

St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield

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The Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost August 13, 2023

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 #850 - *God of Grace and God of Glory*

Confession and Absolution. Page 167

✠ ✠ ✠ *Service of the Word* ✠ ✠ ✠

Introit Page 168

Ps. 34:4-8; antiphon: Ps. 34:1

I will bless the LORD at | all times,*
his praise shall continually be | in my mouth.

I sought the LORD, and he | answered me*
and delivered me from | all my fears.

Those who look to him are | radiant,*
and their faces shall never | be ashamed.

This poor man cried, and the LORD | heard him*
and saved him out of all his | troubles.

The angel of the LORD encamps around those who | fear him,*
and de- | livers them.

Oh, taste and see that the | LORD is good!*
Blessèd is the man who takes ref- | uge in him!

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 bless the LORD at | all times,*
his praise shall continually be | in my mouth.

Kyrie Page 168

Hymn of Praise (Gloria in Excelsis) Page 170

Salutation & Collect of the Day Page 172

Almighty and most merciful God, preserve us from all harm and danger that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish what You want done; 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 172

Job 38:4-18

4“Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. 5Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? 6On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone, 7when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy? 8“Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb, 9when I made clouds its garment and thick darkness its swaddling band, 10and prescribed limits for it and set bars and doors, 11and said, ‘Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stayed?’

12“Have you commanded the morning since your days began, and caused the dawn to know its place, 13that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth, and the wicked be shaken out of it? 14It is changed like clay under the seal, and its features stand out like a garment.

15From the wicked their light is withheld, and their uplifted arm is broken. 16“Have you entered into the springs of the sea, or walked in the recesses of the deep? 17Have the gates of death been revealed to you, or have you seen the gates of deep darkness? 18Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth? Declare, if you know all this.

Gradual Page 172

Ps. 34:9, 19, alt.

Fear the LORD, | you his saints,*
for those who fear him lack | nothing!
Many are the afflictions of the | righteous,*
but the LORD delivers him out | of them all.

Epistle Reading Page 172

Romans 10:5-17

5For Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. 6But the righteousness based on faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) 7or “‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). 8But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); 9because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. 11For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.” 12For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. 13For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

14But how are they to call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? 15And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” 16But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?” 17So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

Choral Anthem

Alleluia & Verse (Common) Page 173
Holy Gospel Page 173

Matthew 14:22-33

²²Immediately [Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."
²⁸And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water."
²⁹He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. ³⁰But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me."
³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³²And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."



Children's Message

Hymn of the Day #523 – *O Word of God Incarnate*

The Sermon Believe and Confess ~ Romans 10: 5-17
Want to read along, miss a sermon, need some inspiration, need a review of church doctrine? Check out Pastor Bogs' blog at: rabswritings.blogspot.com or Pastor Mendez's blog at: pastormendez.blogspot.com.

Introduction

Today Paul answers the simple question _____.

Righteousness, Based on Law or Faith

The person who does _____.

Faith does not require _____.

There is no distinction _____.

We are reminded that God calls _____.

What About Those Who Have Not Heard?

The means of grace are a matter of _____.

How can one hear _____.

The importance of the _____.

The bottom line is _____.

What Does this Mean? And What Is Important?

I could _____.

Faith and confession of faith _____.

The important things are _____.

Paul remind us of the importance of _____.

There is no distinction _____.

Other Notes or Questions for Pastor:

Creed Page 174/175

Prayer of the Church & Offering Page 175

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 Page 177

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 on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting 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 & Prayer of Thanksgiving Page 178

Lord's Prayer and The Words of Our Lord Page 179

Pax Domini and Agnus Dei Page 180

Distribution Page 181

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 #715 – *Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me*
#588 – *Jesus Loves Me*
#680 - *Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise*

Post-Communion Canticle (Thank the Lord) Page 181

Post-Communion Collect and Benediction Page 183

Closing Hymn #726 - *Evening and Morning*