

Saint Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield

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Second Sunday in Lent ~ March 16, 2025

Color of the Day: Purple—used during this penitential season of Lent as a vivid reminder of the contempt and scorn he endured, and the subsequent sacrifice he made for our eternal salvation. Ecclesiastical purple should remind all Christians of their daily need to humbly give attention to leading a life of repentance.

Opening Hymn #748 – I'm But a Stranger Here
Confession and Absolution Page 151

Service of the Word

Introit. Page 152
Ps. 74: 1-3; antiphon: Ps. 69:9

For zeal for your house has con- | sumed me,*
and the reproaches of those who reproach you have fall- | en on me.
O God, why do you cast us off for- | ever?*

Why does your anger smoke against the sheep of your | pasture?
Remember your congregation, which you have purchased of old, which you
have redeemed to be the tribe of your | heritage!*

Remember Mount Zion, where | you have dwelt.
Direct your steps to the perpetual | ruins;*

the enemy has destroyed everything in the sanctu- | ary!
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

For zeal for your house has con- | sumed me,*
and the reproaches of those who reproach you have fall- | en on me.

Kyrie. Page 152

Hymn of Praise (omitted during Lent) Page 154

Salutation & Collect of the Day Page 156

O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty
power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and
from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus

Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Old Testament Reading Page 156

Jeremiah 26:8-15

⁸And when Jeremiah had finished speaking all that the LORD had
commanded him to speak to all the people, then the priests and the
prophets and all the people laid hold of him, saying, “You shall die! ⁹Why
have you prophesied in the name of the LORD, saying, ‘This house shall be
like Shiloh, and this city shall be desolate, without inhabitant?’” And all the
people gathered around Jeremiah in the house of the LORD.

¹⁰When the officials of Judah heard these things, they came up from the
king’s house to the house of the LORD and took their seat in the entry of
the New Gate of the house of the LORD. ¹¹Then the priests and the prophets
said to the officials and to all the people, “This man deserves the sentence
of death, because he has prophesied against this city, as you have heard
with your own ears.”

¹²Then Jeremiah spoke to all the officials and all the people, saying, “The
LORD sent me to prophesy against this house and this city all the words you
have heard. ¹³Now therefore mend your ways and your deeds, and obey the
voice of the LORD your God, and the LORD will relent of the disaster that
he has pronounced against you. ¹⁴But as for me, behold, I am in your hands.
Do with me as seems good and right to you. ¹⁵Only know for certain that if
you put me to death, you will bring innocent blood upon yourselves and
upon this city and its inhabitants, for in truth the LORD sent me to you to
speak all these words in your ears.”

Gradual. Page 156

Heb. 12:2

[O come, let us fix our eyes on] | Jesus,*
the founder and perfecter | of our faith,
who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despis- | ing the
shame,*
and is seated at the right hand of the | throne of God.

Epistle Reading. Page 156

Philippians 3:17-4:1

¹⁷Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk
according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸For many, of whom I have often
told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of
Christ. ¹⁹Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in
their shame, with minds set on earthly things. ²⁰But our citizenship is in
heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹who will
transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that
enables him even to subject all things to himself.

¹Therefore, my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand
firm thus in the Lord, my beloved.

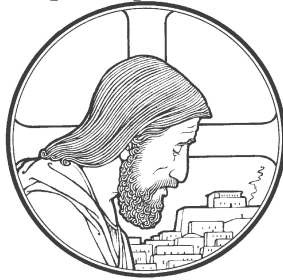
Choral Anthem

Lent Verse (Return to the Lord) Page 157
Holy Gospel Page 157

Luke 13:31-35

³¹At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus], “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.”

³²And he said to them, “Go and tell that fox, ‘Behold, I cast out demons and perform cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I finish my course.’³³Nevertheless, I must go on my way today and tomorrow and the day following, for it cannot be that a prophet should perish away from Jerusalem.’³⁴O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not!³⁵Behold, your house is forsaken. And I tell you, you will not see me until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!’”



Children’s Message

Hymn of the Day #708 - Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart

The Sermon**Stand Firm in the Lord** ~ Philippians 3:17-4:1

Miss a sermon, need some inspiration, need a review of church doctrine (teachings), check out Pastor’s blog at: <http://rabswritings.blogspot.com/> or Pastor Mendez’s blog at: <https://pastormendez.blogspot.com/>

Introduction

A few years ago _____.

One challenge _____.

Paul As Example

Paul begins by _____.

Paul suggests _____.

The difficulty in following _____.

The Enemies of the Cross

Who are the enemies of the cross? Anyone who says _____.

The enemies of the cross are _____.

Th enemies of the cross are _____.

We Eagerly Await Heaven

We eagerly await heaven because _____.

Heaven, like hell is _____.

As we await our entrance _____.

As we await our entrance _____.

And finally, as we await _____.

On last reminder _____.

Other Notes or Questions for Pastor:

CreedPage 158/159
Prayer of the Church & Offering Page 159
Our First Fruits & Tithes are our regular, top priority, proportionate, grateful gifts to the Lord for the work of the Gospel. Our Offerings are special gifts for special causes over and above our tithes. This is an act of worship for members and friends of St. Matthew who are moved by God’s love to respond to the Gospel. Guests should not feel obligated to participate.
OffertoryPage 159

Service of the Sacrament

Preface Page 160

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 overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy) Page 161

Lord’s Prayer and The Words of Our Lord Page 162

Pax Domini & Agnus Dei Page 163

Distribution Page 164

Before partaking of the Lord’s Supper, we ask that you read our communion statement on the pew insert behind the Bible. Thank you.

Distribution Hymns #730 – What Is the World to Me

#673 – Jerusalem, My Happy Home

#725 - Children of the Heav’nly Father

Post-Communion Canticle (Nunc Dimittis) Page 165

Post-Communion Collect and Benediction Page 166

Closing Hymn #586 - Preach You the Word