

*Welcome, visitors! Welcome members and friends of St. Matthew Ev. Lutheran Church.  
Thank you for joining us in church and on our online service today.*

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21<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 18, 2026

WOV – SERVICE OF WORD AND PRAYER pg. 46

Prelude

**WELCOME**

(Please rise)

**GATHERING HYMN – ELW 526 GOD IS HERE**

**GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**Cong – And also with you.**

**DIALOG – pg. 46**

*You are the treasured people of the Lord.*

**Cong – a people holy to the Lord our God.**

*Keep the words of the Lord in your heart; teach them to your children.*

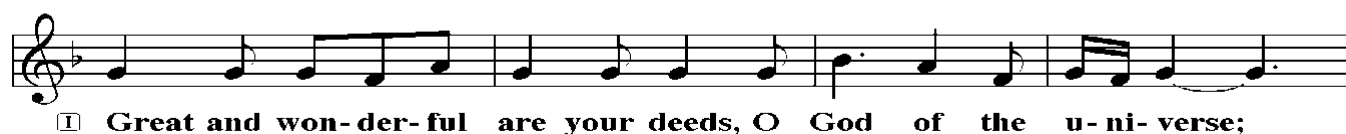
**Cong – talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.**

*One does not live by bread alone,*

**Cong – but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.**

**SCRIPTURE SONG – pg. 47**

*I – Women & Children II – Men*



III For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One. All

na - tions will draw near and wor - ship be - fore you,

for your just and ho - ly works have been re - vealed.

☐ Sal - va - tion be - longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for - ev - er and ev - er.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Cong – Amen.**

**(Please be seated)**

### FIRST READING: Isaiah 45:1-7

**Alicia Driver, Worship Assistant**

*The prophet announces that Cyrus the Persian emperor is the one the LORD has anointed to end Israel's exile. The LORD makes this choice so that the whole world will recognize this LORD as the only God. Persia had a god of light and a god of darkness; the LORD claims sovereignty over both light and darkness.*

<sup>1</sup>Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him—and the gates shall not be closed: <sup>2</sup>I will go before you and level the mountains, 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 riches hidden in secret places, so 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 surname 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 arm you, though you do not know me, <sup>6</sup>so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. <sup>7</sup>I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the LORD do all these things.

Leader – The Word of the Lord.

**Cong – Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM: Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]

*Ascribe to the LORD honor and power. (Ps. 96:7)*

(The Psalm will be read alternatively, beginning with Leader)

<sup>1</sup>Sing to the LORD | a new song;  
sing to the LORD, | all the earth.

<sup>2</sup>**Sing to the LORD, bless the name | of the LORD;  
proclaim God's salvation from | day to day.**

<sup>3</sup>Declare God's glory a- | mong the nations  
and God's wonders a- | mong all peoples.

<sup>4</sup>**For great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised,  
more to be feared | than all gods.**

<sup>5</sup>As for all the gods of the nations, they | are but idols;  
but you, O LORD, have | made the heavens.

<sup>6</sup>**Majesty and magnificence are | in your presence;  
power and splendor are in your | sanctuary.**

<sup>7</sup>Ascribe to the LORD, you families | of the peoples,  
ascribe to the LORD hon- | or and power.

<sup>8</sup>**Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the | holy name;  
bring offerings and enter the courts | of the LORD.**

<sup>9</sup>Worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness;  
tremble before the LORD, | all the earth.

[<sup>10</sup>**Tell it out among the nations: "The | LORD is king!  
The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved  
will judge the peo- | ples with equity."**

<sup>11</sup>Let the heavens rejoice, and let the | earth be glad;  
let the sea thunder and all that is in it;  
let the field be joyful and all that | is therein.

<sup>12</sup>**Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your com- | ing, O LORD,  
for you come to | judge the earth.**

<sup>13</sup>You will judge the | world with righteousness  
and the peoples | with your truth.]

## SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Alicia Driver, Worship Assistant

*Most likely this letter is the first written by Paul. Paul gives pastoral encouragement and reassurances to new Christians living in an antagonistic environment. Their commitment of faith, love, and hope makes them a model for other new Christian communities.*

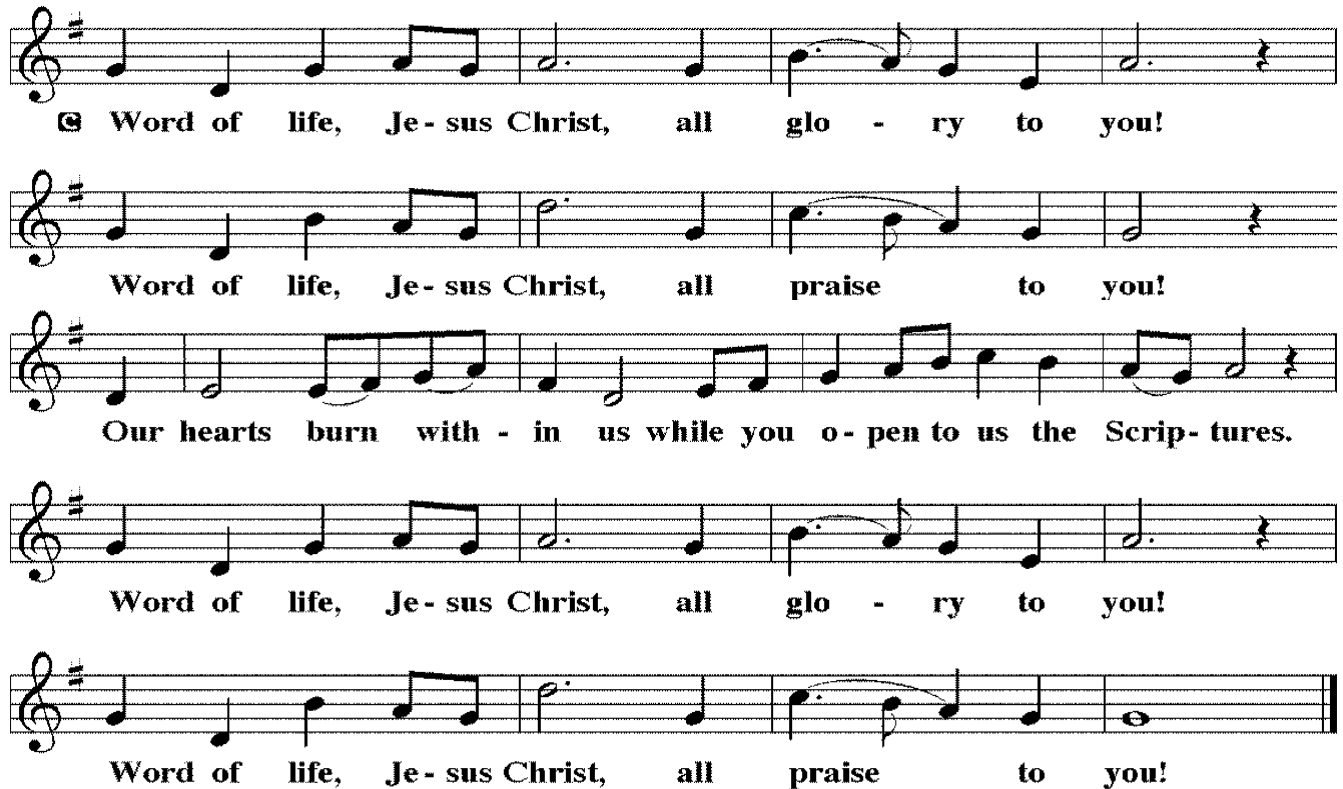
<sup>1</sup>Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. <sup>2</sup>We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly <sup>3</sup>remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, <sup>5</sup>because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. <sup>6</sup>And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by 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 the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. <sup>9</sup>For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, <sup>10</sup>and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Leader – The Word of the Lord.

Cong – Thanks be to God.

(Please rise)

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** – pg. 48



Word of life, Je- sus Christ, all glo - ry to you!

Word of life, Je- sus Christ, all praise to you!

Our hearts burn with - in us while you o - pen to us the Scrip- tures.

Word of life, Je- sus Christ, all glo - ry to you!

Word of life, Je- sus Christ, all praise to you!

Pastor – The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 22<sup>nd</sup> chapter.

Cong – Glory to you, O Lord.

**GOSPEL: Matthew 22:15-22**

**Pastor Kelly Reagan**

*After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First they ask if God's people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.*

<sup>15</sup>The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. <sup>16</sup>So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. <sup>17</sup>Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" <sup>18</sup>But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? <sup>19</sup>Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. <sup>20</sup>Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" <sup>21</sup>They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." <sup>22</sup>When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

Pastor – The Gospel of the Lord.

Cong – Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Alicia Driver

SERMON – “A Faith That Turns To God”

Pastor Kelly Reagan

(Please rise)

HYMN OF THE DAY – ELW 686 WE GIVE THEE BUT THINE OWN

**RESPONSE TO THE WORD** – pg. 49

*In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.*

**Cong – We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.**

*Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.*

**Cong – I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;*

**Cong – Pray in the Holy Spirit.**

*Keep yourselves in the love of God;*

**Cong – Look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

*If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:*

**Cong – Everything old has passed away; Behold, everything has become new!**

*God has given us the ministry of reconciliation. Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another. Gracious God,*

**Cong – Have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all our sins.*

**Cong – Amen.**

*Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace.*

*The peace of the Lord be with you always.*

**Cong – And also with you.**

PEACE

(Please be seated)

OFFERING

(Please rise)

## OFFERTORY – pg. 50-51



Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.  
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;  
ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.  
Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;  
yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER – pg. 51

Let us pray. God, our Creator,

**Cong – you open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living creature. With these gifts we bless you for your tender nurture and care. Help us to delight in your will and walk in your ways, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## PRAYERS

Pastor – Hear us, O God.

**Cong – Your mercy is great.**

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Cong - Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**Cong – Amen.**

SENDING HYMN – ELW 551 THE SPIRIT SENDS US FORTH TO SERVE

(Please be seated)

Postlude

Pastor - Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Cong - Thanks be to God.

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## Holiday Bazaar

Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026!



**Volunteers needed!**

**Invite your family & friends! Our Annual Holiday Bazaar will be held on Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.** Please share this on social media!

**COOKIE WALK:** We will once again ask our bakers to get out their favorite cookie recipes (3 dozen each).

Please mark each container with the type of cookie.

Please be sure your name is on your container so we may return it to you.

Please note if nuts are in the recipe.

Please bring your homemade cookies **by 8:30 a.m., Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup>.**

**BAKED GOODS:** We also welcome breads, fudge, cinnamon rolls, and buckeyes! Wrap your yummy treats & decorate with ribbons or stickers! Don't forget to label & price these little bundles!

**KITCHEN MENU:** We will once again serve home-made soups, hot dogs and chips. Our shoppers love our lunch menu!

Signup sheets are available on the table in the Narthex for cookies, baked goods, lunch menu items, or to volunteer to serve food in the kitchen or work as a cashier.

**ATTIC TREASURES** Get down those pretty items from the attic that you no longer use to decorate your tree or home for Christmas. Our shoppers love these items! Be sure to price these items!

**CRAFT VENDORS:** We have several vendors registered!! We only have a few spaces left! Any questions, contact Alicia at [alicia.a.driver@gmail.com](mailto:alicia.a.driver@gmail.com) or (937) 974-5010.

If you would like to Chair our Baked Goods or our Kitchen, please see Susan Armstrong or Alicia Driver.

**SET UP** Ladies Guild will be setting up on **Thursday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at 1p.m.!**  
Please join us!

**Let's make this year's Holiday Bazaar our best one yet! St. Matthew Ladies Guild**

1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to of - fer  
 2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our life - long  
 3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the Shep - herd's  
 4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an age of

praise and prayer, may we find in full - er mea - sure  
 need of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;  
 flock and fold; here as bread and wine are tak - en;  
 change and doubt, keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel;

what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the  
 here the cross has cen - tral place. Here in hon - es -  
 Christ sus - tains us as of old. Here the ser - vants  
 help us work your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's

world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts  
 ty of preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,  
 of the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore  
 ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;

wait the com - ing of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.  
 here, in new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.  
 what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.  
 we, who can - not live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000

Music: Cyril V. Taylor, 1907-1991

Text © 1979 Hope Publishing Company

Music © 1942, ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company

ABBOT'S LEIGH

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## We Give Thee but Thine Own

1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;  
 2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,  
 3 The cap - tive to re - lease, to God the lost to bring,  
 4 And we be - lieve thy word, though dim our faith may be:

all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.  
 and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.  
 to teach the way of life and peace—it is a Christ-like thing.  
 what-e'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it un - to thee.

Text: William W. How, 1823-1897, alt.

Music: L. Mason and G. Webb, *Cantica Lauda*, 1850HEATH  
SM

# The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve

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1 The Spir - it sends us forth to serve; we go in  
 2 We go to com - fort those who mourn and set the  
 3 We go to be the hands of Christ, to scat - ter  
 4 Then let us go to serve in peace, the gos - pel

Je - sus' name to bring glad tid - ings  
 bur - dened free; where hope is dim, to  
 joy to like seed and, all our days, to  
 to pro - claim. God's Spir - it has em -

to the poor, God's fa - vor to pro - claim.  
 share a dream and help the blind to see.  
 cher - ish life, to do the lov - ing deed.  
 pow - ered us; we go in Je - sus' name.

Text: Delores Dufner, osb, b. 1939  
 Music: attr. Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820  
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CHESTERFIELD  
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