



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



BUT GO

and learn what this means:

I desire mercy,

NOT SACRIFICE.

***For I have not come
to call the righteous,***

but sinners.

June 7, 2026

Second Sunday *after*

PENTECOST

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.

Hymn: 703 How Can I Thank You, Lord

- 1 How can I thank You, Lord,
For all Your loving-kindness,
That You have patiently
Borne with me in my blindness!
When dead in many sins
And trespasses I lay,
I kindled, holy God,
Your anger ev'ry day.
- 2 It is Your work alone
That I am now converted;
O'er Satan's work in me
You have Your pow'r asserted.
Your mercy and Your grace
That rise afresh each morn
Have turned my stony heart
Into a heart newborn.
- 3 Lord, You have raised me up
To joy and exultation
And clearly shown the way
That leads me to salvation.
My sins are washed away;
For this I thank You, Lord.
Now with my heart and soul
All evil I abhor.
- 4 Grant that Your Spirit's help To me be always given
Lest I should fall again And lose the way to heaven.
Grant that He give me strength In my infirmity;
May He renew my heart To serve You willingly.
- 5 O Father, God of love, Now hear my supplication;
O Savior, Son of God, Accept my adoration;
O Holy Spirit, be My ever faithful guide
That I may serve You here
And there with You abide.

Text: David Denicke, 1603–80; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt. 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 - Gloria in Excelsis

P Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.

C Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:

We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:

You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,

You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray... Almighty and most merciful God, You sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, to seek and to save the lost. Graciously open our ears and our hearts to hear His call and to follow Him by faith that we may feast with Him forever in His kingdom; through the same Jesus Christ, 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 Hosea the Prophet

I will return again to my place, until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face, and in their distress earnestly seek me.

^{6:1}“Come, let us return to the Lord; for he has torn us, that he may heal us; he has struck us down, and he will bind us up.

²After two days he will revive us;
on the third day he will raise us up,
that we may live before him.

³Let us know; let us press on to know the Lord;
his going out is sure as the dawn;
he will come to us as the showers,
as the spring rains that water the earth.”

⁴What shall I do with you, O Ephraim?
What shall I do with you, O Judah?
Your love is like a morning cloud,
like the dew that goes early away.

⁵Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets;
I have slain them by the words of my mouth,
and my judgment goes forth as the light.

⁶For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice,
the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings. *Hosea 5:15-6:6*

A The Word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 119:65-72 (*congregation sings verses in bold text*)

You have dealt well with your | servant,* O Lord, according | to your word.

**⁶⁶Teach me good judgment and | knowledge,*
for I believe in your com- | mandments.**

⁶⁷Before I was afflicted | | went astray,* but now I | | keep your word.

**⁶⁸You are good and | do good;*
teach me your | statutes.**

⁶⁹The insolent smear | me with lies,*
but with my whole heart I keep your | precepts;

**⁷⁰their heart is unfeeling | like fat,*
but I delight | in your law.**

⁷¹It is good for me that I was af- | flicted,* that I might learn your | statutes.

**⁷²The law of your mouth is bet- | ter to me*
than thousands of gold and silver | pieces.**

A reading from St. Paul to the Romans

The promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.

¹⁶That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, ¹⁷as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, “So shall your offspring be.” ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²That is why his faith was “counted to him as righteousness.” ²³But the words “it was counted to him” were not written for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, ²⁵who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

Romans 4:13-25

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

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

C Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the ninth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he rose and followed him.

¹⁰And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and his disciples. ¹¹And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” ¹²But when he heard it, he said, “Those who are

well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.' For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners." *Matthew 9:9-13*

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON

Hymn: 852 O God of Mercy, God of Might

- 1 O God of mercy, God of might,
In love and pity infinite,
Teach us, as ever in Thy sight,
To live our lives in Thee.
- 2 And Thou, who cam'st on earth to die
That our lost world might live thereby,
O hear us; for to Thee we cry,
In hope, O Lord, to Thee.
- 3 Teach us the lesson Thou hast taught:
To feel for those Thy blood hath bought,
That ev'ry word and deed and thought
May work a work for Thee.
- 4 All are redeemed, both far and wide,
Since Thou, O Lord, for all hast died.
Grant us the will and grace provide
To love them all in Thee!
- 5 In sickness, sorrow, want, or care,
May we each other's burdens share;
May we, where help is needed, there
Give help as unto Thee!
- 6 And may Thy Holy Spirit move
All those who live to live in love
Till Thou shalt greet in heav'n above
All those who live in Thee.

Text: Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, alt.

Text: Public domain

RITE OF HOLY BAPTISM of Seon Blount

CONFESSION OF FAITH - Apostles' Creed

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

R **Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?**

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord

R **Yes, I believe. in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead?**

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R **Yes, I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church*, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting** (* catholic = universal)

Prayer of the Church

After each petition, the following is said: Lord, in your mercy. **☞ 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, 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 & Natasha Ragnauth, Megan Latchman, Jhoann Fuentes, Elisa Santiago, William Seepaul, Ronald Bakker, Jennie Schaefer Goldberg, Alan & Martha Schaefer, Annett & Twila Evanson, Rudolph Kissoon.**

The PEACE is shared at this time.

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

☞ And also with you

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

☞ 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.

Hymn: There Is a Balm in Gilead

Refrain: There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole;
there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.

- 1 Sometimes I feel discouraged and think my work's in vain,
but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. Refrain
- 2 If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul,
you can tell the love of Jesus and say, "He died for all." Refrain
- 3 Don't ever be discouraged, for Jesus is your friend;
and if you lack for knowledge he'll ne'er refuse to lend. Refrain

Text: African American spiritual

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 salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, 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 Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

P Hear us, Abba Father, as we pray 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... Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with spiritual food, the body and blood of Christ. All who come to you will not hunger, all who believe in you will not thirst. Empowered by this sacrament, send us back into the world to do the work you have given us to do: to share the gospel and be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ our Lord. **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: 689 Let Me Be Thine Forever

- 1 Let me be Thine forever,
My faithful God and Lord;
Let me forsake Thee never
Nor wander from Thy Word.
Lord, do not let me waver,
But give me steadfastness,
And for such grace forever
Thy holy name I'll bless.
- 2 Lord Jesus, my salvation,
My light, my life divine,
My only consolation,
O make me wholly Thine!
For Thou hast dearly bought me
With blood and bitter pain.
Let me, since Thou hast sought me,
Eternal life obtain.
- 3 And Thou, O Holy Spirit,
My comforter and guide,
Grant that in Jesus' merit
I always may confide,
Him to the end confessing
Whom I have known by faith.
Give me Thy constant blessing
And grant a Christian death.

Text: tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.; (st. 1): Nicolaus Selnecker, 1532–92; (sts. 2–3): Gesang-Büchlein, 1688, Rudolstadt Text: Public domain

All sit for a moment of reflection.

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

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
- **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 Psalms (150 chapters).

Evangelical Lutheran Church of St. Matthew

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