

St. Matthew's

CHURCH AND SCHOOL

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 2, 2026

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.

WHAT MAKES CHRISTIANS DIFFERENT?

Christians Trust God to Provide

The hardest times to trust God are the times we need him most. It's easier to trust God when your job is going great, your health is fine, your relationships are fine, and your family is good. It's easier to trust God when the sun is shining, but what happens when your life is suddenly overshadowed by dark days?

When tragedy strikes, we may wonder if God continues to care for us. At those times, Christians do not despair like those who have no hope. Instead, Christians focus on certain foundational facts. We are chosen and adopted as God's dear children. God provides us innumerable spiritual blessings and promises us an eternity of peace and joy. If we recognize those spiritual blessings, how can we doubt that God will give us everything we truly need at the right time? Christians trust God to provide.

For Your Convenience

- ◊ A Hearing Loop system is available; switch your device to the "T" (telecoil) program to connect. Further instructions are available in the Church Office.
- ◊ 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
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

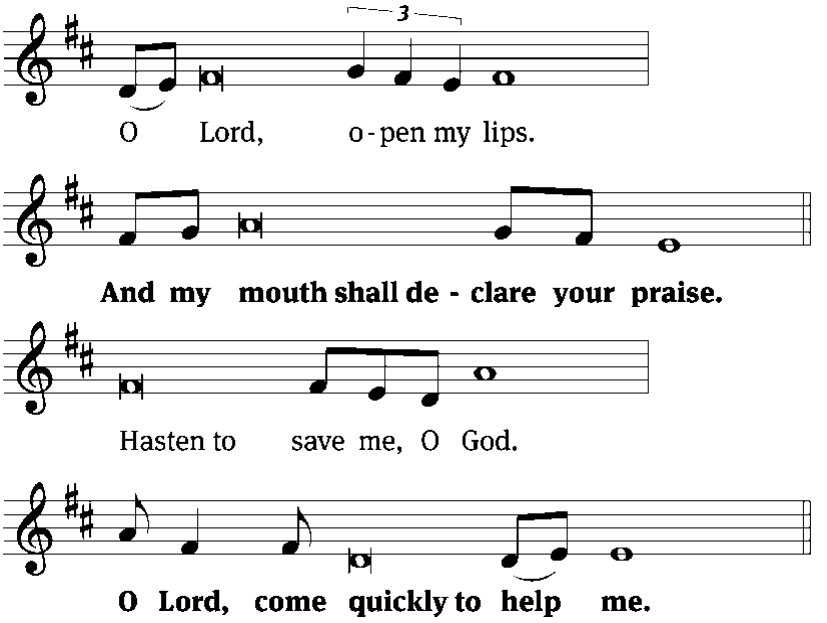
August 2, 2026

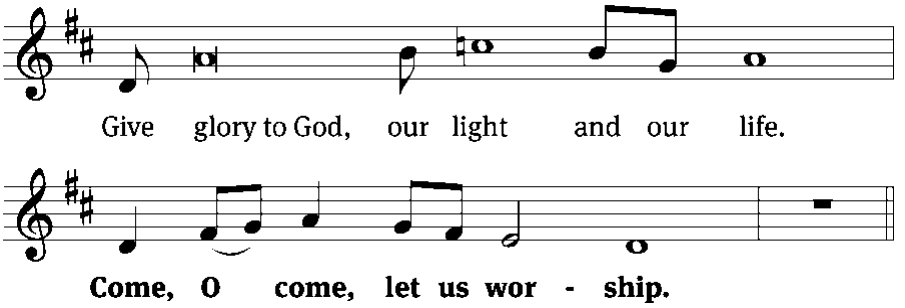
MORNING PRAISE

"Morning Praise" is based on the historic service called "Matins." Joined to Christ, our risen Lord, we glorify God as we rise to the activities of this new day.

Hymn 481 **Alleluia! Let Praises Ring**

Responsive Verses





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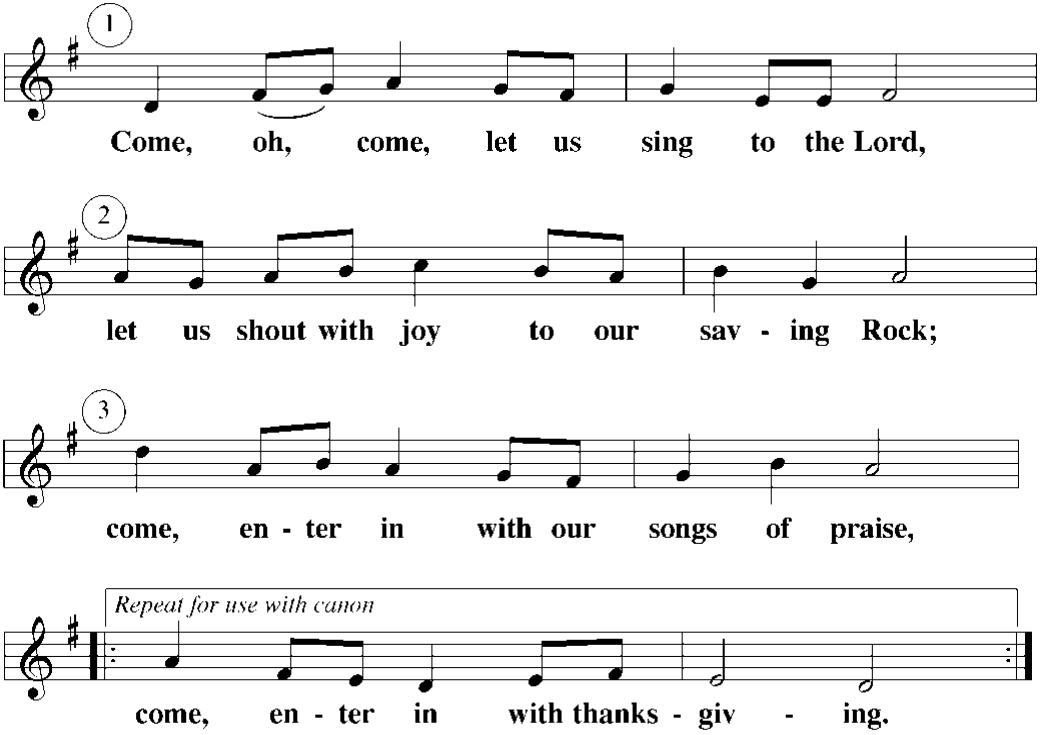
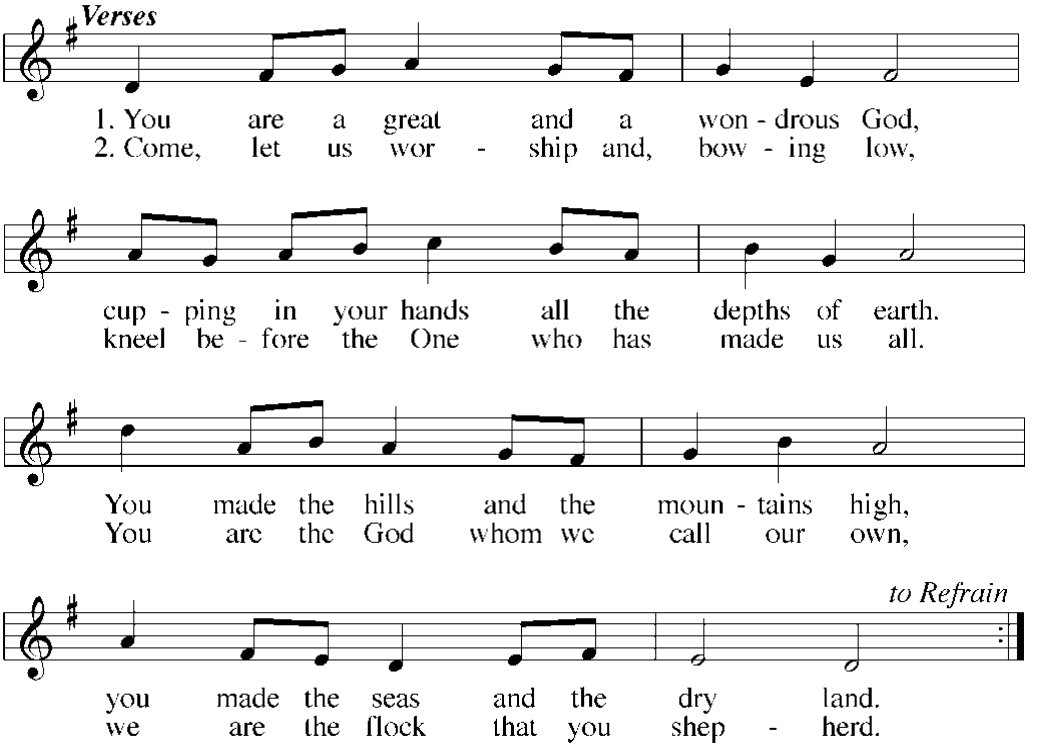
Come, Oh, Come, Let Us Sing To The Lord





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Affirmation of Baptism

*During our 10:30am service this week, we will have the **Affirmation of Baptism** for **Charlie Lynn Splinter**, the daughter of Devin and Stephanie Splinter. God's rich blessings to Charlie!*

Children's Message

First Reading 1 Kings 17:1-6

In dark times with a wicked king, the Lord provided food for his faithful prophet.

[1]Now Elijah the Tishbite, from Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, "As the LORD, the God of Israel, lives, whom I serve, there will be neither dew nor rain in the next few years except at my word."

[2]Then the word of the LORD came to Elijah: [3]"Leave here, turn eastward and hide in the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan. [4]You will drink from the brook, and I have directed the ravens to supply you with food there."

[5]So he did what the LORD had told him. He went to the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan, and stayed there. [6]The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning and bread and meat in the evening, and he drank from the brook.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 136A — Your Love Is Never-Ending

The Cantor sings the first line; the Congregation responds

We give thanks unto you, O God of might:
for your love is never-ending;
We give thanks unto you, the God of gods:
for your love is never-ending.

In your wisdom and love you shaped the skies:
for your love is never-ending;
You spread out the earth upon the sea:
for your love is never-ending.

You have filled all the skies with glory and light:
for your love is never-ending;
The sun for the day and moon for night:
for your love is never-ending.

From of old you have led your people in faith:
for your love is never-ending;
You have shown your compassion, strength, and love:
for your love is never-ending.

You delivered the ones who called unto you:
for your love is never-ending;
From bondage to freedom, you brought them forth:
for your love is never-ending.

You have opened the sea and brought your people through:
for your love is never-ending;
Brought them into a land that flows with life:
for your love is never-ending.

You remember your promise age to age:
for your love is never-ending;
You show mercy on those of low degree:
for your love is never-ending.

You give food and life to all living things:
for your love is never-ending;
We give thanks unto you, the God of all:
for your love is never-ending.

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Gospel (Sermon Text) **Matthew 14:13-21**

Jesus graciously provides for the needs of a great multitude.

13When Jesus heard what had happened, he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary
place. Hearing of this, the crowds followed him on foot from the towns. 14When Jesus
landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick.
15As evening approached, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a remote
place, and it's already getting late. Send the crowds away, so they can go to the
villages and buy themselves some food."
16Jesus replied, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat."
17"We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish," they answered.
18"Bring them here to me," he said. 19And he directed the people to sit down on the
grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave
thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave
them to the people. 20They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up
twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. 21The number of those who ate
was about five thousand men, besides women and children.

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

Hymn 603 **All Praise to God Who Reigns Above**

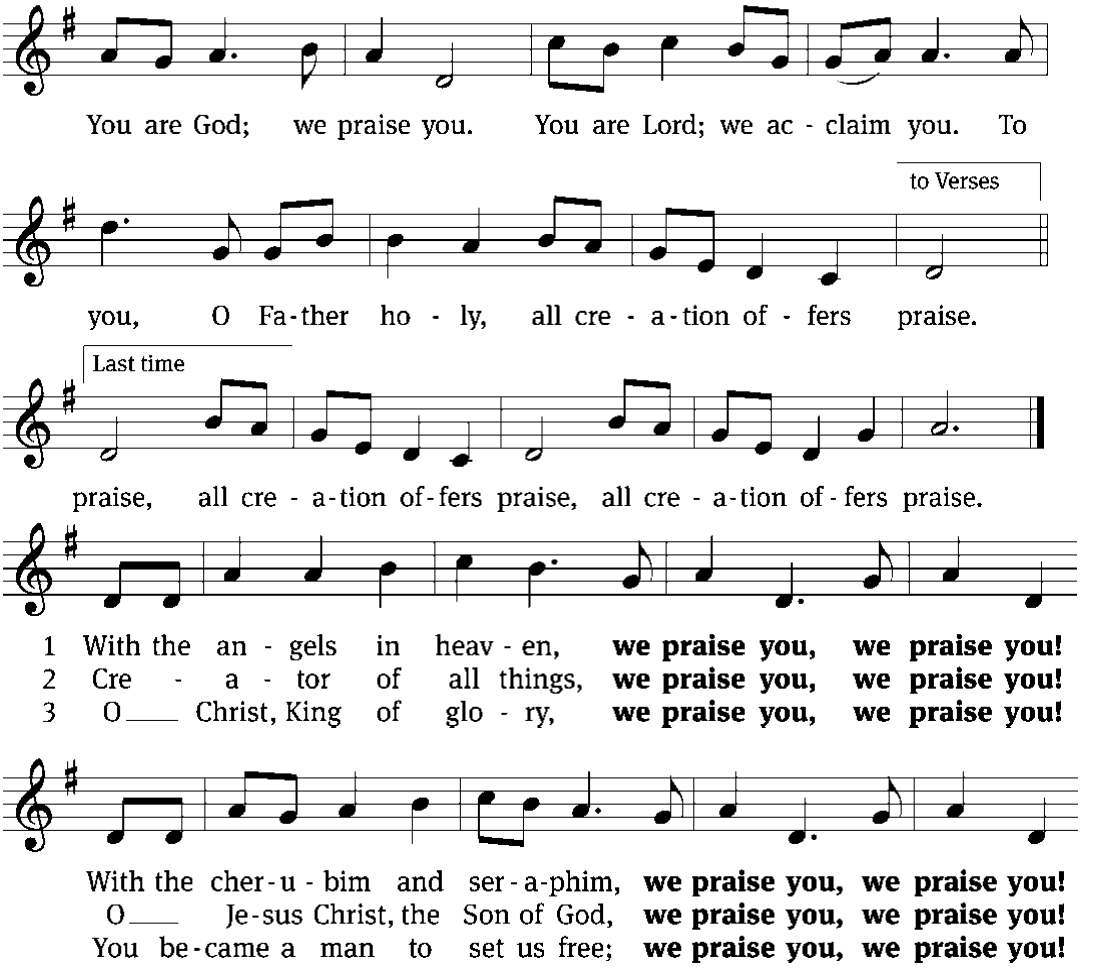
Sermon **What Makes Christians *Different*?**

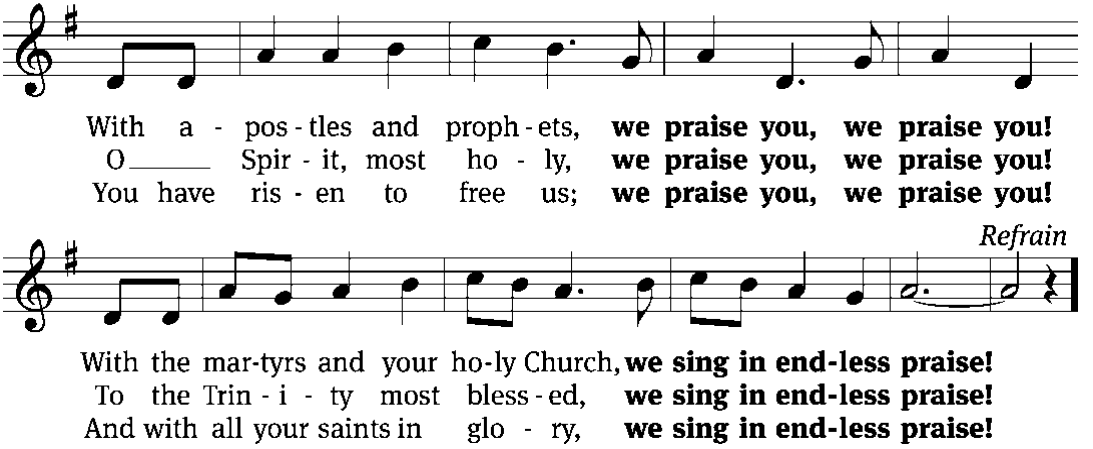
Pastor Steven Hillmer

1. Christians *Seek* the Savior
2. Christians *Trust* the Savior

You Are God; We Praise You

Refrain *Cantor/choir first time; assembly repeats, then sings after each verse*





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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

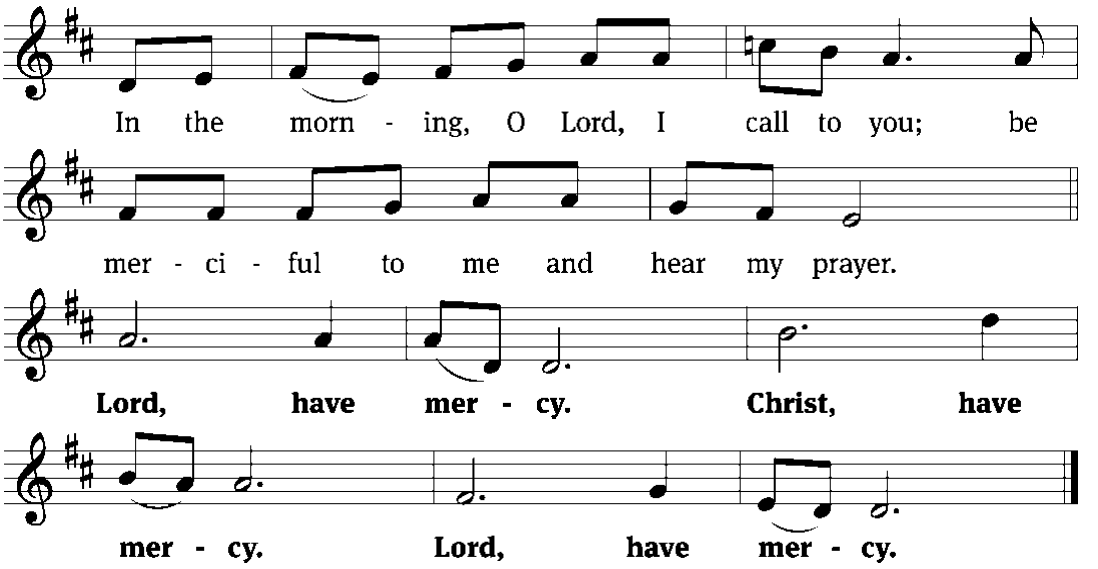
Welcome

St. Matthew's App

Give Online

WELS Connection Video

Lord, Have Mercy



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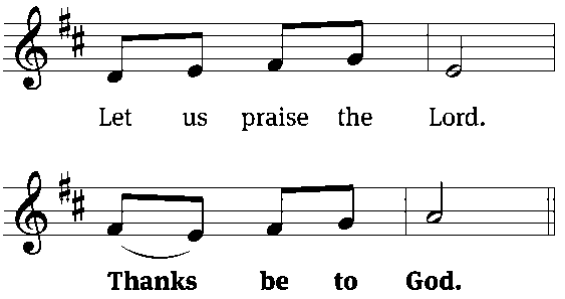
Lord's Prayer

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.

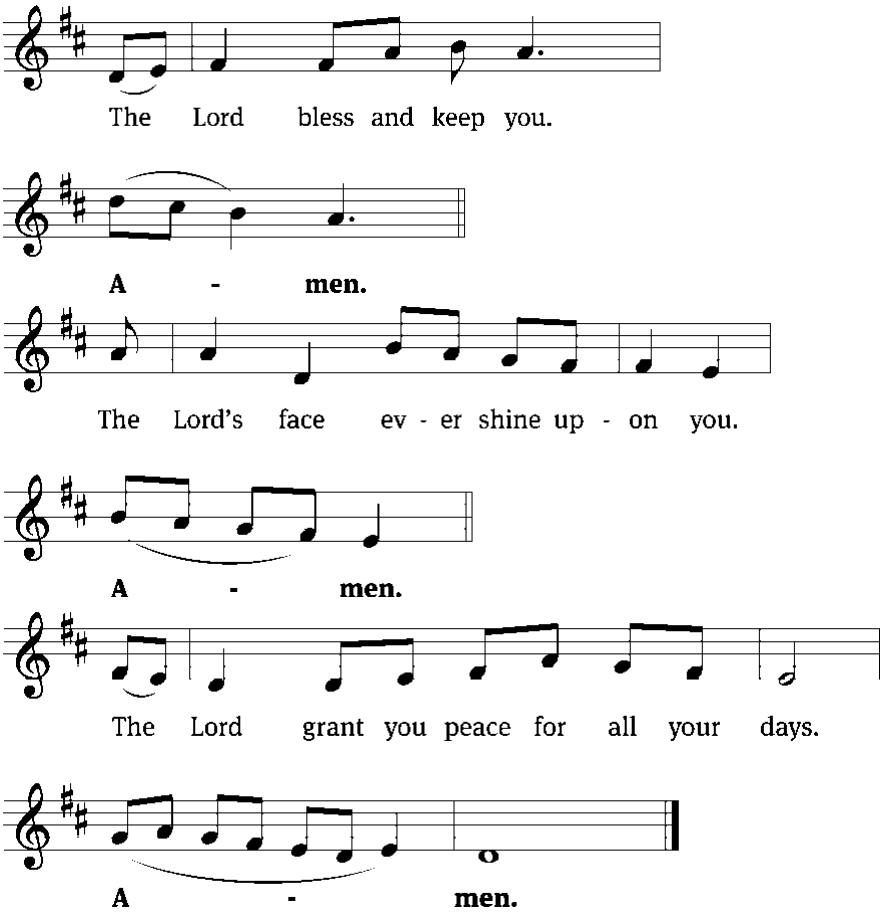
Prayer of the Church

Prayer for Grace

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger. And in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.
Amen.



Blessing



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Closing Hymn 617 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

In Our Prayers: May our Lord grant to **Jennifer Gaal** a successful cancer surgery on Monday. May the Lord be with **Amanda Williams** (granddaughter of Myron and Darlene Sankey) who will be having back surgery. We rejoice with **Noah and Lindsay Schulz** who were blessed with a baby boy on Thursday, **Beau Schulz**. God's peace be with **Lana Grunst's mother, Phyllis Dallmann,** who is 98 and on hospice care. May our Lord comfort the family of **Santasha Hoeft whose mother, Karen Fischer** passed last Sunday. May God comfort all those who suffered loss during the storms this past week.

Bible Study Opportunities

Sunday Adult Bible Study – *The Ten Commandments*
Join us Sundays at 9:15 a.m. between services as we study the Ten Commandments and their relevance for our faith and daily lives. Students entering 5th grade and older are welcome to join the class. All are welcome!

Summer Childcare Available During Adult Bible Study
Sunday School and Teen Study are on summer break. Childcare is available for infants through 4th grade and will meet in the 3K classroom, located in the farthest wing of the school building. Children in 5th grade and older are welcome to join the Adult Bible Study.

Men's Bible Breakfast – 2nd Saturdays of the Month
Calling all men 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 the topic, "Connecting Sinai to Calvary."

***"Bible by the Fire"* - Bible Study on Friday evenings: July 31 and Aug. 21—at 6:00 PM.**
We'll gather around bonfires for Scripture, fellowship, and conversation in a welcoming, relaxed setting. This summer, we'll be studying the book of Habakkuk. Please bring along a Bible. Whether you're new or have attended before, you are invited to come as you are. Feel free to bring a beverage and a snack to share. **For more details and the latest updates, *visit SMLS.org/Events.***

This Week at St. Matthew's		
Saturday	5:30 pm	Worship Service
Sunday	8 & 10:30 am 9:15 am	Worship Service Adult Bible Study; Child Care
Monday	4:30 pm 5:30 pm 6:30 pm	BIC Class Childcare Committee Board of Education
Tuesday	6:30 pm 6:30 pm	Board of Outreach Board of Elders
Wednesday	10:00 am 5:30 pm	Shorehaven Service Board of Stewardship
Thursday	8:00 am	SCRIP Orders Due
Saturday	7:30 am 5:30 pm	Men's Bible Breakfast Communion Service
Sunday	8 & 10:30 am 9:15 am	Communion Service Adult Bible Study; Child Care

Thank you for Serving our Savior and Us		
	This Weekend	**Next Weekend – August 8 & 9**
Ushers	**Saturday** – Tony Kobussen **Early –** Eric Wegner **Late –** Eric Ziel	**Saturday** – Tom Plitzuweit **Early –** Tim Taubenheim **Late –** Andy Rosenau
Greeters	**Early** – Joe & Jill Sharp **Late** – Andy & Carrie Rosenau	**Early** – Curt Delie & Mary Beth Williams **Late** –
Hospitality	**Saturday** – Char Bouche **Early –** Ralph & Tracy Schmidt **Late –** Brian & Kari Winkelman	**Saturday** – Kyle Bence **Early –** Paul & Brenda Pillard **Late –** David & LeeAndra Dodge
Flowers		
Organist	Joy Elowski	Linda Smith
Special Music		
Projectionist	**Saturday** – Emily Stewart **Early –** Jon/Henry Peterson **Late –** Eli Bigelow	**Saturday** – Dan Metzger **Early –** Ethan Bergh **Late –** Nolan Bagdassian
Sound	**Saturday** – Scott Heins **Early –** Rik Krahn **Late –** Joel Aldinger	**Saturday** – John Stewart **Early –** Steve Vasatko **Late –** Charlie Bagdassian
Livestream	Tim Taubenheim	Jason Cox

Highlights and Announcements

From WELS Christian Aid and Relief
Dear friends in Christ,

Here's a brief update on the situation in the Menasha area. We have a team serving tomorrow at Bethel in Menasha and in the surrounding neighborhood. (Note: We have all the volunteers we need for that opportunity.) I've also posted additional volunteer opportunities for Saturday and Sunday. Registered volunteers can learn more and sign up by visiting **www.welsdisasterrelief.org.**

Thank you for your overwhelming response to the tremendous need in Menasha. I simply can't keep up with all the emails, texts, phone calls, and messages from people eager to help. Your compassion has been truly encouraging, and I thank God for each of you.

Please continue to be patient with the process. Disaster relief is complex, and it takes time to organize volunteer efforts that are both safe and effective. We are working closely with local leaders to ensure our response is well coordinated and meets the greatest needs. Please continue to keep the people impacted by the tornado, our volunteers, and local church leaders in your prayers. I will continue to share updates as more opportunities become available.

In Christ, our compassionate Savior,
Pastor Dan Sims
Director, WELS Christian Aid and Relief
Volunteer: **www.welsdisasterrelief.org**
Give: **www.wels.net/CARgift**

Teacher Installation – Sunday, August 16
Please join us on Sunday, August 16**,** during both worship services as we celebrate the installation of four teachers who have accepted a Call to serve in ministry at St. Matthew's: **Jon Ziesemer** – 8th Grade Teacher, **Jason Rupnow** – 6th Grade Teacher, **Alissa Schroeder** – 4th Grade Teacher, and **Anna Prost** – Lead Toddler Teacher at First Steps. A reception will be held between services. Please join us as we welcome and encourage these teachers in their ministry.

Laudate Dominum– Calling Singers for Our Fall Season!
Love to sing? Join Laudate Dominum – Lutheran Voices of Wisconsin as we begin our fall season on **September 20**! Laudate Dominum is a WELS vocal ensemble dedicated to sharing the Gospel of Christ through inspiring choral music. Rehearsals are held **Sunday evenings from 6:30–8:30 p.m. at St. Matthew's in Oconomowoc**.
To learn more or register, visit https://forms.gle/VsKYnLQsd89zVSAF8 or email laudatedominumwi@gmail.com. **Registration closes September** 1.

Shaped to Serve – September Sessions
Have you ever wondered how God has uniquely gifted you to serve? Join our **Shaped to Serve Workshops** to discover your spiritual gifts, connect with meaningful opportunities to serve at St. Matthew's, and enjoy fellowship, coffee, and a free Go, Serve, Love T-shirt.
SEPT 13, 20 & 27: Three 1-hour sessions between worship services in the Small Chapel.
Can't make September? A second workshop series will be offered NOV 8, 15 & 22**.**
Sign up today at smls.org/events!
Questions? Contact Eric Ziel or click **SHAPED Workshops** to learn more.

Church Picnic, Aug 30th!
Join us at Okauchee Lion's Park on Sunday, August 30th for our Annual Church Picnic! Worship begins at **10:00 a.m.**with music led by the St. Matthew's Brass Band, followed by lunch and fellowship.
Please RSVP by AUGUST 21 to help us prepare for food**.** Visit smls.org/events.
Please bring your own lawn chairs and beverages*. We will provide water only.*
Please note: There will be a Saturday worship service, but **only one Sunday service at 10:00 a.m. at the park.**

Acknowledgments
Morning Prayer (alternate) from Christian Worship
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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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MARK VOSS
Pastor
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St. Matthew's
CHURCH AND SCHOOL

First Steps
CHILD CARE CENTER

SCHOOL OFFICE
schooloffice@smls.org

CHURCH OFFICE
churchoffice@smls.org

FIRST STEPS
firststepsoffice@smls.org

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