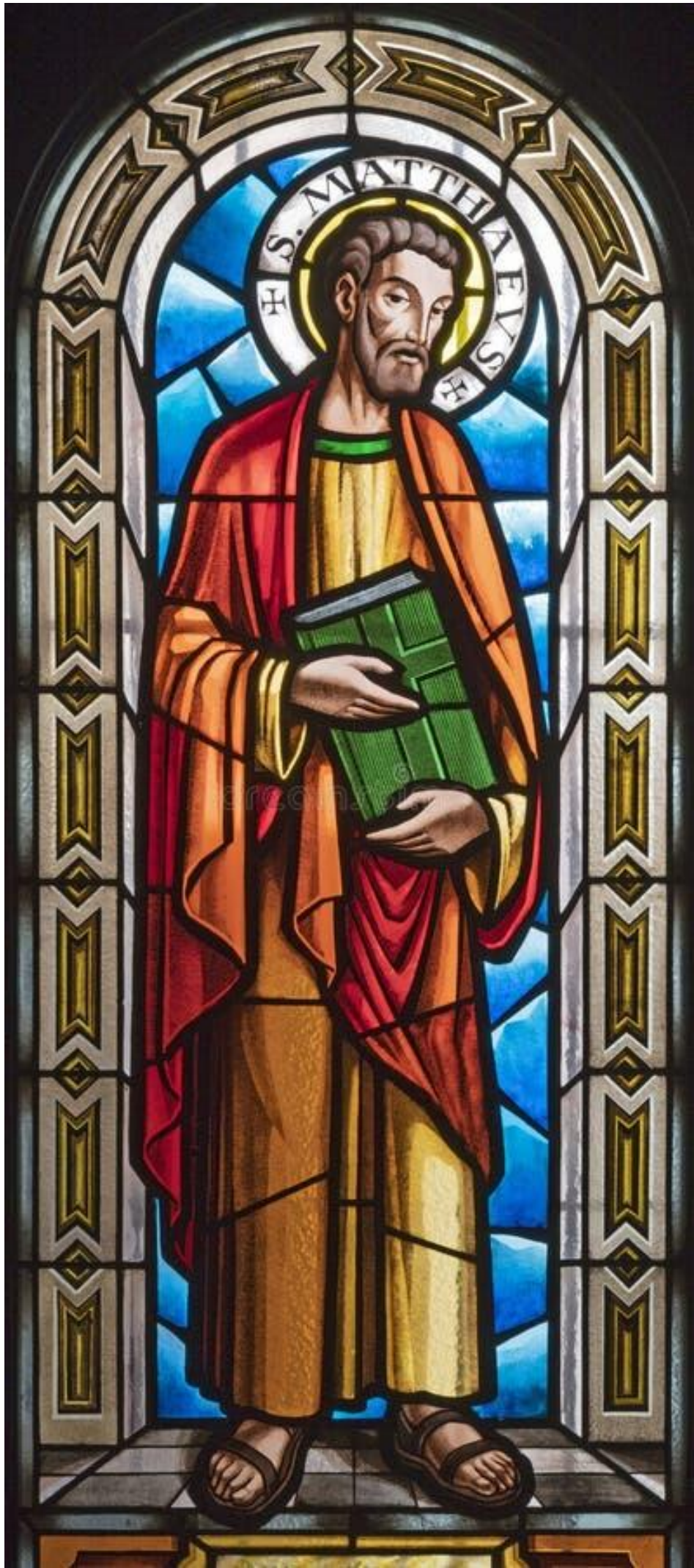


Trinitytide

SEPTEMBER 21, 2025 • SUNDAY, 10:00 A.M.

ST. MATTHEW, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST



H

E DESERVES TO BE CALLED A THEOLOGIAN, HOWEVER, WHO COMPREHENDS THE VISIBLE AND MANIFEST THINGS OF GOD SEEN THROUGH SUFFERING AND THE CROSS.

-HEIDELBURG DISPUTATION. THEOLOGICAL THESES. 20.

DIVINE SERVICE – SETTING THREE

“Our churches are falsely accused of abolishing the Mass. The Mass is held among us and celebrated with the highest reverence. Nearly all the usual ceremonies are also preserved”. -Augsburg Confession. Article XXIV. The Mass. 1-2a.



PRELUDE

WELCOME

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Please stand and face the processional cross.

Lutheran Service Book 609

“Jesus Sinners Doth Receive”

1 Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive; Oh, may all this
2 We de - serve but grief and shame, Yet His words, rich
3 Sheep that from the fold did stray No true shep - herd
4 I, a sin - ner, come to Thee With a pen - i -

say - ing pon - der Who in sin's de - lu - sions live
grace re - veal - ing, Par - don, peace, and life pro - claim;
e'er for - sak - eth; Wea - ry souls that lost their way
tent con - fes - sion. Sav - ior, mer - cy show to me;

And from God and heav - en wan - der! Here is hope for
Here our ills have per - fect heal - ing. Firm - ly in these
Christ, the Shep - herd, gent - ly tak - eth In His arms that
Grant for all my sins re - mis - sion. Let these words my

all who grieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
words be - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
they may live: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
soul re - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.

Continued next page . . .

5 Oh, how blest it is to know:
Were as scarlet my transgression,
It shall be as white as snow
By Thy blood and bitter passion;
For these words I now believe:
Jesus sinners doth receive.

6 Now my conscience is at peace;
From the Law I stand acquitted.
Christ hath purchased my release
And my ev'ry sin remitted.
Naught remains my soul to grieve:
Jesus sinners doth receive.

7 Jesus sinners doth receive;
Also I have been forgiven;
And when I this earth must leave,
I shall find an open heaven.
Dying, still to Him I cleave:
Jesus sinners doth receive.

Text and tune: Public domain

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

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

C Amen.

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

[Hebrews 10:22]

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

Psalms 124:8

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Psalms 32:5

Kneeling or sitting forward

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

The Fifth Commandment

You shall not murder.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and support him in every physical need.

Preparation for Confession and Absolution according to the Fifth Commandment:

- *Have I unjustly taken the life of anyone, born or unborn?*
- *Do I hate anyone, or am I angry with anyone?*
- *Do I hold grudges or harbor resentment?*
- *Am I abusive (in word or deed) toward my spouse, children, or anyone else?*
- *Have I ignored the plight of the helpless or been callous toward genuine need?*

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,
- C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
- P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

[John 20:19-23]

Standing



SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

Psalm 92:1-5; antiphon: Matthew 9:13b, c



L I desire mercy, and not | sacrifice.*
For I came not to call the righteous, but | sinners.

L It is good to give thanks | to the LORD,*
to sing praises to your name, | O Most High;

C to declare your steadfast love in the | morning,*
and your faithful- | ness by night,

L to the music of the lute | and the harp,*
to the melody | of the lyre.

C For You, O LORD, have made me glad | by your work;*
at the works of your hands I | sing for joy.

L How great are your works, | O LORD!*
Your thoughts are | very deep!



C Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

L I desire mercy, and not | sacrifice.*
For I came not to call the righteous, but | sinners.

KYRIE ~ Lord, Have Mercy

Mark 10:47




C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS ~ *Glory to God in the Highest*

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



The musical score is written for a single voice part on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The tempo and meter are not explicitly stated. The lyrics are written below the staff, aligned with the notes. The score consists of 12 lines of music, each with a corresponding line of lyrics. The lyrics are: "Glory be to God on high; and on earth peace, good - will toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up - on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men."

Glory be to God on high; and on earth peace, good - will toward
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -
on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.
Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray.

O Son of God, our blessed Savior Jesus Christ, You called Matthew the tax collector to be an apostle and evangelist. Through his faithful and inspired witness, grant that we also may follow You, leaving behind all covetous desires and love of riches; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sitting

PROPHECY

Ezekiel 2:8 – 3:11

A The Prophecy for the feast of St. Matthew is from Ezekiel, chapters two and three.

A In those days the word of the LORD came to me, saying: "Son of man, hear what I say to you. Do not be rebellious like that rebellious house; open your mouth and eat what I give you." Now when I looked, there was a hand stretched out to me; and behold, a scroll of a book was in it. Then He spread it before me; and there was writing on the inside and on the outside, and written on it were lamentations and mourning and woe. Moreover He said to me, "Son of man, eat what you find; eat this scroll, and go, speak to the house of Israel." So I opened my mouth, and He caused me to eat that scroll. And He said to me, "Son of man, feed your belly, and fill your stomach with this scroll that I give you." So I ate, and it was in my mouth like honey in sweetness. Then He said to me: "Son of man, go to the house of Israel and speak with My words to them. For you are not sent to a people of unfamiliar speech and of hard language, but to the house

of Israel, not to many people of unfamiliar speech and of hard language, whose words you cannot understand. Surely, had I sent you to them, they would have listened to you. But the house of Israel will not listen to you, because they will not listen to Me; for all the house of Israel are impudent and hard-hearted. Behold, I have made your face strong against their faces, and your forehead strong against their foreheads. Like adamant stone, harder than flint, I have made your forehead; do not be afraid of them, nor be dismayed at their looks, though they are a rebellious house." Moreover He said to me: "Son of man, receive into your heart all My words that I speak to you, and hear with your ears. And go, get to the captives, to the children of your people, and speak to them and tell them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD,' whether they hear, or whether they refuse."

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 119:105, 103; 45:1a, c



L My heart overflows with a | pleasing theme;*
my tongue is like the pen of a | ready scribe.

Ephesians 4:7-13

C Thanks be to God.

some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints, for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ Jesus our Lord.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

Matthew 28:19a, 20b



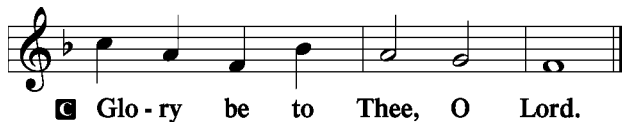
- L** Go therefore and make disciples of all nations. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.



HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 9:9-13

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the ninth chapter.



- P** At that time: Jesus saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax office. And He said to him, "Follow Me." So he arose and followed Him. Now it happened, as Jesus sat at the table in the house, that behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and sat down with Him and His disciples. And when the Pharisees saw it, they said to His disciples, "Why does

your Teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" When Jesus heard that, He said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice.' For I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance."

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



NICENE CREED

C **I believe in one God**, *Exodus 20:3; Deuteronomy 6:4; Ephesians 4:6*
the Father Almighty, *Psalms 89:26; Matthew 6:9; Romans 1:20*
maker of heaven and earth *Genesis 1:1; Nehemiah 9:6; John 1:1*
and of all things visible and invisible. *2 Corinthians 4:18; Colossians 1:16*

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, *1 Corinthians 8:6; Ephesians 4:5; 1 Timothy 2:5*
the only-begotten Son of God, *John 1:14; 3:16, 18; Acts 13:33; 1 John 4:9*
begotten of His Father before all worlds, *John 1:18; 17:24; Ephesians 1:4; Colossians 1:17; 1 Peter 1:20*
God of God, Light of Light, *John 1:4-9; 8:12; 12:46; Hebrews 1:3; Revelation 21:23*
very God of very God, *Philippians 2:6; Colossians 1:19; 2:9; 1 John 5:20*
begotten, not made, *John 1:2*
being of one substance with the Father, *John 10:30; 17:22*
by Whom all things were made; *John 1:3; Colossians 1:16; Hebrews 1:2*
Who for us men and for our salvation *John 14:6; Acts 4:12; 1 Timothy 2:4*
came down from heaven *John 3:13; 6:41; Luke 15:20; Ephesians 4:10*
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary *Matthew 1:18; Luke 1:34-35*
and was made man; *John 1:14; Galatians 4:4*
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. *Matthew 27:35; Mark 15:25; Luke 23:33; John 19:18*
He suffered and was buried. *Acts 1:13; 3:18; Matthew 14:12; Mark 15:46; Luke 23:53; John 19:42*
And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures *Luke 24:46; Acts 10:40; 1 Corinthians 15:4*
and ascended into heaven *Luke 24:51; John 20:17; Acts 1:2, 9, 11, 22; Ephesians 4:8*
and sits at the right hand of the Father. *Mark 16:19; Acts 2:33; 5:31; 7:55-56; Romans 8:34; Ephesians 1:20; Colossians 3:1*
And He will come again with glory *Matthew 26:64; John 14:3; Acts 1:11; 1 Thessalonians 4:16; Revelation 1:7*
to judge both the living and the dead, *Acts 10:42; 17:31; 2 Corinthians 5:10; 2 Timothy 4:1; 1 Peter 4:5; Revelation 20:12*
Whose kingdom will have no end. *Luke 1:33; 2 Peter 1:11; Hebrews 1:8; Revelation 11:15*

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, *John 14:26; 16:13; Acts 2:4*
the Lord and giver of life, *Genesis 1:2; John 3:5-6; 15:26-27; Romans 8:2*
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, *John 14:26; 16:7; Acts 1:8; 2:33; Romans 5:5*
Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, *Matt. 3:16-17; 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14*
Who spoke by the prophets. *Luke 1:67; Acts 28:25; Ephesians 3:5; 2 Peter 1:21*
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, *Ephesians 2:19-22; 1 Peter 2:5; Revelation 21:14*
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, *Acts 2:38; Romans 6:3-4; 1 Corinthians 12:13; Ephesians 4:5*
and I look for the resurrection of the dead *John 5:29; 6:39, 40, 44, 54; 11:25-26; 1 Corinthians 6:14; 15:20-22*
and the life of the world to come. *Mark 10:29-30; Luke 18:30; John 5:24; 6:33; Galatians 6:8; 1 Timothy 4:8; 1 John 5:11*
Amen. *Psalms 106:48; 2 Corinthians 1:20*

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lutheran Service Book 684

"Come Unto Me, Ye Weary"



1 "Come un - to Me, ye wea - ry, And I will give you rest."
 2 "Come un - to Me, ye wan - d'ers, And I will give you light."
 3 "Come un - to Me, ye faint - ing, And I will give you life."
 4 "And who - so - ev - er com - eth, I will not cast him out."



O bless - ed voice of Je - sus, Which comes to hearts op-pressed!
 O lov - ing voice of Je - sus, Which comes to cheer the night!
 O cheer - ing voice of Je - sus, Which comes to aid our strife!
 O pa - tient love of Je - sus, Which drives a - way our doubt,



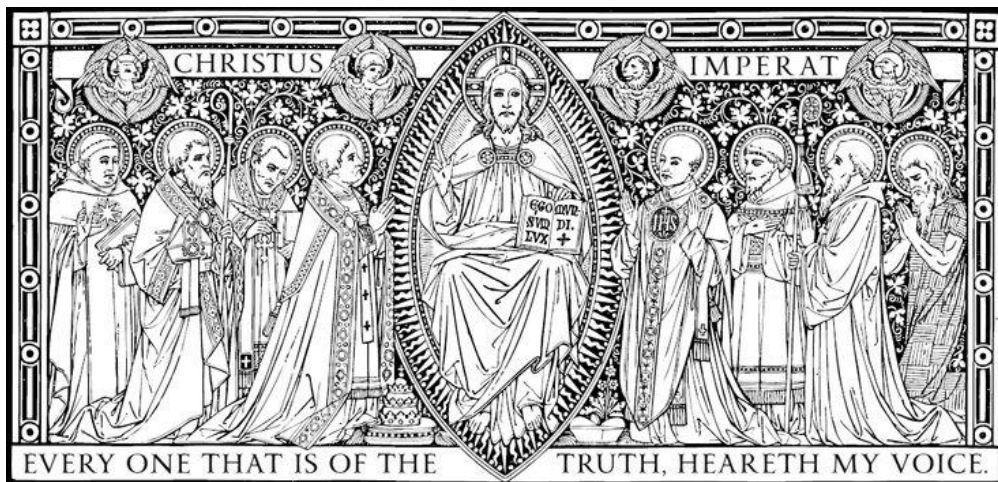
It tells of ben - e - dic - tion, Of par-don, grace, and peace,
 Our hearts were filled with sad - ness, And we had lost our way;
 The foe is stern and ea - ger, The fight is fierce and long;
 Which, though we be un - wor - thy Of love so great and free,



Of joy that hath no end - ing, Of love that can - not cease.
 But Thou hast brought us glad - ness And songs at break of day.
 But Thou hast made us might - y And strong - er than the strong.
 In - vites us ver - y sin - ners To come, dear Lord, to Thee!

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON



Standing

OFFERTORY

Psalm 51:10–12



C Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Sitting

OFFERING

Standing

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Brief silence

P Heavenly Father, we glorify You for Your sustaining love. We especially thank and praise You for the gift of Your Son, in whom we have redemption and forgiveness of sins; for the Holy Spirit, the Comforter; for the companionship of Your Holy Church; and for the hope of the age to come. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Almighty God, bless Matthew, our Synod president; Jeffrey, our district president; and all servants of Your Word. Keep them strong in their witness to Your grace. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Gracious Lord, Your Son called Matthew from his tax booth to be an apostle who proclaimed salvation. Continue to call men into Your Holy Ministry, and endow them with every good gift to proclaim Your Word and administer Your Sacraments in righteousness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Heavenly Father, open wide the hearts of Christians to one another, especially within the home and between neighbors. Let love be genuine, speech truthful and patience constant. Let us commend ourselves in everything as those known by God's love and, therefore, unashamed to serve one another. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Father in heaven, look favorably on all public servants, giving them wisdom and courage to serve according to Your will. Guard all members of our armed forces, covering them with Your protecting hand. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Father of compassion, be near to those who cry out to You in time of need [*especially* _____]. Grant healing to the sick, according to Your will, and comfort the mourning with Christ's victory over death and the grave. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Heavenly Father, how lovely is the dwelling place of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who gives us sinners to eat and to drink of His flesh and blood here at the holy altar. Grant to all who come to this feast today repentant and believing hearts, that in the blessed Sacrament they would receive forgiveness, life and salvation, and be strengthened in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Heavenly Father, Your Son chose to dine with tax collectors and sinners such as St. Matthew. As we remember him this day, grant that we might rejoice that Christ still chooses to dine with us sinners in His own feast of forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

Matthew 5:22-24; Ephesians 4:1-3

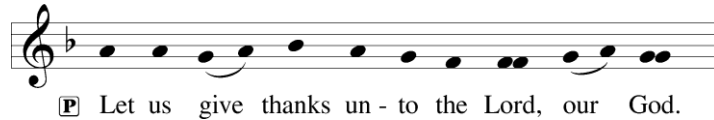
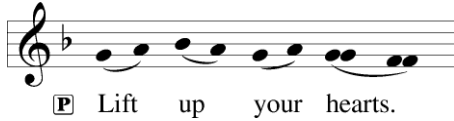
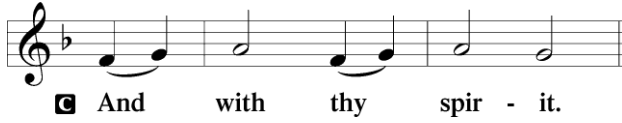
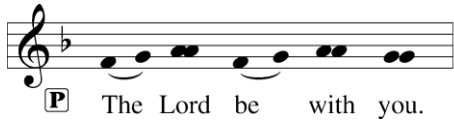
Following the prayers, please greet one another in the name of the Lord by saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of forgiveness and reconciliation in preparation for worthy reception of the Holy Supper.

Please remain standing.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]




P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God; for You have mightily governed and protected Your holy Church, in which the blessed apostles and evangelists proclaimed Your divine and saving Gospel. Therefore with patriarchs and prophets, apostles and evangelists, with Your servant Matthew, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



SANCTUS ~ *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,
ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,
bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.
Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Kneeling or sitting forward

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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

Matthew 26; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

P Our Lord Je-sus Christ, on the night when He was be-trayed, took bread,
and when He had giv-en thanks, He broke it and gave it to the
dis-ci-ples and said: "Take, eat; this is My bod-y, which is giv-en for you.
This do in re-mem-brance of Me." In the same way al-so
He took the cup after sup-per, and when He had giv-en thanks, He gave it
to them, say-ing: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in
My blood, which is shed for you for the for-give-ness of sins.
This do, as often as you drink it, in re-mem-brance of Me."

PAX DOMINI ~ *The Peace of the Lord*

John 20:19

P The peace of the Lord be with you al-ways.
A - men.

AGNUS DEI ~ *Lamb of God*

John 1:29

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Sitting

About participation in the Lord's Supper:

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor. [Those coming to the altar for a blessing rather than Holy Communion are asked to cross their arms over their chest.]

For further study, see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.

(Above is the "Model Communion Card Statement" from Theology and Practice of the Lord's Supper, a 1983 report by the Commission on Theology and Church Relations (CTCR) of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.)

Prayer Before Receiving Holy Communion

Lord Jesus, You invite all who are burdened with sin to come to You for rest. We now come at Your invitation to the heavenly feast, which You have provided for Your children on earth. Preserve us from impenitence and unbelief, cleanse us from our unrighteousness, and clothe us with the righteousness purchased with Your blood. Strengthen our faith, increase our love and hope, and assure us a place at Your heavenly table, where we will eat eternal manna and drink of the river of Your pleasure forever and ever. Hear us, Jesus, for Your own sake. Amen.

MUSIC DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

Lutheran Service Book 518

"By All Your Saints in Warfare"

1 By all Your saints in war - fare, For
 2 Praise, Lord, for him whose Gos - pel Your
 Δ 3 Then let us praise the Fa - ther And
 all Your saints at rest, Your ho - ly name, O
 hu - man life de - clared, Who, world - ly gain for -
 wor - ship God the Son And sing to God the
 Je - sus, For - ev - er - more be blest! For
 sak - ing, Your path of suf - f'ring shared. From
 Spir - it, E - ter - nal Three in One, Till
 You have won the bat - tle That they might wear the
 all un - righ - teous mam - mon, O raise our eyes a -
 all the ran - somed num - ber Fall down be - fore the
 crown; And now they shine in glo - ry
 new That we in our vo - ca - tion
 throne, As - crib - ing pow'r and glo - ry
 Re - flect - ed and from Your throne.
 May rise and to fol - low You.
 And praise to God a - lone.

Text: Public domain
 Tune: Public domain

1 Your ta - ble I ap - proach; Dear Sav - ior, hear my prayer.
 2 Lord, I con - fess my sins And mourn their wretch - ed bands;
 3 Your bod - y and Your blood, Once slain and shed for me,
 4 Search not how this takes place, This won - drous mys - ter - y;

Let not an un - re - pen - tant heart Prove hurt - ful to me there.
 A con - trite heart is sure to find For - give - ness at Your hands.
 Are tak - en at Your ta - ble, Lord, In blest re - al - i - ty.
 God can ac - com - plish vast - ly more Than what we think could be.

5 O grant, most blessed Lord,
 That earth and hell combined
 May not about this sacrament
 Raise doubt within my mind.

6 Oh, may I never fail
 To thank You day and night
 For Your true body and true blood,
 O God, my peace and light.

Text and tune: Public domain

1 Je - sus, Thy bound - less love to me No thought can reach, no
 2 O grant that noth - ing in my soul May dwell, but Thy pure
 3 This love un - wea - ried I pur - sue And daunt - less - ly to
 4 In suf - f'ring be Thy love my peace, In weak - ness be Thy

tongue de - clare; U - nite my thank - ful heart to Thee,
 love a - lone; Oh, may Thy love pos - sess me whole,
 Thee as - pire. Oh, may Thy love my hope re - new,
 love my pow'r; And when the storms of life shall cease,

And reign with - out a ri - val there! Thine whol - ly, Thine a -
 My joy, my trea - sure, and my crown! All cold - ness from my
 Burn in my soul like heav'n - ly fire! And day and night, be
 O Je - sus, in that fi - nal hour, Be Thou my rod and

lone I am; Be Thou a - lone my con - stant flame.
 heart re - move; My ev - 'ry act, word, thought be love.
 all my care To guard this sa - cred trea - sure there.
 staff and guide, And draw me safe - ly to Thy side!

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Prayer After Receiving Holy Communion

Almighty and everlasting God, we thank and praise You for feeding us the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send us Your Holy Spirit that, having with our mouths received the holy Sacrament, we may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Standing

NUNC DIMITTIS ~ Song of Simeon

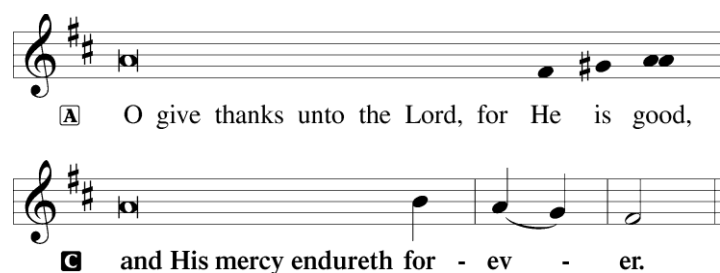
Luke 2:29-32



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-
cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

THANKSGIVING

Psalms 107:1



A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P 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.

C Amen.

SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS

2 Timothy 4:22, Psalm 103:1



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



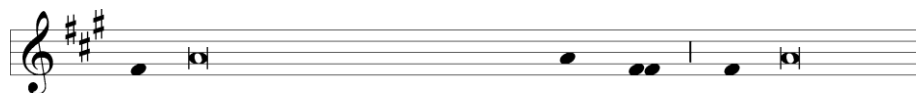
A Bless we the Lord.



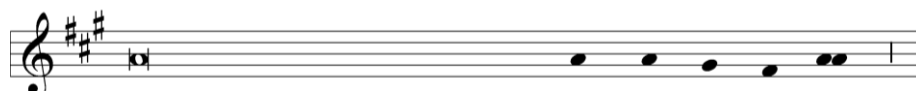
C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

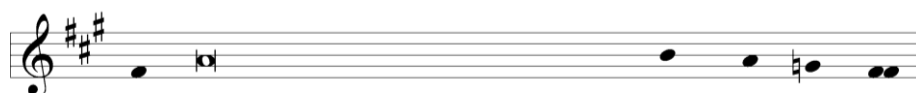
Numbers 6:24-26



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Lutheran Service Book 703

"How Can I Thank You, Lord"



1 How can I thank You, Lord, For all Your lov - ing - kind - ness,
2 It is Your work a - lone That I am now con - vert - ed;
3 Lord, You have raised me up To joy and ex - ul - ta - tion
4 Grant that Your Spir - it's help To me be al - ways giv - en
△ 5 O Fa - ther, God of love, Now hear my sup - pli - ca - tion;



That You have pa - tient - ly Borne with me in my blind - ness!
O'er Sa - tan's work in me You have Your pow'r as - sert - ed.
And clear - ly shown the way That leads me to sal - va - tion.
Lest I should fall a - gain And lose the way to heav - en.
O Sav - ior, Son of God, Ac - cept my ad - o - ra - tion;



When dead in man - y sins And tres - pass - es I lay,
Your mer - cy and Your grace That rise a - fresh each morn
My sins are washed a - way; For this I thank You, Lord.
Grant that He give me strength In my in - fir - mi - ty;
O Ho - ly Spir - it, be My ev - er faith - ful guide



I kin - dled, ho - ly God, Your an - ger ev - 'ry day.
Have turned my ston - y heart In - to a heart new - born.
Now with my heart and soul All e - vil I ab - hor.
May He re - new my heart To serve You will - ing - ly.
That I may serve You here And there with You a - bide.

Text and tune: Public domain

POSTLUDE



SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP

Presiding Minister

The Rev. Steve Harmon, *Guest Pastor*

Altar Assistant(s)

Jason Schoellen, *Elder*

Edie Durden, *Acolyte*

Organist

Abby Warnke, *Director of Music*

Cantor

Adrian Popescu

Musician(s)

Will Davis, trumpet

Patty Harmon, French horn/trumpet

Altar Guild

Margaret Beckman/Kati Durden

Usher(s)

Joel May/Nathan or Eli May

(Greg Ison)

Fellowship Host(s)

The Schoellen family

SERVING NEXT WEEK

Presiding Minister

The Rev. David V. Miller, *Pastor*

Altar Assistant(s)

Jason Schoellen, *Elder*

Edie Durden, *Acolyte*

Jude Miller, *Gospel Bearer*

Organist

Abby Warnke, *Director of Music*

Cantor

Adrian Popescu

Musician(s)

Will Davis, trumpet

Patty Harmon, French horn/trumpet

Altar Guild

Ryan Licht

Usher(s)

Joel May/Nathan or Eli May

(Greg Ison)

Fellowship Host(s)

The May family

L

OVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, WITH ALL YOUR SOUL,
AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND. THIS IS THE GREATEST AND MOST IMPORTANT
COMMANDMENT. THE SECOND IS LIKE IT: LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS
YOURSELF."

-JESUS CHRIST (MT. 22:37-39)

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sunday 9/21	St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist Nursery available Holy Mass Fellowship Hour	9:30 – 11:30 AM 10:00 AM Following Holy Mass
Monday 9/22	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Tuesday 9/23	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Wednesday 9/24	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Thursday 9/25	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Friday 9/26	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Saturday 9/27	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	Closed Closed
Sunday 9/28	Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity Nursery available Children's Sunday School Adult Bible Study: <i>Wisdom of Solomon</i> Holy Mass Fellowship Hour Church Board Meeting	8:30 – 11:30 AM 9:00 – 9:45 AM 9:00 – 9:45 AM 10:00 AM Following Holy Mass Following Fellowship Hour

LOVING THE LORD

✝ **CANCELLED: No adult Bible study or children's Sunday school on Sunday September 21.**

✝ **CANCELLED: No Midweek Prayer on Wednesday September 24.**

✝ **Summer Adult Bible Study: *The Books of the Church***

Sundays at 9:00 A.M., **except cancelled for September 21.**

Church fellowship hall

God has blessed us with His inspired Word in the canon of Holy Scripture. From Genesis to Revelation, God has given us everything we need to establish the doctrine of His Church. Nevertheless, there are ecclesiastical texts that, while not inspired by the Holy Spirit, are still helpful in recording the history of God's people and clarifying biblical contexts. Even Martin Luther retained many of these texts in his German translation of the Bible. Lutherans since have also included them in their daily lectionary. And the Jews in Jesus' day made frequent use of them in their Septuagint (Greek translation of the Old Testament).

This might explain why the Bible itself makes references to them. For example, when Jesus calls Himself "the Light of the world" (John 8:12), it's in the context of Hanukkah which originated in 1 Maccabees. And the author of Hebrews refers to Tobit when he says, "some have entertained angels unawares" (13:2), and 2 Maccabees when Hebrews says, "women received back their dead, raised to life again" (11:35). Because these texts have been judged as worthwhile reading in the Church, we are taking time to discuss them in Adult Bible Study.

Concordia Publishing House (LCMS) has compiled *The Apocrypha: The Lutheran Edition with Notes*. It is available for purchase at \$44.99 through its website (cph.org). This is a nice companion volume to your *Lutheran Study Bible*. However, a bare bones version of the texts is also available at no cost online via apocrypha.org.

✝ **Midweek Prayer**

Wednesdays at noon, **except cancelled for September 24.**

Church sanctuary

Whether on your lunchbreak or just need a break in your day, we invite you to join us for prayer and meditation on God's Holy Word. Every Wednesday at noon, parents and teachers of Open Arms, as well as anyone from the congregation, are encouraged to come into God's presence. We will hear Him speak through His Word, and we will pray for the world, our nation, and the deeper needs of the church and school communities. This service is simple and brief. But it will allow you to walk away refreshed and ready to finish out the week strong!

✝ **Michaelmas: The Feast of St. Michael and All Angels**

Holy Mass on Monday, September 29 at 7:00 P.M.
Church sanctuary

✝ **Reformation Festival: Service of Scripture and Song/Bratwurst Banquet**

Sunday, October 26 at 3:30 P.M.
Church sanctuary/fellowship hall

We are recipients of a blessed inheritance! Because of the Reformation, we have Christ—and Christ alone—preached to us. Never are we without the comfort and consolation of the saving Gospel. We have our forefathers in the faith to thank for that. The Atlanta tri-circuit churches of the Florida-Georgia District and the Georgia circuit of the English District are coming together to celebrate a service of Scripture and Song; with readings, hymns, and preaching that emphasize Reformation themes. Please join us for this blessed occasion and bring all your family and friends. Then, stay after and fellowship with one another for a bratwurst banquet.

LOVING OUR NEIGHBOR

✝ **Baby Shower for Margaret Beckman and Baby**

Sunday, October 5 at noon
Church fellowship hall

Grayson and Margaret Beckman are excited to welcome their new baby into the world. Please help them celebrate by coming to a baby shower for their family. They are registered on Amazon. And in lieu of greeting cards, they request that you please bring a book that they can read to their little one that has been signed by you, so they can remember you every time they read it. That would be very meaningful to them. Thank you!

✝ **Open Arms Fall Festival**

Saturday, October 11 from 9:00 A.M. to noon
Church fellowship hall

Consider volunteering as a representative of Ascension. Our goal is to welcome our school families to the property, invite them to join us for our Sunday schedule, and build relationships. In addition to greeting and making friends, volunteers are asked to please help man the table for Ascension. There, we will have goodie bags to give away. Also, thank you for proactively being on the lookout for other ways you may ensure the event runs smoothly.

✝ Veterans Appreciation Dinner

Saturday, November 8 at 5:30 P.M.

Location: Church fellowship hall

The fifth annual Veterans Appreciation Dinner is open to all those men and women who have served in our United States military, as well as their families. All veterans and their guests are invited to join us at no cost to them or their loved ones. Others, who are not veterans, are welcome to purchase a ticket to attend the dinner in celebration of our veterans. 100% of all proceeds go to benefit Warriors Set Free, which is a special ministry organization that helps veterans to heal from their emotional scars and find personal freedom in Jesus Christ. Each year, the event has grown in size, and we hope to make this year's event the biggest one yet!

The event includes much more than a delicious dinner, but also features patriotic fellowship, special guest speakers, raffle prizes, and other good surprises. The Veterans Appreciation Dinner is a can't-miss event! Be sure to mark your calendars. Even more, please help get the word out to both veterans and non-veterans alike. To help you in this effort, we have printed fliers that are available in the narthex which you may pass out. You can visit the event website to RSVP free (for veterans and their families) or buy tickets (everyone else): vetsdinner.com. All questions may be directed to Jason Schoellen, whose information is in the church directory.

✝ Twelfth Annual Chili Cook-Off

Sunday November 23, following Holy Mass

Church fellowship hall

For its twelfth year, the Chili Cook-Off is back! Contestants have the opportunity to win one of three awards: Tastiest; Spiciest; and Most Original. Anyone may enter their chili. If you would like to register, please bring your chili entry on the day of the cook-off, and on the registration sheet print your first and last names, as well as the name of your chili. The number next to your name on the signup sheet is the number by which you should place chili on the day of the Cook-Off. Numbers will be set up. Anyone may also attend the event to taste the chilis and vote as a judge. One suggestion for all contestants: please bring your chili in a crock-pot to keep it warm and ready to serve.

LIFTING HOLY HANDS

Celebrations

Birthdays:

- ✝ Adrian Popescu, 9/25

Rebirthdays (Baptismal Anniversaries):

- ✝ Eli May, 9/27

Confirmation Anniversary:

- ✝ Tom Russell, 9/27

Wedding Anniversaries:

- ✝ Isaac & Bekah Beckman, 9/22
- ✝ Brian & Darlene Beckman, 9/23

Membership Anniversaries:

- ✝ None this week

Recent Requests

For comfort, health, and recovery:

- ✝ Rev. Dr. James Clark (friend of the congregation)
- ✝ Pam Edinger (friend of Darlene Beckman)
- ✝ Sam Gollin
- ✝ John & Felista Kaale (uncle & aunt of Hellen Kaale)
- ✝ Sami Malak (father of Pastor Miller's sister-in-law)
- ✝ Jean Meyers (former member of Ascension)
- ✝ Jason Wilson (coworker of Hellen Kaale)

Special Prayers

- ✝ Health and safety of all expecting mothers and their children, especially Margaret Beckman and baby.
- ✝ Family and friends of Bill Bigelow (brother of Anne Bigelow), for peace and comfort in the Gospel.
- ✝ Family and friends of Charlie Kirk (Christian martyr), for peace and comfort in the Gospel.
- ✝ Steady employment and fair wages for the unemployed, especially Jill Drachenberg.
- ✝ Blessings on the union of Charles and Elizabeth Schnell, who are married this morning, 9/21.

Ongoing Requests

For family and friends of the congregation:

- ✝ David Abee (brother of Nancy Grossberg)
- ✝ David and Phyllis Beckman (parents of Brian Beckman)
- ✝ Corey Gaither (nephew of Ruth Henry)
- ✝ Ruth Henry
- ✝ Dee Keiger (sister of Eileen Buehl)
- ✝ Samantha Salgado (wife of Homero Salgado)
- ✝ Heidi Schnakenberg (niece of Clara Smith)
- ✝ Charles Schnell (former member), for his formation as a pastor.
- ✝ Pat Vines (mother of Darlene Beckman's friend)
- ✝ Evan Wells (nephew of Darlene Beckman)

For the leaders of Church and state:

- ✝ Director Barbara Collins-Hopkins & Open Arms Board
- ✝ English District Bishop Jeffrey G. Miskus & all district officials
- ✝ LCMS President Matthew Harrison & all synodical officials
- ✝ Pastor David Miller & Church Board of Lutheran Church of the Ascension
- ✝ Rev. Dr. Jonathan & Dcs. Cheryl Naumann, missionaries to Dominican Republic
- ✝ President Donald Trump & all U.S. government officials

ALSO THEY TEACH THAT MEN CANNOT BE JUSTIFIED BEFORE GOD BY THEIR OWN STRENGTH, MERITS, OR WORKS, BUT ARE FREELY JUSTIFIED FOR CHRIST'S SAKE, THROUGH FAITH, WHEN THEY BELIEVE THAT THEY ARE RECEIVED INTO FAVOR, AND THAT THEIR SINS ARE FORGIVEN FOR CHRIST'S SAKE, WHO, BY HIS DEATH, HAS MADE SATISFACTION FOR OUR SINS. THIS FAITH GOD IMPUTES FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS IN HIS SIGHT. ROM. 3 AND 4.

-AUGSBURG CONFESSION. ARTICLE IV. OF JUSTIFICATION.



THE LUTHERAN
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ASCENSION

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