

*Saint Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield*

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*The Twenty first Sunday after Pentecost  
October 22, 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 ..... #797 - Praise the Almighty  
Confession and Absolution..... Page 151

☒ ☒ ☒ *Service of the Word* ☒ ☒ ☒

Introit ..... Page 152

*Ps. 121: 1-4, 7-8; antiphon: Ps. 121:5*

The LORD is your | keeper;\*  
the LORD is your shade on your | right hand.  
I lift up my eyes | to the hills.\*  
From where does my | help come?  
My help comes | from the LORD,\*  
who made | heaven and earth.  
He will not let your | foot be moved;\*  
he who keeps you will not | slumber.  
Behold, he who keeps | Israel\*  
will neither slum- | ber nor sleep.  
The LORD will keep you from all | evil;\*  
he will | keep your life.  
The LORD will keep your going out and your | coming in\*  
from this time forth and for- | evermore.  
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 your | keeper;\*  
the LORD is your shade on your | right hand.

Kyrie ..... Page 152

Hymn of Praise (Gloria in Excelsis)..... Page 154

Salutation & Collect of the Day..... Page 156

O God, the protector of all who trust in You, have mercy on us that with You as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not the things eternal; 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 156

*Isaiah 45:1-7*

<sup>1</sup>Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped, to subdue nations before him and to loose the belts of kings, to open doors before him that gates may not be closed: <sup>2</sup>"I will go before you and level the exalted places, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, <sup>3</sup>I will give you the treasures of darkness and the hoards in secret places, that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

<sup>4</sup>For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I name you, though you do not know me.

<sup>5</sup>I am the LORD, and there is no other, besides me there is no God; I equip you, though you do not know me, <sup>6</sup>that people may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is none besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other.

<sup>7</sup>I form light and create darkness, I make well-being and create calamity, I am the LORD, who does all these things.

Gradual..... Page 156

*Ps. 91:11; 103:1*

He will command his angels con- | cerning you\*  
to guard you in | all your ways.

Bless the LORD, | O my soul,\*  
and all that is within me, bless his | holy name!

Epistle Reading ..... Page 156

*1 Thessalonians 1:1-10*

<sup>1</sup>Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.

<sup>2</sup>We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, <sup>3</sup>remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup>For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, <sup>5</sup>because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. <sup>6</sup>And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, <sup>7</sup>so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. <sup>8</sup>For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. <sup>9</sup>For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, <sup>10</sup>and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

Choral Anthem

Alleluia & Verse (Common) . . . . . Page 156

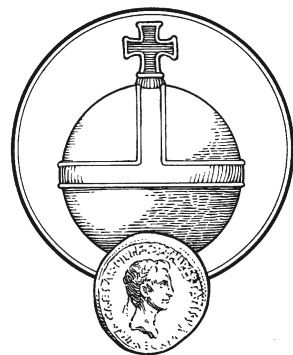
Holy Gospel . . . . . Page 157

Matthew 22:15-22

<sup>15</sup>Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle [Jesus] in his talk.

<sup>16</sup>And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone's opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. <sup>17</sup>Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" <sup>18</sup>But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? <sup>19</sup>Show me the coin for the tax." And they brought him a denarius.

<sup>20</sup>And Jesus said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" <sup>21</sup>They said, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." <sup>22</sup>When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away.



Children's Message

Hymn of the Day . . . . . #940 - Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

The Sermon . . . . . You Are Chosen By God ~ 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Miss a sermon visit Pastor Bogs' blog at [rabswritings.blogspot.com](http://rabswritings.blogspot.com) or Pastor Mendez's blog at [pastormendez.blogspot.com](http://pastormendez.blogspot.com).

Introduction

This morning \_\_\_\_\_.

Paul Writes

Paul writes to \_\_\_\_\_.

When Paul says "grace" \_\_\_\_\_.

It is grace which brings \_\_\_\_\_.

Paul Prays

Paul prays for \_\_\_\_\_.

He also prays for \_\_\_\_\_.

Paul Knows

He knows that \_\_\_\_\_.

This Gospel \_\_\_\_\_.

Paul adds \_\_\_\_\_.

He adds this string of words \_\_\_\_\_.

Back to verse three \_\_\_\_\_.

Paul Is Thankful

He is thankful for \_\_\_\_\_.

He is thankful for \_\_\_\_\_.

Finally, He says that \_\_\_\_\_.

If Paul were writing us today \_\_\_\_\_.

Other Notes or Questions for the Pastor:

Creed . . . . . Page 158

Prayer of the Church & Offering . . . . . Page 159

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 . . . . . Page 159

⌘ ⌘ ⌘ *Service of the Word* ⌘ ⌘ ⌘

Preface . . . . . Page 160

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 and Prayer of Thanksgiving . . . . . Page 161

Lord's Prayer and The Words of Our Lord . . . . . Page 162

Pax Domini and Agnus Dei . . . . . Page 163

Distribution . . . . . Page 164

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.

Distribution Hymns . . . . . #839 - O Christ, Our True and Only Light

#732 - All Depends on Our Possessing

#772 - In Holy Conversation

Post-Communion Canticle (Thank the Lord) . . . . . Page 164

Post-Communion Collect and Benediction . . . . . Page 166

Closing Hymn . . . . . #831 - Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng