



Evangelical
Lutheran
Church
of
St. Matthew

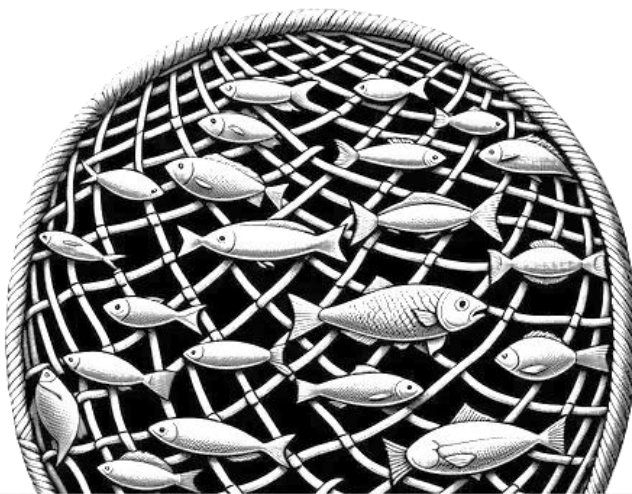
*A friendly
household of faith*

Chartered Dec 6, 1664

**361 years of
Gospel Ministry**

A congregation of
The Lutheran Church –
Missouri Synod.

The Rev. Peter A.D. Deebrach
Pastor



Matthew 13:47

47. Again, the kingdom of heaven is
like unto a net, that was cast into
the sea, and gathered of every kind

July 26, 2026

Ninth 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 Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.



C Amen.

Hymn: 815 All Praise to Thee, For Thou, O King Divine

- 1 All praise to thee, for thou, O King divine,
didst yield the glory that of right was thine,
that in our darkened hearts thy grace might shine:
Alleluia!
- 2 Thou cam'st to us in lowliness of thought;
by thee the outcast and the poor were sought,
and by thy death was God's salvation wrought:
Alleluia!
- 3 Let this mind be in us which was in thee,
who wast a servant that we might be free,
humbling thyself to death on Calvary:
Alleluia!
- 4 Wherefore, by God's eternal purpose, thou
art high exalted o'er all creatures now,
and given the name to which all knees shall bow:
Alleluia!.
- 5 Let every tongue confess with one accord
in heaven and earth that Jesus Christ is Lord;
and God eternal be by all adored:
Alleluia!

The GREETING

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 - Lord. Have mercy (LSB 942)

P Kyrie! God, Father in heav'n above,
You abound in gracious love, You are the maker
and preserver of all things. Lord, Have mercy **C** Lord, have mercy

P Kyrie! O Christ, our king,
Salvation for all You came to bring.
O Lord Jesus, God's own Son, Our mediator at
the heav'nly throne: Hear our cry and grant
our supplication. Christ, Have mercy **C** Christ, have mercy

P Kyrie! O God the Holy Ghost,
Guard our faith, the gift we need the most,
And bless our life's journey, That we may leave
this sinful world with gladness. Lord, Have mercy **C** Lord, have mercy

Adapted: German version, Ordnung der ceremonien, 1537/38, Naumburg; tr. W. Gustave Polack, 1890-1950, alt.; Latin, 9th cent.
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HYMN OF PRAISE - Gloria in Excelsis

P Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.
C Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth.
Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth:
we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.

Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav'n above;
Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father's splendor bright.
For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!

Adapted. Text: Martin A. Seltz, b. 1951, based on "Gloria in excelsis Deo" © 1998 Augsburg Fortress

P The Lord be with you. **C** And also with you.

P Let us pray... Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith,
hope, and love, that, receiving what You have promised, we may love what
You have commanded; 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 book of Deuteronomy

You are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. ⁷It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the Lord set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, ⁸but it is because the Lord loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. ⁹Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.” *Deuteronomy 7:6-9*

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

Psalm 125 (*congregation sings verses in bold text*)

Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount | Zion,
which cannot be moved, but abides for- | ever.

**²As the mountains surround Je-| rusalem,
so the Lord surrounds his people,
from this time forth and for-| evermore.**

³For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest
on the land allotted to the | righteous,
lest the righteous stretch out
their hands to | do wrong.

**⁴Do good, O Lord, to those who | are good,
and to those who are upright in | their hearts!**

⁵But those who turn aside to their | crooked ways
the Lord will lead away with evildoers!
Peace be upon | Israel!

A reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans.

We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered."

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. *Romans 8:28-39*

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

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

C Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus] put another parable before them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his field. ³²It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is larger than all the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

³³He told them another parable. "The kingdom of heaven is like leaven that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, till it was all leavened."

[And another] ⁴⁴"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, ⁴⁶who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. ⁴⁸When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the close of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from

the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹"Have you understood all these things?" They said to him, "Yes." ⁵²And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old." *Matthew 13:44-52*

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON

Hymn: 651 I Love Your Kingdom, Lord

- 1 I love your kingdom, Lord,
the place of your abode;
the church our blest Redeemer saved
with his own precious blood.
- 2 I love your church, O God!
Its walls before you stand,
dear as the apple of your eye
and graven on your hand.
- 3 Beyond my highest joy
I prize its heav'nly ways,
its sweet communion, solemn vows,
its hymns of love and praise.
- 4 For them my tears shall fall;
For them my prayers ascend;
For them my cares and toils be giv'n
Till toils and cares shall end.
- 5 Sure as your truth shall last,
to Zion shall be giv'n
the brightest glories earth can yield,
and brighter bliss of heav'n.

Text: Timothy Dwight, 1752-1817, alt.

Affirmation of Faith - Apostles' Creed (*stand*)

☞ I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And 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.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life ✝ everlasting. Amen. (* 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 Deebrab, 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, Deo Bhagwatprasad, Ismael Ulloah, Patrick Fredricks, Eleanor Drepaul, Pastor David Gerber, 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, Annette & Twila Evanson, Rudolph Kissoon, Chandramah & Raymond Yarally

The PEACE is shared at this time.

☞ 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.

LSB 781 We Give Thee But Thine Own sts. 1–2, 4, 6

- 1 We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.
- 2 May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive
And gladly, as Thou blessest us, To Thee our firstfruits give!
- 4 To comfort and to bless, To find a balm for woe,
To tend the lone and fatherless Is angels' work below.
- 6 And we believe Thy Word, Though dim our faith may be:
Whate'er for Thine we do, O Lord, We do it unto Thee. Text: William W. How, 1823–97

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, God of Sabaoth adored; Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name. Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord. Truly blest ✠ is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

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.

Jesus' Words of Institution of His Holy Supper

P Hear us, Abba Father, as we pray the words our 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: Be Thou My Vision

- 1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
thou my best thought by day and by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
- 2 Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tower,
raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
- 3 Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou, and thou only, first in my heart,
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.
- 4 Light of my soul, after victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Text: Irish, 8th-10th cent.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880-1931; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860-1935, alt.

All sit for a moment of reflection.

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

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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