

St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield

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The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost July 7, 2024

Color of the Day: Green - suggesting spiritual growth and maturity. There is nothing colorless about our need to grow and mature as disciples of Jesus Christ. That's why the "green meadow" time of the church year is so lengthy. Time must be given to encourage all worshipers to maintain their faith through the constant use of God's means of grace.

Opening Hymn #497 - *Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord*

Confession and Absolution. Page 203

✠ ✠ ✠ *Service of the Word* ✠ ✠ ✠

Introit Page 204

Ps. 132: 13-16; antiphon: Ps. 34:8

Oh, taste and see that the | LORD is good!*

Blessèd is the man who takes ref- | uge in him!

For the LORD has chosen | Zion;*

he has desired it for his | dwelling place:

“This is my resting place for- | ever;*

here I will dwell, for I have de- | sired it.

I will abundantly bless her pro- | visions;*

I will satisfy her | poor with bread.

Her priests I will clothe with sal- | vation,*

and her saints will | shout for joy.”

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.

Oh, taste and see that the | LORD is good!*

Blessèd is the man who takes ref- | uge in him!

Kyrie & Gloria in Excelsis Page 204

Salutation & Collect of the Day Page 205

O God, Your almighty power is made known chiefly in showing mercy.

Grant us the fullness of Your grace that we may be called to repentance and made partakers of Your heavenly treasures; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Old Testament Reading Page 205

Ezekiel 2:1–5

¹He said to me, “Son of man, stand on your feet, and I will speak with you.”

²And as he spoke to me, the Spirit entered into me and set me on my feet, and I heard him speaking to me. ³And he said to me, “Son of man, I send you to the people of Israel, to nations of rebels, who have rebelled against me.

They and their fathers have transgressed against me to this very day. ⁴The descendants also are impudent and stubborn: I send you to them, and you shall say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD.’ ⁵And whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house) they will know that a prophet has been among them.

Gradual Page 205

Rom. 11:33,36

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowl- | edge of God!*

How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable | his ways!

For from him and through him and to him are | all things.*

To him be glory forever. | Amen.

Epistle Page 205

2 Corinthians 12:1–10

¹I must go on boasting. Though there is nothing to be gained by it, I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. ²I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. ³And I know that this man was caught up into paradise—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows— ⁴and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. ⁵On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. ⁶Though if I should wish to boast, I would not be a fool, for I would be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. ⁷So to keep me from being too elated by the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from being too elated. ⁸Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. ⁹But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of

Christ may rest upon me. ¹⁰For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Choral Anthem

Alleluia & Verse Page 205

Holy Gospel Page 206

Mark 6:1-13

¹[Jesus] went away from there and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. ²And on the Sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astonished, saying, “Where did this man get these things? What is the wisdom given to him? How are such mighty works done by his hands? ³Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him. ⁴And Jesus said to them, “A prophet is not without honor, except in his hometown and among his relatives and in his own household.” ⁵And he could do no mighty work there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and healed them. ⁶And he marveled because of their unbelief. And he went about among the villages teaching. ⁷And he called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸He charged them to take nothing for their journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in their belts— ⁹but to wear sandals and not put on two tunics. ¹⁰And he said to them, “Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you depart from there. ¹¹And if any place will not receive you and they will not listen to you, when you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.” ¹²So they went out and proclaimed that people should repent. ¹³And they cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and healed them.



Creed Page 206/207

Children’s Message

Hymn of the Day #839 – *O Christ, Our True and Only Hope*

The Sermon My Grace Is Sufficient ~ 2 Corinthians 12:1-10

Check out Pastor Bogs’ blog at: rabswritings.blogspot.com or Pastor Mendez’s blog at: pastormendez.blogspot.com.

Introduction

Have you ever thought _____ .

Context - Paul on Boasting

Paul explains _____ .

Paul’s thorn _____ .

Paul’s Prayer

Paul’s example is patterned after _____ .

God’s Answer

God’s grace _____ .

God’s will _____ .

God’s power _____ .

Paul’s Response

Paul’s weakness _____ .

Our weakness _____ .

Paul’s need and our need _____ .

What Does this Mean?

Our text explains _____ .

Our strength _____ .

Thursday we celebrated _____ .

God’s strength _____ .

Other Notes or Questions for Pastor:

New Member Reception: Paul Menz, Scharon Schliecher, Victor & Arlene Schultz & Kristen McManus

Prayer of the Church Page 207

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.

Offering & Offertory Hymn #955 - Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

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

Preface & Sanctus Page 208

Prayer of Thanksgiving, Lord’s Prayer, Words of Our Lord & Pax Domini Page 209

Agnus Dei & Distribution Page 210

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 #728 – *Hoe Firm a Foundation*

#718 - *Jesus, Lead Thou On*

#717 - *Eternal Father, Strong to Save*

#664 - *Fight the Good Fight*

Nunc Dimittis Page 211

Post-Communion Collect, Benedicamus & Benediction Page 212

Closing Hymn #965 - *God Bless Our Native Land*