

**FIRST READING. Ecclesiastes 1:2; 12-14; 2:18-23**

Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher,  
vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me —and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labours under the sun, because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

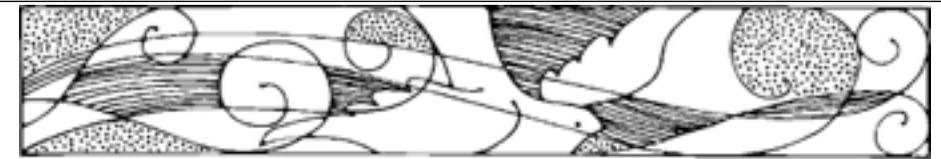
**SECOND READING. Colossians 3:1-11**

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

**GOSPEL. Luke 12:13-21**

Someone in the crowd said to him, ‘Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.’ But he said to him, ‘Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?’ And he said to them, ‘Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.’ Then he told them a parable: ‘The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, “What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?” Then he said, “I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.” But God said to him, “You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?” So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich towards God.’



*Be Rich Toward God*

**Sunday, July 31, 2022**

Today’s texts offer instruction and encouragement for all who are occasionally overwhelmed by the “unhappy business” of life. Jesus urges us to take care and be on guard against all kinds of greed. We who have died with Christ in holy baptism have also been raised with him and are encouraged to elevate our thinking, seeking the “things that are above.” To that end we seek the sustenance of the Lord’s supper and the encouragement of God’s word.

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“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.

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

**St. Matthew’s Evangelical Lutheran**

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## 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.**

**Psalm 49:1-12** - 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.*

**Reader:** Hear this, all you peoples. Hearken, all you who dwell in the world, you of high degree and low, rich and poor together. My mouth shall speak of wisdom, and my heart shall meditate on understanding.

**Let all these words of wisdom hear:  
In evil days I shall not fear.**

Why should I be afraid in evil days, when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me, the wickedness of those who trust in their wealth, and boast of their great riches?

**The ransom we can never pay  
To save us from our dying day.**

For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stupid they perish and leave their wealth to those who come after them. Their graves are their homes forever; there they stay for all time, though they once had lands of their own. Even though honored, they cannot live forever; they are like the beasts that perish.

**The riches of our God alone**

From sting of death our lives atone.

## Dates to Remember

August 7 6:30 p.m. - Worship on the Lawn, a casual worship service with singing, holy communion and simple order of service led by Pastor Bart. Sunday morning worship will still take place at 11:00 a.m.

August 21 6:30 p.m. - Worship on the Lawn, a vespers style service led by Dianne Yungblut. The format will be similar to our Worship on the Lawn services in 2021. There will be no Sunday morning worship service August 21.

Please bring a lawn chair. We hope you can join us for a relaxing time, worshipping on the lawn at St. Matthew's!



All types of food donations are welcome at Open Arms Mission.

**Donation focus for August: Crackers**

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Prelude and Announcements

### GATHERING

Confession and Forgiveness .....Printed  
**Gathering Song ...647 Glorious Things  
of You Are Spoken**

Greeting .....Page 203  
Prayer of the Day

### WORD

First Reading ...Ecc. 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23  
Psalm 49:1-12 .....Printed in bulletin  
Second Reading .....Colossians 3:1-11  
Gospel Acclamation .....Page 205

“Glory to you, O Lord.”  
Gospel .....Luke 12:13-21  
“Praise to you, O Christ.”

Sermon

**Hymn of the Day .....678 God, Whose  
Giving**

**Knows No Ending**

Prayers of Intercession

Prayer Response **“receive our prayer.”**  
Peace (non-contact  
gestures)

### MEAL

Offertory Prayer  
Great Thanksgiving.....Page 206  
Holy, Holy, Holy .....Page 207  
Eucharistic Prayer  
The Lord's Prayer .....Page 208  
Communion  
“Lamb of God...” .....Page 208  
Communion Hymns .....793. 690  
Prayer after Communion

### SENDING

Blessing  
**Sending Song ...705 God of Grace and  
God of Glory**

Dismissal:

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