

TO HIM
BE THE

Glory



THROUGHOUT
ALL
GENERATIONS

Welcome to St. Matthew's!

VISITING TODAY?

Welcome to worship! We are very glad you are here, and we pray that you enjoy your visit here with us today. I hope that you will be encouraged in trusting Jesus, better equipped to serve him, and more aware of his grace in your life every day. We're glad you're here!

Pastor Silas Schmitzer



Theme of Today's Service:

“Our Church is Rooted and Established in the Love of Christ”

Prayer Upon Entering Worship:

Lord Jesus, thank you for graciously allowing this congregation to support and proclaim the good news of salvation for so many generations. Forgive me for taking for granted the great blessing of this church where I can hear your Word. Help me and your people here to work together to promote the gospel and this gathering of believers so that your Word will continue to be joyfully proclaimed at this place for many generations to come.

God's Word for This Week:

150 years ago this week, the Lutherans in Stoddard gathered in a white frame building on Proksch Coulee Road (where our cemetery is still located) and voted to establish the “German Lutheran Church of Stoddard” so that they could regularly gather around the Word of God and support its preaching and teaching. Today we give thanks to God for blessing these efforts for 150 years and commit ourselves to continuing to share the love of Christ with our community for generations to come.

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Please visit us as: www.stmatthews-wels.com

At our website you'll find audio sermons, daily devotions, our church calendar, and more information about our church, our teachings and our Christian Day School.

ST. MATTHEW'S ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY

January 23 & January 26, 2020

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OPENING HYMN

Not Unto Us
Hymn 392

Please Stand

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son (✠) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Who may ascend the hill of the Lord?
Who may stand in his holy place?

C: **He who has clean hands and a pure heart.
He will receive blessing from the Lord.**

M: If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

C: **If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

M: Let us, therefore confess our sins to the Lord asking him to forgive us for
Jesus' sake that we may praise him today cleansed from all sin and purified in
our heart.

C: **Almighty God, merciful Father, I, a troubled and repentant sinner,
confess that I 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. Because of my sins I deserve for you to punish me. I
am distressed by my sins and deeply sorry for them. Forgive me for
the sake of Jesus my Savior.**

M: Jesus says to you, his people, "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven."
His death paid for the guilt of your sins and the sins of the whole world. Do
you believe this?

C: **Yes, I believe.**

M: Because of the promise of Jesus our Savior and by his death on the cross, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son (✠) and of the Holy Spirit. Be assured that you are a child of God and heir of eternal life. Praise the Lord.

FORGIVENESS RESPONSE

Glory Be to God in Heaven

Hymn 264 to the tune of 169

1. **Glory be to God in heaven,
Peace to those who love him well.
On the earth let all his people
Speak his grace, his wonders tell:
Lord, we praise you for your glory,
Mighty Father, heaven's King;
Hear our joyful adoration,
And accept the thanks we bring.**
2. **Only Son of God the Father,
Lamb who takes our sin away,
Now with him in triumph seated
For your mercy, Lord, we pray:
Jesus Christ, most high and holy,
Savior, you are God alone
In the glory of the Father
With the Spirit, Three in One!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Let us pray.

O God, you have promised to be with your Church forever. We thank you for those who founded this community of believers 150 years ago, and for the gifts of your grace throughout these years. Increase our faith by your Holy Spirit's work through the Word and Sacraments, and knit us together in the bonds of love. May the fellowship of this congregation be an example of blessed and welcoming community for all people; through the love of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated

ST. MATTHEW'S CHILDREN *

For Builders Bold Whose Vision Pure

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Deuteronomy 6:1-9

¹Moses spoke as follows:

Now this is the body of commands, and these are the statutes and the ordinances that the LORD your God commanded me to teach you, so you may carry them out in the land to which you are crossing over to receive as a possession, ²so that you may fear the LORD your God by keeping all his statutes and his commandments, which I am commanding to you, as well as to your children and grandchildren, all the days of your life, and so that your days may be long.

³Listen, O Israel, and be conscientious about doing those things, so it may go well for you and so you may increase greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, just as the LORD, the God of your fathers, promised you. ⁴Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God. The LORD is one! ⁵Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. ⁶These words that I am commanding you today are to be on your heart. ⁷Teach them diligently to your children, and speak about them when you sit in your house and when you walk on the road, when you lie down and when you get up. ⁸Tie them as a sign on your wrists, and they will serve as symbols on your forehead. ⁹Write them on the doorposts of your houses and on your gates. **EHV**

* Omit for Thursday Evening Service

Paul's Prayer and Praise

¹⁴ For this reason I kneel before the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ from whom the entire family in heaven and on earth receives its name. ¹⁶ I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he would strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner self, ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. Then, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸ I pray that you would be able to comprehend, along with all the saints, how wide and long and high and deep his love is, ¹⁹ and that you would be able to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled to all the fullness of God.

²⁰ Now to him, who is able, according to the power that is at work within us, to do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, ²¹ to him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen. **EHV**

VERSE OF THE DAY**Psalm 115:1**

Alleluia! Not to us, O Lord, but to your name be the glory, because of your love and faithfulness. Alleluia!

*Please Stand***GOSPEL****John 15:9-17**

M: The Gospel according to John chapter 15.



Glo-ry be to you, O Lord! Glo-ry be to you, O Lord!

⁹ “As the Father has loved me, so also I have loved you. Remain in my love. ¹⁰ If you hold on to my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have held on to my Father’s commands and remain in his love. ¹¹ I have told you these things so that my joy would continue to be in you and that your joy would be complete.

¹² “This is my command: Love one another as I have loved you. ¹³ No one has greater love than this: that someone lays down his life for his friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you continue to do the things I instruct you. ¹⁵ I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know what his master is doing. But I have called you friends, because everything that I heard from my Father, I have made known to you. ¹⁶ You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will endure, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. ¹⁷ These things I am instructing you, so that you love one another. **EHV**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Almighty Lord and Savior, today we reflect on your abundant grace to St. Matthew's congregation for 150 years.

C: For your gracious protection and blessing we give you glory and thanks.

M: We praise you for keeping this congregation faithful to your holy Word, and for sustaining us throughout the ages in good times and in bad.

C: We give thanks that you have allowed us to participate in the joy of proclaiming the good news of forgiveness to our community and to the world.

M: We ask that you would give us courage and hope as we move forward into the future.

C: Help us to trust that you will continue to graciously bless us in the future as you have done in the past.

M: Do not permit the evil one to pluck us out of your mighty hand. Strengthen us in the confidence that you have already defeated our greatest enemies of sin, death, and the devil.

C: Increase our trust in your gracious promise that you will be with us always.

M: May your Holy Spirit work mightily in us and through us, so that we may grow in your grace and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: Bless our efforts to pass on to our children the truths that have been given to us, that they may follow you for generations to come.

Special prayers may follow.

M: Hear us Lord as we bring you our private prayers for your blessing on this church and our community.

Silent prayers.

M: Continue to make our congregation a bright light of your love and forgiveness in this sin-darkened world. Grant that this celebration of your grace would fill us with joy and anticipation for that far greater celebration we will enjoy for all eternity in our eternal home of heaven.

C: Lord be our guard while troubles last and our eternal home. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.**

THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is good and right so to do.**

M: 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 in blessing his saints of the past has given us glorious assurance and hope that, following their example of faith, we may run with perseverance the race marked out for us, and receive the crown of glory that will never fade away. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

C: Amen.

M: 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.

C: Amen.

Please be seated

CLOSING HYMN

Glorious in Majesty

Hymn 496

The Lord's Instructions for His Table

If you are a visitor with us this morning, our communion practices may need some explanation. The Bible says partaking of Holy Communion involves two things: first, understanding what Communion is: a receiving of the body and blood of Christ for our forgiveness along with the bread and wine (1 Corinthians 11:27-30). Second, Communion is an expression of agreement or unity in beliefs with everyone you are communing (1 Corinthians 10:17; Romans 16:17; 2 John 10,11). Receiving communion with others is a public expression of fellowship and unity of faith.

Partaking of communion only with those who share this unity of faith and practice is called "close communion." Years ago, nearly all churches held this practice. In recent years, many have abandoned this teaching because it is often misunderstood. This is how God commands us to show love to him and to you, and honor real unity in his Word.

We are eager to celebrate the Lord's Supper with you according to his commands. If you are a guest and would like to commune with us at St. Matthew's, please speak with our pastor or one of the ushers, that way we can all be confident that we truly are united in faith and honoring the Lord's instructions for his sacred meal.

OUR THANKS

We thank the following people for serving us in worship today:

Organist: Brenda Harle (Sunday) Katie Alderman (Thursday)

Greeter: Linda Phillips

Ushers: Jeff Benson, Travis Fisher, Phil Liesso, Nathan Semke

Audio/Video: Dan Wiese, Carl Piper

Announcements

Church Announcements

Church Service Recording

Our Sunday worship services are regularly video recorded and posted online. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Pastor.

Sunday School and Bible Study

Join us again this week as we continue in the Bible Study – Concerning Spiritual Gifts. All children, age 4-10 are invited and encouraged to attend Sunday School.

Church Announcements

Have an announcement that you want to see in the bulletin? Have some information to spread on the pre-service PowerPoint? Need an activity added to the church calendar? Send an email with your important information to secretary@stmatthews-wels.com or place your announcement in Carl Piper's box in the fellowship hall.

Bible Study - Concerning Spiritual Gifts (6 Lessons)

Many Christians shy away from the topic of spiritual gifts because some of them seem so extraordinary and strange. Perhaps you are unsure of what to do or say about speaking in tongues, prophesying, teaching, comforting, leading, being generous and serving others. This course takes seriously what the Bible says about the gifts of the Spirit. Making the time to study this important topic will help you find and rejoice in your niche among God's people as we all work together to glorify Christ, our Head.

Short Special Voters Meeting

February 2nd immediately following the service we will be having a short meeting to discuss the time limitation we placed on our Synod Certification requirement for our Pre-K Call.

Want to give a gift?

All donations & offerings designated "150th Anniversary Gift" will go towards fresh landscaping on the church property.

Get Your Scrip Cards!

Buying Scrip gift cards helps support our school. You buy the gift cards for your favorite restaurants and stores at face value, and a percentage of the cost of the card is given to St. Matthew's School Scrip fund. Over the past 10 years, the Scrip program has raised over \$11,000 for our school. The Protsman family runs our Scrip program and they have the Scrip cards out by the door after every Sunday service. If you don't see a business that you're looking for, just ask Jan or Kristie, there are many more that they can order for you

Call Meeting

On January 5th we extended a call to Mr. Daniel Johnson. Please pray for him and his family as he considers the call to be our principal and upper grades teacher.

Open Forum regarding Fellowship Hall on February 16 at 10:15am in Sanctuary

While reviewing the comments from the Long-Range Planning Survey, it became clear that members have concerns regarding the Fellowship Hall. As a result, the Design Team would like to hold an open forum to discuss the current challenges of the space and gather possible solutions.

Specific concerns we will be asking for feedback on include, but are not limited to:

- congestion as you enter the Fellowship Hall
- information located in multiple areas so things are overlooked
- safety concerns for our littlest members
- functionality of mailbox system
- flow of serving line after church service

We look forward to gathering together to work on the next best steps for St. Matthew's.

School Announcements

St. Matthew's Basketball

Grades 4-8 have their next basketball games on Friday, January 31 at Christ-St. John's in West Salem. B Boys tip off at 6 PM, then A Boys at around 7 PM. There is no A Girls game that night.

Little Caesar's Pizza Kit Fundraiser

Our students have demonstrated incredible drive with our annual pizza kit fundraiser, earning over \$6,000 in our first three years! These funds have helped us to purchase our K-8 math curriculum, the blue-top playground, and the aluminum sign on the school's exterior. This year's fundraiser helps us purchase brand new Chromebooks in grades 2-4.

The top 3 sellers will get to choose from a bucket of prizes including a **\$50 Kwik Trip gift card**, **wireless bluetooth earbuds**, or the **super rare plush seahorse keychain!** Just tally your orders using the catalogs stacked in the fellowship hall, or buy from one of our students! Sellers submit their completed order forms with payment checks (made out to St. Matthew's School) to Mr. Otto by Monday, January 27. Due to weather difficulties last year, we are waiting to schedule the pickup day until the forecast becomes clearer, but plan to pick up orders 1-2 weeks following the deadline. Thank you!

St. Matthew's to Become Choice School in 2020-21

Our two congregations both approved St. Matthew's becoming a choice school in 2020-2021. Luther High School is giving a presentation pertaining to the program on February 12. The application window for parents to apply will be February 3 through April 16, 2019. School will be in contact with as many families as possible to apply. The program allows students to attend our school at no cost to the family if they fall under the following income limits:

Family Size	Single Income	Married Income (+\$7,000)
■ 2	\$37,202	
■ 3	\$46,926	\$53,926
■ 4	\$56,650	\$63,650
■ 5	\$66,374	\$73,374
■ 6	\$76,098	\$83,098

- For each additional child add \$9,724
- Income levels are Adjusted Gross Income (AGI)

We appreciate your cooperation and patience as our school navigates its participation in this brand new program. If you are interested in joining school as a choice family, contact Mr. Otto, Mr. Carl Piper (608-799-9318), or Mr. Phil Uebelher (608-483-2080) today!

Preschool & Kindergarten Roundup

This year's open house for the preschool and kindergarten classrooms is scheduled for Friday, February 14 beginning at 8:30 AM. All families interested in their child entering those grades is welcome to accompany their child to get a taste of what it's like. It is a great opportunity to get small children acclimated to school for the first time. More info soon, contact Mr. Otto if you have questions.

Area Announcements

Food Pantry

Looking for a way to directly impact our community? The Stoddard Area Food Pantry located in our Church basement can use your help. To Volunteer contact Paulette Ross (Site Manager) at 608-518-6839 or email her at pross.54632@gmail.com

Caring Christians – Mental Health

Caring Christians-Mental Health will meet at First Lutheran in La Crosse On Monday, February 3 at 6:30 p.m. The topic will be: Anger.

Recovery in Christ:

Two Opportunities: Recovery in Christ will continue to meet Sundays, 6:00 p.m. at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Onalaska. A new session will be held at La Crosse's Coulee Recovery Center, 933 Ferry St, 1:00, Wednesdays). Call 608-567-3038 to verify schedule for either session. Recovery in Christ points to Jesus as the answer for recovery from substance abuse.

WELS Grief Support

Our next get-together will be Tuesday, February 4 at 7 p.m. at St. John's in Barre Mills. Our topic for discussion will be "Looking Back While Still Looking Ahead". If you, or someone you know is grieving, please come for comfort and encouragement from God's word and from fellow Christians.

LAST WEEK AT ST. MATTHEW'S

 150 YEARS	WEEKEND WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	BIBLE CLASS	SUNDAY SCHOOL
JAN. 19	134	15	17
LIVE STREAMING	7	TOTAL BUDGETARY GIFTS	

OUR WEEK IN THE LORD

JANUARY 26 - FEBRUARY 2, 2020

Sunday

- 9:00 AM – Anniversary Worship Service (L.S)
- 10:00 AM – Anniversary Fellowship
- 10:30 AM – Sunday School
- 10:30 AM – Bible Class
- 11:45 AM – Planned Giving Committee Meeting

Monday

Little Caesar's Pizza Kit Fundraiser Ends

Tuesday

- 10:15 AM – Logger Dog Visits School

Wednesday

- 8:10 AM – School Chapel - Pastor Schmitzer
- 4:45 PM – Catechism Class

Thursday

- 7:00 PM – Worship

Friday

- 5:00 PM – Basketball @ West Salem

Saturday

Sunday

- 9:00 AM – Worship
- 10:30 AM – Sunday School
- 10:30 AM – Bible Class