

St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield

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The Seventh Sunday of Easter ~ May 21, 2023

Color of the Day: White - the festival color of the Church. It is reserved for celebrations that reflect themes of purity, light, innocence, holiness, and redemption, including special events in Jesus' life as His Birth, Baptism, Transfiguration, and Resurrection.

Opening Hymn#837 - Lift High the Cross

Confession and Absolution Page 184

✠ ✠ ✠ *Service of the Word* ✠ ✠ ✠

Introit Page 186

Ps. 100: 1-5; antiphon: Ps. 101:1

I will sing of steadfast love and | justice,*
to you, O LORD, I will make | music.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all the earth!*

Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with | singing!

Know that the LORD, | he is God!*

It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of
his | pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his | courts with praise!*

Give thanks to him; | bless his name!

For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures for- | ever,*
and his faithfulness to all gener- | ations.

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.

I will sing of steadfast love and | justice,*

to you, O LORD, I will make | music.

Kyrie Page 186

Gloria In Excelsis Page 187

Salutation & Collect of the Day Page 189

O King of glory, Lord of hosts, uplifted in triumph far above all heavens,
leave us not without consolation but send us the Spirit of truth whom You
promised from the Father; for You live and reign with Him and the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and forever.

First Reading..... Page 190

Acts 1:12-26

¹²Then [the apostles] returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet,
which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. ¹³And when they had
entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and
John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew,
James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James.

¹⁴All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with
the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers. ¹⁵In those days
Peter stood up among the brothers (the company of persons was in all about
120) and said, ¹⁶"Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy
Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who
became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. ¹⁷For he was numbered among
us and was allotted his share in this ministry." ¹⁸(Now this man bought a field
with the reward of his wickedness, and falling headlong he burst open in the
middle and all his bowels gushed out. ¹⁹And it became known to all the
inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their own language
Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) ²⁰"For it is written in the Book of Psalms,
"May his camp become desolate, and let there be no one to dwell in it"; and
"Let another take his office." ²¹So one of the men who have accompanied us
during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²²beginning
from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one
of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection." ²³And they
put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and
Matthias. ²⁴And they prayed and said, "You, Lord, who know the hearts of all,
show which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵to take the place in this
ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own
place." ²⁶And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was
numbered with the eleven apostles.

Gradual Page 190

adapt. From Matt. 28:7; Heb. 2:7; Ps. 8:6

Christ has risen | from the dead.*

[God the Father] has crowned him with glory and | honor,

He has given him dominion over the works | of his hands,*

he has put all things un- | der his feet.

Epistle Reading..... Page 190

1 Peter 4:12-19; 5:6-11

¹²Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to
test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³But rejoice
insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad
when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are
blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. ¹⁵But let none
of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. ¹⁶Yet if
anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God
in that name. ¹⁷For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God;
and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey
the gospel of God? ¹⁸And "If the righteous is scarcely saved, what will become

of the ungodly and the sinner?” ¹⁹Therefore let those who suffer according to God’s will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good. ⁶Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, ⁷casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. ⁸Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. ¹⁰And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Choral Anthem

Alleluia Page 190
 Holy Gospel..... Page 190

John 17:1-11

¹When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, ²since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. ⁵And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed. ⁶“I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. ⁸For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. ¹¹And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one.

Creed..... Page 191/192

Children’s Message

Hymn of the Day..... #644 – *The Church’s One Foundation*

The Sermon..... Cast All Your Cares On Him ~ 1 Peter 4:12-19; 5:6-11
 Check out Pastor Bogs’ blog at: rabswritings.blogspot.com or Pastor Mendez’s blog at: pastormendez.blogspot.com.

Introduction

How quickly _____:
Trials Will Come
 We may suffer _____:
 Peter reminds us that Christ _____:
 Peter reminds us that it is better _____:

Peter encourages us _____:
Words of Warning and Encouragement
 Peter’s instructions _____:
 We are to _____:
 Peter encourages us to _____:
 Peter reminds us that we are not _____:
 Finally, Peter reminds us _____:
What Is Our Perspective in Life?
 Being a Christian may mean _____:
 At the same time, as a Christian _____:
 Finally, we will always remember _____:
 I encourage you _____:
Other Notes or Questions for Pastor:

Offertory Page 192
 Offering & Prayer of the Church Page 193

Our First Fruits and 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.

✠ ✠ ✠ *Service of the Sacrament* ✠ ✠ ✠

Preface Page 194

It is truly meet, 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 after His resurrection appeared openly to all His disciples and in their sight was taken up into heaven that He might make us partakers of His divine life. 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 Page 195
 Lord’s Prayer Page 196
 The Words of Our Lord & Pax Domini..... Page 197
 Agnus Dei & Distribution..... Page 198/199
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 #808 – *O Sing to the Lord*
 #479 - *Christ Is Risen, Christ Is Living*
 #657 - *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*
 Page 199

Nunc Dimittis Page 199
 Thanksgiving..... Page 200
 Salutation & Benedicamus Page 201
 Benediction Page 202
 Closing Hymn #507 - *Holy, Holy, Holy*