

FIRST READING. Genesis 18:20-32

Then the Lord said, ‘How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know.’

So the men turned from there, and went towards Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. Then Abraham came near and said, ‘Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?’ And the Lord said, ‘If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake.’ Abraham answered, ‘Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?’ And he said, ‘I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there.’ Again he spoke to him, ‘Suppose forty are found there.’ He answered, ‘For the sake of forty I will not do it.’ Then he said, ‘Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there.’ He answered, ‘I will not do it, if I find thirty there.’ He said, ‘Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there.’ He answered, ‘For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it.’ Then he said, ‘Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there.’ He answered, ‘For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.’

SECOND READING. Colossians 2:6-15

As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

GOSPEL. Luke 11:1-13

He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, ‘Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.’

He said to them, ‘When you pray, say:

Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

Give us each day our daily bread.

And forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial.’

And he said to them, ‘Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, “Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.” And he answers from within, “Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.” I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs. ‘So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!’



All Who Ask Receive

Sunday, July 24, 2022

Persistence in prayer is encouraged by Jesus and wins the attention of God when Abraham intercedes for Sodom. The life of the baptized—to be rooted and built up in Christ Jesus—is to be nurtured with prayer. God hears and answers prayer and so strengthens God’s own. “When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.” 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 Allcorn 905-734-4746 Organist: Lily Jasinkas

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.**

**I thank you, Lord, with all my soul;
Your blessed name I e'er extol.**

Reader: I thank you because of your constant love and faithfulness, because you have shown that your name and your commands are supreme.

**You answered when I called in need;
Your strength became my strength indeed.**

All the kings in the world will praise you, Lord, because they have heard your promises. They will sing about what you have done and about your great glory.

**Behold us from your throne on high;
With steadfast love fore'er be nigh.**

Even though you are so high above, you care for the lowly, and the proud cannot hide from you.

**I thank you, Lord, with all my soul;
Your blessed name I e'er extol.**

When I am surrounded by troubles, you keep me safe. You oppose my angry enemies and save me by your power.

**You answered when I called in need;
Your strength became my strength indeed.**

You will do everything you have promised. Lord. Your love is eternal; complete the work you have begun.

**Behold us from your throne on high;
With steadfast love fore'er be nigh.**

Dates to Remember

August 7 6:30 p.m. - Worship on the Lawn, a casual worship service with Holy Communion led by Pastor Bart. Sunday morning worship will take place at 11:00 a.m.

August 21 6:30 p.m. - Worship on the Lawn, a vespers service led by Dianne Yungblut. There is no Sunday morning worship service August 21.

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Prelude and Announcements

GATHERING

Confession and ForgivenessPrinted
Gathering Song**852 Golden Breaks**
the Dawn

GreetingPage 203
Prayer of the Day

WORD

First ReadingGenesis 18:20-32
Psalm 138Printed in bulletin
Second ReadingColossians 2:6-15
Gospel AcclamationPage 205
"Glory to you, O Lord."
GospelLuke 11:1-13
"Praise to you, O Christ."

Sermon
Hymn of the Day ..**745 Lord, Teach Us**
How to Pray Aright

Prayers of Intercession
Prayer Response "receive our prayer."
Peace (non-contact
gestures)

MEAL

Offertory Prayer
Great Thanksgiving.....Page 206
Holy, Holy, HolyPage 207
Eucharistic Prayer
The Lord's PrayerPage 208
Communion
"Lamb of God..."Page 208
Communion Hymns742, 741
Prayer after Communion

SENDING

Blessing
Sending Song**749 O God of Love,**
O King of Peace

Dismissal:
Go in peace. Love your neighbour.
Response: Thanks be to God.



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

Psalm 138 - 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.