

**SERVANTS OF CHRIST PROCLAIM
THE TRUTHS OF SALVATION**

The Feast of St. Matthias, Apostle

Sunday, February 24, 2019

WELCOME TO GOOD SHEPHERD!

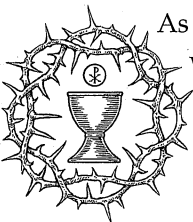
We are so happy you could join us today! If we can assist you in any way with questions about our confession of faith, spiritual struggles, understanding our liturgical service, or any other need, please let us know. It is our prayer that the Gospel of Jesus Christ will strengthen and comfort you.

For your convenience, **Listening Devices** are available for those who need assistance in hearing the service. Please speak with an usher if you need one. A **Large-Print Service Folder** is also available if you are in need of it. A **Nursery** is also available and is equipped with a speaker so that a minimal amount of the service is missed. The nursery is located in the hallway just off the entryway (first door on left).

SERVICE NOTES FOR TODAY

We know almost nothing about St. Matthias compared to Judas. While we know the grisly details of Judas' death (Acts 1:18–19), we are unsure of Matthias'. After his election, the Bible never mentions him again. He seems to be a forgotten apostle. But what is fame to God? He looks to "*he who is humble and contrite in spirit and trembles at my word*" (Is. 66:2). Judas trembled, but his contrition was without faith in God's mercy in Christ. He tried to bear his own sin in the form of a noose. Jesus does not say, "*see to it yourself*," (Matt. 27:4) but "*come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. . . and you will find rest for your souls*" (Matt. 11:28–29). Matthias was a witness of Christ's ministry from John's baptism to the resurrection (Acts 1:21–22), chosen to proclaim "*the kingdom of heaven*" (Matt. 10:7) from repentance to redemption and new life. He and countless other forgotten ministers continually announce the truth that no sinner must bear his own yoke, for Christ bears it all and has put sin to death forever in His cross.

HOLY COMMUNION IS OFFERED TODAY



As Christians who believe that the Bible is inspired by God and that every word written in it is God's holy Word, we believe that we receive the body and blood in, with, and under the bread and wine. While this is something that goes beyond our human understanding, our faith allows us to accept this as true. God warns us in the Bible that anyone who doesn't understand this teaching or who

denies this real presence of Christ's body and blood will do damage to his or her soul if not properly taught first (1 Corinthians 11:27-29).

As a congregation we care about people and about the spiritual well-being of individuals, especially those attending the Lord's Table today. If you are a guest and desire to commune, please speak to the pastor before the service. Our altar is open to those who confess oneness with us in doctrine, are not under church discipline in another congregation, and are members of our congregation, one of our sister congregations in the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod [WELS], or a member of our sister synod, the Evangelical Lutheran Synod [ELS].

SERVING IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

Presiding & Preaching Minister	Pr. Nathanael Seelow
Keyboardist	Michelle Reinsch
Ushers	Randy Webb & Tony Wenz
Greeter	Donna Haas & Bert Mues

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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THE DIVINE SERVICE

Divine Service II — Christian Worship: Supplement, pg. 28



We **invoke** the name of the Trinity to signify our worship as exclusively Christian and to remember that we are God's baptized people. Gathered in his Name, we are sure of his presence and his blessing.

Beginning each day yourself with the invocation and the sign of the cross is a great reminder that your life and day are sanctified by Holy Baptism.

We cannot approach God without having our sins forgiven. He is holy and we are not. Confession assures us of a clean slate before God and prepares us for worship, hearing God's Word, and receiving the Lord's Supper.

OPENING HYMN

Christ is Our Cornerstone | CW 528

INVOCATION 28:79

Matthew 28:19

Please stand.

- [M]** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
[C] Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

- [M]** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
[C] But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:8-9

- [M]** Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

Silence for meditation as you examine your thoughts, words, and actions according to God's Word.

- [M]** We confess: **[C]** Lord of Life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.
For faithless worrying and selfish pride,
For sins of habit and sins of choice,
For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,
You should cast me away from your presence forever.
O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus sake.

ABSOLUTION

- [M]** Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy,

God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY — *Kyrie*

Mark 10:47

M In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

M For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C Christ, have mercy.

M For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

M Lord of Life, live in us that we may live for you.

C Amen.

GLORY BE TO GOD — *Gloria in Excelsis*

Luke 2:14

Tune: KOMM, GOTT SCHÖPFER [CW 177]

1) All glory be to God on High!

Your name, O Lord, we glorify;

We praise you for your peace and grace,

Your favor toward our fallen race.

2) Our grateful thanks to you we bring,

For your great glory, heav'nly King,

For all, O Father, you have done

Through Jesus Christ, your only Son.

3) O Lamb of God, to you we pray.

You take all human sin away.

Have mercy, Lord; receive our prayer;

From God's right hand, your mercy share.

4) You, Christ, are holy—Lord alone;

The Father's glory you made known.

We by your Spirit sing again:

"All glory be to God!" Amen.

God is gracious and merciful. He forgives us for Christ's sake. This assures us that we can receive the rest of his gifts through the service and return thanks for those gifts, having been set free from the burden of sin.

Kyrie eleison [kir-ē-ā ə-lā-ə-sān] is a Greek phrase meaning "Lord, have mercy." We have already received the mercy of God for forgiveness in Holy Absolution. Now we ask his mercy for all other things we need for a God-pleasing spiritual life.

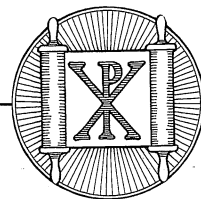
Having just petitioned the Lord for blessings beyond the forgiveness just granted in absolution, we now praise him as the One who can deliver those blessings, because he is the all-powerful God. His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, is the Lamb worthy of our praise, just as the angels praised him at his birth.

The salutation is found all through the Scriptures. The pastor stands before the congregation as Christ's servant. As the Lord's servant, he speaks God's peace to the congregation. As the congregation responds with "and also with you," they affirm his Call and Vocation with respect and Christian love.

The Collect serves to prepare the congregation for the reception of the special Word of the Day, now about to be read. In it pastor and people pray for the particular grace which that Word offers and conveys.

What is fame to God?
"The one who is afflicted and whose spirit is crushed, the one who trembles at my word."

The Service of the Word



SALUTATION

Ruth 2:4; 2 Timothy 4:22

- M** The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY — Collect

- M** Let us pray.

Almighty God, You chose Your servant Matthias to be numbered among the Twelve. Grant that Your Church, ever preserved from false teachers, may be taught and guided by faithful and true pastors; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** Amen.

Be seated.

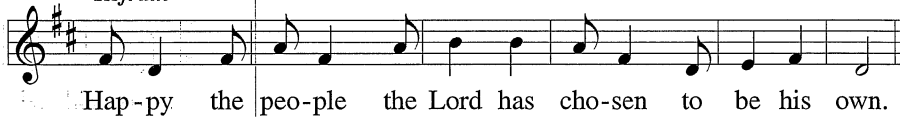
FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 66:1-2

THIS IS WHAT THE LORD SAYS.

The heavens are my throne,
and the earth is a footstool under my feet.
Where, then, is the house that you could build for me?
Where, then, is a place that could serve as my resting place?
² For my hand made all these things,
so all these things came into existence,
declares the LORD.
Yet this is the person I will watch over:
the one who is afflicted and whose spirit is crushed,
the one who trembles at my word.

- M** The Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God!

Refrain*Psalm tone**Refrain*

How good and plea- | sant it is
when brothers live together in | unity!

For there the LORD bestows his | blessing,
even life for- | evermore.

Refrain

Praise the LORD, all you servants | of the LORD
who minister in the house | of the LORD.

Lift up your hands in the sanctu- | ary
and | praise the LORD.

May the LORD, the maker of hea- | ven and earth,
bless you from | Zion.

*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.

Refrain

Matthias was a witness of Christ's ministry from John's baptism to the resurrection, chosen to proclaim "the kingdom of heaven," from repentance to redemption and new life. He and countless other forgotten ministers continually announce the truth that no sinner must bear his own yoke, for Christ bears it all and has put sin to death forever in His cross.

IN THOSE DAYS, when the group there numbered about 120 people, Peter stood up among the brothers and said,
¹⁶ "Gentlemen, brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke long ago through the mouth of David about Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus. ¹⁷ Judas was counted as one of us and was given a share in this ministry.

¹⁸ "Now this man acquired a field with what he was paid for his wicked act. When he fell headfirst, his middle burst open, and all his intestines spilled out. ¹⁹ This became known to all the residents of Jerusalem, and so in their own language that field was called Akeldema, which means *Field of Blood*. ²⁰ Indeed, it is written in the book of Psalms:

May his residence be deserted.

Let there be no one dwelling in it.

And,

let someone else take his position,

²¹ "Therefore it is necessary that one of the men who accompanied us during the entire time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²² beginning from his baptism by John until the day Jesus was taken up from us, become a witness with us of his resurrection."

²³ They proposed two: Joseph called Barsabbas (who was also called Justus) and Matthias. ²⁴ Then they prayed, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which of these two you have chosen ²⁵ to take the place in this apostolic ministry from which Judas turned away to go to his own place."

²⁶ Then they assigned lots for them, and the lot fell to Matthias. So he was counted with the eleven apostles.

M

The Word of the Lord.

C

Thanks be to God!

VERSE OF THE DAY

Romans 10:17

Please stand.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Faith comes from hear - ing the mes - sage, and the

mes - sage is heard through the Word of Christ. Al - le -

lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 6:12-16

- M** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, chapter six.
C Praise be to you, O Lord.

IT HAPPENED IN THOSE DAYS that Jesus went up on the mountain to pray, and he spent all night in prayer to God. ¹³ When it was day, he summoned his disciples and chose twelve of them, whom he also called apostles: ¹⁴ Simon, whom he also named Peter, and his brother Andrew; James and John; Philip and Bartholomew; ¹⁵ Matthew and Thomas; James the son of Alphaeus, also Simon, who was called the Zealot; ¹⁶ Judas the son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.

- M** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise be to you, O Christ.

Be seated.

Jesus doesn't just Call these men to follow him and be his disciples. He in fact calls them "apostles."

HYMN OF THE DAY

By All Your Saints Still Striving | CW 555 (1,7,3)

SERMON

Luke 6:12-16 | Called By Christ

APOSTLES' CREED

Please stand.

C I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth. 2 Cor. 6:18
Is. 51:13

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died,
and was buried. 1 Cor. 8:6; Jn. 3:18
Lk. 1:35
Lk. 1:34; 2:7
Lk. 23:16
Mt. 27:32-61; Mk. 15:21-47; mly!
Lk. 23:26-56; Jn. 19:16b-42

He descended into hell. 1 Pet. 3:19

The third day he rose again from the dead. 1 Cor. 15:4b

He ascended into heaven Ac. 2:33-34

and is seated at the right hand
of God the Father almighty. Heb. 1:13

From there he will come to judge Mt. 25:31

the living and the dead. 2 Tim. 4:1

I believe in the Holy Spirit, Mt. 3:16-17

the holy Christian Church, Eph. 5:23

the communion of saints, Eph. 4:3-6

the forgiveness of sins, Rom. 4:6-8

the resurrection of the body, Ecc. 12:7

and the life ☩ everlasting. Amen. 1 Th. 4:17

Be seated.

OFFERING

Upon hearing the Word preached, the congregation unites in one voice to speak a summary of the Christian faith just preached. The creeds signify our allegiance to Christian doctrine and unite us with over 2,000 years of Christian history. By repeating the creeds weekly, we equip ourselves for public witness by grounding our confession in the fundamentals of our faith.

Moved by God's love in Christ, by our Offering we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. If you are visiting with us today, please do not feel obligated to give an offering.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Please stand.

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

Brief silence.

[M] We pray, Lord, for guidance amid the changes and chances of this mortal life. Deliver us from the pangs of doubt and from the paralysis of fear. Help us to know with joy our Lord Jesus Christ and the power of His resurrection, that we may not surrender to anxiety or despair. Lord, in Your mercy, **[C]** **hear our prayer.**

[M] We pray, Lord, for Your Church; for an end to the earthly divisions that grieve You; for the true unity of doctrine and faith in Your Word; and for those who lead us in the Synod, the district, the circuit and this congregation. Lord, in Your mercy, **[C]** **hear our prayer.**

[M] We pray, Lord, for all whom you have called into the public ministry. Satisfy them with your rich and heavenly gifts. Cause your people to honor and respect them in their calling and to support them as those whom your Holy Spirit has made stewards of your Word and Sacraments. Prosper their teaching and preaching of your Word among us, so that we may grow in faith, wisdom, and good works. Lord, in Your mercy, **[C]** **hear our prayer.**

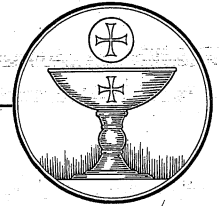
[M] We pray, Lord, for the civil authority and for those responsible to You for the welfare of our nation, state and community. Help them to pursue faithfully the cause of justice and to protect and defend life from its natural beginning to its natural end. Guard all first responders, and protect those who defend us both here and abroad. Lord, in Your mercy, **[C]** **hear our prayer.**

[M] We pray, Lord, for Your comfort upon all who suffer. Deliver the sick according to Your will, and sustain those troubled in body or soul by Your grace (*especially...*). Be with the dying and grant them peace at the last, and give Your comfort to those who grieve. Give to all patience and courage, that they may endure these times of trial with hope in their hearts. Lord, in Your mercy, **[C]** **hear our prayer.**

[M] We pray, Lord, that You will bring all things to completion, each according to Your own order and in Your time. And when Christ comes, we pray that You will number us among the saints in glory as the dead are raised and the perishable is clothed with the imperishable — just as our Savior has promised. Give to us and to all the faithful the inheritance prepared for us from before the foundation of the world as we anticipate in this communion the marriage feast of the Lamb in His Kingdom without end. Lord, in Your mercy, **[C]** **hear our prayer.**

[M] We pray, Lord, to grant us these and all things good and wholesome and profitable to our salvation, through the merits and mercies of Jesus Christ, our Savior, in union with You and the Holy Spirit, the one eternal God, now and forever. **[C]** **Amen.**

The Service of the Sacrament



PREFACE

[M] The Lord be with you.

Ruth 2:4; 2 Timothy 4:22

[C] And also with you.

[M] Lift up your hearts.

Lamentations 3:41

[C] We lift them up to the Lord.

[M] Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Psalms 136

[C] It is good and right so to do.

[M] It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, *who lived among us as a human being and revealed his glory as your only Son, full of grace and truth.* Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

First recorded in A.D. 220, this dialogue and prayer begins the liturgy of the Lord's Supper. Each season has its own unique text (italics).

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY — *Sanctus*

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

Tune: MUNICH [CW 78]

O holy, holy, holy
Lord God of pow'r and might,
Your glory, earth and heaven
In countless ways recite.
Hosanna! Come and save us,
Lord God of hosts on high,
And in your grace and mercy
Receive our fervent cry.

Hosanna in the highest!
How truly blest is he
Who in God's name is coming
To set his people free!
He comes to bring salvation
And with his blood outpoured,
Deliver us from bondage—
Hosanna, mighty Lord!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

M All glory and splendor, thanks and praise are yours, O Lord, heavenly Father. Bless our reception of your Son's body and blood that we may shine with the joy of faith. Use this most Holy Sacrament to illumine our lives and minds with Christ's forgiveness, peace, and comfort. Refresh our faith, and help us to reflect his truth and grace to the world. We ask this that you may receive endless honor, glory, and praise from every tribe and language and people and nation.

C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER — *Pater Noster*

Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4

M Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

"Sanctus" means "holy." The body and blood of our Lord are present in this Sacrament, and so we use the words of the angels from Isaiah 6 and of the Palm Sunday crowds from Matthew 21 to acknowledge the holy presence of God in this meal.

Take note of the intense reverence of God's holiness in this canticle. May we pray that we daily show such reverence.

As the testaments are linked to Christ in the Service of the Word, so do we remember and give thanks for salvation history in the Church's table prayer.

The Lord's Prayer, given us by Christ himself, is wonderfully and appropriately spoken here as we approach his Supper.

Daily the baptized people of God pray. The Lord's Prayer is both a prayer to pray and a model for all our prayers.

For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

The words of our Lord
bestow exactly what
they say. In the words
of consecration the
Lord's Word delivers
his body and blood for
our forgiveness.

Though we are blessed
with many good
foods, no other meal
gives the body and
blood of Christ to
sinners. For this
reason, we cherish
and crave this meal
each time it is offered.

The resurrected Lord
calmed the fears of the
disciples with his
peace. The resurrected
Lord is present in the
Supper, and so the
pastor speaks peace to
us on his behalf.

During stressful
times, remember the
peace of Christ that
you received in his
Supper today.

"Agnus Dei" [äg-
nūs-dā-ē] means
"Lamb of God," and
reminds us that Jesus
is the Lamb of God,
sacrificed for our
forgiveness.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION — Verba

Matthew 26:26-30; Mark 14:22-24;
Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

M Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when
he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take
and eat. This is my ✠ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance
of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink
from it all of you; this is my ✠ blood of the new covenant, which is poured
out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in
remembrance of me."

PEACE OF THE LORD — Pax Domini

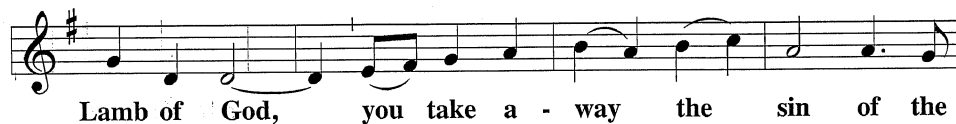
John 20:19

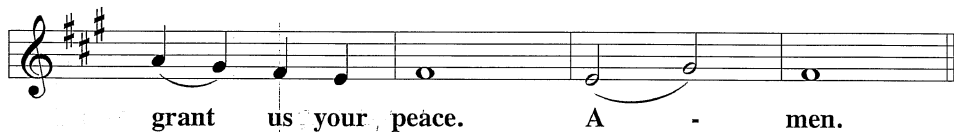
M The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

LAMB OF GOD — Agnus Dei

John 1:29





Be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

Those who will be receiving Holy Communion today may wish to read *Personal Preparation for Holy Communion*, found on page 156 in the front section of the hymnal. This page helps us put into practice what the Bible encourages: "Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup." (1 Corinthians 11:28) *Prayer suggestions for before and after receiving the Lord's Supper* can be found in the hymnal on pages 10-11 and 134-139.

SONG OF SIMEON — *Nunc Dimittis*

Luke 2:29-32

Tune: FRUET EUCH, IHR LIEBEN CHRISTEN [CW 93]

Please stand.

O Lord, now let your servant
Depart in peace, assured:
For I have seen your promised
Incarnate, saving Word—
A Light that will enlighten
All gloom where Gentiles dwell;
The brilliant, crowning glory
Of those in Israel!

All glory to the Father,
All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit,
Forever three in one;
For as in the beginning,
Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding
Through all eternity.

POST-COMMUNION ANTIPHON

M O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good.
C And his mercy endures forever.

Psalm 107:1

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

M Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift

Good Shepherd confesses and practices the Biblical teaching of a **Closed Communion**. We ask that only members of the Wisconsin Synod [WELS] or the Evangelical Lutheran Synod [ELS] join us at the Lord's Table. If you have questions concerning our communion practice, or would like to inquire about how you, too, can commune with us, please speak with the Pastor following the service.

Having received forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation, we thank the Lord for his gifts and pray that he will grant us faith to use them in love toward our neighbor.

In Numbers 6 God tells Aaron to put his name on the people of God with these words.

As we began the service with the Lord's name, so we are sent out in his name.

Live each day with confidence, knowing that you have the Lord's blessing and presence with you.

you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BLESSING

Numbers 6:22-27

M The LORD bless you and keep you.
The LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The LORD look on you with favor and ✚ give you peace.

C Amen.

Be seated.

CLOSING HYMN

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation | CW 531