

Saint Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield

The Rev. Dr. Ronald A. Bogs, Pastor

The Rev. Arturo G. Mendez, Associate Pastor

21434 East Hardy Road Houston, Texas 77073

Office Phone: (281) 443-2304

Church Website: www.stmatthewlcms.com

Pastor Bogs' Email: pastorbogs@stmatthewlcms.com

Pastor Mendez's Email: pastormendez@stmatthewlcms.com

Fax Number: (281) 443-8463

Office Email: office@stmatthewlcms.com

Pastor Bogs' Mobile: (832) 515-4830

Pastor Mendez's Mobile: (832) 883-1705

The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 2020

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

#913 - O Holy Spirit, Enter In

1 O Ho - ly Spir - it, en - ter in, And in our hearts
2 Give to Your Word im - pres - sive pow'r, That in our hearts
3 O might - y Rock, O Source of life, Let Your dear Word,

Your work be - gin, Your dwell - ing place now make us.
from this good hour As fire it may be glow - ing,
in doubt and strife, In us be strong - ly burn - ing

Sun of the soul, O Light di - vine, A - round and in
That in true Chris - tian u - ni - ty We faith - ful wit -
That we be faith - ful un - to death And live in love

us bright - ly shine, To joy and glad - ness wake us
ness - es may be, Your glo - ry ev - er show - ing.
and ho - ly faith, From You true wis - dom learn - ing.

That we may be Tru - ly liv - ing, To You giv - ing
Hear us, cheer us By Your teach - ing; Let our preach - ing
Your grace and peace On us show - er; By Your pow - er

Prayer un - ceas - ing And in love be still in - creas - ing.
And our la - bor Praise You, Lord, and serve our neigh - bor.
Christ con - fess - ing, Let us see our Sav - ior's bless - ing.

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

(Stand)

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C 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.

(Stand)

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

INTROIT

Psalm 105:2–6; antiphon: v. 1

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call up- | on his name; *
make known his deeds among the | peoples!
Sing to him, sing prais- | es to him; *
tell of all his | wondrous works!
Glory in his | holy name; *
let the hearts of those who seek the | LORD rejoice!
Seek the LORD | and his strength; *
seek his presence con- | tinually!
Remember the wondrous works that | he has done, *
his miracles, and the judgments he | uttered,
O offspring of Abraham, his | servant, *
children of Jacob, his | chosen ones!
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 give thanks to the LORD; call up- | on his name; *
make known his deeds among the | peoples!

KYRIE



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shipped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love, that, receiving what You have promised, we may love what You have commanded; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

(Sit)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Deuteronomy 7:6–9

⁶"You are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. ⁷It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, ⁸but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. ⁹Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

Romans 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

Romans 8:28–39

²⁸We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified. ³¹What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who

loved us. ³⁸For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(Stand)

ALLELUIA AND VERSE



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



C These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 13:44–52

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

⁴⁴[Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. ⁴⁵"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, ⁴⁶who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it. ⁴⁷"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. ⁴⁸When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the close of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁵¹"Have you understood all these things?" They said to him, "Yes." ⁵²And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

C 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.

(Sit)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

#743 - Jesus, Priceless Treasure



1 Je - sus, price-less trea - sure, Fount of pur - est plea - sure,
2 In Thine arms I rest me; Foes who would mo - lest me
3 Sa - tan, I de - fy thee; Death, I now de - cry thee;
4 Hence, all earth - ly trea - sure! Je - sus is my plea - sure,



Tru - est friend to me, Ah, how long in an - guish
Can - not reach me here. Though the earth be shak - ing,
Fear, I bid thee cease. World, thou shalt not harm me
Je - sus is my choice. Hence, all emp - ty glo - ry!



Shall my spir - it lan - guish, Yearn - ing, Lord, for Thee?
Ev - 'ry heart be quak - ing, Je - sus calms my fear.
Nor thy threats a - larm me While I sing of peace.
Naught to me thy sto - ry Told with tempt - ing voice.



Thou art mine, O Lamb di - vine! I will suf - fer
Light - nings flash And thun - ders crash; Yet, though sin and
God's great pow'r Guards ev - 'ry hour; Earth and all its
Pain or loss, Or shame or cross, Shall not from my



naught to hide Thee; Naught I ask be - side Thee.
hell as - sail me, Je - sus will not fail me.
depths a - dore Him, Si - lent bow be - fore Him.
Sav - ior move me Since He deigns to love me.

5 Evil world, I leave thee;
Thou canst not deceive me,
Thine appeal is vain.
Sin that once did blind me,
Get thee far behind me,
Come not forth again.
Past thy hour,
O pride and pow'r;
Sinful life, thy bonds I sever,
Leave thee now forever.

6 Hence, all fear and sadness!
For the Lord of gladness,
Jesus, enters in.
Those who love the Father,
Though the storms may gather,
Still have peace within.
Yea, whate'er
I here must bear,
Thou art still my purest pleasure,
Jesus, priceless treasure!

SERMON

Given by Pastor Mendez

The Hidden Treasure _____
The Treasure in the field _____
Christ finds the Treasure _____
Buying the field _____
The expensive Pearl _____
Can we sell everything and buy the Kingdom of Heaven? _____
It is Christ who is Buying us _____
The Net _____
The Net is cast down _____
Separate the fish _____

New Treasures and Old _____
Did you understand? _____
Can we really answer yes like His Disciples? _____
Jesus is inviting us to become Teachers And Disciples _____
Conclusion _____

Other Notes or Questions for Pastor:

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 new blog at: <https://pastormendez.blogspot.com/>
(Stand)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(Sit)

OFFERING

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

(Stand)

PREFACE

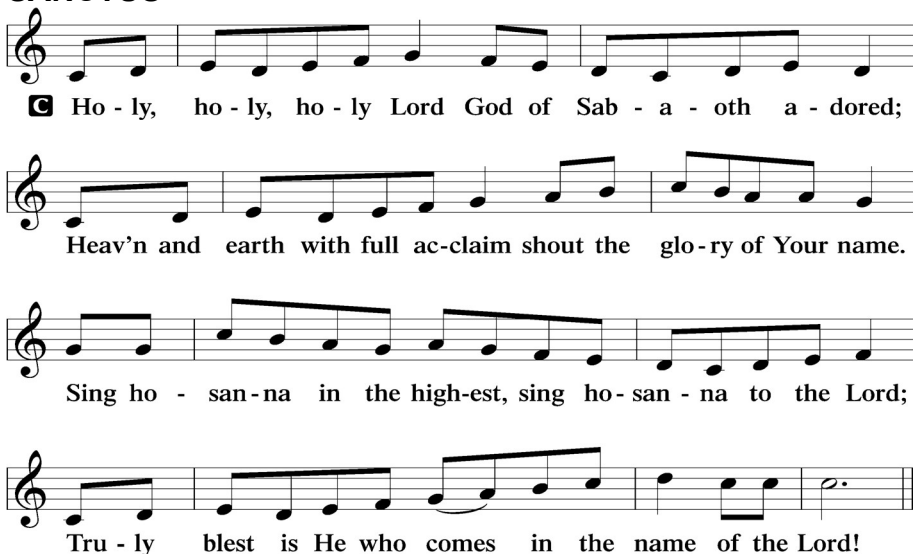
P The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.
C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new 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



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P 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.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

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.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI

C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

(Sit)

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

#536 - One Thing's Needful



1 One thing's need - ful; Lord, this trea - sure Teach me high - ly
 2 How were Mar - y's thoughts de - vot - ed Her e - ter - nal
 3 Wis - dom's high - est, no - blest trea - sure, Je - sus, is re -
 4 Noth - ing have I, Christ, to of - fer, You a - lone, my
 5 There - fore You a - lone, my Sav - ior, Shall be all in



to re - gard. All else, though it first give plea - sure,
 joy to find As in - tent each word she not - ed,
 vealed in You. Let me find in You my plea - sure,
 high - est good. Noth - ing have I, Lord, to prof - fer
 all to me; Search my heart and my be - hav - ior,



Is a yoke that press - es hard! Be - neath it the
 At her Sav - ior's feet re - clined! How kin - dled her
 And my way - ward will sub - due, Hu - mil - i - ty
 But Your crim - son - col - ored blood. Your death on the
 Root out all hy - poc - ri - sy. Through all my life's



heart is still fret - ting and striv - ing, No true, last - ing hap - pi - ness
 heart, how de - vot was its feel - ing, While hear - ing the les - sons that
 there and sim - plic - i - ty reign - ing, In paths of true wis - dom my
 cross has death whol - ly de - feat - ed And there - by my righ - teous - ness
 pil - grim - age, guard and up - hold me, In lov - ing for - give - ness, O



ev - er de - riv - ing. This one thing is need - ful; all oth - ers are
 Christ was re - veal - ing! All earth - ly con - cerns she for - got for her
 steps ev - er train - ing. If I learn from Je - sus this knowl - edge di -
 ful - ly com - plet - ed; Sal - va - tion's white rai - ments I there did ob -
 Je - sus, en - fold me. This one thing is need - ful; all oth - ers are



vain— I count all but loss that I Christ may ob - tain!
 Lord And found her con - tent - ment in hear - ing His Word.
 vine, The bless - ing of heav - en - ly wis - dom is mine.
 tain, And in them in glo - ry with You I shall reign.
 vain— I count all but loss that I Christ may ob - tain!

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

#746 - Through Jesus' Blood and Merit



1 Through Je - sus' blood and mer - it I am at peace with God.
 2 There's noth - ing that can sev - er From this great love of God;
 3 For nei - ther life's temp - ta - tion Nor death's most try - ing hour
 4 Nor an - y crea - ture ev - er Shall from the love of God



What, then, can daunt my spir - it, How - ev - er dark my road?
 No want, no pain what - ev - er, No fam - ine, per - il, flood.
 Nor an - gels of high sta - tion Nor an - y oth - er pow'r
 This ran - somed sin - ner sev - er; For in my Sav - ior's blood

My cour - age shall not fail me, For God is on my side;
 Though thou - sand foes sur - round me, For slaugh - ter mark His sheep,
 Nor things that now are pres - ent Nor things that are to come
 This love has its foun - da - tion; God hears my faith - ful prayer

Though hell it - self as - sail me, Its rage I may de - ride.
 They nev - er shall con - found me, The vic - t'ry I shall reap.
 Nor height, how - ev - er pleas - ant, Nor dark - est depths of gloom
 And long be - fore cre - a - tion Named me His child and heir.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

#812 - Come, Let Us Join Our Cheerful Songs

1 Come, let us join our cheer - ful songs With an - gels
 2 "Wor - thy the Lamb that died," they cry, "To be ex -
 3 Je - sus is wor - thy to re - ceive Hon - or and
 4 Let all cre - a - tion join in one To bless the

round the throne; Ten thou - sand thou - sand
 alt - ed thus!" "Wor - thy the Lamb," our
 pow'r di - vine; And bless - ings more than
 sa - cred name Of Him who sits up -

are their tongues, But all their joys are one.
 lips re - ply, "For He was slain for us!"
 we can give Be, Lord, for - ev - er Thine.
 on the throne And to a - dore the Lamb.

(Stand)

NUNC DIMITTIS

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
 2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All

part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
 glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the

glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
 Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;

A light as to lead the the Gen - tiles Un -
 For as in the be - gin - ning, Is

to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
 now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -



POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

A Let us bless the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

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.

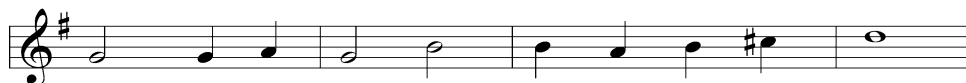
G Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

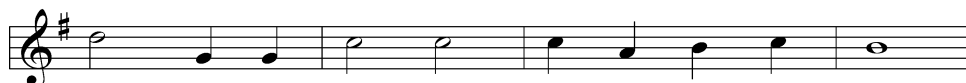
#917 - *Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise*



1 Sav - ior, a - gain to Thy dear name we raise
2 Grant us Thy peace up - on our home - ward way;
3 Grant us Thy peace, Lord, through the com - ing night;
4 Grant us Thy peace through - out our earth - ly life,



With one ac - cord our part - ing hymn of praise;
With Thee be - gan, with Thee shall end, the day.
Turn Thou for us its dark - ness in - to light.
Our balm in sor - row and our stay in strife;



Once more we bless Thee ere our wor - ship cease,
Guard Thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
From harm and dan - ger keep Thy chil - dren free;
Then, when Thy voice shall bid our con - flict cease,



Then, low - ly bend - ing, wait Thy word of peace.
That in this house have called up - on Thy name.
For dark and light are both a - like to Thee.
Call us, O Lord, to Thine e - ter - nal peace.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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