

Evangelical
Lutheran
Church
of
St. Matthew

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America's Oldest Lutheran Congregation
Chartered December 6, 1664

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**361 years of Gospel Ministry**

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A friendly household of faith

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**A congregation of**
**The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod**

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**The Rev. Peter A.D. Deebrah, Pastor**




# The DEaD in CHRIST will rise FIRST

*1 Thessalonians 4:16*

**November 8, 2026**

Twenty-fourth Sunday after
PENTECOST

Welcome to a Divine Liturgy of Word and Sacrament. In our worship we gather as the family of God in His presence at His invitation and in the company of the whole Church in heaven and on earth.. We hear Him speak to us in Scripture and He freely pours forth 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.**

**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.**

**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: LSB515 Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers**

1 Rejoice, rejoice, believers,
and let your lights appear;
the evening is advancing,
and darker night is near.
The bridegroom is arising
and soon is drawing nigh.
Up, pray and watch and wrestle;
at midnight comes the cry.

2 The watchers on the mountain
proclaim the bridegroom near;
go forth as he approaches
with alleluias clear.
The marriage feast is waiting;
the gates wide open stand.
Arise, O heirs of glory;
the bridegroom is at hand.

3 The saints, who here in patience
their cross and suff'rings bore,
shall live and reign forever
when sorrow is no more.
Around the throne of glory
the Lamb they shall behold;
in triumph cast before him
their diadems of gold.

4 Our hope and expectation,
O Jesus, now appear;
arise, O Sun so longed for,
o'er this benighted sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted,
we plead, O Lord, to see
the day of earth's redemption
that sets your people free!

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660-1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823-1907

**The Greeting**

℗ 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***

℗ In peace let us pray to the Lord. ℂ **Lord, have mercy.**

℗ For the peace from above and for our salvation
let us pray to the Lord. ℂ **Lord, have mercy.**

℗ 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.**

℗ For this holy house and for all who offer here their
worship and praise let us pray to the Lord. ℂ **Lord, have mercy.**

℗ Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. ℂ **Amen.**

**Hymn of Praise - *Gloria in Excelsis***

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

♫ **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**

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

℗ Let us pray… Lord God, heavenly Father, send forth Your Son to lead home His bride, the Church, that with all the company of the redeemed we may finally enter into His eternal wedding feast; 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 -** *I will listen to what the Lord God is saying. (Psalm 85:8)*

**A reading from Amos the Prophet**

Woe to you who desire the day of the Lord!
Why do you want the day of the Lord?
It is darkness, not light,
19 as if someone fled from a lion
and was met by a bear
or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall
and was bitten by a snake.
20 Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?
21 I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
22 Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them,
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals
I will not look upon.
23 Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.
24 But let justice roll down like water
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. *Amos 5:18-24*

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

**Psalm 70** *(congregation sings verses in bold text)*

Be pleased, O God, to de- | liver me;
O Lord, make | haste to help me.
2 **Let those who seek my life be put to shame | and confounded;**
**let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and | be disgraced.**
3 Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat | over me
turn back because | of their shame.
4 **Let all who seek you rejoice and be | glad in you;**
**let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great | is the Lord!"**
5 But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quick- | ly, O God.
You are my helper and my deliverer; O Lord, | do not tarry.

**A reading from the first Epistle of St. Paul to the Thessalonians.**

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14 For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. 15 For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. 16 For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. 18 Therefore encourage one another with these words. *1 Thessalonians 4:13-18*

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

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

♫ **Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

Ⓟ **The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.**

♫ **Glory to You, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. 2 Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. 3 When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, 4 but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. 5 As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. 6 But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' 7 Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. 8 The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' 9 But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' 10 And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. 11 Later the other young women came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' 12 But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' 13 Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour." *Matthew 25:1-13*

Ⓟ This is the Gospel of the Lord. ♫ **Praise to You, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**Hymn: O Lord, How Shall I Meet You**

1 O Lord, how shall I meet you,
how welcome you aright?
Your people long to greet you,
my hope, my heart's delight!
Oh, kindle, Lord most holy,
your lamp within my breast
to do in spirit lowly
all that may please you best.

2 Your Zion strews before you
green boughs and fairest palms;
and I, too, will adore you
with joyous songs and psalms.
My heart shall bloom forever
for you with praises new
and from your name shall never
withhold the honor due.

3 I lay in fetters, groaning; you came to set me free.
I stood, my shame bemoaning; you came to honor me.
A glorious crown you give me, a treasure safe on high
that will not fail or leave me as earthly riches fly.

4 Love caused your incarnation; love brought you down to me.
Your thirst for my salvation procured my liberty.
Oh, love beyond all telling, that led you to embrace
in love, all love excelling, our lost and fallen race.

5 Rejoice, then, you sad-hearted, who sit in deepest gloom,
who mourn your joys departed and tremble at your doom.
Despair not; he is near you, there, standing at the door,
who best can help and cheer you and bids you weep no more.

6 He comes to judge the nations, a terror to his foes,
a light of consolations and blessed hope to those
who love the Lord's appearing. O glorious Sun, now come,
send forth your beams so cheering and guide us safely home.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. "The Lutheran Hymnal", 1941, alt.

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**Afirmation of Faith - The Nicene Creed** *(stand)*

**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 catholic* 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 Christian)*

**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, **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** Campbel**l, Alecia** Clark, **Milo** Noven**, Pastor Dave & Sue Dietsche, Pastor Vic Rapp, Pastor Ken Schnepp, Deo** Bhagwatprasad, **Ismael** Ulloah, **Patrick** Fredricks, **Eleanor** Drepaul, **Pastor Jean Cenat, Casilda & James** Meade**, Pauline** Strong**, Kenneth** Ragnauth, **Natasha** Persaud, **Jhoann** Fuentes, **Elisa** Santiago, **William** Seepaul, **Ronald** Bakker, **Annette & Twila** Evanson, **Gertrud** Schulze, **Rudolph** Kissoon, **Chandramah** & **Raymond** Yarally, **Sheila** Pillay, **Dianna** Schrader.

**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.**



℗ The Lord be with you. ♫ **And also with you.**

℗ Lift up your hearts. ♫ **We lift them to the Lord.**

℗ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

♫ **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

℗ 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…

♫ **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.**

℗ 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, *then the following…*

**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.**

♫ **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

♫ **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. ♫ **Amen.**

*Sit*

**Announcements**

**Hymn: My Lord, What a Morning**

*Refrain:* My Lord, what a morning;
my Lord, what a morning;
oh, my Lord, what a morning,
when the stars begin to fall.

1 You will hear the trumpet sound,
to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand,
when the stars begin to fall. *Refrain*

2 You will hear the sinner cry,
to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand,
when the stars begin to fall. *Refrain*

3 You will hear the Christian shout,
to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand,
when the stars begin to fall. *Refrain*

Text: African American spiritual

*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




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
- **LUTHERN WOMEN IN MISSION**- LWML Atlantic District Triune Zone
  - Fall gathering at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Brooklyn
  - Saturday, Oct 24 at 10 AM. Breakfast & lunch will be served.
- **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).

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