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*the many
will be made
righteous.*

Romans 5:19, NRSV

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: "The Son of God Defeats the Devil for Us"

Prayer Upon Entering Worship:

Dear Lord Jesus, you are my Champion and mighty Defender. Give me strength today through the hearing of your Word to fight my great enemy, the devil and all of his temptations. Build up my faith during this Lenten journey to willingly and eagerly follow you in a life of love, faithfulness, and adherence to your commands and never to take for granted the great victory you won for me at the cross of Calvary. Amen.

God's Word for This Week:

The season of Lent leads the Church on a forty-day journey of repentance and prayer, of remembrance and renewal of our baptism. God calls to mankind: Return to the Lord! The journey begins with Ash Wednesday's warning of mortality and leads us to the celebration of our eternal life in Christ on Easter Sunday. The Church's Lenten worship is muted and quiet, so we will omit the use of "Alleluia" until Easter. Even still, the Sundays are designated as Sunday in Lent, not Sundays of Lent and are not counted in the 40 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter because the Sundays are islands of refreshment in our Lenten walk.

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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.

OUR THANKS

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

Organist Brenda Harle

Greeter: Ralph Stellick

Ushers: Doug Miller, Lynn Miller, Sam Vandenhuevel, George Wiese

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

We will be having bible study this week in the Adult Education Room. All children, age 4-10 are invited and encouraged to attend Sunday School.

Principal Call

Last week we extended a call to Mr. Daniel Bush. Please pray for him and his family as they consider our call to be the principal at St. Matthew's Lutheran 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.

Want to give a gift?

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

Sunday School Holds Val Pal Event

On February 16th, 19 students participated in a special event during Sunday School Class. Students were introduced (by pictures) to a senior member of our congregation, currently a shut-in. Each child was assigned a "Val Pal" (shut-in) to create a Valentine gift for. Students were divided into 3 groups: Pillow Makers, Mug Fillers and Card Creators. Once the gifts were made, students bagged the items up for delivery the following week.

This event was designed to let the Sunday School students put their faith into action by showing their Christian love for the shut-ins. Special thanks to the 6 volunteers who helped with this special event, to those who delivered the Valentine gifts to the shut-ins and for the donation that made this event possible.

Member Family Pictures

Did you see your picture scrolling on our new display screen in the fellowship hall? Was your picture a little bit outdated? Not your favorite shot of your family? If you'd like to update your family picture, simply email a new one to Carl at secretary@stmatthews-wels.com, or ask Karen Fischer if she would be willing to snap a new one for your family. You can help make sure that those photos are an accurate and up-to-date representation of our congregation. Thank You!

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.

Ash Wednesday Starts Lent

The Lenten season is just around the corner. The word "lent" simply refers to the daylight hours getting longer during the coming months, but the focus of the season in church is on repentance for our sins as we remember our Savior's journey to the cross and his suffering and death. Ash Wednesday sets the tone for Lent. This year again, we will be giving our members the opportunity to receive the imposition of the ashes in one of our two Ash Wednesday services February 26th (1:30pm or 7:00pm). From the earliest days of history, ashes have symbolized sorrow, mourning and repentance. They cause us to think heavily about our sins for which our Savior died. If you have any questions about receiving the ashes this year, please speak with Pastor. And be sure to mark your personal calendars so that you don't miss any of our Wednesday Lenten services (1:30 & 7:00pm) this year.

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 Script 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

1, 2, 3, 4...We declare a Penny War!

The 150th Anniversary committee is challenging a battle of the sexes to help raise funds for our October anniversary celebration. Two containers will be in the fellowship hall over the next 3 weeks, one for the men and one for the women. Scores will be updated weekly! Any questions, please contact Anne Piper.

The Guys are currently losing with a score of 895. The Gals have a score of 5475. Help your team by adding pennies and bills to your teams jar or silver coins to your opponent's jar.

School Announcements

School Choice Application Window Now Open!

The application window for parents to apply for a school choice voucher at St. Matthew's next school year is February 3 through April 16, 2020. After that, new applications can no longer be accepted. This program allows your child(ren) or someone you know to attend our school at no cost to the family if they fall within the income limit. To apply, go to our school's website, go to "Programs," then click "Wisconsin Parental School Choice." For help contact Mr. Otto, Mr. Carl Piper (608-799-9318), or Mr. Phil Uebelher (608-483-2080).

Semester I Mission Offering Total

Our school collected \$234.26 in offerings for Native Christians, our WELS Ministry on Apache reservations in the Southwest. This semester we are collecting for WELS Institutional Ministries to support their ministry in prisons, nursing homes, and mental health. Learn more at im.life

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

WELS GRIEF SUPPORT:

If you or someone you know is grieving, please come for support and encouragement from God's word and from fellow Christians. Our next meeting is Tuesday, March 3 at 7 p.m. We meet at St. John's Lutheran in Barre Mills. The topic for discussion will be "Coping with My Emotions as I Grieve".

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.

Luther High School's Spring Musical "Hello Dolly"

Luther High School's spring musical *Hello Dolly* will be held March 13-15, 2020. Tickets are available online through the link noted below. On Thursdays from 3:00-5:00 PM you can purchase them by phone at (608) 783-5435 x1303 or in person at the box office.

To purchase tickets:

<http://lutherhigh.org/arts/box-office>. For more information about the play: <http://lutherhigh.org/student-life/special-events>.

LAST WEEK AT ST. MATTHEW'S

 150 YEARS 1850-2000 CONFIRMATION PENTECOST 5/14/00	WEEKEND WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	BIBLE CLASS	SUNDAY SCHOOL	LIVE STREAM
FEB. 23	156	16	16	5
THURSDAY	17	TOTAL BUDGETARY GIFTS		

OUR WEEK IN THE LORD

MARCH 1 - MARCH 8, 2020

Sunday

9:00 AM – Worship

10:30 AM – Sunday School

10:30 AM – Bible Study

Monday

9:30 AM - "Snowy Day and Other Stories" PK-4 Viterbo Play

6:30 PM – Outreach Coordination Team

Tuesday

10:00 AM – Mornings with Mommies

2:30 PM – Food Pantry Open

Wednesday

9:30 AM - Pastor/Principal Meeting

1:30 PM – Lenten Worship

4:15 PM – Catechism

7:00 PM – Lenten Worship

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

9:00 AM – Worship (L.S)

10:30 AM – Sunday School

10:30 AM – Bible Study