

St. Matthew's

CHURCH AND SCHOOL

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 11, 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.

THE BEGINNING OF THE END – IT'S TIME TO…

Invite the Unworthy

Don't you hate it when someone has prepared an excellent meal, but travel delays mean that certain friends or relatives don't get to enjoy it? Sometimes there are no leftovers, and an opportunity is lost.

God has prepared an extraordinary spiritual meal for all people. It is received by faith. But it is not offered forever. The day will come when body and soul are separated, and those who do not believe in Jesus as their Savior will not share in his blessings. It's the beginning of the end. Now is the time to issue the invitation!

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.

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THE SERVICE: SETTING TWO

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

Hymn 706 **Come unto Me, Ye Weary**

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

Confession

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.
Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.
Almighty and merciful Father,
we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.
We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.
We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.
We have done those things that we should not have done,
and we have not done those things that we should have done.
Have mercy on us, Lord!
Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,
according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Absolution

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.
Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy *CW 174*

In peace let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

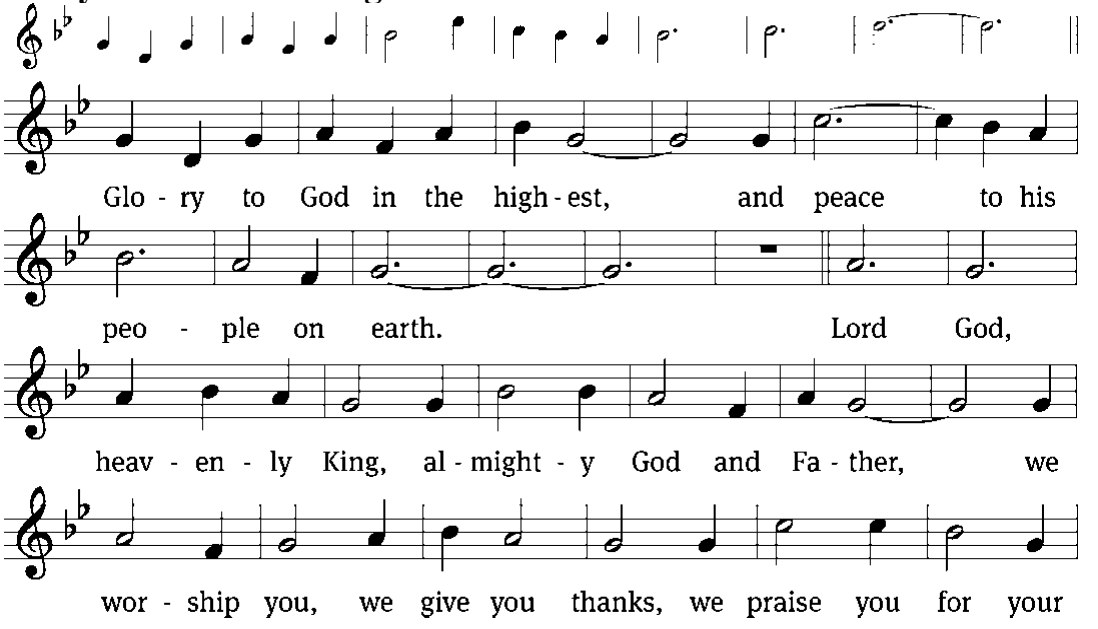
For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

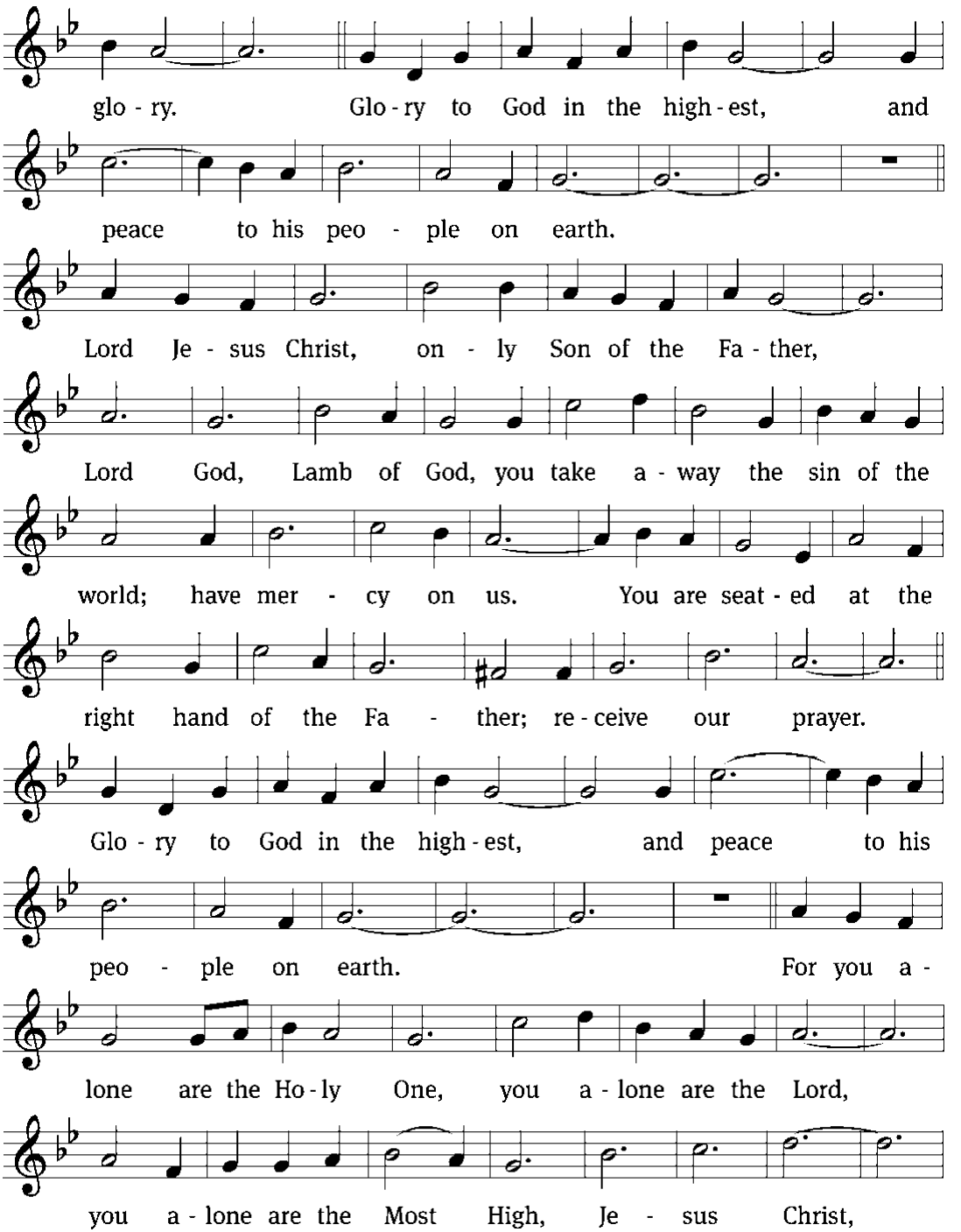
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

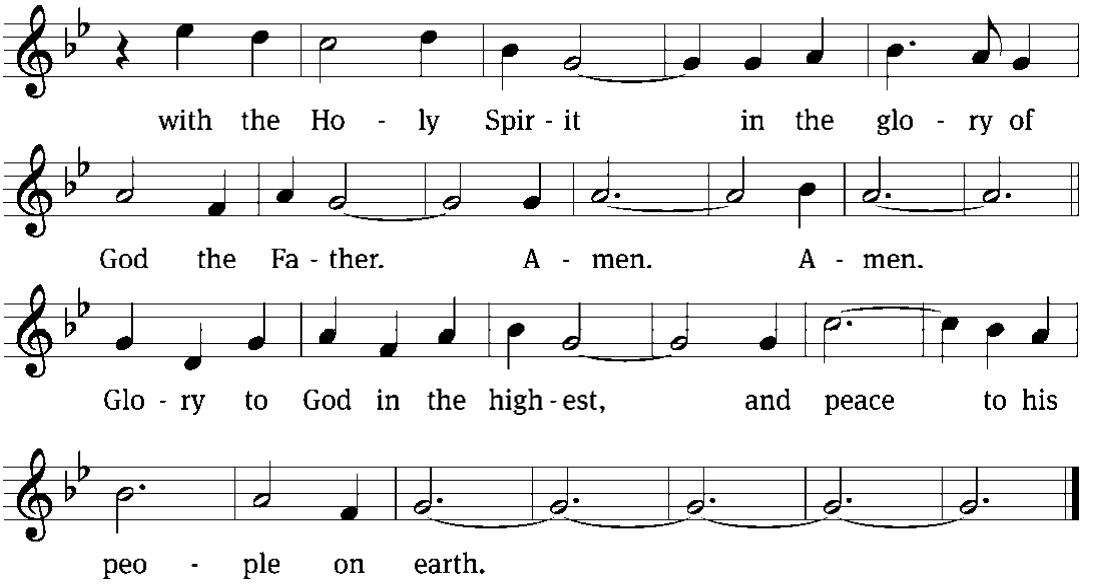
For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
Amen.

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 invite us to trust in you for our salvation. Deal with us not in the severity of your judgment but by the greatness of your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

First Reading *(Sermon Text)* Isaiah 25:6-9

The prophet Isaiah describes the heavenly banquet which is entered through faith in God and his salvation.

6 On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare
a feast of rich food for all peoples,
a banquet of aged wine—
the best of meats and the finest of wines.
7 On this mountain he will destroy
the shroud that enfolds all peoples,
the sheet that covers all nations;
8 he will swallow up death forever.
The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears
from all faces;
he will remove his people's disgrace
from all the earth.
The LORD has spoken.

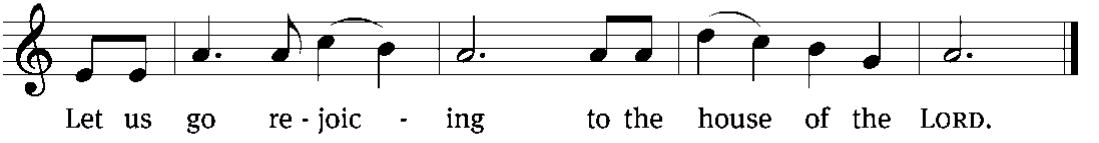
9 In that day they will say,

"Surely this is our God;
we trusted in him, and he saved us.
This is the LORD, we trusted in him;
let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation."

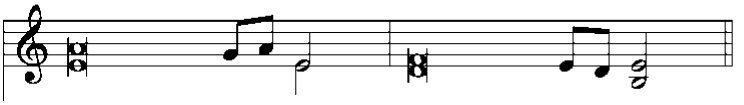
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 84E Let Us Go Rejoicing

Refrain



Tone



How lovely is your / dwelling place,
LORD Al- / mighty!
My soul yearns, even faints,
for the courts / of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh cry out
for the / living God.
Blessed are those who dwell / in your house;
they are ever / praising you. *Refrain*

Better is one day / in your courts
than a thousand / elsewhere;
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house / of my God
than dwell in the tents of the / wicked.
LORD Al- / mighty,
blessed is the one who / trusts in you.
Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain*

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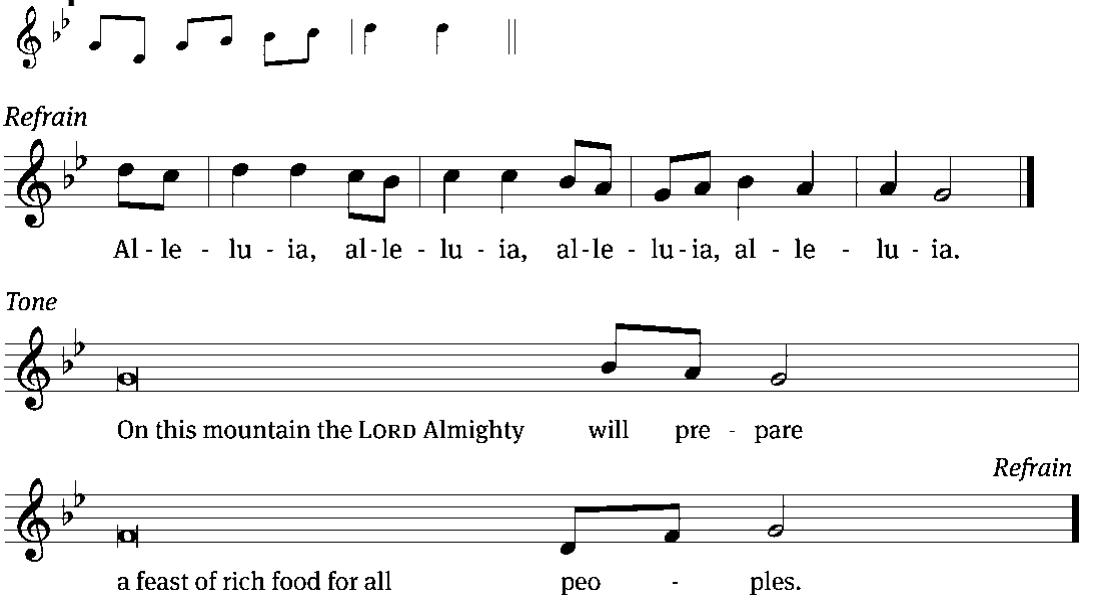
Second Reading — *Romans 1:16-17*

We proclaim that we are saved through faith alone.

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings
salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. 17 For in the gospel
the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last,
just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation — Isaiah 25:6



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Gospel — *Matthew 22:1-14*

The king gives us the privilege of inviting people to his wedding banquet.

1 Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying: 2 "The kingdom of heaven is like a
king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. 3 He sent his servants to those who
had been invited to the banquet to tell them to come, but they refused to come.

4 "Then he sent some more servants and said, 'Tell those who have been invited that
I have prepared my dinner: My oxen and fattened cattle have been butchered, and
everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet.'

5 "But they paid no attention and went off—one to his field, another to his business.
6 The rest seized his servants, mistreated them and killed them. 7 The king was enraged.
He sent his army and destroyed those murderers and burned their city.

8 "Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited
did not deserve to come. 9 So go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone
you find.' 10 So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they
could find, the bad as well as the good, and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

[11]"But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. [12]He asked, 'How did you get in here without wedding clothes, friend?' The man was speechless.

[13]"Then the king told the attendants, 'Tie him hand and foot, and throw him outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

[14]"For many are invited, but few are chosen."

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

Hymn 573 — Jesus, Your Blood and Righteousness

Sermon — A Heavenly Feast Now and Forever

Pastor Mark Voss

Nicene Creed

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 in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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.

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



Prayer of the Church

The Sacrament

Preface

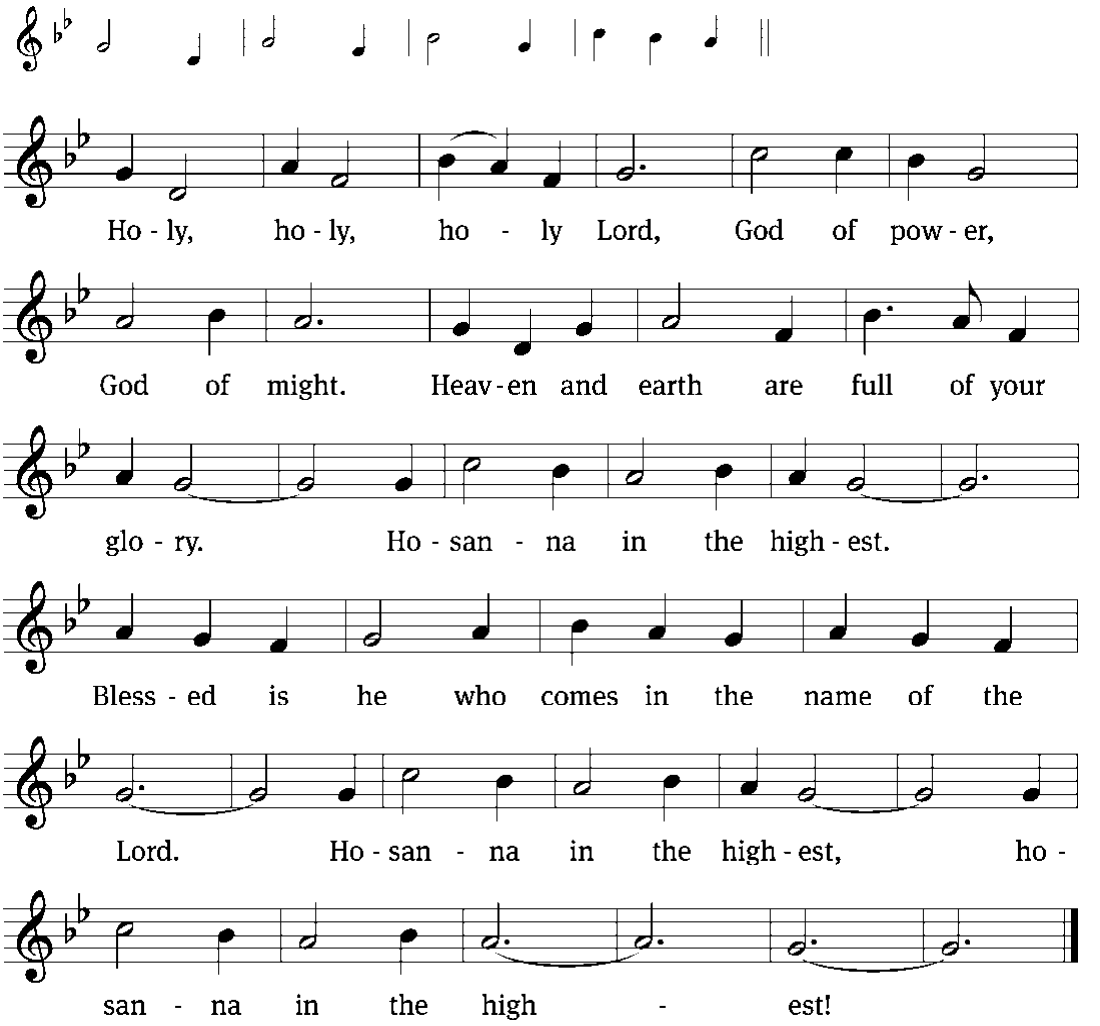
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy



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Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord God, you are worthy to receive thanks and praise from all people. You created the world and all who live in it, and in your mercy you saved us. We give thanks to you for the grace of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Though in very nature God, he took the nature of a servant and became obedient to death, even death on a cross. He offered himself as a sacrifice for sin and redeemed us from its curse and penalty. He rescued us from the terrors of death and restored eternal life with you. He conquered our enemies and gained for us the kingdom of grace and glory.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood, and lead us to remember his suffering, death, and resurrection. Forgive our sins and fill us with the hope of new life in heaven. Hear our praise and receive our thanks as we worship you—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

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.

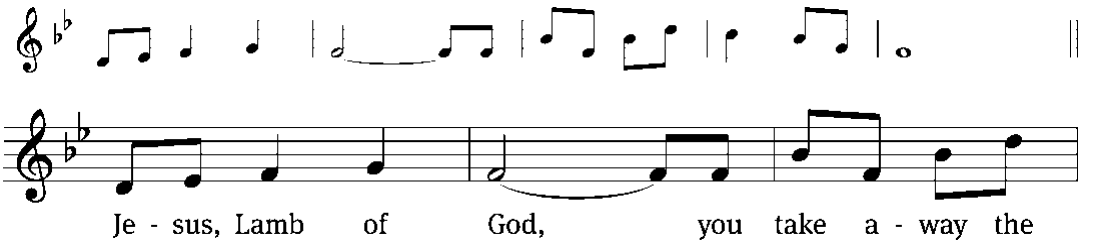
Words of Institution

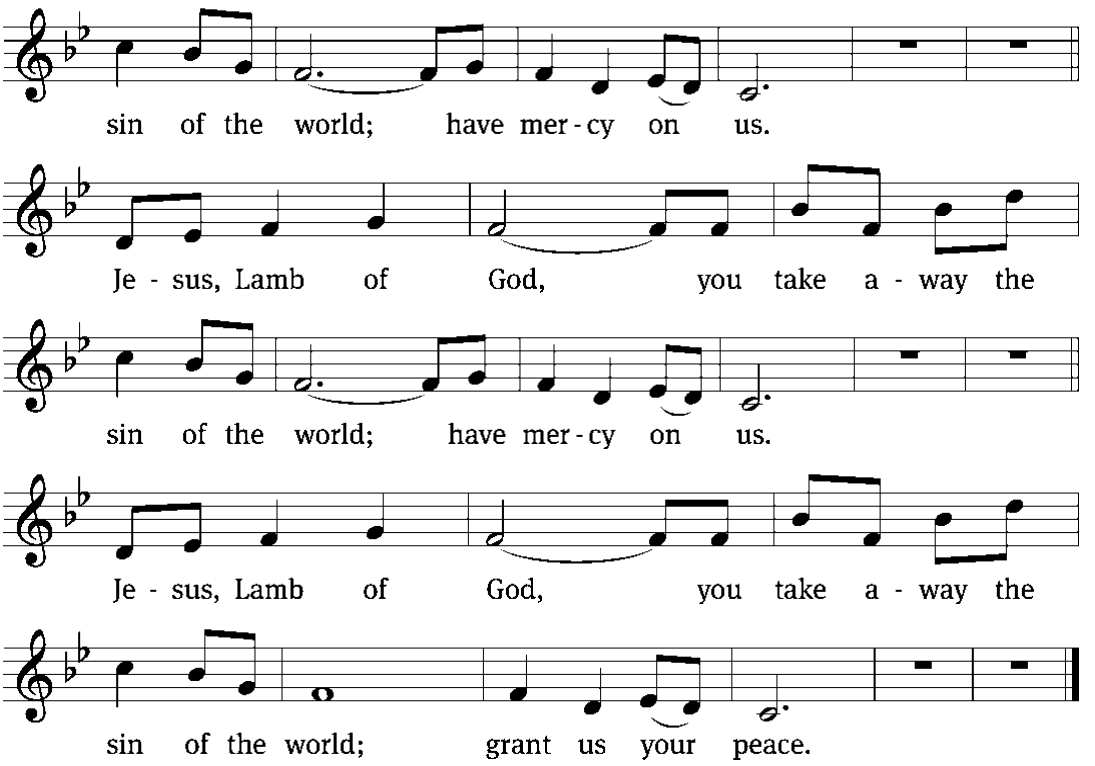
Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
Amen.

Jesus, Lamb of God





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We celebrate the Lord's Supper today. In his Word, God makes it clear that Holy Communion is to be shared by people who proclaim a common faith (1 Corinthians 11:26; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17). Without judging anyone's hearts, we invite those who share in our confession by their membership in our congregation or another congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) or the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS) and who are properly prepared (1 Corinthians 11:27-29) to receive the Sacrament. See page 295 in the front of Christian Worship for a guide for preparation. Guests, please speak with one of the pastors about instruction in our Christian faith and this Sacrament so you will be ready to partake of this wonderful meal in full unity with us after that instruction. Thank you for respecting the way we celebrate the Lord's Supper.

Distribution – Communion distribution procedures will be announced by the Pastor. Please follow the direction of the ushers. Cups of non-alcoholic wine (light in color) are in the center of each tray.

Distribution Hymn 663 Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

Distribution Hymn 671 Your Body, Given for Me, O Savior

Personal Prayer after communion: *Thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, for nourishing me in this sacrament with your body and blood. You have given me forgiveness, life, and salvation. Let me always remain in you as a branch remains in the vine. Send me out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.*

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, 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 644:1,4 Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast

In Our Prayers: We rejoice with **Paul and Jennifer Manssen** who are celebrating their 31st Wedding Anniversary. May our gracious Lord watch over **Paul Manssen** who is at Froedtert for surgery as he battles an infection. We also thank our Lord for being with **Tim Thiele and Bob Peregrine** who were hospitalized this week and have returned home with improved health. We give God thanks and praise for the continued improvements he has granted to **Carly Schroeder** who has been working through postpartum challenges.

Bible Study Opportunities

Sunday Adult Bible Study at 9:15am
Our Adult Bible Class is entitled, **God's Faithfulness**. A promise is only as good as the person making it and the ability to keep it. Eternity depends on God's promises made to us in his Word and his faithfulness in keeping those promises. We are lost for eternity without them. We'll examine God's promises in Scripture and his faithfulness to them both in the lives of those in the Bible and our lives.

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."

Women in the Word – Thursdays at 8:30am
Join us **in the Gathering Space** for a new study "**Equipped: The Armor of God for Everyday Struggles."** The devil works every day to turn us away from our faith. Sometimes it's not in grand, blatant temptations, but in small ones we encounter every day. The devil works through exhaustion, temptation, worry, frustration, and many other ways that are all daily occurrences. God gives us the strength and equips us to stand against the devil's schemes. We will take an in depth look at Ephesians 6 and discover how God equips us to battle against the devil.

Sunday School and Teen Study at 9:15am
Sunday School is once again studying various Bible stories, using the Christ Light curriculum. Parents, please drop off your children in the sanctuary at 9:15am. You can pick up your children in their respective classrooms. Teen study is for students in grades 7-12 and meets in the teen room in the youth ministry hallway. Teens are studying why we do the things we do in Lutheran worship.

TWO New Bible Information Classes Starting
If you are interested in exploring membership at St. Matthew's, *this class is designed for you!* If you have questions about God and the Bible and want to learn more, *this class is designed for you!* Contact Pastor Bigelow and Pastor Hillmer to register and we'll see you there!

1) Monday's at 6:30pm – join Pastor Bigelow in the Church Conference room.
2) Wednesday's at 6:30pm – Join Pastor Hillmer in the Church Conference room.

Acknowledgments
Setting Two from Christian Worship Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House. Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2022 Concordia Publishing House.

Thank you for Serving our Savior and Us

	This Weekend	**Next Weekend –** October 17 & 18
Ushers	**Saturday** – Andy Andress **Early –** Jason Cox **Late –** Todd Helwig	**Saturday –** Scott Heins **Early –** Joel Watson **Late –** Sam Weiss
Greeters	**Early** – Joe & Jill Sharp **Late** – Mike & Jeanne Ward	**Early** – John & Jill Fields **Late** – Eric & Beth Ziel
Hospitality	**Saturday** – Kyle Bence **Early –** Tom & Beth Plitzuweit **Late –** Rudy & Chris Dovnik	**Saturday** – Jon & Kessia Boche **Early –** Gary & Karen Haertel **Late –** Kyle & Robin Koltz
Organist	Joy Elowski / Lucas Krogmann	Linda Smith
Special Music		Prep Singers
Flowers	Paul & Jennifer Manssen - Anniversary	Myron & Darlene Sankey - Anniversary
Projection	**Saturday** – Dan Metzger **Early –** Kylee Glorioso **Late –** Toby Brandenstein	**Saturday** – Molly Kalma **Early –** Jon / Henry Peterson **Late –** Kendra Lauersdorf
Sound	**Saturday** – Scott Heins **Early –** Rik Krahn **Late –** Heather Bigelow	**Saturday** – Vickie Wilson **Early –** Julia Watson **Late –** Charlie Bagdassian
Livestream	John Schuh	Tim Taubenheim

This Week at St. Matthew's

Saturday	5:30 pm	Communion Service
Sunday	8 & 10:30 am 9:15 am 6:30 pm	Communion Service Adult Bible Study; Sunday School, Teen Bible Study Laudate Dominum Rehearsal
Monday	6:30 pm	Bible Information Class
Tuesday	7:45 am	Grounded in God
Wednesday	10:00 am 5:00 pm 6:00 pm 6:30 pm 6:30 pm	Shorehaven Service Non School Catechism Women's Retreat Committee Women's Bible Study Bible Information Class
Thursday	8:00 am 8:30 am 6:00 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm 8:00 pm	SCRIP Orders Due Women in the Word Rejoice! Church Council Choir Handbell Choir / Men's Choir
Saturday	5:30 pm	Worship 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

Highlights and Announcements

Save the Date! - 9th Annual Trunk or Treat
Saturday, October 31 | 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Join us for a morning of free family fun—door prizes, a photo booth, coffee, snacks, a petting zoo, and trunk or treating! Together we can make this community event a success!
How you can HELP - Sign Up Today to Donate Snacks/Treats or Decorate a Trunk! https://bit.ly/SM2026TT

Call Meeting to Issue Three Calls – October 18
We will be holding a Call Meeting following the 10:30 Service on Sunday, October 18 in the Chapel. We will be calling for two teachers to replace Mrs. Joy Elowski and Mrs. Cynthia Lange who will be retiring at the end of the school year. We will also be calling for a Music Coordinator to serve the congregation, with a start date of July 1, 2027. The following Summary of the Position Description was shared with the congregation several years ago when this position was first put before and approved by the congregation, *"Coordinate St. Matthew's music ministry, with primary responsibility for music in regular worship and special services, while working with school music staff to support the participation of school choirs and student musicians in worship and church activities. This is a full-time position."*

NEW! Women's Basketball
SHINE is offering a new opportunity for women to get together for basketball! Join us **Thursdays beginning November 5 from 6:00–8:00 PM in the gym.** *All skill levels are welcome!* Bring a friend and come join the fun!
Questions? Contact Stephanie Ryan at stephanie.koch.dpt@gmail.com

Kids Winter Coat Drive: Help keep kids warm!
Cold weather will be here before we know it! As you're cleaning out closets and finding children's winter coats and gear that no longer fit, consider donating them to our **Kids Coat Drive** from **OCT 19–NOV 1** to support **New Beginnings – A Home for Mothers**.

SHINE Activities Team is collecting new or gently used washed children's:
Jackets & Coats | Hats | Gloves & Mittens in sizes **2T–Youth XL.**

Donation boxes will be available at **St. Matthew's Church, School, and First Steps**. *Thank you for helping provide warm winter clothing to children in need!*

Fall Landscaping Cleanup – Brown Street Campus
Please join us **November 7, 9 AM–Noon** as we prepare the Brown Street campus landscape for winter. Bring gloves, rakes, garden clippers, and weeding tools. An alternate date will be selected if weather interferes (hopefully no snow!). Questions? Contact Debby Kuklinski at 414-520-6642.

Senior Fellowship
Senior Fellowship will meet on **October 21 at 1:30 p.m.** in the Gathering Area of the church. Please enter through the main church doors. Following an opening devotion, enjoy an afternoon of cards, games, fun, and fellowship with fellow Christians until 4:00 p.m. If you have questions, please contact Dan Feuerstahler at 920-245-3006.

LGP Christmas Craft Fundraiser
This year, Lutheran Girl Pioneers are partnering with the Child Advocacy Center at Children's Wisconsin to raise funds for crisis bags for children in foster care in Southeastern Wisconsin. The girls will create **wooden Christmas gift tags**, packaged in sets of four. Each tag will be decorated by the girls and include space on the back to write the recipient's name before attaching it to a Christmas gift. Gift tags are available in exchange for a **free-will donation**, with all donations helping purchase items for the crisis bags. To order use the QR Code **by Wednesday, October 14.** Questions? Email **girlpioneers@smls.org**.

Save The Date! Cardinals' Night Out
Wednesday, October 14 | 11 AM–7 PM | Rocky Rococo
Join Cardinals' NEST, our parent-teacher group, for our first fundraiser of the school year! *We're raising funds for new school P.E. equipment!* Bring your family and friends, enjoy a meal, and **20% of all sales will be donated back to St. Matthew's School.** We hope to see you there!
Show the flyer at checkout! View: **bit.ly/CardinalNO** or **Scan QR**

Elegant Farmer Pie Sale
Score big at your Thanksgiving table and support the Cardinals! St. Matthew's School is partnering with The Elegant Farmer to offer their famous baked-in-a-bag pies and other seasonal goodies, with $7 from every item purchased going directly toward new Physical Education equipment!
Order online now through November 1. Visit https://bit.ly/SMEFpies to see the available items and place your order.

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
Pastor
pbigelow@smls.org

STEVEN HILLMER
Pastor
shillmer@smls.org

MARK VOSS
Pastor
mvoss@smls.org

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