

Camp Sequanota Sunday Liturgy
Second Sunday of Easter~April 19, 2020

INVOCATION

- L** Alleluia! Christ is risen! **C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**
L Scripture promises us that where two or three are gathered in God's name, (even remotely) God promises to be present. Trusting these words this morning we worship in the name of the Father, Son (+), and Holy Spirit. **C Amen**

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

- L** Merciful God,
C we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed,
by throwing mud at our enemies, calling each other names,
and being so proud we become sore losers.
We turn away from your love by excluding others from our play,
not sharing our toys, and being too busy to care for those who have fallen.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

**In your radical love, forgive us for our fear of failure,
help us to trust you as we see from a new point of view,
lead us to dream big, and show us new possibilities,
that we may seek to live hand in hand as one family
and walk, cartwheel, and run in your ways, to the joy of your holy name. Amen.**

- L** Hear the good news! Christ is the one who is in a position to blame, but instead died for us, rose for us, and prays for us. God has changed the rules of life; our life is no longer about getting the most points or winning the most trophies; it is about unconditional and extraordinary love. God has begun something new in us. Know that because of God's love for you; you are forgiven and sent out to play in peace. **C Amen.**

I WILL CALL UPON THE LORD

I will call upon the Lord. (echo)
Who is worthy to be praised. (echo)
So shall I be saved from my enemies. (echo)

The Lord liveth, and blessed be the rock,
And may the God of my salvation be exalted. (Repeat)

Michael O'Shields,©Lorenze onelicense.net

APOSTOLIC GREETING

- L** 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.

KYRIE



Refrain
Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
- 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . . for
- 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for
hun - gry and the poor; that
friends and fam - i - ly; for
wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



Refrain
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L Gracious God, in the midst of these mountains and life-giving streams you gather us. By our time together in word, prepare us to go out from behind these walls to witness to your Spirit and unconditional love. Guide us in joy by your presence to tell the good news across these Allegheny hills and valleys, in Jesus' name.

C Amen

APPOINTED READINGS

Acts 2:14A, 22-23; Psalm 16; 1 Peter 1:3-9

GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the authorities, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe."

²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

REFLECTION

History remembers Thomas as the one who doubts, yet elsewhere it is Thomas who encourages the others to come with him to follow Jesus (John 11) and who presses Jesus for directions so they can follow him (John 14). Here Thomas is not more doubtful than the other disciples, he has simply missed the experience the rest of them shared of Jesus' resurrection. Thomas only wants Jesus to visit him as Jesus visited the others. Perhaps this year more than any other, we can understand Thomas' desire for Jesus to visit him in person. This story is less about Thomas' doubt or belief than Jesus' willingness to come to him in his need. Likewise, God never stops pursuing us in our need.

PRAYERS OF THE GATHERED COMMUNITY

L Fearless and faithful, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

L God, you call us into your church to be the body of Christ in the world. Let us value every knee and elbow and mend every break and bruise. Lord in your mercy, **C hear our prayer.**

L God, you created a world of wonders and know each bug and blade of grass. Make us good caretakers as we use and share the resources you have entrusted to us. Lord in your mercy, **C hear our prayer.**

L God, you teach us mercy and justice. Raise up leaders who follow your way of caring for the least, lost, and lowly, and let the world know you through our love. Lord in your mercy, **C hear our prayer.**

L God, you love and care for each of us even and especially when we have special needs. For your children who are ill or injured, un- or underemployed, or suffering in mind or spirit, and for those who concern us most whom we name before you now...we ask for healing and wholeness. Lord in your mercy, **C hear our prayer.**

- L** God, you walk with us all of our days and welcome us into the day that never darkens. Give us the strength to follow the example of your saints who have gone before us until we join them and you in life that has no end. Lord in your mercy, **C hear our prayer.**
- L** All this and every other thing you know we need we trust to your merciful goodness, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BENEDICTION

- L** May the Lord bless you with strength and courage. May the Lord give you vision and hope. May the Lord send you out in peace and lead you home in joy. In the name of the Father, Son (+), and Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.**

Join us on Zoom for the Closing Song with Pastor Nathan & Fellowship

Zoom ID: 596-621-1441 Password: 8675309

BLESSED BE THE LORD GOD OF ISRAEL

(Chorus):

Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel
From everlasting to everlasting (2x)
And let all God's people say, "Amen"-(Amen!) (2x)
And let all the people say "Amen"
Oh praise the Lord!

1. Praise the Lord give thanks to the Lord,
For He is good. (Echo)
His steadfast love endures forever,
For He is good. (Echo)
We will tell the mighty deeds of the Lord
ALL: And show forth all His praise – Alleluia
(Chorus)

2. Gather us Oh Lord our God,
From among the nations (Echo)
Deliver us and save us Oh God,
God of our salvation (Echo)
So we may give thanks to Thy Holy Name
ALL: And glory in Thy praise – Alleluia
(Chorus)

Dave Moody © 1979

REVISED EASTER SEASON SCHEDULE—FACEBOOK

Monday: Hymn Devotions, 9AM & 9PM (pre-recorded)

Tuesday-Friday: Morning Prayer, 9AM

Tuesday-Friday: Kids' Devotions & Otto Sings Camp's Greatest Hits, Midday

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: Night Prayer, 9PM

Wednesday: Holden Evening Prayer, 7PM

Tuesday: *Camp Sequanota* Holden Evening Prayer, 7PM (Zoom link on Camp's page)

Ways to Support St. Matthew

Giving Online: Giving online is easy and allows you to set up automatic recurring contributions and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the Internet. Simply follow these easy steps:

- 1) Visit the church website at "**www.stmatthewlc.com**"
- 2) Click on the "**Give**" button, (on the top white banner)
- 3) Follow the onscreen instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your recurring contributions.

BarCode Offerings:

- 1) Visit "**Play Store on your mobile device**"
- 2) Find QR Code (this app is free)
- 3) Click on the "**Install**" the app
- 4) Open the app on your device
- 5) Scan the BarCode: (follow the prompts)
 - a) in the bulletin OR b) in the Messenger OR c) on the church website above



THIRD CENTURY FUND (ENDOWMENT FUND)

The Third Century Fund had a good earnings year in 2019 and as a result has \$5,025 for distribution in 2020. You or your committee may request funding in writing by contacting David Lehman, chairperson at DLEHMAN1@ATLANTICBB.NET

Deadline to submit a request **BY EMAIL OR MAIL** is **Sunday May 24, 2020**. Funds will be distributed in June 2020.

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

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 by 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.

Prayers are needed for our homebound: Shirley Acker, Verna Blough, Fred Brandenburg, Jim Calvert, Clyde Claycomb, Betty Helsel, Doris Henderson, Gene Henry, Jere Hess, Gerald Hoover, John Klepser, Betty Jane Moore, Ginny Sell, Dan Sinal, Don Smith, Nancy Uber, Joy Williams.

Prayer Concerns: John Aljets, Jerry Allen, Pastor Denise Arpino, Randy Barrett, Elaine Buchart, Jim Calvert, Dwight Ciccotelli, Donna Corle, Greg Comer, Brian Fleck, Shari Gilbert, Dan Hershberger, Marilyn Horton, Amber Itle, Jillian, Melissa Johnson, Dan Kensinger, Janet Kreider, Darren Kreutzer, Bill Lively, Sandy Loomis, Kristen Malloy, Savannah McCready, Ryder McDermitt, Betty McDowell, Aunt Mica, Ray Overdorff, Deb Peters, Alana Rhodes, Paul Ruth, Barbara Smith, Michele Smith, Luther Steele, Jim Stoudnour, Matt Straesser, Cindy Thomas, Dave Tremmel, Carol Weyandt, Pete Williams, Robert Winston, Todd Yingling, Jody Zelanko, and for our **Missionaries: Rev. Lesley Hand, On Eagle's Wings, Elizabeth Hendrickson.**

Those Serving Overseas: Kyle Guyer & Colin Guyer – Middle East