

THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Saturday, August 21, 2021 – 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, August 22, 2021 – 10:00 a.m.

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

4101 Washington Street NE

Columbia Heights, MN 55421

Welcome to worship at St. Matthew! To friends who know us, we renew our welcome; to visitors, we extend it sincerely; and to those seeking a church home, we offer fellowship with a living Redeemer. Come again!

We ask that all guests sign a yellow attendance card located in the pew rack, and then please hand the card to the pastor as you leave the worship service.

Assisted hearing devices and large print hymnals and orders of service are available from the ushers.

If you have a prayer request, please write it out on one of the green prayer cards located in the pew rack, and then submit it to Pastor Hugo or the lay minister before the service begins. Other prayer requests can be made by calling the church office at 763-788-9427.

Parents with small children are encouraged to sit near the front in order to better see and participate during the service. If you desire other facilities, a cry room is located in the back of the worship area and bathrooms with changing tables (including back-up supplies) and infant seats are located behind the worship area (two right turns as you pass the double doors out of the worship area – just past the water fountain).

Thank you for turning off all electronic equipment (cell phones, items that receive internet signal, etc.). These items interfere with our sound system.

+ CONNECT +

OPENING HYMN: “The Church’s One Foundation” – Blue Hymnal #289

The Church’s one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;

She is his new creation by water and the Word.

From heav’n he came and sought her to be his holy bride;

With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

Elect from ev’ry nation, yet one o’er all the earth;

Her charter of salvation: one Lord, one faith, one birth.

One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,

And to one hope she presses with ev’ry grace endued.

Through toil and tribulation and tumult of her war

She waits the consumation of peace forevermore.

Till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,

And the great Church victorious shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One,

And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.

O blessed heav’nly chorus! Lord, save us by your grace

That we, like saints before us, may see you face to face.

INVOCATION:

L: Our worship begins the way our lives in Christ begin in baptism: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES:

L: Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.

C: **Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the whole world,**

L: From everlasting to everlasting

ALL: **You are God.**

L: Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love,

C: **That we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.**

L: Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us,

C: **For as many years as we have seen trouble.**

L: May your deeds be shown to your servants,

C: **Your splendor to their children.**

L: LORD, I love the house where you live,

C: **The place where your glory dwells.**

L: Fear the LORD, you his holy people, for those who fear him lack nothing.

C: **The lions may grow weak and hungry, but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.**

L: Come, my children, listen to me;

C: **I will teach you the fear of the LORD.**

L: Whoever of you loves life and desires to see many good days,

C: **Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from telling lies.**

ALL: **Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.**

CONFESSION OF OUR SINS:

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

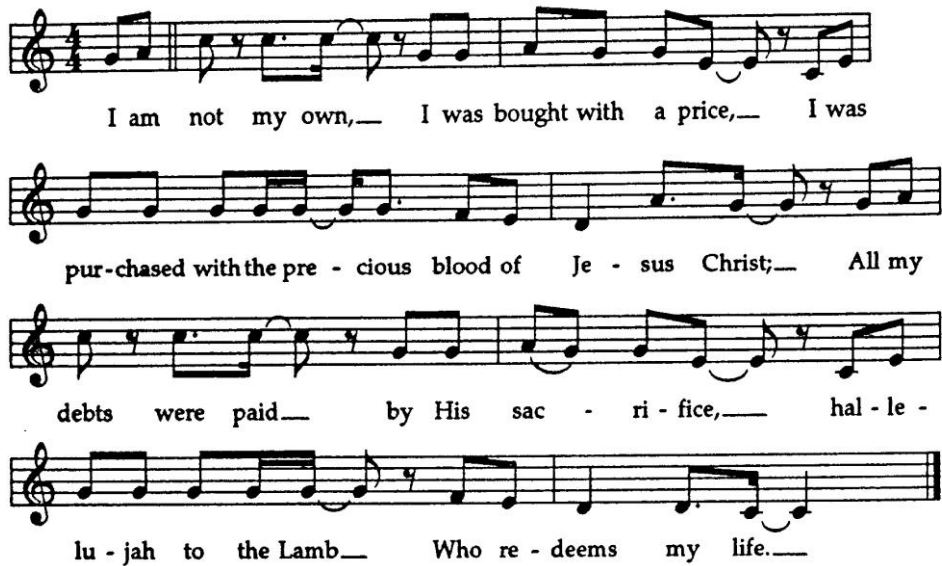
C: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

L: 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.**

FORGIVENESS IS ANNOUNCED

SONG OF PRAISE: "I Am Not My Own"



I am not my own,— I was bought with a price,— I was
pur-chased with the pre - cious blood of Je - sus Christ;— All my
debts were paid— by His sac - ri - fice,— hal - le -
lu - jah to the Lamb— Who re - deems my life.—

*("I Am Not My Own" by Martin J. Nystrom, copyright 1991
Integrity's Hosanna! Music, CCLI Lic. #921494.)*

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

L: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

L: Let us pray.

C: **Creating God,
you are the source of summer's splendor—
the beauty and fragrance of delicate flowers,
and sweet sound of birdsong.
We come to you this morning
with delight and gladness,
grateful for all of your wonders.
As the fields produce their harvest,
may your love grow within us,
that we too may produce a harvest
of love, hope, and faith. Amen.**

GREETING TIME

+ NURTURE +

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 29:11-19

For you this whole vision is nothing but words sealed in a scroll. And if you give the scroll to someone who can read, and say, "Read this, please," they will answer, "I can't; it is sealed." Or if you give the scroll to someone who cannot read, and say, "Read this, please," they will answer, "I don't know how to read." The Lord says: "These people come near to me with their mouth and honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. Their worship of me is based on merely human rules they have been taught. Therefore once more I will astound these people with wonder upon wonder; the wisdom of the wise will perish, the intelligence of the intelligent will vanish." Woe to those who go to great depths to hide their plans from the LORD, who do their work in darkness and think, "Who sees us? Who will know?" You turn things upside down, as if the potter were thought to be like the clay! Shall what is formed say to the one who formed it, "You did not make me"? Can the pot say to the potter, "You know nothing"? In a very short time, will not Lebanon be turned into a fertile field and the fertile field seem like a forest? In that day the deaf will hear the words of the scroll, and out of gloom

and darkness the eyes of the blind will see. Once more the humble will rejoice in the LORD; the needy will rejoice in the Holy One of Israel.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

EPISTLE LESSON: Ephesians 5:22-33

Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church—for we are members of his body. “For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.” This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church. However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

HOLY GOSPEL:

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, chapter seven.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord!**

The Pharisees and some of the teachers of the law who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus and saw some of his disciples eating food with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. (The Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they give their hands a ceremonial washing, holding to the tradition of the elders. When they come from the marketplace they do not eat unless they wash. And they observe many other traditions, such as the washing of cups, pitchers and kettles.) So the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, “Why don’t your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with defiled hands?” He replied, “Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written: “‘These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. They worship me in vain; their teachings are merely human rules.’ You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to human traditions.” And he continued, “You have a fine way of setting aside the commands of God in order to observe your own traditions! For Moses said, ‘Honor your father and mother,’ and, ‘Anyone who curses their father or mother is to be put to death.’ But you say that if anyone declares that what might have been used to help their father or mother is Corban (that is, devoted to God)—then you no longer let them do anything for their father or mother. Thus you nullify the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And you do many things like that.”

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ!**

HYMN OF THE DAY: “Our God, Our Help in Ages Past” – Blue Hymnal #180

**Our God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home:**

**Under the shadow of your throne your saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is your arm alone, And our defense is sure.**

**Before the hills in order stood Or earth received its frame
From everlasting you are God, To endless years the same.**

**A thousand ages in your sight Are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night Before the rising sun.**

**Time, like an ever-rolling stream, Soon bears us all away;
We fly forgotten, as a dream, dies at the op'ning day.**

**Our God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Still be our guard while troubles last And our eternal home!**

MESSAGE: "The Pros and Cons of Tradition" – Pastor Bill Hugo

CONFESSION OF FAITH: Apostles' Creed

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 Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Sunday only -

GATHERING OF THE OFFERINGS

+ EMPOWER +

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

(Prayer response – P: Lord, in your mercy, C: Hear our prayer.)

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN: "How Firm a Foundation" – Blue Hymnal #411

**How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!
What more can he say than to you he has said
Who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?**

**Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dismayed,
For I am your God and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.**

**When through fiery trials your pathway will lie,
My grace, all sufficient, will be your supply.
The flames will not hurt you; I only design
Your dross to consume and your gold to refine.**

**Throughout all their lifetime my people will prove
My sov'reign, eternal, unchangeable love;
And then, when gray hairs will their temples adorn,
Like lambs they will still in my bosom be borne.**

("How Firm a Foundation", setting copyright 1967 The Bethany Press, used with permission, Lutheran Service Book Hymn License, #100014518)

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WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

Saturday:

Lay Minister: Bob Nehring

Sunday:

Lay Minister: Andrew Wagner

Ushers: Alman Team

Altar Guild: Pat & Duane Rosenberg

Power Point: Caitlin Kyseth

Acolyte: Parker Kyseth

Lector: Andrew Wagner