

St. Matthew's

CHURCH AND SCHOOL

All Saints Day

November 2, 2025

WELS

Christ's Love, Our Calling.

Welcome to St. Matthew's!

We are delighted that you have joined us for worship today! It is our prayer that God would fill you with His grace and peace as we worship our Lord and Savior Jesus. If you have questions about St. Matthew's or would like to speak to one of the pastors, please feel free to reach out to us using the contact information on the back cover.

CAUSE / EFFECT

Sainthood / Stamina

God grants the status of "saint" (which means "holy one") to every believer. It might appear that status is of little practical value. If you achieve the status "billionaire" or "celebrity" or "senator" your life is going to be vastly different than most other people, most likely better. But if God calls you a saint, just like everyone else, you will struggle with trials, temptations, and sin. Being a saint does not make life easier. In some ways it makes life more difficult as we struggle against a world that is hostile toward Christ. This might lead us to ask, "Is it really that big a deal that God calls us saints?"

For centuries, the Church has answered that question by celebrating the Festival of All Saints. This week we get a peek at the saints who have died and now live in the glory of Christ's light. Through eyes of faith, we see the saints enjoying glory in the place where "there will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain" (Revelation 21:1-6). We realize what a precious gift this status of saint actually is. We understand that soon enough we shall join all the saints in that glorious heavenly city. And that gives us amazing stamina to face the challenges of this world with the strength Christ gives to all his saints.

For Your Convenience

- ◊ Restrooms are located down the hallway on the left.
- ◊ A Parents' room is available in the back of the sanctuary for those with small children.
- ◊ A Mother's room, located in the parents' room, offers privacy for nursing mothers.
- ◊ Large Print Service Folders are available from an usher upon request.
- ◊ Please silence your cell phones before worship.
- ◊ View services on Charter 985 on Thursdays at 12PM and 7PM or Sundays at 10AM. You can also visit https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=st+matthews+oconomowoc
- ◊ St. Matthew's is on Instagram. You can follow us @St.MatthewsOconomowoc.

The Order of Worship for
All Saint's Day

November 2, 2025

THE SERVICE: SETTING TWO

You may follow along starting on page 172 in the hymnal.

Preservice **Handbell Choir**

Hymn 867 **Afflicted Saint, to Christ Draw Near**

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Confession

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.

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.

Silence for meditation and reflection

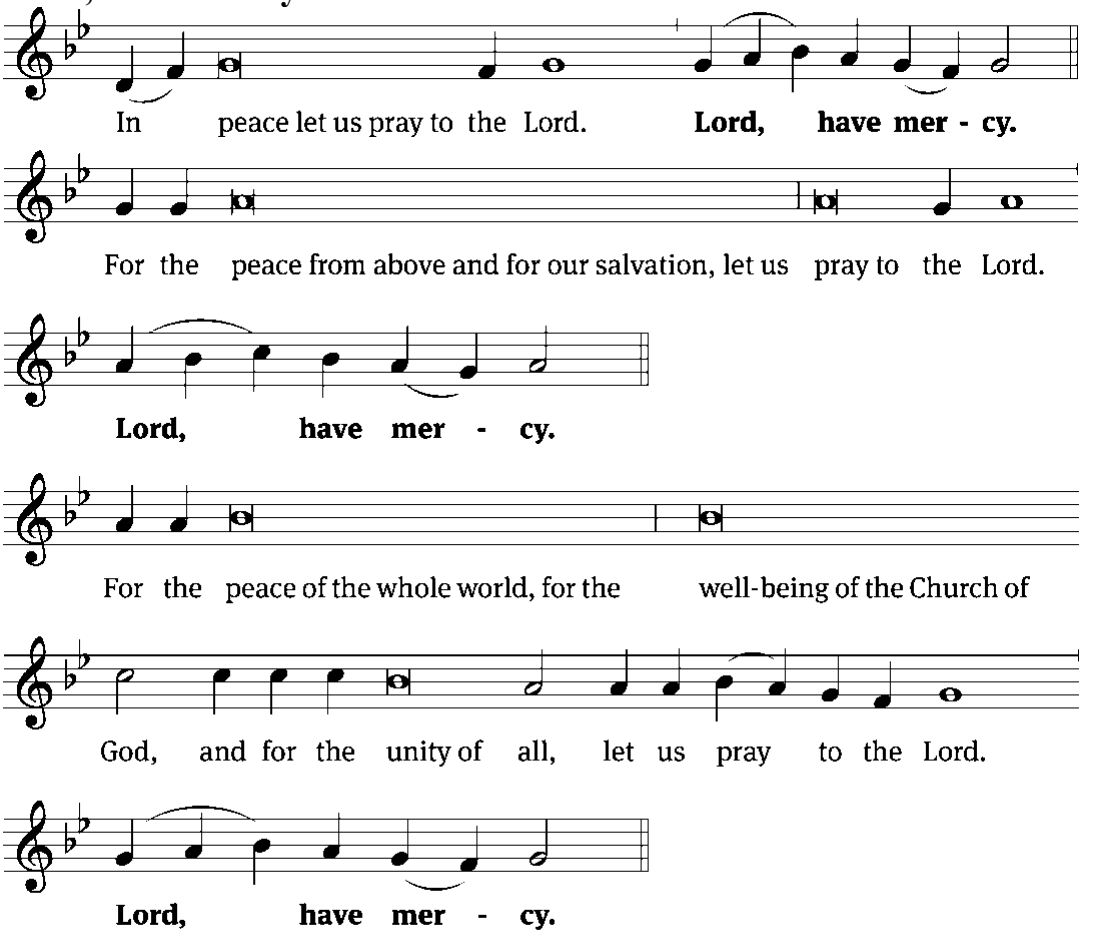
Absolution

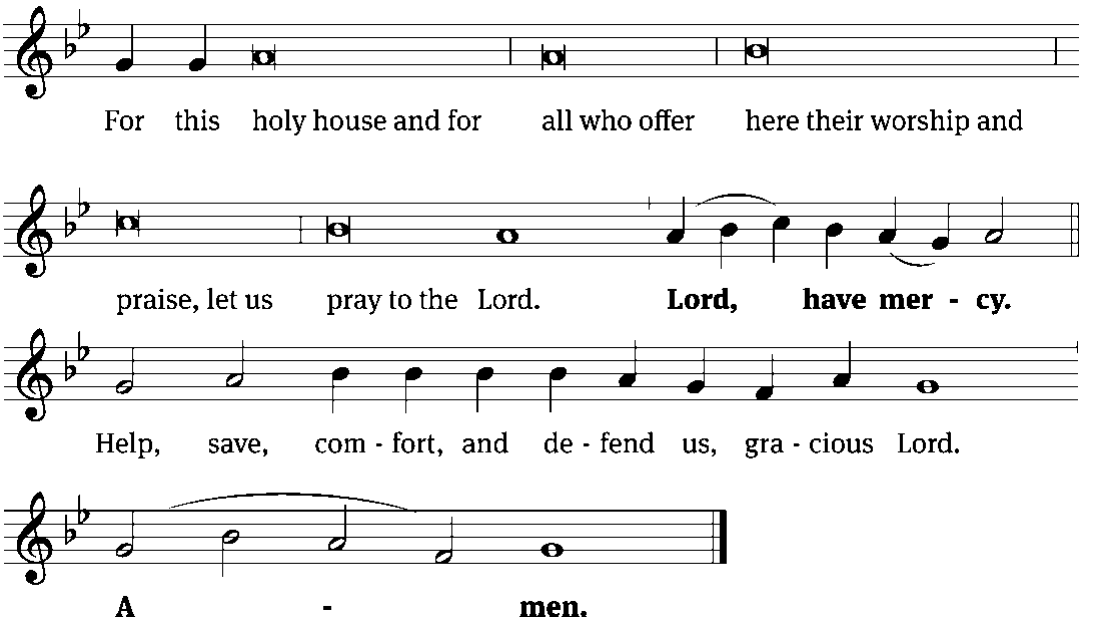
Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

CW 174





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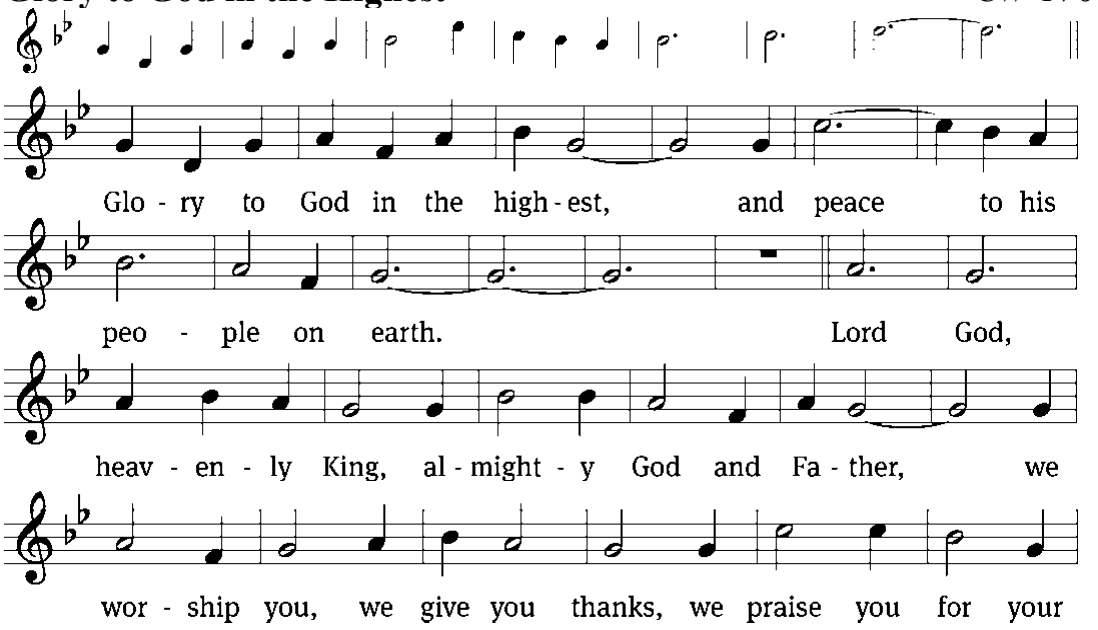
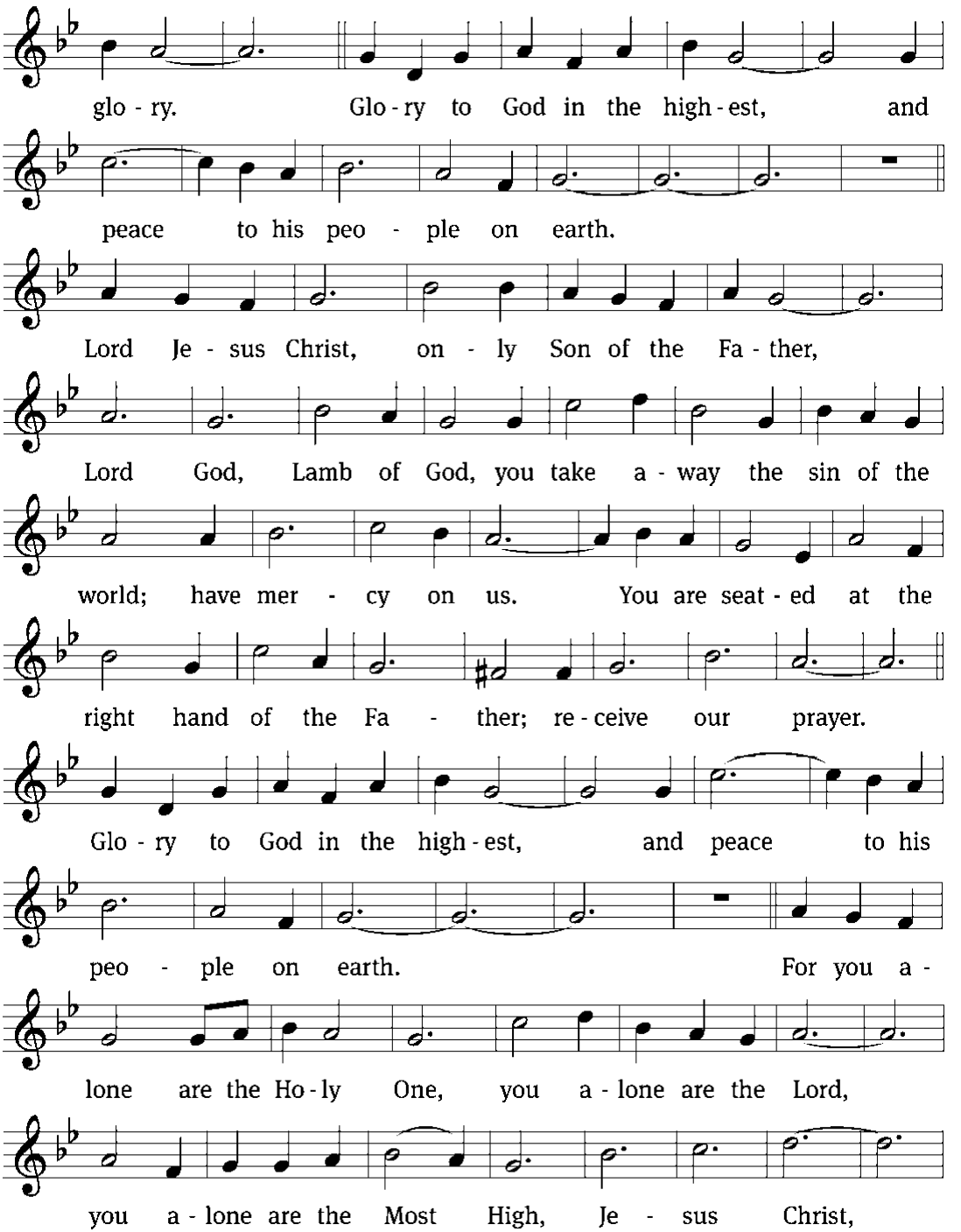
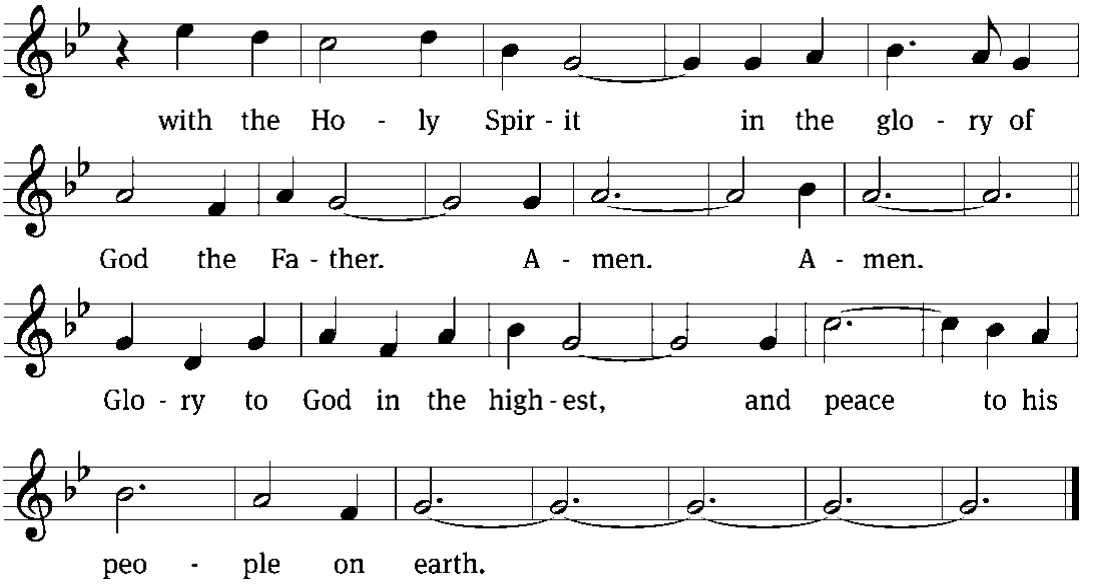
Glory to God in the Highest *CW 176*




glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth.
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. You are seat - ed at the
right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his
peo - ple on earth. For you a -
lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ,



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The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you have knit your people together into one holy Church, the body of Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow the example of your blessed saints in lives of faith and willing service and with them at last inherit the inexpressible joys that you have prepared for those who love you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Children's Message

First Reading — Revelation 21:1-6

St. John is allowed to see the home of the saints, the new Jerusalem.

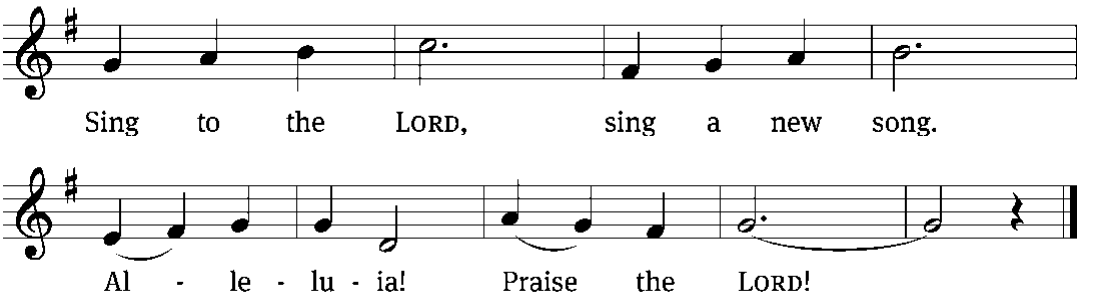
[1]Then I saw "a new heaven and a new earth," for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. [2]I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. [3]And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. [4]'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

[5]He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." [6]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 without cost from the spring of the water of life.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 149A (Saturday) — Sing to the LORD, Sing a New Song

Refrain



1 Sing praise to the LORD, come sing a new song;
amid all the saints God's praises prolong;
let Israel be glad in their Maker and sing,
let all Zion's people rejoice in their King. (Refrain)

2 With timbrel and harp and joyful acclaim,
with dancing and song give praise to God's name;
for God in the faithful great pleasure will seek,
with robes of salvation adorning the meek. (Refrain)

3 In glory exult, you saints of the LORD;
with songs in the night high praises accord;
go forth in God's service, be strong in his might
to conquer all evil and stand for the right. (Refrain)

4 For this is God's word: the saints shall not fail,
but over the earth their faith shall prevail;
all kingdoms and nations shall yield to their sword—
thus God shows great glory, sing praise to the LORD. (Refrain)

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Anthem (Sunday) — *Hymn of Heaven*

Carly Schroeder

Second Reading (Sermon Text) — *Hebrews 11:32-40*

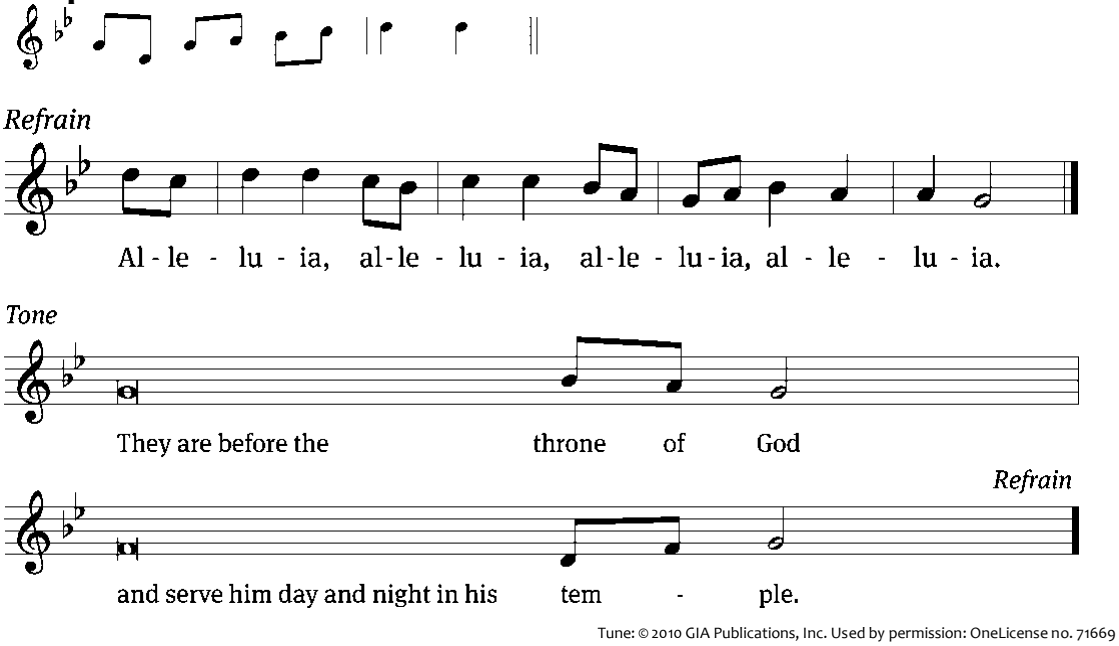
For many Christians, their faith was the cause of pain and even death. They faced these troubles with amazing courage and stamina because they knew God has planned something better for his saints.

32 And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak,
Samson and Jephthah, about David and Samuel and the prophets, 33 who through faith
conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut
the mouths of lions, 34 quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the
sword; whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle
and routed foreign armies. 35 Women received back their dead, raised to life again.
There were others who were tortured, refusing to be released so that they might gain
an even better resurrection. 36 Some faced jeers and flogging, and even chains and
imprisonment. 37 They were put to death by stoning; they were sawed in two; they were
killed by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute,
persecuted and mistreated— 38 the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in
deserts and mountains, living in caves and in holes in the ground.
39 These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had
been promised, 40 since God had planned something better for us so that only together
with us would they be made perfect.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Revelation 7:15



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Gospel

Luke 6:20-23

Jesus teaches that the blessedness of being God's saint is currently hidden from sight. Yet, one day, that blessedness shall be revealed.

20 Looking at his disciples, he said:

"Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.
21 Blessed are you who hunger now, for you will be satisfied.
Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.
22 Blessed are you when people hate you,
when they exclude you and insult you
and reject your name as evil,
because of the Son of Man.

23 "Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven. For that is how their ancestors treated the prophets.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn 889 **Jerusalem the Golden**

Sermon **Check the Real Scoreboard**

Pastor Steven Hillmer

Apostles' Creed

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.

Connection Cards and Offerings

We are delighted you have joined us for worship today and we would love to stay connected with you. To help us do so, please fill out the Connection Card in the seat back. You may place it in the offering plate as the offering is gathered or hand it to one of the ushers. You also have the ability to record your worship or give a gift using the appropriate QR code below. Those who have downloaded the St. Matthew's App can check-in and give offerings directly through the app. You may also text GIVE to 833-921-6451.

Guest Form



St. Matthew's App



Give Online



WELS Connection Video

Prayer of the Church

The Lord's Prayer

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Blessing

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.
Amen.

Closing Hymn 880:1,2,7 For All the Saints

A quite verse is played between 2 and 7 with no singing. Take a few moments to offer silent prayers of thanksgiving to our gracious Lord for the victory he's given fellow believers now fallen asleep in Jesus.

In Our Prayers: We rejoice with the families of **Lucas and Marissa Krogmann** whom the Lord blessed with a baby girl **Clara Louise**; and **James and Abby and Carlson,** whom the Lord also blessed with a baby girl, **Iiya June.**

Acknowledgments
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Bible Study Opportunities

Sunday Adult Bible Study @ 9:15am
Our Adult Bible Class is on a historical journey looking generation by generation, seeing how God has blessed WELS over these past 175 years!

Sunday School and Teen Study @ 9:15am
Sunday School is for children in PreK-6th grade. Teen Bible Study is open to 7th-12th grade. All are welcome so please invite your children's friends to join us as well! Sunday School is currently going through some stories in the Old Testament. Teen study is still looking at Apologetics.

Thursday "Women in the Word" Bible Class
Our first series will look at "How to Study the Bible". For many the Bible can seem intimidating. Where do I start? How do I start? How do I approach it? How can I understand what it is saying? If this describes you or you have ever asked those questions this study is for you! We will look at what God promises us when we read his Word and equip you with the necessary tools for reading the Bible. If you have studied the Bible for years this is a great refresher and will provide some new insights into studying Scripture. Join us on Thursday mornings at 8:30 a.m. in the Gathering Space.

Men's Bible Breakfast – 2nd Saturdays of the Month
Calling all fellows to come for a great breakfast and a study of God's Word. Breakfast starts at 7:30am on the second Saturday of each month. Pastor Bigelow is leading a topic called, "Connecting Sinai to Calvary."

Grounded in God
SHINE Women's Ministry would like to invite all St. Matthew's women and friends to join us for Coffee and Devotion, "Grounded in God". Join us in the Gathering Space at Church at 7:45 a.m., conveniently after school drop-off. Children are welcome!

Wednesday Women's Bible Study: *Living a Chocolate Life*
Join us **Wednesdays, Oct 8 & 22, Nov 5 at 6:30 PM in the Gathering Space** for this chocolate-themed study! Savor God's abundant grace, explore life's bittersweet moments, and discover how the Holy Spirit fills us with faith in Christ—the only true source of lasting satisfaction.

Thank you for Serving our Savior and Us		
	This Weekend	**Next Weekend – November 8 & 9**
Ushers	**Saturday** – Tony Kobussen **Early –** Eric Wegner **Late –** Eric Ziel	**Saturday –** Tom Plitzuweit **Early –** Tim Taubenheim **Late –** Andy Rosenau
Greeters	**Early** – Curt Delie **Late** – Jon & Ginny Kehren	**Early** – Mary Beth Williams **Late** – Eric & Beth Ziel
Hospitality	**Saturday** – Jim & Karen Spiegelberg **Early –** Tim & Carolyn Thiele **Late –** Tim & Sandy Torgerson	**Saturday** – Char Bouche **Early –** Ralph & Tracy Schmidt **Late –** Jon & Kessia Boche
Flowers		
Organist	Melody Ryan	Char Bouche / Becky Aldinger
Special Music	Carly Schroeder	Ring Praise / Men's Chorus
Projection	**Saturday** – Dan Metzger **Early –** Ethan Bergh **Late –** Matthias Uttech	**Saturday** – Dan Metzger **Early –** Lily Winkelman **Late –** Josh Charais
Sound	**Saturday** – Vickie Bence **Early –** Julia Watson **Late –** Heather Bigelow	**Saturday** – Scott Heins **Early –** Steve Vasatko **Late –** Kathy Goggins
Livestream	Nathan Bergh	Jason Cox

This Week at St. Matthew's		
Saturday	5:30 pm	Worship Service
Sunday	8 & 10:30 am	Worship Service
	9:15 am	Adult Bible Study, Sunday School, Teen Bible Study
	6:30 pm	Laudate Dominum Rehearsal
Monday	6:30 pm	Bible Information Class
	6:30 pm	Board of Stewardship
	7:00 pm	Board of Education
Tuesday	7:45 am	Grounded in God
	6:30 pm	Board of Outreach
Wednesday	10:00 am	Shorehaven Service
	1:30 pm	Senior Fellowship
	5:00 pm	Non-school Catechism
	6:30 pm	Women's Bible Study
Thursday	8:00 am	SCRIP Orders Due
	8:30 am	Women in the Word
	6:00 pm	Rejoice!
	7:00 pm	Choir
	8:00 pm	Men's Chorus
	8:00 pm	Handbell Choir
Friday	6:00 pm	Movie Night

Saturday	7:30 am 5:30 pm	Men's Bible Breakfast Communion Service
Sunday	8 & 10:30 am 9:15 am 6:30 pm	Worship Service Adult Bible Study, Sunday School, Teen Bible Study Laudate Dominum Rehearsal

St. Matthew's
CHURCH AND SCHOOL

Upcoming Special Services

SERVICES	TIMES
LAUDATE DOMINUM CONCERT	SUNDAY, NOV 23: 7:00 PM
THANKSGIVING SERVICES	NOV 26: 6:30PM | NOV 27: 9:00AM
KOINE CONCERT	FRIDAY, DEC 5: 6:30PM
MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES	WEDNESDAYS (Dec 3,10,17): 4:00 & 6:30PM
CHRISTMAS EVE	DEC 24: 1:30, 3:00 & 6:00PM
CHRISTMAS DAY	DEC 25: 9:00AM

*There will be NO SATURDAY SERVICES ON DEC 20
due to the Live Nativity

Highlights and Announcements

Blood Drive at St. Matthew's
Our community blood drive is on **Saturday, November 15, from 7:30 AM to 12:30 PM** at St. Matthew's. Your donation can make a life-saving difference. Register today using the QR Code or contact Jennifer in the church office at 262-912-6350.

New Fall Bible Information Class!
A new Bible Information Class *"Your Questions? God's Answers!"* will begin on Monday, October 27 at 6:30 p.m. in the Church Conference Room. If you are interested in becoming a member of St. Matthew's, want a refresher and review of the basic teachings of the Bible, or just want to learn more about God, the Bible, Jesus, etc., this is the class for you! Contact Pastor Bigelow at pbigelow@smls.org to register and we will see you on Oct. 27th!

Senior Fellowship
Our Senior Fellowship group meets in the Gathering Area on the first and third Wednesdays of November 5th and 19th. Please enter through the main church doors. Our meetings start at 1:30 p.m. Following an opening devotion, we play cards and other games until about 4:00 p.m. Come and enjoy an afternoon of fun and fellowship with fellow Christians. If you have any questions, please contact Dan Feuerstahler at 920-245-3006.

Registration is Open! | Advent by Candlelight: *Take Me to the Manger*
Sunday, Nov. 30 | 3 PM | St. Matthew's Church. In the quiet days before Christmas, enjoy an afternoon of reflection, music, and poetry as we prepare our hearts for Christ. **New this year:** No need to worry about decorating or hosting—just sign up individually, enjoy the event, and bring a dessert to share if you'd like! ***Register NOW*** - *open through Nov 16.*

Join the Candle Care Team!
We're looking for 1–2 more people or couples to help maintain the candles and candlesticks in the church and chapel. Team members serve one month at a time, three months per year. If you'd like to help, contact Linda Darkow at 262-336-7387.

Board of Outreach: Building Faith Across the Globe
Thanks to the generosity of St. Matthew's members and the efforts of Tom Thiele and his mission trip team, $13,000 was raised to help cover the building materials for a new church in Kenya! A group of 13 travelers will journey to Kenya in March 2026 to visit the church and take part in its official dedication. This incredible project is a shining example of how our Board of Outreach brings God's love to communities around the world—and how our gifts and prayers make a real, lasting impact.

Lift Up Our Cardinals: DONATE TO SOAR 2026!
St. Matthew's School is looking forward to **Soar: A Night Benefiting Cardinal Scholars on Saturday, March 7, 2026**! This special evening supports our students through a fun night of fellowship and giving. Make sure to mark your calendars!

We're currently seeking **donations** such as gift baskets, event tickets, unique experiences, or services that can be featured in our fundraising activities. Every contribution helps our Cardinals continue to learn, grow, and thrive. If you or your business would like to donate or sponsor the event, please contact us at soar@smls.org. Thank you!

Soups & Sweets Fundraiser
Join us Nov. 22 & 23 after services in the Commons for our Soups & Sweets Fundraiser, hosted by the SHINE Activities Team! Proceeds will help support St. Matthew's new historical timeline wall.
If you're planning to donate a craft, soup, or baked good, please drop off items Saturday morning, Nov. 22. Look for the soup containers in the Gathering Space—they include copies of all the event details, so you can easily find how to take part. Online monetary donations are also welcome throughout November.

Join Us In Preparing the Church for Christmas
Help us celebrate the joy of Christ's coming by preparing St. Matthew's for the Christmas season! We'll gather on Saturday, November 29, at 8:30 AM to decorate the church. Come share your time and talents as we make God's house shine for His glory.

ACTS Movie Night– Saturday, November 8
Join us for a fun evening at the Lenz's house from **5:00–8:30 PM**! We'll enjoy a taco bar, sundae bar, and watch the movie ***One by One.***
Sign up today to reserve your spot for food, fun, and fellowship!

Pioneers Fall Update
A big thank-you to Steve Maas for once again hosting our Fall Fun Night! Both Boy and Girl Pioneers enjoyed a great evening of fellowship complete with a hayride and bonfire.

Looking ahead, our **Boy Pioneers Astronomy Night** is coming up on **November 11**. If any church members are passionate about astronomy—or have a telescope they'd like to share—please contact **Jacob Feutz** at jbfeutz@gmail.com or **262-674-6732**. We'd love for you to join us for a night of stargazing!

Luther Prep
On Sunday, November 16, the music department of Luther Preparatory School will be presenting its annual fall instrumental concert. This year's concert is entitled "Autumn Kaleidoscope," and the program will include a wide variety of selections presented by our various student instrumental ensembles. The concert will be held in the LPS Auditorium, beginning at 7:00 PM. We hope you can join us for a wonderful evening of music!

Blue Butterfly
Help Wanted: Donation Attendant at Our Faith-Based Thrift Store
Our nonprofit thrift store is seeking a **Donation Attendant** to help receive and process incoming donations. This role includes unloading vehicles, sorting items, and keeping our donation area organized—all while offering friendly, Christ-centered service to our donors. The position requires **regular physical activity**, including lifting and moving items up to 40–50 lbs. Applicants should be comfortable with hands-on work and being on their feet throughout the shift.
Part-time hours are available. All proceeds from the store support our mission of Christian counseling and our Blue Butterfly Family Centers.
If interested, please contact Ashley Wenninger at director@bluebutterflythrift.org or stop by the thrift store for an application.

OWLS
The Rock River Area OWLS will meet Tuesday, November 18 at 1:30 at St. John's Lutheran Church, 304 N 6th St. Watertown. St. John's is served by pastors Jerry Ewings and Nicholas Quinnett. Mr. Sean Young, staff Minister at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary will give us an update on the Viet Nam Mission. OWLS meetings are handicapped accessible, last about two hours, with refreshments and time to socialize with others. Seniors who are retired and/or 55 + years are encouraged to attend and everyone is invited and guests are always welcome! If you'd like a ride, directions, or just find out more about OWLS, ask one of our members: Paul Manssen, Darlene Sankey, Aleda Brensel, and Pat Porter.



Concert Announcement Laudate Dominum

Please join us for an evening of comforting music at our concert on Sunday, November 23rd at 7 PM at St. Matthew's in Oconomowoc. *E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come* will feature 36 singers from 14 area congregations. Come and be encouraged by music that points us to the Savior who was, who is, and who is to come

OUR MISSION *COMPELLED BY THE LOVE OF CHRIST,*

St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church and School seek to reach out to our families, community and world, using Law and Gospel to make disciples, growing and nurturing them in their Christian faith and life.

PHILIP BIGELOW
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CONNIE ABRAM
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AMBER TERRY
First Steps Director
aterry@smls.org

St. Matthew's CHURCH AND SCHOOL

First Steps CHILD CARE CENTER

WORSHIP SERVICES SATURDAY: 5:30 PM
SUNDAY: 8:00 & 10:30 AM

Christian Education For All
SUNDAY 9:15 AM

Phone :

Church: 262.912.6060
School: 262.912.6364
First Steps: 262.912.6338

Welcome Visitors:
Please fill out the connection card in pew or scan

SCAN ME

Location :
1650 Brown St, Oconomowoc

Social Media:
@StMatthewsOconomowoc

Website : SMLS.ORG