our Acolyte – Norah Kuster

Our Lector – Destarta Carberry

Our Altar Guild – Janet Stewart

Our Audio/Video Tech – Camden Kuster

Our Offering Counters – Jim Barley, Beth Garner

Second Quarter Ventures in Faith to "Youth & Camping"

Office Hours This Week:

Pastor Traci – Wed. – 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Office Hours – Mon.-Fri. 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Lori Tremmel

This Week Events

Today – Worship in Sanctuary 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Worship in Sanctuary 10:30 a.m.

Monday – Boy Scouts, Fellowship Hall 6:30 p.m. Tuesday- Council Meeting, via Zoom 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday- Yoga, Fellowship Hall 5:00 p.m.

Staff Support Meeting, FH 6:30 p.m.

Saturday- Synod Intergenerational Day, Sequanota 9:30 a.m.

Sunday – Worship in Sanctuary 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Worship in Sanctuary 10:30 a.m.

Prayers are needed for our homebound: Carl & Dawn Alexy, John Aljets, Vivian Beach, Verna Blough, Fred Brandenberg, Clyde Claycomb, Mary Creps, Betty Helsel, Jere Hess, Ruth Johnson, Audrey & Dan Kensinger, Janet Kreider, Ginny Sell, Dan Sinal, Don Smith, Bill Stahl, Joy Williams.

Prayer Concerns: Amy & Family, Pastor Denise Arpino, Randy Barrett, Diane Cappel, Greg Comer, Terry & Cathy Creek, JR Fagans & Family, Wayne Feight, Brian Fleck, Jim Fritz, Betty Helsel, Dan Hershberger, Marilyn Horton, Darren Kreutzer, Carrie Lively, Kristen Malloy, Karrie McCall & Family, Betty McDowell, Rick McIntyre, Nathan, Aunt Mica, Pastor Drahus Oslikova, Deb Peters, Linda Piper, Helen Rogers, Paul Ruth, Barbara Smith, Luther Steele, Cindy Thomas, Norm Tremmel, Jean White, Pete Williams, Lyndsay Yon, Jody Zelanko, and for our Missionaries: Rev. Lesley Hand, On Eagle's Wings, Elizabeth Hendrickson.

Our college students: Christopher Bush, Olivia Day, Jacob Orczeck.

Those Serving in the Army Overseas: Nathan Smith (Germany)

Martinsburg Food Pantry

The Food Pantry will be open for distribution of food on Thursday, May 19 from 9:00-11:00 a.m. any other times by appointment. Those helping will be from the Martinsburg Church of God along with the regular volunteers.

Following are items most needed for May: Cereal, Scalloped Potatoes, Hamburger Helper, and Cleaning Supplies.

Many thanks for your monetary gifts, food and other items donated to the Food Pantry!

Linda K. Smith

Annual Directories in a box on the table in the Narthex. Please take your copy home. If you know any shut-in or any other person unable to pick up their directory at church, please take their copy to them or notify the office. If I happened to miss providing you with a copy please put your name on the tablet and one will be there the following Sunday.

Third Century Fund (Endowment Fund)

The Third Century Fund had a good earnings year in 2021 and as a result has \$5,705 for distribution in 2022. You or your committee may request funding in writing by contacting David Lehman, chairperson, or committee members Allen Kuster, Laura Orczeck, Beth Garner or Pastor Traci.

Deadline to submit a request is Sunday, May 29, 2022. Funds will be distributed in June 2022.

The following is from the by-laws of the Third Century Fund and outline the guidelines for fund requests.

PURPOSE

The St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church Mission Endowment Fund is established to encourage responsible Christian stewardship and to promote the mission of the congregation. In response to God's love and mercy, the Endowment Fund seeks to enhance and expand the mission outreach objectives of St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Members and friends of St. Matthew congregation are encouraged to practice responsible Christian Stewardship by making contributions to the Endowment Fund. There are a variety of ways such gifts can be made such as, Cash, Securities, Bequests through wills or living trusts, Life insurance policies, charitable gift annuity and Life estates.

The Endowment Fund provides financial support for the church in a manner that is separate from the expenditures normally funded by the annual operating budget of the congregation.

USE OF THE FUND

All contributions to the St. Matthew Lutheran Church Endowment Fund will be undesignated and added to the principal balance of the fund. The Endowment fund principal balance will be retained and only the dividend income will be used for annual disbursements.

Consideration for awarding fund requests will be given using the following guidelines.

- 1. Youth of all ages scholarship support of congregational members and their children; for youth events, for church camps or similar Christian programs and education.
- 2. Christian outreach ministries and missions of St. Matthew Lutheran Church, its members and the ELCA.
- 3. Worship and Music support for the worship of St, Matthew.
- 4. Capital Projects major renovations or building projects of St. Matthew.

2022 Upcoming Events at Sequanota

Saturday, May 14: Intergenerational Day at Camp Sequanota 9:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m. - "God's Great Creation"

For All Ages—Youth and Youth Groups Welcome with Chaperones. *Register at www.sequanota.com.* **\$8/Person Ages 5 and Under—Free**(Optional Overnight Accommodations Friday Night—\$20/person)

Spring Benefit Dinner May 13, 2022

Cost: Suggested donation of \$55/person

4:45 PM Tours of camp

5:15 PM Appetizers & Social Time

6:00 PM Dinner

6:30 PM Entertainment & Annual Report

An evening of fellowship to support camp and raise money to help kids attend summer camp. Three meal options for those attending in person: two meat options, one vegetarian. Please choose one when RSVP-ing. If you are unable to attend in person but would like to hear a camp update, please join us on Zoom for summer staff introductions, camp songs, and the annual report presentation. **RSVP Online.**

Adult Day Workshop Thursday, May 19, 2022 from 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM Cost: \$10 includes lunch.

Bring a bible (any translation) and a pen or pencil. Dress comfortably. Leader and topic TBD. Please register with the office by calling (814) 629-6627 or email contact@sequanota.com. **Sign Up Online.**

SPARE ITEMS

Over the years the church has collected several items that are cluttering the garage. Most of these items are in the back alley stairwell. If the item(s) you would like are not there then they might be in the garage. Please help yourself or you can make a donation to the church. Deadline to pickup these items is Sunday, May 22, 2022.

- ➤ 4'x8' lattice
- Couple of plywood boards (assorted sizes)
- ➤ Baby plastic pool
- Several pieces of PVC piping (assorted sizes)