

St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield

21434 East Hardy Rd., Houston, TX 77073
www.stmatthewlcms.com

281-443-2304 or 281-443-8463
office.smlcw@gmail.com

Senior Pastor:
The Rev. Dr. Ronald A. Bogs
pastorbogs.smlcw@gmail.com
Cell Phone: 832-515-4830

Associate Pastor:
The Rev. Arturo G. Mendez
pastormendez.smlcw@gmail.com
Cell Phone: 832-883-1705

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost August 25, 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 #351 - *Creator of the Stars of Night*
Confession and Absolution Page 167

✠ ✠ ✠ *Service of the Word* ✠ ✠ ✠

Introit Page 168

Ps. 26:1-2, 6-7; antiphon: Ps. 26:8

O LORD, I love the habitation | of your house*
and the place where your | glory dwells.
Vindicate me, O LORD, for I have walked in my in- | tegritы,*
and I have trusted in the LORD without | wavering.
Prove me, O LORD, and | try me;*
test my heart | and my mind.
I wash my hands in innocence and go around your altar, | O LORD,*
proclaiming thanksgiving aloud, and telling all your | wondrous
deeds.
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.
O LORD, I love the habitation | of your house*
and the place where your | glory dwells.

Kyrie Page 168
Hymn of Praise (Gloria in Excelsis) Page 170
Salutation & Collect of the Day Page 172

Almighty and merciful God, defend Your Church from all false teaching and error that Your faithful people may confess You to be the only true God and rejoice in Your good gifts of life and salvation; 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

Isaiah 29:11-19

¹¹And the vision of all this has become to you like the words of a book that is sealed. When men give it to one who can read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot, for it is sealed." ¹²And when they give the book to one who cannot read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot read." ¹³And the Lord said: "Because this people draw near with their mouth and honor me with their lips, while their hearts are far from me, and their fear of me is a commandment taught by men, ¹⁴therefore, behold, I will again do wonderful things with this people, with wonder upon wonder; and the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the discernment of their discerning men shall be hidden." ¹⁵Ah, you who hide deep from the LORD your counsel, whose deeds are in the dark, and who say, "Who sees us? Who knows us?" ¹⁶You turn things upside down! Shall the potter be regarded as the clay, that the thing made should say of its maker, "He did not make me"; or the thing formed say of him who formed it, "He has no understanding"? ¹⁷Is it not yet a very little while until Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field, and the fruitful field shall be regarded as a forest? ¹⁸In that day the deaf shall hear the words of a book, and out of their gloom and darkness the eyes of the blind shall see. ¹⁹The meek shall obtain fresh joy in the LORD, and the poor among mankind shall exult in the Holy One of Israel.

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 Page 172

Ephesians 5:22-33

²²Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. ²⁴Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands. ²⁵Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, ²⁶that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, ²⁷so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. ²⁸In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, ³⁰because we are members of his body. ³¹"Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." ³²This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. ³³However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

Choral Anthem

Alleluia & Verse. Page 173
 Holy Gospel. Page 173

Mark 7:1-13

¹ When the Pharisees gathered to [Jesus], with some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem, ²they saw that some of his disciples ate with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. ³(For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands, holding to the tradition of the elders, ⁴and when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions that they observe, such as the washing of cups and pots and copper vessels and dining couches.) ⁵And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” ⁶And he said to them, “Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, “This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; ⁷in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’ ⁸You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men.” ⁹And he said to them, “You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition! ¹⁰For Moses said, ‘Honor your father and your mother’; and, ‘Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.’ ¹¹But you say, ‘If a man tells his father or his mother, Whatever you would have gained from me is Corban’ (that is, given to God)— ¹²then you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or mother, ¹³thus making void the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And many such things you do.”



Children’s Message

Hymn of the Day #865 – Lord, Help Us Ever to Retain

The Sermon Christ Loved the Church~ Ephesians 5:22-33

Miss a sermon, need some inspiration, need a review of church doctrine (teachings), just want to follow along? Visit Pastor Bogs’ blog at rabswritings.blogspot.com or Pastor Mendez’s blog at pastormendez.blogspot.com.

Introduction

First, _____.

Second, _____.

Third, _____.

To The Wives

Wives are to be subordinate because _____.

The second reason _____.

The good order _____.

One last reason _____.

To The Husbands

The first order to husbands _____.

Jesus died not only _____.

Husbands are to love _____.

Because Christ loves _____.

What Is Marriages? _____.

A man shall _____.

He is to be _____.

There is a stress on _____.

How Can We Do This Today?

By ourselves _____.

We realize _____.

Thanks be to God _____.

And so, in His gift of Marriage _____.

Today our text celebrates _____.

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.

Offertory. Page 176

✠ ✠ ✠ *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 & The Words of Our Lord Page 179

Pax Domini & Agnus Dei Page

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Distribution Page 181

Here at St. Matthew we lovingly practice closed communion. Before partaking of the Lord’s Supper, we ask you to read our communion statement on the insert behind the pew Bible. If you have any questions, please speak to a pastor or elder. Thank you.

Distribution Hymns #555 – Salvation unto Us Has Come

#596 - All Christians Who Have Been Baptized

#563 - Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness

#822 - Alleluia! Let Praises Ring

Post-Communion Canticle (Thank the Lord)Page 181

Post-Communion Collect & Benediction Page 183

Closing Hymn #655 - Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word