



Evangelical
Lutheran
Church
of
St. Matthew

*A friendly
household of faith*

Chartered Dec 6, 1664

**361 years of
Gospel Ministry**

A congregation of
The Lutheran Church –
Missouri Synod.

The Rev. Peter A.D. Deebrah
Pastor



Easter

C E L E B R A T I O N

Come and hear,
all you who fear God,
and I will tell
what he has done
for my soul.

Psalm 66:16

May 10, 2026

Sixth Sunday
of Easter

Welcome to a Divine Liturgy of Word and Sacrament. In our worship we gather in the Lord's presence at his invitation and in the company of the whole Church in heaven and on earth. We hear Him speak to us as he freely bestows the abundance of his grace. In response, we repent of our sins and offer up to Him our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and dedicate our lives to serving Him. To this we say, "Amen!"



PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

Stand

All may make the sign of the cross ✠ in remembrance of their baptism, as the minister begins.

P In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Confession of Sins

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Absolution

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C** Amen.

P Jesus Christ is ris'n today,
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!

C Who did once upon the cross,
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!



Hymn: 816 From All That Dwell Below the Skies

- 1 From all that dwell below the skies
Let the Creator's praise arise; Alleluia, alleluia!
Let the Redeemer's name be sung
Through ev'ry land by ev'ry tongue.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 2 Eternal are Thy mercies, Lord;
Eternal truth attends Thy Word. Alleluia, alleluia!
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore
Till suns shall rise and set no more.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 3 All praise to God the Father be,
All praise, eternal Son, to Thee.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Whom with the Spirit we adore
Forever and forevermore:
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text (sts. 1–2): Isaac Watts, 1674–1748; (st. 3): William W. How, 1823–97
Text: Public domain

The GREETING

- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen! **C** He is risen indeed. Alleluia!
- P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. **C** And also with you.

Kyrie

- P** In peace let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mercy.
- P** For the peace from above and for our salvation
let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mercy.
- P** 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. **C** Lord, have mercy.
- P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their
worship and praise let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mercy.
- P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **C** Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE - This is the Feast

P This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

C **Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.
Power and riches and wisdom and strength
and honor and blessing and glory are His.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.
Sing with all the people of God
and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing and honor and glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.
This is the feast of victory for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray... O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

▪ **THE READINGS** - Hear the word of the LORD. (*Jeremiah 2:4*)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

While Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. ¹⁷So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. ¹⁸Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, "What does this babblers wish to say?" Others said, "He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities"—because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. ¹⁹And they took hold of him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting?" ²⁰For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean." ²¹Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.

²²So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. ²³For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription,

'To the unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. ²⁶And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, ²⁷that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, ²⁸for "In him we live and move and have our being"; as even some of your own poets have said, "For we are indeed his offspring." ²⁹Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. ³⁰The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead." Acts 17:16-31

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 66:8-20 (*congregation sings verses in bold text*)

Bless our God, O | peoples;* let the sound of his | praise be heard,

⁹who has kept our soul among the | living* and has not let our | feet slip.

¹⁰**For you, O God, have | tested us;* you have tried us as sil- | ver is tried.**

¹¹**You brought us in- | to the net;* you laid a crushing burden | on our backs;**

¹²you let men ride o- | ver our heads;* we went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a place of a- | bundance.

¹³I will come into your house with burnt | offerings;* will perform my | vows to you,

¹⁴**that which my lips | uttered* and my mouth promised when I was in | trouble.**

¹⁵**I will offer to you burnt offerings of fattened animals,**

with the smoke of the sacri- | fice of rams;*

I will make an offering of | bulls and goats.

¹⁶Come and hear, all you who | fear God,* and I will tell what he has done | for my soul.

¹⁷I cried to him | with my mouth,* and high praise was | on my tongue.

¹⁸**If I had cherished iniquity | in my heart,***

the Lord would not have | listened.

¹⁹**But truly God has | listened;***

he has attended to the voice | of my prayer.

²⁰Blessèd | be God,* because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast | love from me!

A reading from the first Epistle of St. Peter

Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? ¹⁴But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, ¹⁵but in your hearts regard Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

¹⁸For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, ²⁰because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. ²¹Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him. *1 Peter 3:13-22*

A The Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*all stand and sing...*)

G Halle, halle, hallelujah. Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Halle, halle, hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

(Solo) Now Christ is raised from the dead, He will never die again

All who follow his way shall have life in him: Hallelujah, hallelujah

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

G Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, ¹⁷even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

¹⁸"I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him." *John 14:15-21*

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON

Hymn: 725 Children of the Heavenly Father

- 1 Children of the heav'nly Father
Safely in His bosom gather;
Nestling bird nor star in heaven
Such a refuge e'er was given.

- 2 God His own doth tend and nourish;
In His holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things He spares them;
In His mighty arms He bears them.

- 3 Neither life nor death shall ever
From the Lord His children sever;
Unto them His grace He showeth,
And their sorrows all He knoweth.

- 4 Though He giveth or He taketh,
God His children ne'er forsaketh;
His the loving purpose solely
To preserve them pure and holy.



Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958
Text: Public domain

AFIRMATION OF FAITH - THE NICENE CREED

C I believe in one God,

the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,

the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before
all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our
salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy
Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified
also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and
the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father
and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is
worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian* and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life † of the world to come. Amen. (* catholic = universal)

Prayer of the Church

After each petition, the following is said: Lord, in your mercy. **C** Hear our prayer



WE PRAY for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs, including— **Edna & Bob Waller, Delomi & Sarjue Persaud, Johnny Ramroop, Ruth Zerner, Violet Monson, Brenda Carmichael, Zonia & Resa Bucknor, Agnes D'Ornellas, Eunice Lyte, Carmen D'Ornellas, Sheila Motie, Jackie Wheeler, Joyce Deebrah, Dorothy Weener, Jeanette Mota, Dolly Singh, Khamlita D'Ornellas, Narda Seoprasad, Kirsten Sandblom, Pastor George Ramsudh, Joan Dookram Ruth Cameron, Rushell Singh, Suresh Paul, Iris Cheddie, Sandra Campbell, Alecia Clark, Milo Noven, Pastor Dave & Sue Dietsche, Pastor Vic Rapp, Pastor Ken Schnepf, Justin Shaw, Deo Bhagwatprasad, Ismael Ulloah, Patrick Fredricks, Eleanor Drepaul, Pastor David Gerber, Andrea Doodnauth, Pastor Jean Cenat, Casilda & James Meade, Pauline Strong, Jen Santos, Kenneth Ragnauth, Megan Latchman, Jhoann Fuentes, Elisa Santiago, William Seepaul, Ronald Bakker, Jennie Schaefer Goldberg, Alan & Martha Schaefer**

The PEACE is shared at this time.

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you

The OFFERING is received. The OFFERTORY is sung as the gifts are presented.

C What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me? I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people, in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

The GREAT THANKSGIVING.

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and ...evermore praising You and saying:

C Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed † is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

P Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory. Through Abraham you promised to bless all nations. You rescued Israel, your chosen people. Through the prophets you renewed your promise; and, at this end of all the ages, you sent your Son, who in words and deeds proclaimed your kingdom and was obedient to your will even to giving his life.

JESUS' WORDS OF INSTITUTION, *then the following:*

P As often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again

P Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, the spirit of our Lord and of his resurrection, that we who receive the Lord's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints.

C Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

P Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

P Hear us, Abba Father, as we pray as the words the Lord Jesus has taught us

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.**

C **Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant...**

P Behold the Lamb of God. Behold Him who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are they who are invited to the Supper of the Lamb.

C **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

Distribution

Post Communion Canticle

C **Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell everyone what he has done. Let everyone who seeks the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy. With shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

P Let us pray...We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C** **Amen.**

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. **C** **Amen.**

Sit

Announcements

Hymn: 895 Now Thank We All Our God

1 Now thank we all our God
With hearts and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done,
In whom His world rejoices;
Who from our mothers' arms
Has blest us on our way
With countless gifts of love
And still is ours today.

2 Oh, may this bounteous God
Through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts
And blessed peace to cheer us
And keep us in His grace
And guide us when perplexed
And free us from all ills
In this world and the next!

3 All praise and thanks to God
The Father now be given,
The Son, and Him who reigns
With them in highest heaven,
The one eternal God,
Whom earth and heav'n adore;
For thus it was, is now,
And shall be evermore.

Text: Martin Rinckart, 1586–1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

All sit for a moment of reflection.

P Rejoice in the resurrection and live in hope, peace, and joy.
Go and share the Good News.

C **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**



Worship
Servants }

Officiating Minister: Rev. Peter Deebrah, Pastor

Organist: Roger Clinton



OUR CHURCH WELCOMES YOU

We are the **Evangelical Lutheran Church of St. Matthew**, America's oldest Lutheran congregation (Chartered Dec 6, 1664) - a friendly household of faith. This congregation's mission is to share the Good News of God. In the name of Jesus, we bid you a warm welcome. If you do not have a church home, we invite you to join us here at St. Matthew. Please speak with the Pastor or one of our members concerning membership. First time visitors, please sign our guest book.

Announcements

- **Glad that you have worshipped** today in joining with the angels and archangels, and the whole company of heaven around the glorious throne of God.
- **Divine Worship:** Sundays at 1:30 PM
In-person and on Zoom (Meeting ID: 821 423 1875)
+ **Why do we gather for worship?** To celebrate the goodness of the Lord in thanksgiving. We are reminded: "Let us not neglect our meeting together, as is the habit of some, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of [Christ's] return is drawing near." Hebrews 10:25
- **Thursday, May 14: The Ascension of Our Lord.** Worship on Zoom at 7 pm
- **Your offering is an important and integral part of worship, given with joy and in thanksgiving to God.** We return to the Lord a portion of what He has first given us out of His Fatherly love. Your Offerings, in and out of season, support of the ministry of the congregation.
- **Visit our church website** www.stmatthewnyc.org
- **You may give your Offering electronically by either of the following ways:**
 - use **DONATE** menu tab on the St. Matthew website – www.stmatthewnyc.org
 - use **Zelle** and enter St. Matthew email: stmatthewnyc@aol.com
- Daily Bible reading and devotions on the internet, visit www.lhm.org/dailydevotions.asp
- **LET'S READ THE BIBLE TOGETHER.** We are reading the New Testament (27 books) and the book of Psalms (150 chapters).

Happy Mother's Day

Evangelical Lutheran Church of St. Matthew

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