

FIRST READING. Deuteronomy 30:9-14

And the Lord your God will make you abundantly prosperous in all your undertakings, in the fruit of your body, in the fruit of your livestock, and in the fruit of your soil. For the Lord will again take delight in prospering you, just as he delighted in prospering your ancestors, when you obey the Lord your God by observing his commandments and decrees that are written in this book of the law, because you turn to the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

Surely, this commandment that I am commanding you today is not too hard for you, nor is it too far away. It is not in heaven, that you should say, 'Who will go up to heaven for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?' Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, 'Who will cross to the other side of the sea for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?' No, the word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for you to observe.

SECOND READING. Colossians 1:1-14

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow-servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

GOSPEL. Luke 10:25-37

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. 'Teacher,' he said, 'what must I do to inherit eternal life?' He said to him, 'What is written in the law? What do you read there?' He answered, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself.' And he said to him, 'You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.'

But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, 'And who is my neighbour?' Jesus replied, 'A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while travelling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, "Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend." Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?' He said, 'The one who showed him mercy.' Jesus said to him, 'Go and do likewise.'

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Love For God And Neighbor

Sunday, July 10, 2022

To love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind is to reflect God's mercy in responding to one's neighbor. That mercy found its most profound expression in the "gospel that has come to you"—namely the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. That gospel mercy comes to us again today: at the font, at the altar, and from the pulpit. It is very near to you. From *Sundays & Seasons*, copyright © 2021 Augsburg Fortress

"In response to God's love, St. Matthew's is a faith community welcoming all to grow in faith, to worship Christ and to reach out to everyone."

Welcome!

We hope our worship will be a blessing to you. Our Lord's Supper is being celebrated today. Everyone is welcome to receive this Holy Sacrament.

COVID-19

Although mask mandates are now lifted in most Ontario indoor settings, our Bishop encourages "all congregations to continue using masks for the time being." For now, we strongly recommend wearing a mask.

Heat Alert

Please do not feel obligated to stand during the service if you are uncomfortable in the hot weather. Please keep well hydrated and wear cool, comfortable clothing throughout the summer months.

If you missed last week's sermon, it is available on our website.

St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran



Church 57 Griffith Street • Welland, Ontario •

email:stmatts@cogeco.net • web:stmatthewswelland.com
 Pastor: Reverend Bart ColemanCell Phone (call or text) 289-821-9025
 Home Phone289-820-7713
 Emailbartsterc@gmail.com
 Council Chairperson: Jennifer Rusk Vice-Chairperson: Bob Hansen
 Church Secretary: Jennifer Allcorn905-734-4746
 Organist: Lily Jasinskas

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose steadfast love endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God, we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way. Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table. When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side. Set us again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors. Amen.

Hear the good news! God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are free to love as God loves. **Amen.**

Pastor Bart will gather with the family and friends of **Erna Pearson** on July 12, 2022 at Woodland Cemetery for a graveside service. We pray for God's peace to bring comfort to those who grieve.

Leona Carpenter entered into eternal life on July 6, 2022. A funeral is planned at St. Matthew's on July 20, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. May God's love surround Darlene & Arnie Mackler, and the Adams and Carpenter families as they mourn the loss of a loved one.



All types of food donations are welcome at Open Arms Mission.
Donation focus for July: Canned Meat

Psalm 25:1-10 - Tune 597 *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less* (Melita)

The lines of the Psalm printed in bold font are sung in unison to the tune of a familiar hymn. The lines in plain font are read by the leader.

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.
I trust you, God, to make me whole.

Reader: Let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me. Let none who look to you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

Show me, O Lord, the way to go;
Teach me your righteous paths to know.

Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation. I always trust in you.

In steadfast love remember me.
Your paths of goodness let me see.

Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions. According to your steadfast love remember me for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.
I trust you, God, to make me whole.

Because the Lord is righteous and good, he teaches sinners the path they should follow. He leads the humble in the right way and teaches them his will.

Show me, O Lord, the way to go;
Teach me your righteous paths to know.

All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness to those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

In steadfast love remember me.
Your paths of goodness let me see.

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SENDING

Blessing
Sending Song551 **The Spirit Sends**
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Dismissal:
Go in peace. Love your neighbour.
Response: Thanks be to God.