

St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield

The Rev. Dr. Ronald A. Bogs, Pastor

The Rev. Arturo G. Mendez, Associate Pastor

21434 E. Hardy Rd., Houston, TX 77073 281-443-2304 or 281-443-8463
www.stmatthewlcms.com office@stmatthewlcms.com

Pastor Bogs' Contact Information: Pastor Mendez's Contact Information:
Cell Phone: 832-515-4830 Cell Phone: 832-883-1705
pastorbogs@stmatthewlcms.com pastormendez@stmatthewlcms.com

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 5, 2021



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 #868 – Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun

Confession and Absolution Page 167

✠ ✠ ✠ Service of the Word ✠ ✠ ✠

Introit Page 168

Psalm 51:7, 10–12; antiphon: Ps. 51:2

The LORD is the strength of his | people;*
he is the saving refuge of his a- | nointed.
To you, O LORD, I call; my rock, be not | deaf to me,*
lest, if you be silent to me, I become like those who go down | to
the pit.
Hear the voice of my pleas for mercy, when I cry to | you for help,*
when I lift up my hands toward your most holy sanctu- | ary.
Blessèd | be the LORD!*
For he has heard the voice of my pleas for | mercy.
The LORD is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and | I
am helped;*
my heart exults, and with my song I give | thanks to 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.
The LORD is the strength of his | people;*
he is the saving refuge of his a- | nointed.

Kyrie Page 168

Hymn of Praise (Gloria in Excelsis) Page 170

Salutation & Collect of the Day Page 172

O God, the source of all that is just and good, nourish in us every virtue and bring to completion every good intent that we may grow in grace and bring forth the fruit of good works; 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 35:4–7a

⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you." ⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; ⁷the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

Gradual Page 172

Psalm 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

James 2:1–10, 14–18

¹My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. ²For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, ³and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, "You sit here in a good place," while you say to the poor man, "You stand over there," or, "Sit down at my feet," ⁴have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor man. Are not the rich the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? ⁷Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called?

⁸If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well. ⁹But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors.

¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it...

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is

poorly clothed and lacking in daily food,¹⁶ and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that?¹⁷ So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

¹⁸But someone will say, “You have faith and I have works.” Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

Alleluia & Verse (Common) Page 173

Holy Gospel Page 173

Mark 7:24-37

²⁴ From there [Jesus] arose and went away to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And he entered a house and did not want anyone to know, yet he could not be hidden.

²⁵ But immediately a woman whose little daughter was possessed by an unclean spirit heard of him and came and fell down at his feet.

²⁶ Now the woman was a Gentile, a Syrophenician by birth. And she begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷ And he said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not right to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁸ But she answered him, “Yes, Lord; yet even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” ²⁹ And he said to her, “For this statement you may go your way; the demon has left your daughter.” ³⁰ And she went home and found the child lying in bed and the demon gone.

³¹ Then he returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³² And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³ And taking him aside from the crowd privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. ³⁴ And looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” ³⁵ And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶ And Jesus charged them to tell no one. But the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷ And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, “He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.”

Children’s Message

Hymn of the Day #797 – Praise the Almighty

The Sermon *Are We Listening?* – Mark 7:(24-30)31-37

Want to read along, miss a sermon, need some inspiration, need a review of church doctrine (teachings)? Check out Pastor Bogs’ blog at: <http://rabswritings.blogspot.com/> or Pastor Mendez’s blog at: <https://pastormendez.blogspot.com/>

Introduction

Hearing is just one of _____ .

The Two Narratives

Our text for this morning consists of _____ .

In our second narrative _____ .

These friends brought the deaf man to Jesus _____ .

Healing of the man’s hearing _____ .

Our Hearing

This text speaks specifically of _____ .

Most of us here can probably hear _____ .

God speaks to us _____ .

In much the same way in which we carry on a _____ .

Each one of us has friends _____ .

In the case of our earthly relationships _____ .

Hearers

In our text we heard _____ .

Thanks be to God that just as Jesus brought _____ .

In our text for today, _____ .

In our second reading, James _____ .

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

Sanctus & Prayer of Thanksgiving Page 178

Lord’s Prayer & The Words of Our Lord Page 179

Pax Domini & 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 #841 – O Son of God, in Galilee

#554 – O Jesus, King Most Wonderful

#625 - Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread

Post-Communion Canticle (Thank the Lord) Page 181

Post-Communion Collect & Benediction Page 183

Closing Hymn #883 - All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night